

From the BOTS

Submitted by Patty F.L.

depth about the loss of John R.

Muir conditioner on May 16th,

because much has already been

said. We on the BOTS will do

everything that we can to help

the club learn what happened up

there, so we can strengthen our

program and our club however

possible. My fervent hope is

that we will pull together and

grow from this tragedy. I was

very proud to be an OSAT

member during the mountain

search and rescue attempt, when

there was such an outpouring of

dedication from our members

who helped with the search. If

you would like to address any

comments or concerns, please

know that we will make oppor-

ture. You can also email me at

tunities for this in the near fu-

my new email address:

pattyfl@earthlink.net

during the climbing course's

Volume 8, Issue 5

Keep climbing mountains and don't slip!

Beyond the front page:

Five Years Ago in OSAT — p. 2

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ONE STEP AT A TIME (OSAT) **MISSION:**

"To provide a clean and sober environment for members and friends of 12-step recovery groups, to participate in outdoor and social events in the spirit of conservation, preservation, and ecology."

Notes on the John R. Incident searching for John. Submitted by Doug H.

I've been asked to put some words together regarding the events that led up to the disappearance of John R. This has been a particularly difficult couple of weeks for me personally. John has been somewhere between a brother, a dad and a friend of mine for the last 8 years. John was the 1st real sponsor that I had in the program, and had helped me in so many ways.

When I got the phone call on Sunday night to tell me that someone had not made it back down from Camp Muir, my heart sank, and when I was told it was John, I went into near panic. It wasn't long after that my SMR pager started going off. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to make it out on the 1st day of the search, but did end up spending 3 days

As of this writing, there have

At this point, I can't really speak to the events leading up to his disappearance, mainly because I wasn't there. What I can tell you is that I have asked a couple of colleagues from The Mountaineers and Seattle Mountain Rescue to convene an independent investigation in to this incident. We have asked for an outside party to do this for objectivity, and because we have no one in OSAT

From a club perspective, this has been a hectic year, full of chal-

(Continued on page 4)

I am not going to speak in much

been no signs, clues or anything that would help us to find him.

who is experienced in this sort of thing. I am meeting with a couple of people the weekend of the 5th to get things rolling, and I promise to keep everyone updated.

Congratulations goes to Charlie A., on becoming our new BOTS member. Thanks to everyone who voted last month.

OSAT GETS NEW WEB SITE

Dax (a.k.a. David C.) has recently signed on as the new Yodel webmaster. Wasting no time, Dax already has the club live at our own site: http://www.osat.org with a new design including a complimentary photograph from Art Wolfe on the main homepage. The Yodel will be moving to this location this month, although the old links will continue to work for the month of June. Thanks Chris N. for all the time and effort he has put in over the past few years.

Trailhead Reminder:

Don't leave valuables in your car even in the trunk. There has been a lot of trailhead theft. It is always a good idea to get renters or homeowners insurance, which can cover theft from vehicles.

Everest Climber Comes to OSAT

Don Goodman will be the guest speaker at the June 9 OSAT club meeting. Don is a Seattle climber with Mt. Everest experience, having climbed on the north side of the mountain in 1984 and to the South Col in 1988. He was deputy leader of the latter expedition, on which three Sherpas and three Americans summited, including Stacy Allison, the first American worman to summit Everest.

Don's presentation provides a unique view of the world's highest peak and its climbing history - don't miss this program!

Skiing at Whistler: May 4, 1999 Bill and Rik directed me to the

Submitted by Shirley R. What do you do when you've planned to rock climb at Squamish and the weather isn't dry enough, and you happen to be staying at Whistler, B.C.? After the OSAT B.C. Base Camp trip to Joffre Lakes [see write-up by Dave N. below], I was in this predicament.

Bill L. and Rik A. convinced me to go skiing, and we took the pennant to the summit of Whistler Mountain (photos were taken for proof!) There was fresh powder in the bowl, and sunshine above the clouds. The only bad thing was my ski technique. However,

Bill and Rik directed me to the appropriate routes and I skied nonstop until about 2 p.m. when we had lunch in the lodge. Then my legs were jelly and I skied down to partake of the jacuzzi back at the condo. Meanwhile, Rik and Bill got in some more runs, and later that night, our whole party went out to eat together at the Mongolian Grill in Whistler Village. Life was good.

Thanks to Bill and Rik for the ski guidance, and Rik and Holly for sharing their condo. Of note, lift tickets were cheaper after May 1, and the exchange rate for U.S. money is good. Anyone interested in going skiing next May??

