

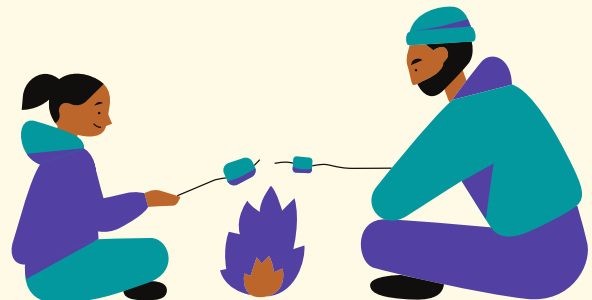
POST 58

The Monthly Newsletter of the Explorer Post 58



MT. DEFIANCE HIKE, PHOTO BY EMILY POWELL

***In this issue:
Interview with
President Stuart,
trip reports and
more!***



Next meeting: Monday, November 9

7:00 PM on ZOOM

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Meet our Speaker: Chris Wright

Winner of the prestigious Piolet d'Or award for 2020
By Ruby Kofron (with help from Alpine Ascents International)

For all our new members, as you will soon experience, one of the many things Post 58 excels at is providing the world with a steady supply of youth leaders, you all! One of the ways we foster leadership skills is through exposure to a variety of leaders and role models. Every month at our general meeting we have the pleasure of meeting and listening to a guest speaker. During the coronavirus pandemic we've been able to hear from a number of speakers such as former governor Kitzhaber and the President of the Sierra Club. These presentations are always interesting and often quite inspiring. The speaker for our upcoming meeting is Chris Wright, a world renowned alpinist.



After moving from Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains to the Pacific Northwest Chris became a guide in 2006. A certified IFMGA Mountain Guide, his career has taken him from the Matterhorn to Denali, and from Pakistan to Mont Blanc. Chris can regularly be found at work from the Alps to the Canadian Rockies and Norway's Lofoten Islands. His achievements include everything from big walls to virgin summits, first ski descents and traverses. An avid alpinist and expedition climber, Chris has received the prestigious Mugs Stump and Lyman Spitzer Cutting Edge Awards for his ascents of hard new routes on unclimbed peaks in the Karakoram and the Himalayas, as well as the rest of the world, including the famed East Face of Alaska's Moose's Tooth. In 2020 he received what is arguably the sports highest honor with the awarding of the prestigious Piolet d'Or for his ascent of Link Sar.



What Is It Like As A New Member?

By Stuart Lidberg, Chapter One President

I remember going to my first Post meeting at Lincoln High School and right when I walked into the room I could feel good vibes wipe over me. I remember feeling nervous and sitting by myself as I didn't know anyone yet. While I was waiting for the meeting to start Marcel Simon, the president at the time, walked up to me and we made small talk.

My first trip as a freshman was the caving trip. It was a great trip to meet people, and met some of my long time friends and favorite advisors on the trip. I still remember sleeping in the tent with Alex Peterson and at random points during the night, chunks of snow would fall off of the trees and fall on peoples tents causing them to wake up and scream. The first snowshoe trip I ever went on had a big impact on me, meeting new people and playing games with them was a great time. I was lucky enough to be on the winning snow cave team where we made snow caves big enough for 5 beds, and we made a 7ft tall arch of snowballs!

At first it might be somewhat uncomfortable to be with so many strangers but the more trips you do and people you talk to the more wonderful Postees you will meet. I always regret not signing for trips after they happen. I have met a lot of my friends through going on post trips, and I hope you will too.

Pie Drive!



Thank you all so much for all your incredibly hard work selling pies! I want you all to know how much all the effort you put into selling pies means to me personally, but more importantly, it means a ton to the Post! We raised a whopping *wait for it...* **twelve thousand dollars!!!** That's thanks to you all, and I am so proud of us for making this fundraiser work even in these incredibly difficult covid times. However, all that money translates to a lot of pies, so here's the info on what the pickup day will look like.

-Alex K

We will have pies ready for you to pick up on **Saturday, November 7th** at Lincoln High School at the stairs on the Salmon street side and if you're making a lot of deliveries, coolers are a great idea! Also, cobblers and frozen fruit will melt faster than pies, so prioritize cooler space for those.

