



BULLETIN

Volume 99, Issue 7

October 2016

The WAC Celebrates 100 years

A group of proud members of the Washington Alpine Club gathered on September 30th at the Mountaineers Program Center to celebrate its 100th anniversary.

The evening was shared by old friends and new, who have joined the WAC through the different activities and classes offered. There were members in attendance who joined the club as early as 1960, and as recently as a few months ago.

The event started at 5:30 pm with a special call to anyone who could fix the beer keg. Once it was fixed, people socialized to their hearts' content until the buffet opened and a long line formed.

Current club President, Mike Mahanay opened the program with a photo and tale presentation of the early years of the club. Having served for fourteen great years, these are his last weeks as President. He will be succeeded (pending approval) by Ira Rushwald.

Mike Daly followed with an illustrated narration of how the Basic Climbing Class has evolved throughout the years. Gear and clothing has certainly changed. The program ended with a mandatory group photo.

Mike Mahanay shares more about the meaning of this special milestone on page 3.

Book of the month

Over the Edge The True Story of the Kidnap and Escape of Four Climbers in Central Asia

Four young American rock climbers were pulled directly into a line of fire on a climbing expedition 80 miles from Afghanistan. In a remarkable life-and-death crucible over six terrifying days, they would be forced to choose between saving their own lives and committing murder themselves.

Author: Greg Child



Group photo at the 100th WAC Anniversary Celebration

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WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB

Incorporated 1916

MEMBER OF: Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, Washington Trails Association. Washington Environmental Council. Washington Wilderness Coalition. MidFORC Coalition

The primary objective of this club is to encourage the healthful enjoyment of the great outdoors, to preserve its natural beauty and to promote good fellowship among all lovers of nature.

PO Box 352 Seattle, WA 98111

www.washingtonalpineclub.org

Board Of Trustees 2016

President	Mike Mahanay
1st VP	Pat O'Brien
2nd VP	Ira Rushwald
Treasurer	Dave Wilson
Secretary	Elden Atzimer

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Eli Holmes
Joanna Hingle
Pat Beurskens
Susan Ashlock
Jiri Pertold

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Climbing Class Pat O'Brien
Co-chairs To-be-updated

Winter Division

Telemark Ski SkiWeds@gmail.com
Back Country Amanda Goodin, Colbi Cannon,
Kyle Zinter

Property & Membership

Cabin Chair Mike Mahanay
Work Party Mike Mahanay
Membership Dave Wilson
Publicity Kay Ishi
Cabin Supply Mike Mahanay

Public Relations

Bulletin Editor Lourdez Rejon
Conservation Mike Mahanay
Circulation Dave Mitchell
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MOVING?

Please update your info on the website:

www.washingtonalpineclub.org

Looking Ahead

To stay the most current just check the calendar on the website!

<https://washingtonalpineclub.org/current/calendar?month=dec&yr=2015>

- Annual Members Meeting—10/16
- New Snow Dinner—12/10

Join the WACLIST on Yahoo!

If you want to get mail on the WAC email list, join the yahoo group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/waclist/>

Post message: waclist@yahoogroups.com

Subscribe: waclist-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

It is time to renew your membership

Fall is the time to renew your membership in the WAC for another year. These rainy days and long nights make it super easy to do! Just look yourself up in the members section to see when your membership expires. <https://washingtonalpineclub.org/renew-your-membership>

Thanks for supporting your club! Remember you membership dues and any additional contribution are tax deductible!

You can also pay by check. Please send your check today made out to "WAC", to:

Washington Alpine Club
c/o Dave Wilson
3629 Whitman Ave. N
Seattle, WA 98103

President's Corner

This is my final President's Corner. I have been WAC President for 14 years and we have accomplished a lot of great things during that time. I have met many fantastic people and been entertained throughout. I have climbed mountains, skied, kayaked, hiked, and ran trails with more people than I have ever imagined. Most being WAC members. I will still be around, but I will be out in the field even more now! I appreciate all the support you have given me, and the WAC, and I am sure you will continue to support our 100-year-old Club into the future.

