

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 7

Keep climbing mountains and don't slip!

August 1999

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ONE STEP AT ATIME (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."

Trip Report: Glacier Peak Rik bags Glacier via Frostbite Ridge

As is his/her custom, the author of this account wishes to remain anonymous. Let it be said, however, for those curious readers who wish to take a guess, that the author is in fact one of the participants of this adventure.

On July 3 Rik (I don't cancel based on forecast) A., Bill (the missing Linkster) L., Jenny (are we at the summit already?) G. and Dick (I'm just happy to be any-

where) W. set out to attempt the illusive Frostbite Ridge route on Glacier Peak. They met the allchick climbers at the Denny's near determined to get the summit this the Arlington exit for breakfast and then on to the trailhead and the long hike into Kennedy Hot Springs. From there they separated and headed for their respective base camps. The chicks were attempting the Sitkum glacier route out of Boulder Basin. Although there was some light drizzle the weather was not that bad considering the forecast. This was

to be Rik's 3rd attempt at the Frostbite Ridge route and 4th attempt at Glacier peak, so he was time. The team arrived at the base camp area semi exhausted, set up camp, fixed some dinner and hot drinks and turned in fairly early. They arose in the morning in time to be on the trail by 4:00 a m. The snow conditions were good and visibility was limited. The visibility gradually became worse until it was pretty much zero when (Continued on page 2)

Hinkhouse Peak Application

Some time ago inquiries were made to the Washington State Board on Geographic Names regarding procedures for naming a peak as a memorial to someone. We subsequently received application information, and spoke with the administrative assistant to the Board. An application has now been prepared to propose renaming Peak 6878 in the Wenatchee Mountains as "Hinkhouse Peak".

Peak 6878 is located on the ridge between the Ingalls Creek and North Fork Teanaway Creek drainages, between Ingalls Pass and Longs Pass. Shirley and Rik scrambled to its summit in June, and found it to be a worthy location to name in Jim's honor. It is positioned between Ingalls Peak, Mount Stuart, and the Esmeralda Peaks, is an easy scramble from either of the two passes mentioned, and Jim traversed its slopes on several occasions.

State Board procedures, in compliance with those of the United States Board on Geographic Names, stipulate that commemorative names will not be adopted until the honored person has been deceased at least five years. However, the Board's administrative assistant suggested that we could begin the application process, which takes several months, in advance of that date (May, 2000). We intend to submit the application this fall

We would like to obtain support for this application from individuals and groups familiar with Jim's work and his significance to mountaineering in Washington. What we need at this point in the process is a few OSAT members who belong to the Mountaineers and who are willing to work to secure their official support for the application. This might involve (1) working with the Mountaineers administration to determine the appropriate procedure for obtaining their official support, (2) circulating a petition among OSAT/ Mountaineers requesting official Mountaineers support, (3) submitting the petition and securing the Mountaineers support. If you are willing to help in this regard, please contact Rik A. 206-232-8908

Meeting Reminder:

There club meeting is on Wednesday, August 11.

STP Trip Report:

Sunshine on the Road to Portland by Roy O.

Dateline - (AP) Seattle, This year's STP OSAT bikers included Heather S., Glenn C., Paul C., Dave W., Rick C., Dax C., Grant E., Susan E. and I. Hopefully, I have not left anyone out. By all reports, everyone had a fun ride. JoAnne O. & baby Tatia O. provided smiles and support by driving down to Vader on Saturday and to Portland on Sunday.

