



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Chelsea Sweetin

Summer is here and it feels so nice to get some much needed sun! With the vaccine becoming more widespread, I've been able to reconnect with people in person I haven't seen in 18 months, and it's been a breath of fresh air. We had our first board meeting in person this month as well since the beginning of the pandemic. It was great to talk in person and sit by a fire and socialize afterwards. I am looking forward to more of this as the Summer continues.

Memorial Day was a nice long weekend, packed a lot into a few short days. Spent two nights up in Ferndale visiting with family at an airbnb on the water with a perfect view of Mt. Baker. We got to check out a beautiful park in the area called Hovander Homestead Park, highly recommend you check it out if you find yourself in the area. Back in Seattle, the farmers markets have so many fresh goodies, and there is always brunch to be had! Swedish Pancakes from Hattie's are never a bad idea. Loved the time I got to spend with family over the long weekend. Hope you all had fun weekend filled with whatever activities and people make you happy!

Don't forget to check out the work parties at the cabin and keep an eye out for any summer climbs and other club activities. The snow is melting fast and the weather is only going to improve! We are holding a Rescue X class as well as the intermediate class this Summer, so if you are interested make sure and sign up!

The board goes on hiatus for the next two months, but we will send out a mid-summer update, and don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or need anything from us! I can't wait to hear about all the Summer adventures you guys get into!

Chelsea Sweetin



[SPRING SELF-RESCUE X! Accepting applications through June 8th!](#)

In the past WAC has run two sections of Self Rescue in conjunction with the rest of the intermediate course in the fall. This year our safety gurus have offered to run one of those clinics in the spring. AND IT'S COMING IN HOT! In August Self-Rescue spots will be prioritized for students taking the full ICC course, so if self-rescue is the only thing on your wish-list, we encourage you to apply for this one. The curriculum was also majorly revamped and improved in 2018 so if you took it before that, consider a refresh. Applications will be due June 8th, students will be notified June 15th, the lecture/demo will be the evening of June 22, and the practical weekend will be June 26 & 27th. Cost is \$80 and you must be an active member of the Washington Alpine Club. Questions?  
Email [wac-icc-chairs@googlegroups.com](mailto:wac-icc-chairs@googlegroups.com)

# CABIN REPORT



Mike Mahanay

Summer is here! I want to thank you for the continued commitment to and support of Guye Cabin. The people and the Cabin have never been better! It really means a lot. It is a unique and special experience to visit the Cabin in each season! Today it was 72 degrees, the snow has melted from the yard, rhubarb, skunk cabbage, and trillium are all making appearances. Everyone has been incredibly grateful and appreciative of the opportunities- and have enjoyed their stays immensely. The Cabin is free during many weekdays if you are interested.

The vaccine rollout has gone really well and Governor Jay hopes to have us 100% back open by the end of June. We have the regular Cabin fees again beginning June 01.

PCT Hikers- Starting the second half of July we will host the PCT hikers on their journey to the Canadian Border. Many of you have done this in the past years and know how much fun and delightful an experience it is. This endeavor supports Guye Cabin & the WAC financially, and assists people from all over the country & world in their life journey. The PCT hikers love the Cabin and our hospitality. Be thinking about what dates you can volunteer, check the WAC calendar, and let me know. I will add them to the WAC calendar. Check the [WAC Calendar](#) for the dates.

## Open Houses and Work Parties

June 26, July 10, Aug 21 (Hike, bike, help, or hang out)

Also I will be hosting small work parties each Tuesday and Thursday in June and July

Firewood, paint inside and out, chores, trail work, repairs, upgrades.

Come on up for the day to help out, to play, or to hike the trails. We will stock up on firewood for next winter, paint the gabled ends of the Cabin, and continue trail work. If you have used the Cabin, you'll want to show up in the off season too and give some back! This is a great way to meet some new people in the WAC and invest in the Club's future. Check the [WAC Calendar](#) for the dates.

**Gear Library-** We continue to make progress on our gear library- kids Nordic skis and boot, snowshoes, kids' snow pants and jackets, gloves, hiking poles, etc. Also, we need yoga mats and props. Please make sure anything donated is serviceable. Thank you very much for your donations!

Don't forget if you need help with anything (WAC related, or otherwise) call or text me.

Needed donations - Sun canopies, Outdoor chairs, picnic tables, paint brushes

PS Here is a little video I made called [People of the WAC](#) (it is on the WAC website)

Thank you

Mike Mahanay Cabin Chair/Director

[mikemahanay@gmail.com](mailto:mikemahanay@gmail.com)





## Club Photos

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We had our next in-person refresher, at Gasworks this past month. A group of instructors met to go over and dust off the rust on their z-pulley technique!





