

The Everett Mountaineers

Newsletter

No. 85 Spring 1996 • Everett Climb-line 348-7829 • The Everett Mountaineers P.O. Box 1848 • Everett, WA 98206 • 672-TRIP

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

March 6th—It's the annual pot luck and gear grab. Bring food to share, eating utensils, plates, and gear to sell and trade. Roy promises to keep the business meeting short and thus, minimize the impact on socializing. The Branch will provide beverages.

April 3rd—To be announced.

May 1st—To be announced.

June 5th—To be announced.

National Trails Day 1996

The Everett Mountaineers has again been invited to join forces with Washington Trails Association for this nationwide celebration of trail maintenance and education on Sat., June 1, 1996. We will be busy from 9 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. We are currently planning to work on the lower portion of the Sunrise Mine trail, which features the delightful Stillaguamish River crossing. We will meet at the Verlot Ranger Station at 8 A.M. sharp. Carpooling is strongly recommended due to the high number of participants expected. The day will begin with an informative description of the tools that we will be using. At the end of our stimulating day, a barbecue sponsored by the Lookout and Trails Committee will be held at a campground on the Mountain Loop Hwy (location TBD). Participation will not only be fun but will meet requirements for Branch courses. Sign up with either Forrest Clark, (206)487-3461 or Louie Coglas, (206)672-4521.

Dancing News

International folkdancing is for everyone, not just Mountaineers. Guests don't even need to sign a waiver. Bring all of your friends, the more the merrier. We teach the needed folkdance steps which are much less difficult than swing or the tango. The teaching is geared for beginners—no need to be bashful. Dances are reviewed with a "walk-through" ensuring that everybody can follow the pattern. Plus we have a guy or gal calling out what to do during the dances step by step. No partners are needed for this social and physical activity. It's more fun than being hypothermic and safer than dancing with bears. All dances are held at Floral Hall in Forest Park.

International folkdances: From 7:30 to 8:30 P.M. on the second and fourth Fridays of each month, Mountaineer Jerry Wade teaches new dances. Then from 8:30 to 11, we present a variety program of dances from many countries. Easy, intermediate, advanced, and requested dances are played so there is something for everyone. Refreshments are potluck. Sponsored by the Everett Mountaineers in conjunction with the City of Everett Parks and Recreation Department, the dances are free; but your donation of \$3 helps pay for hall rental and publicity.

No Contra dance in March. English Country, or *contra*, dances are held on the third Friday of each month, except for March 1996. Contra dancing starts with a long line of couples. You go through a pattern with an adjacent couple which brings you in a new position in the line, adjacent to a different couple. The pattern then repeats. The steps for these dances are called, and always to live music. Come at 7:30 P.M.

for instruction on basic calls, and 8 P.M. for the actual dances. Contra dances are free, but your donation of \$4 helps pay for the band. And you don't need to bring a partner; just bring anybody to share the fun! For information call coordinator Clarence Elstad at (206)252-3831.

Classes in basic folkdancing are held Monday evenings from 8:15 to 10:15 P.M. at Floral Hall. Those who don't know how to dance are encouraged to attend. Those who do know how are invited for review, improvement of skills and to help the beginners. The next 10-week series starts April 1st. Price is \$20 for youths under 21 and \$27 for adults. Sign up with Everett Parks and Recreation Department at the Forest Park office. For information call Jan Tanner at (206)259-0300, or instructor Jerry Wade at (206)670-2302. No partners are needed; but you are encouraged to bring friends and relatives.

Directions to Floral Hall: From I-5, take exit 192 to 41st St. Turn right onto 41st, go through two signals, and take a sharp left turn onto Mukilteo Blvd. At end of first curve to right, and immediately beyond a pedestrian overpass, turn left at the "Welcome to Forest Park" sign. Drive to the parking area at the top of the hill or behind Floral Hall, which is to the left of the swimming pool building.