Sooner than any of us would have expected, Fall has arrived! Now is the time to take that trip to the high country to see the larches in their stunning yellows. The huckleberries are done, the bears and marmots are getting very sleepy, and the rhubarb at the Guye Cabin garden is done for another year. Pumpkins are ripe and orange and will soon be turning into jack-o-lanterns at Snoqualmie Pass. Looking up from Guye Cabin the hinderlands are alive with yellows, reds, and orange colors.

October is the time to renew your membership. Take a minute to check the website and see if you are up for renewal. Help the WAC by renewing for multiple years online via the [website](#). You'll save money and time. We are wrapping up 2016 with a very healthy 493 members. Our Club continues to improve and grow. More people each year are signing up for multi-year memberships! A huge thanks to our Treasurer Dave Wilson who processes several hundred renewals and checks, which is no easy task. The entire Club appreciates his hard work!

The Intermediate Climbing Class wrapped up last weekend on Mount Baker. They enjoyed perfect weather for most of the class. Thanks to Alexis Vergalla, Federico Schliemann, and Wouter van Wageningen for organizing and heading up the class! We couldn't have better co-chairs! Thanks to everyone who organized the weekends and everyone who volunteered to help out with this class.

Guye Cabin has a new upper entryway and stairs thanks to the hard work of Mark Hume, Archie Brenden, Ralph Preston, Mike Mahanay, Aaron Nation, and others. Thanks to Johnny Moeller for doing the pest control. Dave Mitchell is getting us a new easy to manage sewer system. The outside looks great too. We continue to do trail work and brush cleanup. I wish I could name everyone! Thanks to the more the 100 people who participated in the work parties over the summer!

The WAC is fortunate that we are a 100% volunteer organization. Folks participate because they are motivated to teach others, help out, and do the right thing. Motivation is having the encouragement to do something.



It comes from deep inside. We are lucky to be involved with this wonderful group of like minded people that love the outdoors.

Sunday October 16th is our Annual Meeting at Guye Cabin. As always we will have an array of great food, (specialty potluck) and fun. We'll have an Open House at 11:00, Potluck at 12:00, Presentation on Grizzly Bear Recovery in WA at 1:00, Group Photo at 1:50, Meeting at 2:00. If you can't come, be sure to respond to the online ballot or send in your proxy vote today to Elden Altizer.

The New Snow Dinner will be December 14th. We are looking for someone, or a team, to organize the entrée. It can be anything you want, so please give me an email or call soon if you would like to lead this Dinner.

Outdoor activities tend to foster independence, self-reliance and critical thinking. In this wonderful time between summer and winter please visit the highlands, come out and meet your old friends, and make some new friends, at one of the many WAC events.

Get ready for ski season from Mike Beck!

Those of us that have high country skiing on the mind will perhaps like this video of Mike Mahanay skiing from Camp Muir a on Mother's day a few years back.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zJ12NoyYSu4>

Annual Meeting Schedule October 16 2016

Come one come all!

Don't miss this event at Guye Cabin!

Bring your family and friends and enjoy the pass, open house, have lunch, and attend the Annual Meeting. This is a good opportunity to

introduce your friends to the Cabin and meet the outstanding dedicated eclectic diverse group of folks that make up our Club!

11:00 - 12:00 Open House

12:00 p.m. Potluck Lunch

1-1:50 Grizzly Bear Recovery

1:50 p.m. Group Photo

2:00 p.m. Annual Meeting

We'll hear the state of our Club, committee reports, and most importantly, we'll vote in the 2017 Officers!

Can't make it? Reply to the Ballot you received via email, or mail, fax, or give your proxy to someone to deliver.