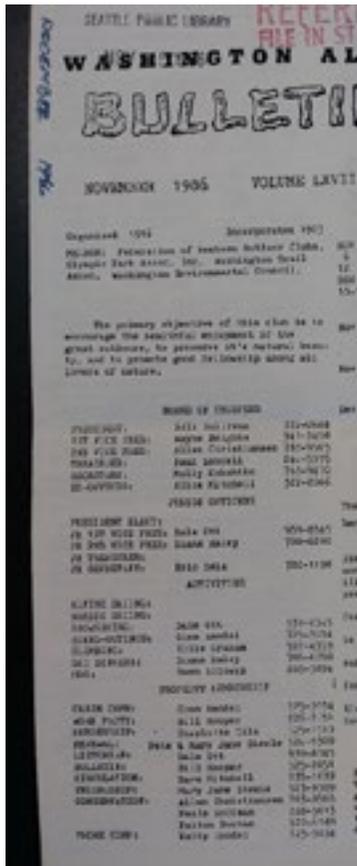
## Club Photos

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# Club Photos



## Activities Committee Report

Elden Altizer

Send an email to [activities@washingtonepineclub.org](mailto:activities@washingtonepineclub.org) to volunteer to lead outings!

### Summer Activities:

#### Solstice Climbing at Marymoor Park

June 21st, 2021

7:00 PM

Enjoy the longest day of the year with some climbing and friends.

Bring a picnic dinner! Rain cancels.

#### All Summer

Guye Cabin Mushroom identification. Post your photos of mushrooms you find on the cabin property to the WAC Facebook page. September is the prime month, but they pop up throughout the summer!

#### Scramble Silver Peak

July 17, 2021

Leader Elden Altizer

Other activities: check the Facebook and website for outing opportunities!



## An Un-Birthday Climb

Mike Daly

In that narrow window between the opening of Highway 20, and the melting of too much snow, the SW Couloir of South Early Winter Spire is a nice way to the summit. If you wait too long, you understand the colloquial translation of “couloir” as “dirty gully” with all of the rockfall, wounds, and torn clothing that recalls. With all that in mind, on the morning of May 22, 6 foolish climbers set out to see if indeed the window had closed for the year. TL;DR: not quite.

Our intrepid team (Danny Volz-2019, Jackson Sage-2019, Scott Ragan-2019, Mike Daly-2004, Fred Slater-1998, Mark Mendel-1978) left the trailhead around 7:40, well after a team of 8 Mountaineers (6:30), and scores of Birthday Tour skiers. We re-learned how to walk on snow and how to use crampons and reached the Couloir before the sun crested the ridge. The sky was clear, the temps in the thirties to low forties, perfect for a quick approach.

The gully was snow for the first third. The second third was simple mixed climbing as the snow thinned out and the ice appeared, and the rocks stuck out through; call it the class-4 equivalent of the mixed grades—m0?. We rigged a couple of handlines through the worst of the areas and made the top after lunch time. Classic Cascade views were had (Luna to the NW, Dome/Sinister to the WSW, Glacier, lots of skiers to the south, Oval SE, Silver Star East, etc.). There was still significant snow around the summit and you could peek under/through the cornice to see the highway below.

Weather to the SE over Oval Pk was looking poor, and continued to deteriorate through the afternoon with snow flurries. Rather than downclimbing the couloir, we decided to cross the whaleback and descend the south arete. To speed things up, we shared ropes with the Mountaineers' climb group and were back at the car after dinner but before sunset (love those long PNW evenings).

The guide books/online descriptions suggest bringing a small rack to protect the route using the sides of the gully. We brought pickets and placed a couple where the snow was suitable, and placed a few pieces of hardware but the options were not as rich as the guides may suggest. There are two rap stations just above the steepest section of the gully, one on the north side, and one slightly lower on the south.

The Birthday Tour might still be in for another week, but we could not see the southern aspects over the ridges. The Couloir is probably done for the season. The Big Rock at the bottom will be melted out soon, and the upper 2/3 will be loose and moving.

All in all, a grand adventure. Get out and plan some more Summer Climbs!



..... **2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS** .....

**TRUSTEES**

**President:** Chelsea Sweetin

**1st VP:** Pat O'Brien

**2nd VP:** Nathaniel Harrison

**Treasurer:** Elden Altizer

**Secretary:** Angela Crampton

**DIRECTORS**

Derek Lester

Mike Daly

Mike Mahanay

Rebecca Shore

Rachel Minucciani

..... **2020 / 2021 CLASS CO-CHAIRS** .....

**BASIC CLIMBING CLASS**

Pat O'Brien  
Brandi Garcia  
Clement Gurrey  
Linnet Vacha  
Kelly Pope

**INTERMEDIATE CLASS**

Jodie Eilers  
Kelly Coons  
Stu Lai

**BACKCOUNTRY CLASS**

Gabe O'Leary  
Chelsea Baum  
Michael Grazewski  
Andrew Chan

..... **PROPERTY & MEMBERSHIP** .....

**Cabin Chair:** Mike Mahanay

**Work Parties:** Mike Mahanay

..... **Board Meetings** .....

The WAC Board of Directors meets on the first Thursday of each month (excluding summer July / August). All members are welcome to join the meetings, but if unable to attend you can read the minutes of each meeting on the website [HERE](#)

During the pandemic we are meeting via ZOOM - Email the board for the link to join!



INCORPORATED 1916

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