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How to Contribute

Deadline for June Yodel: June 25, 1999

Via Email: yodel@osat.org

Via U.S. Mail: Bill A., 5503 30th Ave. NE, Apt C.,

Seattle, WA 98115. Via FAX: **(206) 729-1917**

You are **strongly** encouraged to submit your contributions via electronic mail. If you do not have email, you may send a floppy disk (PC format only). Be sure to send a hard copy along with your disk and make sure you keep the original. <u>If you want any part of your submission returned to you</u>, please specify this, and include a SASE.

Find Us Online

The Yodel Website: http://www.osat.org/yodel
Main OSAT Website: http://www.osat.org

Squamish Chief & Vancouver: May 5, 1999

Submitted by Shirley R.

Kathy H. and I hiked to the top of Squamish Chief on our way back home from Whistler. It is approximately the same elevation gain and distance as Tiger Mountain, but ends on a big granite dome overlooking the sound and the other 2 granite summits of Squamish Chief. Then, we drove to Vancouver where we visited MEC, the REI of B.C. Kathy purchased Denali gear and I some rock climbing gear. We recovered the 6% tax at the border and cruised home.

Rik's B.C. Basecamp

Submitted by David N.

We are headed down after reaching a high point of 8200ft., in an attempt to make the summit of 9100ft. Mt. Matier in the Joffre Group N.E. of Pemberton British Columbia. The snow is falling hard and the wind is really howling. It is near white out conditions on the Matier Glacier and we have been wading through 10 inches of new snow.

I am asking myself why did I stop and shout to Kathy H. over the wind that I wanted to confer with Rik about the situation. I have continued on with climbs in worse conditions and turned back under better. It was just one of those times when some intuition said that maybe it was not right. We huddled together and decided that it was indeed time to descend. We had given it a good try and the mountains would still be there another time and that maybe I would be around to give it a go some other day.

As we went down, and all I had to do is pick up the wands, I thought about the day before and the hike into this wonderful place. We had left Rik and Holly's plush three level condo at a very un-alpine hour after a great breakfast at a small eatery in Whistler Village and

arrived at the trailhead in the late morning. Our arrival coincided perfectly with a mini blizzard and as we packed a few curious people stopped and wondered if they could make it to the first Joffre Lake equipped with sturdy tennis shoes.

It was a nice hike up past the Lower and Middle Lakes to Upper Joffre Lake with only a moderate elevation gain in about 2 miles.

The upper lake is nicely situated beneath the Matier Glacier with a beautiful blue ice fall right above. We crossed the frozen lake as two skiers came our way and headed out. They would be the only people we would see during our time there. The rest of the day we did those mundane things that one does on a climb, eating, talking, settling into camp, joking around, eating, eating, and joking. It was great to be able to get our water without melting snow.

Summit day dawned with partial views and hope grew that it would clear as we climbed. We quickly ascended the moraine past the ice fall, admiring the color and its lethal potential, and then up on to the

glacier proper where we roped up.

Bill L. and I had a few fleeting views of the summits surrounding the circular glacier, Joffre, Matier, Spetch and Slalok, before the all disappeared in the clouds. We never had much of a view after that. Bill

lead out with Rik on his rope and I followed with Kathy. Bill did a great job of route finding in the deteriorating weather and made our way the mile across the glacier. I had taken over the lead and got us near our objective, the North Ridge, when the angle got steep, deep snow,

and that "little itch" made me stop and scratch.

Shirley, who had stayed in camp for some solitude and exploring and ended up getting in a little deeper than she expected, was there to meet us.

We spent the rest of the day doing those mundane things that climbers do when they come home early from a climb, eat, joke, eat some more, and of course have a great meeting in the biggest tent. It was, hopefully, The First Annual Joffre Lakes Meeting.

OSAT QUICK-REFERENCE

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Service: Dave W. 425-869-0460

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David C. (Dax) 206-623-7857 Webmaster webmaster@osat.org

OSAT Club Meeting:

Monthly OSAT club meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm. We meet at the Congregational Church of Mercer Island, located at 4545 Island Crest Way (take the Island Crest Way exit from I-90, the church is 1.6 miles south of the freeway, on the right. The meeting is held in classroom #1, upstairs on the north end of the building. THIS MONTH: Everest climber Dan Goodman!