WAC Board 2017 Slate

Ira Rushwald	President	irushwald@gmail.com
Pat O'Brien	Vice President	patobwac@yahoo.com
Elden Atzimer	Vice President	elden.altizer@outlook.com
Dave Wilson	Treasurer	dw801@yahoo.com
Robertson Miller	Secretary	robertsonmiller2015@gmail.com
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Chelsea Sweetin	Director	sweetin.chelsea@gmail.com
Mike Daly	Director	mike.daly.wac@hotmail.com
Mark Iverson	Director	iverson.mark@gmail.com

Telemark and Randonee Skiing Class on Wednesday Nights

Come join the oldest and largest telemark ski instruction program in the US. The program also has classes for Randonee / Alpine skiers. Develop your skills so you can enjoy the backcountry even more.

Wednesday night Telemark / Randonee lesson program for 2017

This evening program helps you improve your ski descent skills during uncrowded weeknights. Classes are organized by ability level — so that your classmates are skiing at about the same level.

All levels between “never skied” and “advanced” are available.

Location: Summit West — just across the freeway from the WAC Cabin.

Days/Dates: Wednesdays: Jan 11, 18, 25, Feb 1, 8, 15, 2017.

Times: Lessons run from 7:30-9:30 PM

Lesson cost: \$TBD (last year was \$165) when you sign up prior to December 1st , after that \$TBD (Last year \$215.00) – Availability may also be limited after December 1st.

Discounted season’s passes may also be purchased along with lessons.

More Info / Sign Up: Contact Randy Oakley @ SkiWeds@gmail.com or 425-736-6493

Wilderness and Remote First Aid course registration is open!

It's the time of year to brush up on your wilderness first aid skills! This is especially important for those of you volunteering as instructors in our various classes we offer. The class will be November 18/19/20 this year. Please see the class webpage for more details. Hope to see many of you there!!

<https://washingtonalpineclub.org/classes/wilderness-remote-first-aid-class>

Guye Cabin Recycling Reminder

The WAC is green & The Cabin follows the same recycling program as the city of Seattle. There are three bins to sort garbage, recycling, and compostable items. Please take a bag home when you leave and put them in your home bins. Thanks!

Paper coffee cups and their **lids** are recyclable (not just the cardboard sleeve). Seattle is one of the few areas in the country where both are able to be recycled. **Plastic cups** and **bottles** are recyclable. Empty plastic food trays from microwave meals and to-go clamshell containers can be quickly rinsed and then recycled. Plastic 'to go' boxes can be rinsed and recycled.

Paper/cardboard 'to go' boxes, napkins, all food waste, vegetables, coffee grounds, etc should be composted.

Meet the Members of the 2017 WAC Board

Ira Rushwald President

He joined the WAC in 2000 and took the Basic Climbing Class in 2001. He's remained an instructor every year since 2002. I was co-chair of this class for the years 2011-2012. Between 2002 – 2005, he took the Ice Climbing Class and the Self-Rescue Class. This is prior to there being an Intermediate Climbing Class.

He joined the WAC board around 2003 and became the Treasurer for three years. He then remained on the board as an at-large member until the present. During the last four years he rewrote our Constitution and Bylaws to bring them up-to-date with our current practices as they were sorely out-of-date. He also wrote our application to the IRS to become a 501C3 from a 501C7. While we were a non-profit organization, this allowed us to become a tax-deductible, educational organization. This has generated 1000's of dollars in matching donations from organizations such as Microsoft, Google, Boeing and others.

He continues to rock climb, ice climb, hike and backcountry ski pretty much every week of the year. This is primarily with WAC members. In addition, he is a sea kayaker who mostly does day trips and one multi-day trip each summer.

Pat O'Brien Vice President

Pat took the Basic Climbing Class in 1979 and in the early 1980's became the organizer for the class. He was the sole chair of the class for many years until it was expanded in the 1990's to bring on co-chairs. He was also the main instructor for many years. He has been on the WAC Board of Directors since 1990 mostly as Vice-President. He also enjoys world travel and currently is vacationing in Morocco.