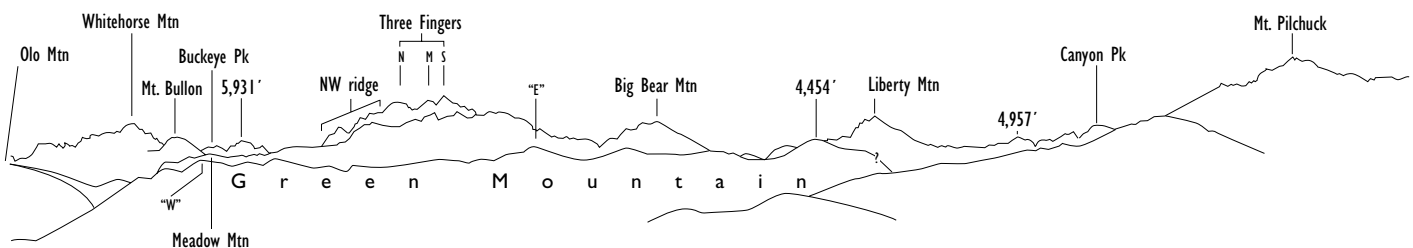
Northwest Folklife Festival. This annual event is at the Seattle Center on Memorial Day weekend, May 25–27. Enjoy 3 days and evenings of all sorts of excellent music, dance exhibitions, and dances. Saturday night is usually Scandinavian, Sunday Latin or Balkan, and Monday international. It's all free, except for the food.

Old News from the Really Boring Business Meetings

This news was compiled from the January and February Branch meetings and has been put through the Matson® Filter of Good Taste™ as a service to our members. Accuracy is not guaranteed nor even attempted. Louie Coglas, Conservation Chair, reported on the Associated Sand & Gravel's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Conditional Use Permit application for its **proposed quarry** at Granite Falls. Because the EIS was inadequate on seven substantive points, Snohomish County Hearing Examiner John Gault could not legally make a ruling on the permit. Any one substantive inadequacy in the EIS is grounds for not making a ruling. Usually the EIS is fixed and resubmitted. Instead, Associated appealed to the County Council. In a unusual and perhaps unprecedented move, the Council remanded (sent back for formal action) the application to the Hearing Examiner and told him to make a ruling on the permit. At this point, the legal waters are murky indeed. The Council's action may be in conflict with the State Environmental Protection Act. Mr. Gault has asked the Council for specific instructions. Louie suggests that Everett Branch members write to the Council and let them know what you think. A video on **salvage logging** was shown at the February meeting. Dan Beals of Nature Link visited the conservation committee. **Nature Link gets urban low-income folks into the woods** by pairing them up with people who can afford their own transportation. Hey, if **you didn't get into MOFA**, you need to get a phone with automatic redial; the class filled in only three hours on February 1st. Hint: MOFA can be expanded if more MOFA instructors can be recruited and trained. MOFA and MOFAR need victims whose fake blood will flow like water onto the cold, brown soil of Forest Park in full view of the hypervigilant peacocks. Call

Joellyn Jackson at the victim hotline (206)258-1388. MOFAR may or may not have space available at this time. CPR has space available. For three of our MOFA instructors, the branch voted to cover some of the expenses (approx. \$1,200) of attending a **conference of the Wilderness Medical Society** which will highlight field treatment of hypothermia. (Note: those present at membership meetings get to vote on stuff like this.) Bill Iffrig, Trustee, reported on items from the Board. The position of **Issues Coordinator** is open. This person coordinates policies between the activities and conservation divisions. The **Public Policy** position is open. The **Vision statement** was approved. We heard **rumors that the Magazine will become "slick."** Vice Chair Larry Ingalls read an **excruciatingly boring letter** entitled, "Annual Report to the Church." The **1996 programs in Basic Climbing and Scrambling** are starting. Mike Shikany is the Basic Class coordinator. Sign up is still open for the Basic Class but may not be for long because the Seattle class is full. **More intermediate Club climbs** are needed. The trail maintenance program has trained **eight crew leaders and three crew chiefs**. Having our own crew chiefs allows a bit more autonomy as otherwise Forest Service or BLM personnel must supervise. More are wanted; contact George Swan if interested. A trail maintenance experience (6 hours of work) has been added as a **graduation requirement for the scramble and climbing classes** and as Forrest says, "Trail maintenance is fun." The Lookout and Trail Maintenance Committee would like suggestions on possible trail projects. Its goal is to list **ten projects with dates** finalized by March. The Mountaineers is participating in the Washington Trails Association **cross listing of trail maintenance projects**, which will be published. Projects on the list are acceptable for the trail maintenance requirement.