OSAT 12-Step Meeting Locations

Tiger Mountain

Time: Thursdays @ 7:00 pm & Sundays @ 10:00 am

Location: The Tiger Mountain Trailhead is on the south (right) side of the High Point Way Exit (1st exit east of Issaguah) off I-90. Make a reverse U-turn onto the road parallel with the Interstate. Park as close as possible to the west end of the road to use the cable line trail, or in the upper parking lot to use the regular trail (recommended for first-timers).

Thursday Contact: Tino S. Sunday Contact: Mark S.

Notes: Newcomers should not try to find this meeting alone. We meet in the trees just below the summit of West Tiger 3. The hike gains 2,000 feet in less than 3 miles. Bring warm clothes and a flashlight for the evening meeting.

Carkeek Park

Time: Mondays @ 7 pm

<u>Location:</u> Take I-5 to Northgate, take the Northgate Way exit, and head west. Keep going past Hwy 99. When you cross Greenwood, N.gate Way changes to Holman Rd. A block or two later, look for Art's Foods, and travel thru the parking lot. You'll find 100th and 6th. Park near there, or in Art's parking lot. The group meets at 7 pm in the parking lot, then walks down together into the park. Notes: This park has a beautiful view of the Sound. Be sure to dress very warmly, and bring candle lanterns and headlamps, as it is dark and usually cold. Contact: Bill L.

OSAT Telephone Numbers

There are two main phone numbers for OSAT - a general information number, good for new members, and an Activities Hotline Number, where members can get up-to-the-minute activity information, as well as leave their own trip announcements.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

(206) 236-9674

ACTIVITIES HOTLINE:

(206) 236-4777 (Use passcode 39) When you call the hotline, enter pass-

code 39. Then type: 7 to play messages or 5 to record a new message.

LISTENING: While listening, press 7 to replay current message, 5 to keep current message and listen to the next message. Never erase hotline entries

when you call to listen!

RECORDING: Press 2 to record your message. When you are done, press # to pause the recording. After pausing you may press 2 to add more, or 5 to keep the recording you just made.

Handling the OSAT E-List: Tips guaranteed to help you use the OSAT Email list effectively:

UNSUBSCRIBING:

Send a blank email to: osatunsubscribe@egroups.com

SUBSCRIBING:

Send a blank email to: osatsubscribe@egroups.com

POSTING: (Use discretion: remember we ALL get the email.) Send your mes-

sage to: osat@egroups.com

"The relationship of height to spirituality is not merely metaphorical, it is physical reality. The most spiritual people of this planet live in the highest places. So do the most spiritual flowers...I call the high and light aspects of my being spirit and the dark and heavy aspect soul. Soul is at home in the deep shadowed valleys. Spirit is a land of high, white peaks and glittering jewellike lakes and flowers...People need to climb the mountain not simply because it is there, but because the soulful divinity needs to be mated with spirit."

— The 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet

OSAT Biking Schedule: (submitted by *Roy O*.)

20th Anniversary STP (Seattle To Portland) Bicycle Classic

Join me and other OSAT peddlers the weekend of July 10th & 11th for a leisurely, fully supported ride to Portland. What a great way to train for the Rainier Climbs! This year there is no limit to the number of riders so there is room for everyone! The only required equipment is a bike, a helmet & \$50 entry fee. (You can also rollerblade to Portland.) For details and an application contact Roy O. H(206) 525-0510, W(206) 362-9062 or e-mail nowst@aol.com

Conditioners:

For those who wish to exercise "while sitting" or to train for the STP, I have scheduled the following rides:

Every Monday evening, 7PM, meet at Matthew's Beach Park on the Burke-Gilman Trail. We'll ride for a couple of hours weather & Roy's schedule permitting.

Contact Roy @ W (206) 362-9062, H (206) 525-0510 nowst@aol.com

June 20th, Sunday: Ride around Lake Washington. 50 miles. Start time flexible, contact Roy.

June 26th, Saturday: Ride from Issaquah to Fall City & back. 40-60 miles. Contact Roy.

(Continued from page 1)

lenges and growing pains. This further adds to what we've already experienced. As the climbing course chair, I have heard from a couple of long time members voicing their concerns over the direction of the climbing course, as well as the club. OSAT is changing, as does everything around us. On one hand, if we try to limit the amount of people that we allow in the climbing course and the subsequent climbs, we give the appearance of being exclusionary. On the other hand if we allow everyone who wants to participate the chance to do so, we run the risk of being unsafe, by virtue of not having a sufficient base of experienced volunteers to handle all of the climbing course students.