In contrast to years past; the weather was sunny. This is the first time in four years that it has not rained. Unfortunately, this was the year for flat tires. Grant had a flat in the first 30 minutes of riding. I had a total of three flats. Two of which occurred just outside of Roy, WA. What a welcome for Roy from Roy, WA! Paul C. rode past and was nice enough to lend me a

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a small miracle occurred. The skies cleared just long enough for them to get their bearings and to determine that they were right on course. So they proceeded again with limited visibility but enough to be safe. They wanded the route as they ascended. There was one short steep and very exposed traverse getting past the rabbit ears, then a short drop before encountering two steep snow slopes, which had been ice the previous year. The final slope took them up to the crater and then on to the summit. It was a bit windy on the summit and visibility was still quite limited but it was a great feeling to be at the top. The team dynamics were great! It was Jenny's first official glacier climb and she displayed a natural talent and a combination of grace and strength that thoroughly impressed her teammates. Bill led all of the steepest and most difficult sections of the route. Rik displayed his usual thorough and thoughtful leadership skills. And Dick, well, he was just happy to be anywhere. Rik and Jenny began their descent a little before Bill

and Dick and there was a brief anxious moment when the pairs became separated in the fog. But with the assistance of a little shouting, they quickly became reunited and remained that way for the rest of the descent. A rappel was set up for the final steep snow slope and the 2 ropes got tangled causing Rik to have to ascend part way back up in order to retrieve the ropes. The team arrived back at base camp 14 hours from the time they had left feeling physically exhausted but spiritually uplifted. They arose the following morning to clear skies and a beautiful morning for the hike out. They hiked to Kennedy Hot Springs where Bill and Rik took a dip in the Springs. Just as they were about to head on down the trail, the chicks came barreling down the trail from Boulder Basin, so there were lots of hugs and stories to be exchanged. The two groups then hiked on out to the trailhead and following the OSAT custom, stopped for some grub in Darrington. Dick was heard to say that this climb was one of the most enjoyable and challenging climbs he had done (but doesn't he always say that?).

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How to Contribute

Deadline for August Yodel: July 16, 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. **If you want any part of your submission returned to you,**

please specify this, and include a SASE.

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Main OSAT Website: http://www.osat.org

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spare that unfortunately did not fit my tire, but then Paul ended up getting flat a bit further down the road!

The ride ended on Sunday after crossing St Joseph's Bridge in Portland with a great festival and refreshing showers to clean off the road dust and sweat.

This year, a legend was created. Rick C climbed Rainier on Friday and rode the two day 200 mile STP on Saturday & Sunday! What an animal. Let's see Tom Morgan top that feat! (Just kidding Tom.)

Five Years Ago in OSAT

by Rik A

Note: We're a little behind on this column -- call it "Five years and a couple of months ago" if you wish. 1994 was a very busy year in OSAT, so rather than short-change the colorful history of the club, we'll just keep plugging away a bit at a time and hope to catch up sometime before the turn of the Millenium.

At the May 1994 club meeting the search for a permanent meeting location was one topic of conversation. We were meeting at the Mercer Island Library, but regular scheduling of it was impossible. The club also voted to list the OSAT hot-line in the yellow pages and with directory assistance. The pennant scrapbook made its debut at the meeting, and paid membership was reported to be 66.

May climbing events included a trip led by Joseph to Monte Cristo. An anonymous contributor to the Yodel confided that "I was in an element of exposure I was not familiar with", but nevertheless summitted after a confidence-building belay was set up. In the end, the mystery climber gave thanks for "another step towar confidence and trust in myself, others, and especially my Higher Power who works through others."

Steve S led a successful trip up Vesper on a beautiful day. Pam G extolled the glories of a wonderful glissade on which she characterized herself as "wild woman", and the entire group had a glorious time.

Another memorable climb was the Memorial Day assault on Mt. Stuart. Although it began as a multi-route rendezvous attempt, in the end we consolidated to a single group on the Cascadian Couloir route. After raining all night, half of the group elected to return home, an adventure in itself when the trail out of the valley couldn't be located and a classic Cascade bushwhack ensued. Although the mountain was covered in clouds, those who persevered reported "steep snow, boulders, the rocky traverse, and blow-me-over wind made this a climb to remember." Jim, Rik, Bill, Chris S, Rich P, and Ken M summited, while Shirley prepared a fire for the group's second night out. As one might expect, the best weather of the weekend was reserved for the trip out, on which we got a fabulous view of the mountain from Longs Pass. This was truly a memorable Memorial Day climb, and is one of the reasons Peak 6878 near Longs Pass is being proposed as "Hinkhouse Peak".