Mountaineers participated in **trail building at the Snohomish County Park at Lord's Hill** about three miles southeast of Snohomish. It offers bike, hiking and equestrian trails and can be reached only by boat during high water. Ski classes are winding down. Poor snow conditions, rain, and the ice storm made the avalanche field trip at Mt. Baker a **pitiful experience**—their avalanche test pit was dug through "slush" to soil. The Ski Committee received approval to purchase eight **cheap avalanche beacons** (doggie transmitters) which will be used in future avalanche safety courses. No dogs will be buried during the training exercises, so leave yours at home. The Sea Kayaking Committee has reserved **ten spots in the Seattle Sea Kayaking Class**. It needs names by March 1st or the spots are lost. One sponsored position is available for someone who will make a commitment to work with the committee. Contact chair Mark Devereux. The Seattle class supplies most equipment; a kayak will have to be rented for some of the class trips. Hiking chair Susan Williams has been displaying the **Hiking Calendar** at the Membership meetings. The calendar is a tool for reducing the number of conflicting events. **Buzz Pintler** was appointed vice chair for hiking. **A class for hike leaders** will be held on April 8th, 7 P.M. at the Snohomish County PUD building in Everett. **The incipient Bicycle Committee** is being run through the Hiking Committee. A call to bicyclists was made to get this committee started. The first "Bicycle Committee" meeting will be held on April 29, 7:00 P.M. at the PUD building in Everett. The Singles committee is negotiating with **Fred Beckey** to do a lecture, perhaps in June. Part of any profit for this event will go to the Lookout & Trails Maintenance committee for tools.



Name	USGS	Elevation	Type of trip	Reference
2,664'	Mt. Stickney	2,664'	Hike?	
4,888'	Index	4,888'	?	
4,974'	Mallardy Ridge	4,974'	?	
5,158'	Mt. Stickney	5,158'	?	
5,308'	Index	5,308'	?	
5,310'	Mt. Stickney	5,310'	?	
5,931'	Whitehorse Mtn	5,931'	?	CAG 2, p. 110
Bald Mtn	Wallace Lake	4,851'	Scramble	CAG 2, p. 29
Big Bear Mtn	Whitehorse Mtn	5,620'	?	CAG 2, p. 104
Big Four Mtn	Silverton	6,135'	Climb	CAG 2, p. 42
Blue Mtn	Wallace Lake	3,080'	Hike	FS 2, p. 174
Buckeye Pk	Whitehorse Mtn	5,840'	?	CAG 2, p. 110
Cadet Pk	Blanca Lake	7,186'	Scramble	CAG 2, p. 69
Canyon Pk	Mallardy Ridge	5,274'	?	CAG 2, p. 104
Columbia Pk	Blanca Lake	7,172'	Scramble?	CAG 2, p. 64
Crested Buttes	Monte Cristo	5,338'	Climb	CAG 2, p. 54
Del Campo Pk	Monte Cristo	6,610'	Scramble	CAG 2, p. 51
Glacier Pk	Glacier Pk, E & W	10,541'	Climb	CAG 2, p. 84
Gothic Pk	Monte Cristo	6,213'	Scramble	CAG 2, p. 52
Green Mtn, 'E'	Meadow Mtn	4,100'	Hike	FS 3, p. 48
Green Mtn, 'W'	Meadow Mtn	3,810'	Hike	FS 3, p. 48
Green Mtn, 4,454'	Mallardy Ridge	4,454'	Hike?	
Greider Pk	Mt. Stickney	4,829'	Scramble?	
Gunn Pk	Baring	6,240'	Climb	CAG 2, p. 35
Hall Pk	Silverton	5,452'	Scramble?	CAG 2, p. 40
Lewis Pk	Bedal	5,608'	?	CAG 2, p. 51
Liberty Mtn	Whitehorse Mtn	5,688'	?	CAG 2, p. 104
Little Chief Pk	Silverton	5,416'	Scramble?	CAG 2, p. 46
Meadow Mtn	Meadow Mtn	4,630'	Hike?	GP, p. 87
Merchant	Baring	6,113'	Scramble	CAG 2, p. 35
Morning Star Pk	Bedal	6,020'	Climb	CAG 2, p. 50
Mt. Baring	Baring	6,125'	Scramble	CAG 2, p. 32
Mt. Bullon	Whitehorse Mtn	5,974'	?	CAG 2, p. 109
Mt. Dickerman	Bedal	5,732'	Hike	GP, p. 96
Mt. Index	Index	5,979'	Scramble	CAG 1, p. 224
Mt. Persis	Index	5,452'	Scramble	CAG 1, p. 234
Mt. Pilchuck	Verlot	5,324'	Hike	GP, p. 89
Mt. Stickney	Mt. Stickney	5,367'	Scramble	CAG 2, p. 31
Olo Mtn	Meadow Mtn.	3,451'	Hike	FS 3, p. 43
Prospect Pk	Mt. Stickney	4,640'	Scramble?	CAG 2, p. 31
Red Mtn	Mt. Stickney	5,738'	Climb	CAG 2, p. 30
Silver Tip Pk	Monte Cristo	6,140'	Climb	CAG 2, p. 56
Spire Pk.	Baring	6,213'	Climb	CAG 2, p. 37
Static Pk	Mt. Stickney	4,905'	Scramble?	CAG 2, p. 32
Three Fingers, M	Whitehorse Mtn	6,600'	?	CAG 2, p. 107
Three Fingers, N	Whitehorse Mtn	6,820'	Climb	CAG 2, p. 107
Three Fingers, S	Whitehorse Mtn	6,854'	Scramble	CAG 2, p. 107
Vesper Pk	Silverton	6,214'	Scramble	CAG 2, p. 45
Whitehorse Mtn	Whitehorse Mtn	6,852'	Climb	CAG 2, p. 110
Wilman Peaks	Blanca Lake	6,880'	Climb	CAG 2, p. 61