OSAT started as an outlet for people to chase a dream. Jimmy offered some basic instruction for those that needed it, and thus began our climbing course. In the environment that we play in, where accidents can, and do often happen, we cannot afford to be anything short of safe. I think that over the last few years, we've developed the climbing course into a 1st rate course that stresses safety 1st. I'm not going to venture into what could have

happened differently on the day that John disappeared. I'll leave that for those qualified to do so, and will heed their advice.

I grieve not only for John, not only for his family and friends, I also grieve for the loss of innocence that has befallen OSAT. I don't know of any club, be it the Mountaineers, OSAT, The Mazama's, BOEALPS, to whom a tragedy such as this has not touched. I hope and pray that we pull through this, and go on and continue to chase our dreams.

I'd like to mention one more thing before I close. There are many of you who pulled together to do whatever you could to help out. I had the opportunity to work closely with the Park Service, Seattle and Tacoma Mountain Rescue, German Shepherd Search Dogs of Washington, and others. Every group commented to me how wonderful the people from OSAT were in this very difficult time for all of us. That makes me very proud to be a part of this group.

If anyone would like to speak with me about this, or anything else, please don't hesitate to call. If you e-mail me, don't be surprised if you get a phone call in return.

OSAT Traditions

- Every OSAT activity has a designated leader. The leader makes the decision as to who is qualified for the activity. This decision must be based on principles and not personalities.
- Alcohol and illegal drugs are not allowed on any OSAT activity.
- Party members are not to separate from the group without prior permission of the activity leader.
- An OSAT leader should have completed a MOFA course or ensure that at least one participant in the activity has done so.
- When in a wilderness area, each party member will carry the 10 essentials.
- Outdoor activities start with the Serenity Prayer while holding hands in a circle.
- Each OSAT glacier climb will have at least two rope teams that include a person with crevasse rescue training.
- Anyone can volunteer to lead an activity, even a technical climb. As leader, you should be certain that everyone on that activity has signed a Release and Indemnity Agreement. As a participant, you may want to "qualify" your leader.
- Party size for OSAT activities will adhere to the rules of the appropriate jurisdiction.

FUN RUN! Join us Tuesday evenings @ 6:30 for a scenic run along Lake Washington (Mt. Rainier visible on a clear day). Variety of running/walking levels can enjoy a series of flat or if you prefer stairs "yeah baby" paths. Contact Susan & Grant E. 206-721-5868 or meet at the Mt. Baker playground swings.

Calling all runners! It's time once again for that team-building, blister burning, all day, all night OSAT running event more commonly known as the Mt. Rainier to the Pacific Relay.

This year's event is July 16-17. Please contact Jane L. at janel@gettyonline.com / 206-695-3646 or Karen C at karencsea@earthlink.net / 206-782-1873.

We need runners and volunteers! Sign up now for the most fun you can cram into a 24-hour period!

RUN FOR FUN (and pain?)--

If you love running, walking, rollerblading, or any other form of exercise, we meet at Greenlake every **Wednesday**, at **5:30 PM** near the drinking fountains near the boathouse (on the south and slightly west side of the lake).

Call **Doug H** (425) 271-5116 or **Dick W** (425) 339-3751 for more info.

OSAT 2000 Calendar Photo Contest

Submitted by Roy O.

Just another reminder to get your cameras ready for the climbing season! The OSAT 2000 Calendar needs your photos. We will have a contest to choose the 13 photos which will be featured in this, the first ever OSAT wall calendar.

How to enter: Send your photo along with your name, address & phone number to: OSAT 2000 Calendar, c/o Patty F-L, 1132 NW 58th St, Seattle, WA 98107-2914. Entries will be kept confidential by BOTS.

Here are the rules:

1) Photos must be submitted before August 1st, 1999. Keep a copy for yourself since we may not be able to return the photo. 2) Subject should relate to the outdoor activities OSAT members love. 3) Nudes can be artistic, butt [sic.] we would like to keep this a "family" oriented item. 4) Winning Calendar photos will acknowledge the photographer unless anonymity is specifically requested. 5) BOTS will choose the winners. All unusual circumstances to be handled at the discretion of BOTS. Bribery is not allowed...(unless it is really BIG).