OSAT QUICK-REFERENCE

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OSAT Club Meeting: Wednesday, August 11th.

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.

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 Issaquah) 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

Location: 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 passcode 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 message 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

Ask Mr. Wilderness

Hello all of you outdoor aficionados, Mr. Wilderness here. As I waded through the latest installment of the Yodel I was simply mortified that there was not a wit of useful information about the development of outdoor *craft*. It is only with great reluctance that I take up the mantle to impart my considerable wilderness knowledge to you. Here at the home we maintain a very busy schedule. Because of your obvious need I have graciously foregone my weekly *movement* to attend to your obvious dire need for enlightenment. My credentials: I am the offspring of Nansen, the famous polar explorer and although I was never in the arctic I looked through the pictures. I have climbed extensively in Oklahoma and Florida. My frequent climbing partners were Gaston Rubberfoot and Kurt Handburger. My frequent expeditions have taken me from Detroit to the wilds of Altoonah. This being a modest overlay of my considerable experience I now present to you (the unenlightened) my veritable perfect compendium of facts, tales and humdingers regarding the out-of-doors. The editor of this abomination has so graciously allowed me to provide this information [Editor's note: in heavily edited form, that is. The holes left from my excisions are indicated with: ___] to you and maintain my anonymous nature. (past threats of harm, you see) Also I will take letters and email (to the yodel) and will pick the most lucid of questions each month to respond to in this publication. So, rules of the road for all you inquisitive souls. All questions are fair game. You must sign your name. Don't print anything that you don't want to see again. If you are offended easily don't read this column go to church instead and enjoy the resentment you did not get. Finally be kind to Mr. Wilderness. I am up in years, my health is failing and I'm not as __ tolerant of a__ letters as I once was. I await your *myriad* of queries regarding the outdoors.

This months query — "I seem to be hearing many climb members use four letter vulgarities on many of the outings. I was curious as to whether this adds or detracts from the spiritual dimension of the outdoorexperience?" Mr. Wilderness's answer — "Dear Ditsilfrits, only in the Northwest would this ever arise as aquestion. No doubt you are one of those latte sucking ____ who thinks everything from gerbils to Nazis have a place in this __ world. Get a __ grip. As I have said on many occasion "there are times when only a __ _ will do". Let go, lighten up and enjoy the moment. Try a few adjectives yourself and see if it doesn't lighten your karmic dysentery. Until then practice stringing some colorful sentences together and try them out in public. For reample, "Go _ a _ _ frog _ _ !" I think you will be amazed at what an icebreaker this can be for new conversational directions. Yours in greatness, Mr. Wilderness.

More next month from Mr. Wilderness. [Editor's Note: "Mr. Wilderness" has provided me (short of identity), proof that he is a current OSAT member. He has informed me that you may submit questions, (and I encourage you to send flames directly to him) to the address:

misterwilderness@writeme.com (This is his real email address.)]

Tuesday 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.

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.
- 3) 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.
- 5) 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.
- 8) 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.
- 9) Party size for OSAT activities will adhere to the rules of the appropriate jurisdiction.

GREENLAKE RUN!

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.

Trip Report: Mount Pilchuck June 24, 1999 *Submitted by Eric O.*

When I joined OSAT it became obvious to me that it is a group that is rich with tradition. You hear long stories embellished for effect that were passed down from the thrilling days of yesteryear as if we were Native Americans chanting around a campfire. Until you have been to the places spoken of in OSAT lore you don't feel that familiar connection. This was the case for a few of us when Kathy H. led a climb of Mt. Pilchuck. Kathy s merry companions consisted of Annie B., Joseph C., Gwen S., Patty H., Kat M., Dan A., Todd P., Jodi W., and Eric O. Additionally, Bruce M. And his friend John showed up to practice some ice axe arrest.

To me an the rest of the new students this year it seemed that Mt. Pilchuck looked like every other mountain that we had been to. You couldn't see more than 30 yards in any direction. It was quite white. We wondered if we had missed the seminar when the instructor said "For the first year in OSAT you may never see more than 30 yards when you climb." It all plays into the rite of passage for the OSAT cultural chant. "Back when I climbed Mt. Pilchuck . . .". And when students of the future are come around we can talk about the year with-

(Continued from page 4) out visibility.