Skyline Valentines

The table at left lists possible correct answers for the "Name these peaks" contest in the last issue (CAG=Cascade Alpine Guide, FS=Footsore, GP=100 Hikes in the Glacier Peak Region). Many thanks to our participants. We had two winners, who as a team provided many accurate peak names and sketched the missing landform. They are **Dennis Miller** and **Roger Mills**. Dennis and Roger each received certificates which entitle them to one of two prizes.

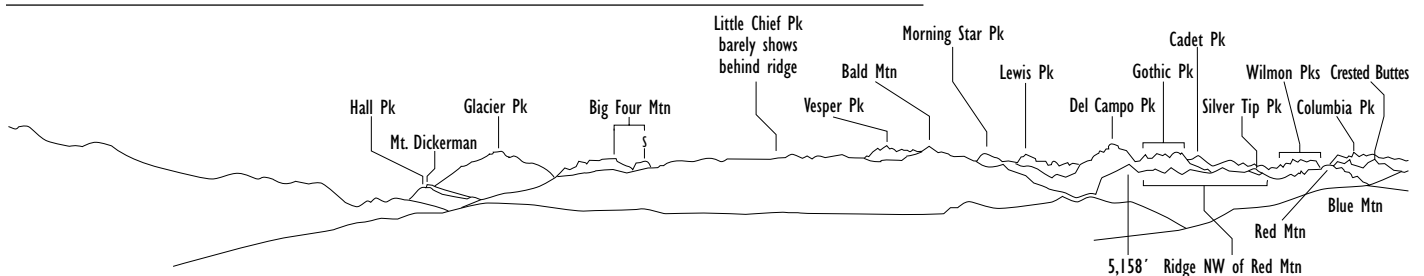
The prizes were:

- Fine dessert and beverages for the winner's entire household, to be served at the home of Russell and Loretta.
- Fine beer and hot-tubbing for the winner and a friend at the home of Russell and Loretta.

Losers need not despair. The next contest is as follows: Using either this issue's illustration or the one in the last issue, locate the dips in the skyline where one can find these geographical features:

Bathtub Lakes
Lone Tree Pass
Tuspo Pass
Tin Can Gap
Goat Flat
Sultan Basin
Windy Pass
Deer Creek Flat
Ida Pass
Queest-alb Glacier
Marble Pass
Olney Pass
High Pass
Sheep Gap
Foggy Pass
Hard Pass

But wait, there's more! For secret bonus points, put our three lookouts in the correct places. They are: Three Fingers, Mt. Pilchuck and Heybrook.



A Run Up The Hill

I awoke at 5:30 to a dark, cold, rainy morning. Gusts of wind drove rain sideways onto my bedroom window. Its inclemency suggested delay. I could have turned off my clock radio and rolled back into my warm bed for a few more hours of sleep. But the knowledge that the rest of my running team would be on the hill lit my enthusiasm for the awaiting challenge. I was motivated by the real objective of the run. My team, formed from members of the Snohomish County Deputy Sheriff's Athletic Association, had collected pledges to benefit a young man with cancer. Besides, I could surprise the team just by showing up, having told them earlier I wouldn't because I hadn't trained.