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OSAAT'S Excellent Adventures

I 999 OSAT EVENTS CALENDAR June 12: Mr. Vesper, Lim. 12, locaxe exp., Merry O, morchishing-arabilia, hear, Sally 206-772-2027

June 12: Colchoke Pk., Lim. 12, locaxe exp., Chris F.L. 206-789-9503

June 12: Mr. Vesper, Lim. 12, locaxe exp., Chris F.L. 206-789-9503

June 12: Mr. Papter. Lim. 12, Locaxe exp., Chris F.L. 206-789-9503

June 12: Mr. Papter. Lim. 12, Locaxe exp., Chris F.L. 206-789-9503

June 12: All Mr. Rainier-Tahoma Glacier. Rik A. 206-786-2553 [The original trip has been cancelled, and replaced with a day hike to the 6,000 level. If anyone is interested in leading the full faiths. Rik would be willing to be the shespessiriar to help make the first day cassier.]

June 26-27: Jack Mr. N. Cascades giant. One of Washington's niners via the S.W. route. Strong scrambling skills. Limit 6 Dave N 253-752-9214 officlary Biotaccom June 27: Planner pinnacle, Lim. 12, Locaxe exp., Kathy H. 425-486-5113

July 3-5: 2nd Annual Chick Climbs Glacier Peak. Silkam Silkam Lingan, Lim G. Josev exp., Kathy H. 425-486-5113

July 3-5: 2nd Annual Chick Climbs Glacier Peak. Silkam Silkam Lingan, Lim G. Belier exp., Tim M. 200-282-3497

Aug. 7-10: Mr. Challenger. Remote and well challenging Glacier & rock exp. Elizer exp., Tim M. 200-282-3497

Aug. 7-10: Mr. Challenger. Remote and well challenging Glacier & rock exp. Elizer exp., Tim G. Silkam Planning to go up a day early on Wednesday 77 to go with entire the silkam Silkam Planning to go up a day e



The Yodel

P.O. Box 6461 Lynnwood, WA 98036-6461

SUPPORT OSAT IN STYLE:



Mailing Address Goes Here

OSAT MARKETPLACE

Advertising in this column is free for all OSAT members. To keep your ad in subsequent issues, you **must** notify the Yodel of your renewal prior to deadline. Send the *Yodel* your personals, gear swap offers, and situations wanted (e.g. "will belay for food"). See page 2 for contact information.

OSAT Climbers and Adventure Lovers! May I assist your travel planning? I offer my services as a full time travel agent to help get you to the peaks, the shores and the cities. Events available: Honolulu convention in November Women's International in February, Sober Club Med in February. Call me! Janice B at 425-646-8200.

Massage Time! Call Meredyth Given, licensed massage therapist to work on you in your home for Relaxation, Chronic Pain & Injury Treatment. (425) 438-6829

MOVING SOON? Call Jim Fahey Moving! 18 Years commercial and residential experience. Need help moving a piano? Jim's your man! Ph:425-787-7888 jimfahey@apl.washington.edu

For Sale - Frostfire III Backpack: by Mountainsmith Used 12 (?) times or less. Big loads for big climbers. 5000 - 6000 cubes. In very good shape. \$100.00 Your back could be a good home for this pack. Call Dave Nordstrom at (253)752-9214 or e-mail at offbelay1@juno.com

SUPPORT SIGN-LANG. ON TIGER: Beautiful 20" handmade bead necklaces on sale for only \$10. All money is donated to interpreters for Tiger Mt. meeting once a month. Please call David "Dax" Ching (206) 623-7857 or email dax@oz.net for more information.

MAKE HIM CRY! Counseling for men who are afraid to, can't or won't cry and the people who love them. Call Rich H. (206) 547-2756 MA, MFT, Individual, Groups & Couples Therapy. 206-547-2756

You need a personal coach! If you need help getting in shape, changing your eating habits for good... If you want to gain more strength with free weights... If you just need a **very** motivated workout partner to keep you moving or get you conditioned for a big climb — call me — Tracy Mahan, Personal Coach, (425) 204-0168

IF YOUR BODY WEARS OUT, WHERE WILL YOU LIVE NEXT? Go see Dr. Mark Fredrich at his new location: Woodway Chiropractic 20015 Highway 99 Suite A Lynnwood WA 98036

Chiropractic, 20015 Highway 99, Suite A Lynnwood, WA 98036 Ph: 425-771-BACK (425-771-2225) FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION AND EXAMINATION FOR ALL OSAT MEMBERS

Moving sale! Filing cabinets, pentium computer, 3 solid folding worktables, 6 chairs, 800 sqft of new carpet... Great deals! Contact Rebecca C. (206) 726-3065

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