As fresh little impressionable minds it was slightly disheartening to hear our climb leader say, "This place looks so different now, there was so much snow last week." But figuring that our courageous leader was wise and could take bearings off the clouds as the elders do, we thought we should be able to follow her up to the top and see what the whiteout looked like up there.

So off we went in the wild white yonder. We crossed a mucky swamp, Kathy said it was a snowy meadow last week. We took off to the left and headed up and up and traversed a couple of slopes. It seemed like any other OSAT climb with lots of whiteout for everyone. Then there was a moment of clarity. Visibility grew to an astronomical 1/4 mile. The students oohed and aahhed with fascination as we were able to see actual trees, rocks, hilltops, and 11 people nearby, 13 if you count Bruce and John. For most of the brief hike I thought there was only 2 or 3 people because I could not see the rest, I was even more pleased when I discovered the voices I heard were not the return of my multiple personalities but the other members of the group. And the view, it was great, why it was like being a kid in a candy store. Perhaps we would

we thought we should be able to follow her up to the top and see what the white-students oohed and a students oohed a students oohed and a students oohed and a students oohed and students oohed a st



be able to see this far when we got to the top! After that brief moment of bliss, the more experienced climbers appearance deepened with concern as they realized were in the wrong place. I didn't think it was possible. We had done the bearings on the clouds and we had even taken into account the magnetic declination. Well, it slowly became obvious that the trail we were following did not go to the top but made some sort of alien crop circle shapes on the slopes like those seen on TV. Kathy turned us around and headed down for a fresh start.

As we traveled through the lower meadow we found a nice lunch spot. And in the fine culinary tradition of OSAT, the smorgasbord started. Food was appearing out of every zipper and flap. There was so much there that we were thinking of calling it the Bite of Pilchuck. It was a grand delight. Then we discovered why our compasses were all acting a little weird. Patty H. pulled out an entire bag of Siamese twin cherries joined at the stem. She had picked them up the last time she was near Hanford Nuclear reservation, she said they tasted good but it now seemed that magnetic north was mostly toward Patty's stomach.

After lunch the people that wanted to summit headed to the old trail. We got our game faces with summit paint on and headed out. We rambled over snow and trees and under branches. We came to a long traverse with a small pond at the bottom. In a couple of moments the clouds opened up and revealed a hill looked vaguely familiar to Kathy and Annie. We rallied the folks and headed up the steep slopes.

With the group on the correct trail we switched into social chat. A couple of gals were talking about eligible guys as if there were no men present. We heard a lot of gossip but there is some kind of feminine code that is used to protect the names of the hapless victims. The rest of the group stayed busy doing other things. Gwen S. was moving along, Todd P. was hauling his prized full 5 gal. jug, Kathy H. was busy with the route, Joseph C. was light that day and out in front. Some of us were discussing our gear. We all aspired to be as dedicated to our gear as Tom M. is to that holey sweater that he has.

Despite the continued presence of the white out, we were able to make the summit, and because of our 4 mile detour we had a 3100 foot summit day instead of the normal 2500 foot summit. We climbed up the rocks to the fire tower. We were warming up when a man and his dog came up. The dog was very friendly. In fact he was so friendly that he helped himself to Dan A. s sandwich. The entire thing was gone in about one bite. We were all rolling with laughter, unfortunately for Dan it was not quite so funny.

The summit that day was like any other summit. We couldn't see any more than 30 yards in any direction. Of course this changed as we were coming down. About half way down we could actually see the green valley below us. It would have been a breathtaking view. Despite all of the toil it turned out to be a fantastic day. The way down was fun with a couple of good glisades. We left in good spirits having discovered a bit of OSAT history.

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.

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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 Ph: 425-771-BACK (425-771-2225) FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION AND EXAMINATION FOR ALL OSAT MEMBERS

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.