Thinking I was late, I rushed around, putting on my running attire, choosing wool or polypropylene, Gortex or nylon, extra food (?), gathering a modified version of our ten essentials and finally packing my bag. After what seemed an eternity but was only thirty minutes, I was on my way to the mountain traveling as fast as The Beach Boys and Dire Straits would take me. I was also starting to wake up, and more worries sprang up. This weather is really bad. Did they cancel and not call me? Should I have told them I was going to run? Will anyone be there?

The lack of traffic on the road that morning heightened my anxiety. It seemed as if I was the only life form out here. I rolled through Granite Falls at seven and was relieved to see a few people moving around inside Ike's restaurant. After all, if folks can go out to eat, the weather can't be that bad for hardy run-ners. With my confidence boosted I proceeded through town into the mountains. As I passed the ranger station at Verlot I looked for others

from my team. No signs of anyone. Just past the ranger station the road was partially washed out. I wondered if this discouraged the rest of the team from going on. Did they go home? I cautiously drove around it. Finally, I came to the turnoff for Mt. Pilchuck.

I searched the area with a feeling of desperation, but again found no other soul. Why would they bother to call me if they had decided not to go? After all, I had said I wouldn't be running. It was only 7:30, a half hour before the start of the run. I decided to drive up the road to check conditions. I set my trip odometer to zero and headed up. The road improved from mud and potholes, to partially paved, to totally paved as I ascended along the seven miles. The weather was still windy and rainy. The air became colder as I gained elevation but I was relieved to discover that there was no snow. I made a u-turn and started down.

About halfway down I saw the headlights of another vehicle coming up towards me. I was jubilant to see a familiar face. I think Danny was just as happy to see me, and asked where everybody else was. I told him that so far I was it.

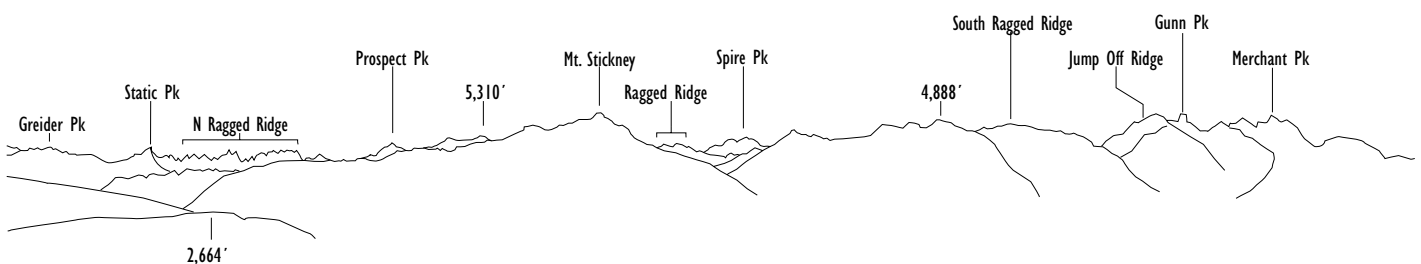
Danny was the driver designated to bring us back down the mountain following our uphill run. Consequently, he was destined to sit at the end of the road alone in his big Chevy Suburban and wait faithfully for us to arrive. Danny asked if I'd brought a towel. I had a big new bath towel with me. He asked for it so that it would be waiting for me at the top. I'm pretty sure that the towel was actually collateral in case no one else showed up and I wanted to leave. Danny was no fool.

I was relieved to find familiar-looking vehicles and faces at the bottom of the mountain. We spent little time on small talk because of the cold, wet wind. The five of us started together but eventually strung out on our seven mile, 3,000-foot trip up the hill. Judging by the grade of the first mile, I knew that it would be a long morning.

Prior to the half-way point my legs felt like lead and my stride was less than half of normal. Somewhere around the fourth mile my thighs stiffened, and for the first time in my 14 years of running, I walked. When the stiffness wore off, I would run until the ache returned and became unbearable. Again, I walked until the pain subsided. I repeated this cycle over and over through my odyssey up the mountain.