Elden Atzimer Vice President

Joined the WAC over 10 years ago. His main activities have been climbing and bicycling, with lots of kid related activities with Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and using Guye cabin as a basecamp for downhill skiing and snowshoeing in winter. Besides his personal joy of the outdoors, he feels a sense of service to others and family. Elden is currently balancing his end of career at Boeing as an engineering Technical Fellow, caring for an aging mother, and launching his adult children into independence. He sees being club president in the near future and more involvement with the cabin, along with more peak bagging and trips to the mountains of North America.

Robertson Miller Secretary

On July 16th, 2010, Rob's office mate asked him if he would like to go with him on a Camp Muir hike the following day. He jumped at the chance. As it turned out, he barely managed to hike halfway to Camp Muir before running out of steam. That was the first day that changed his life. He started training and losing weight with the dream of climbing Rainier someday. The office mate told him there were two ways to climb Mount Rainier, sign up with a guide service or get trained. Getting trained sounded far more interesting. A Google search lead him to the WAC. Pat O'Brien told him about the Basic Climbing class and the two-hour Mount Si requirement. His first Mount Si hike was close to three hours. With Pat's guidance and encouragement he kept training and managed to drive the Si time down to 1:50. He took the Basic class in 2011 and has been coming back every year since as an instructor. Helping with the Basic class has been extremely rewarding.

Aside from continuing to help with the Basic class he hopes to be an active member of the WAC board, help to plan activities, manage the cabin, and participate in the day-to-day club management.

Dave Wilson Treasurer

Dave joined the WAC in 2004 to learn to Tele. After a couple years, it led to the Backcountry Travel Class, followed by climbing. He still skis, although he's now locked down his heels. In recent years his favorite WAC-related activity has been cragging and alpine climbing (mostly with a little "a"). He has very much enjoyed helping with the climbing classes and look forward to doing that in the future as well. In addition, he has a background in both finance and technology, which someone must have figured out because somehow he ended up being the WAC Treasurer and working on the WAC website. In truth, both of these activities are a pretty good fit for him.

Joanna Hingle Director

Joanna Hingle joined the WAC in 2005 through the Basic Climbing Class, like so many before (and after). She still thoroughly enjoys the hiking and backpacking that were a part of her before-WAC life, but is glad to have added rock-walls, scrambles, and more challenging mountains to the list of places to explore. She brings a love of teaching and organizing to the Club and Board, as well as a sometimes excessive love of spreadsheets....

Pat Beurskens Director

Pat joined the WAC in 2009. He's taken and instructed the Basic, Intermediate, and Backcountry classes. He's co-chaired the Intermediate class and taught the WRFA class since 2010. He's the self proclaimed "First Aid Chair" on the Board since joining, starting and coordinating the WAC sponsored WFR classes held at the cabin every spring. He enjoys rock and alpine climbing, backcountry skiing, and more recently, casual hiking with his baby daughter born this summer.

Chelsea Sweetin Director

Chelsea joined the WAC in 2013 when she took the Basic Climbing Class, which she's since been helping instruct / co-chair.

She loves to be outside hiking, climbing, and skiing. She grew up in the PNW so it is definitely very special for her to be able to more fully explore what it has to offer. She's enjoyed getting involved in the WAC community for both personal growth as a climber as well as the chance to help others realize the great opportunities that the PNW mountains have to offer.

Kids Nordic Ski Classes start in January

The Junior Nordic Program is a progressive program to teach children all-around skills for Nordic skiing. For ages 4 to 8, we focus on striding (classic) and downhill skills. Starting around age 8 or 9, kids learn to skate. Kids age 9 and older split their season between classic and skating styles. For kids under the age of 10, learning through games and adventure is very important.

Kids in Treasure Trails, Little Nordis, and Freeheelers will play a variety of games like treasure hunts, skiing off trail through the woods, playing soccer on skis, and having snowball fights all in the process of learning to ski well. When kids enter High Pros and are ready to for directed technique coaching, they'll be solid striders and skaters. January to March.



The [Washington Alpine Club](#)

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