During the cycles of agony, I thought about inspirations: the young man with cancer, my personal role models—one was running right next to me like a good shepherd, insuring my safe journey, and fellow Everett Mountaineer members who trained on Mt. Pilchuck for some of the most grueling marathons in the world. If they were not with me in body they were with me in spirit. I pushed on into the sixth mile. The pain did not subside. Nevertheless I continued the ascent. The temperature grew colder but the cold seemed to numb some of the pain in my thighs. The wet wind which had been my nemesis was rapidly becoming my salvation. I am a cold weather runner and the cold was starting to revitalize me.

I heard vehicles coming up from behind. In two Jeep Cherokees were the smiling faces of four very familiar Everett Mountaineers. What a great surprise!



Conservation Corner

(A Run Up The Hill, continued)

Just what I needed to get me through the final mile. My stride lengthened and my pace picked up. I made it to the top in time to find my friends unpacking in preparation for a scramble to the top of Mt. Pilchuck.

We spoke only briefly because we all had agenda that morning and the cold prevented us from malingering. I said good-bye and wished them a good trip. On the way back down the mountain I regained feeling in my fingers and hands.

I returned home later that morning to the smell of roast turkey and hot coffee. The aromas were complemented by the sounds of the NFL on CBS. Yes, it was Thanksgiving morning and I had much to be thankful for: great friends who helped me overcome great challenges; a charity run completed successfully; and quality time spent outdoors with people I think of as family—not to mention the forthcoming guilt free eating.

I confronted a self-imposed crisis. Not training for this event took its toll on me and in effect, turned this event into not only a physical battle, but a challenge of will. Perhaps, we should all consider testing our limits occasionally, provided the environment is relatively safe. I prefer this proactive rather than reactive approach to crises. In this way, when the real test comes, we will be better prepared to overcome it.

See you all at the St. Patty's Day Dash...
—Running Dog

The Everett Branch Conservation Committee takes the following positions:

We support the repeal of the federal salvage logging rider (a clause, usually having little relevance to the main issue, that is added to a legislative bill), following the lead of the Mountaineers Club. The salvage rider exempts salvage logging from environmental laws, prevents judicial review, and worse yet, takes away the public's ability to influence decisions through comment. This is a very controversial and emotional topic. What we can't afford to do is to wait to take action. Letters are an important way that you can make your thoughts heard. Take the time to write to your elected representatives, and let them know if you are for or against this rider. You have a voice, exercise it. We are informing Branch members at the membership meetings of environmental effects of the rider.

We support the Stillaguamish Citizens Alliance's effort to keep Associated Sand and Gravel from creating a quarry on the Stillaguamish River near the city of Granite Falls. This decision mirrors that of the Mountaineers Club position.

The following positions are those of the Seattle Executive Conservation Committee, and have been passed by the Executive Board of the Mountaineers Club:

A position was taken to support replacement of the Canyon Creek Bridge on the Suiattle River Trail. The preferred alternative gives careful attention to site conditions and the wilderness character of the area. This position was adopted by the Everett Branch and voiced in a letter sent by Mountaineer President Craig Rowley to Darrington District Ranger Terry Skorheim.

A position was taken to adopt the joint program between The Mountaineers, The Boy Scouts of America, and other outdoor groups known as the Scouting Ahead

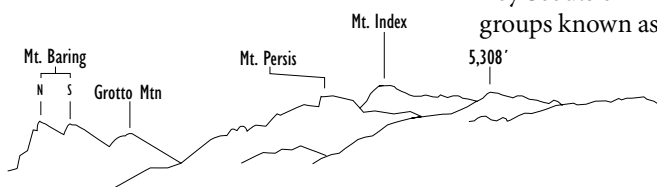
charter. Brian Roberts is the Mountaineers representative to Scouting Ahead. Its purpose is to promote "leave no trace" ideology and practices.

A position was taken to endorse the statewide ballot initiative to ban bear baiting and hound hunting.

A position was taken and a letter written by Craig Rowley to Naches District Ranger James F. Pena regarding the Pinus/Swamp Devil Timber Sale. It stated that any logging should be done on existing roads to minimize soil erosion and stream impacts, and skyline logging should be the mandatory method. "We encourage a reexamination of the size of the proposed clear cuts and recommend keeping wild life impacts in mind. We suggest pre-commercial thinning, prescribed burning, or other activities that would improve the vigor of the remaining stands. We question whether 140 acres need to be clear cut in order to reduce fire danger. We suggest a controlled burn to reduce fuel accumulation, selective cutting and replanting with fire resistant species. Overall we believe the timber sales are good and consistent within the President's Forest Plan. The proposal to construct 1,390 acres of fuel breaks to reduce fire danger is excellent. We are pleased that much of the logging will be commercial thinning, partial cutting, and pruning, as opposed to clear cutting. Timber sales receipts will help fund projects such as the obliteration of 5.4 miles of roads, and improving water quality and wildlife habitat."

It is not unusual for the Mountaineers to comment on timber sales. We are not against logging. We are against environmentally destructive logging.

The Everett Branch Conservation Committee meetings are held on the 4th Monday of every month from 7-9 P.M. at the Everett Community College. Call or write Louie Coglas, Conservation Committee Chair at (206)672-4521, 3109 228th SW, Brier, WA 98036, if interested in conservation issues, committee activities, or for directions to the meetings.



Questions and Answers about the Fire Mountain Boy Scout Camp Proposal

by Roy Metzgar

You may have been hearing a lot from me lately about the Fire Mountain Boy Scout Camp. What follows is the information I have accumulated regarding our proposed involvement with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). The proposal centers on building a climbing facility at the BSA Fire Mountain Camp. I also report on what's in it for the Branch.

How did the Everett Branch get involved with the BSA?
A BSA Committee member contacted the Everett Branch chair. I felt that their proposal had significant potential value to the branch.

Why did the BSA contact the Everett Mountaineers?
The BSA wants expertise in designing and using a new climbing facility, and possible financial help. Our assistance was originally requested to replace an existing climbing tower at the Fire Mountain Camp.

The BSA also wanted to reactivate the Branch's dormant Explorer Post in order to provide "high adventure" opportunities for older boys and girls, as well as training and leadership assistance in scrambling.

Should the Everett Mountaineers help the BSA?
There are several reasons assistance to the BSA would be appropriate:

- This is an opportunity for the Branch to provide service to a group in our community that has asked for our assistance.
- Many of our members were Boy Scouts, and historically the Club has had much cooperation with the BSA.

- Many current Boy Scouts are future Mountaineer members. This is an opportunity to develop in the BSA the values of community service, volunteerism, and outdoor skills compatible with ours.
- A climbing wall at this location could be a useful adjunct to our Branch climbing program.
- The Fire Mountain Camp has several facilities and features potentially of interest to the Branch.

What at the Camp is of interest to the Mountaineers?

- Several hundred acres of wooded, hilly terrain suitable for training in climbing, scrambling and navigation, including three orienteering courses.
- Buildings that can be used as classrooms.
- A covered barbecue area suitable for our salmon bake.
- A small lake suitable for kayaking practice.
- A large boulder field* one mile from the camp suitable for rock climbing and scrambling practice. Some of the big rocks are top-bolted.
- Access to DNR land, Cultus Mountain and Split Rock.
- The privately owned camp is secured by an on-site ranger and locked entry

gate. It is free of government regulation concerning use such as we encounter with the national forests, parks and state lands.

Where is the BSA Fire Mountain Camp?

It is an easy one-hour drive northeast of Everett via I-5 or SR 9.

Who will be liable for the climbing wall?

The wall design will be based on Climbing Industry Group standards and specifications. A registered architect will design the wall and will be advised by a team of experts from the Vertical Club, REI and other sources. BSA engineers in the national organization (not the local) will review and approve the design.

The climbing wall, if built, will be sited at the Fire Mountain Camp. The BSA will choose the exact location, and it will be surrounded by a chain link fence with a locked gate, to add to security already existing at the camp. Trained instructors will be in charge during use. Currently under discussion is a design using top roping and belaying from the ground. Safety of users is the top priority. The Mountaineers would contribute in the areas of training for instructors, operations, and safety.

*Editor's note: Russell and I recently visited the boulder field known as Devil's Garden. The shortest access route crosses the Fire Mountain Camp via a DNR road. Warnings against trespassing are posted to discourage local yahoos, who had been drinking to excess, shooting, and littering, so it's important to let the ranger know you are there if you decide to go visit. Once we got there and proceeded to cross the boulder field, we were confronted with patches of snow, ice, slippery expanses of moss, spectacularly deep crevices—just one fascinating climbing problem after another. —LM



A big slab at Devil's Garden



A rock tower, about 50 feet high, at Devil's Garden