Refer to the email for your pickup times. To all the new members, don't fret! We have many new fundraising opportunities coming up in the future!

The Real Motives of the Post

By Ben Scott-Lewis, Fundraising Organizer

The Post is a mountaineering organization first and foremost...or at least that is what they want you to believe...

Our undercover detective crew has worked tirelessly for the last few months, and they've come to a startling conclusion.

Post 58 is a front.

The real objective? Peddling baked goods to the people of Portland.

For years this was done in broad daylight. Nobody suspected the Post of its true, harmless purpose. After all, it did provide wonderful outdoor opportunities. One must admit, it was a masterful disguise.

When the virus hit last spring, our beloved organization did what it could to maintain its facade. It led zoom courses, and worked hard to make the climb season happen, despite the many obstacles. But the side operations ground to a standstill. The people of Portland could no longer rely on monthly bake sales to provide them with their baked goods. Facing such dire circumstances, Peter Green worried that his organization would no longer live out its most central purpose, so he set to work on a plan.



He charged special agent Alex Kowalik with an all-important task, to provide our city with the sweets it needs to survive. The help of our entire organization was enlisted in this Pie Drive. Armies of posties set to work, offering delicious pies to friends, neighbors, and relatives. 953 items were sold, and over 12 thousand dollars raised. Most importantly, the city continued to thrive, free from the fear of pie deprivation.

Through rain we hike on. Through ice and snow we climb. And through global pandemics we fulfill our one true purpose. Fear not citizens, for the Post will be there, selling baked goods.

The Hardest Hike in the Columbia Gorge *By Emily Powell*

On the morning of Halloween, I found myself standing at the base of Mount Defiance in the Columbia River Gorge. I was filled with excitement, yet intimidated by the tall peak that stood before me. After some quick stretches and introductions, our group of 6 postees and 2 advisors headed towards the Starvation Creek Trailhead to begin our hike. Almost immediately, we were greeted by a beautiful view of The Gorge and two trail-side waterfalls. Although the hike up the mountain was very steep, the amazing people and gorgeous scenery were well worth it.

After about four hours of hiking, we found an open clearing that seemed perfect for a lunch break. There, we took pictures in our Halloween attire and warmed up our fingers in the sun. This clearing ended up being the highest point we reached for the day, as we were unable to make it to the summit due to time restraints. On our way back down the mountain, we passed a few cute dogs and learned many fun facts about trees from one of our wonderful advisors. About halfway down the mountain, we stopped on a grassy hill to sit in silence and observe the nature around us. By the time we made it back to the parking lot, we'd hiked about 11 miles and 4,000 feet of elevation - which built up the perfect appetite for eating all that Halloween candy we couldn't give away.



**The view from
Mt. Defiance**



Leading on Rock

Horsethief *By Lia Godino, Photos by Kai Nevers*

It was a rainy October morning when I arrived at the Maryhill campsite to begin the leading on rock course. I huddled under the covered area at the campsite with the other postees, looking at the impressive racks of gear laid out on a table. We started off by learning and reviewing some knots such as clove hitches, barrel knots, and figure eight knots. When the rain cleared up, we drove to Horsethief Butte, where we made the short approach to the crag. We were all extremely cold, but we didn't let that get in our way. At the crag, we practiced placing protection such as cams and nuts into the rock. After that, we learned how to build and clean anchors and



did some top rope climbing. I was so exhausted when I returned to the car. Back at the campsite, we ate dinner and all huddled around the fire pit as we ate delicious oreo s'mores. The next morning, we made a pit stop on our way back to

Horsethief to visit a full-scale replica of Stonehenge someone had built, it was very impressive! At the crag, we reviewed anchor building, and we got to do some mock trad leading and rappelling.

Luckily, it was warmer that day, and the sun lit up the beautiful countryside around us, giving us a beautiful view of Mt. Hood. We finished the day with some more top rope climbs and made our way home. I'm so glad I was able to take this course! I learned so much about climbing outside and I had a great time.



Broughton Bluff *By Dublin Gingerich*

In a cold and windy, late October day, a group of around ten Postees met up at Lewis and Clark State Park to begin a weekend of Leading on Rock. The goals of the course were to learn about leading, learn about trad and so on. Taught by Stella and Claire, we were ready for fun. For the first half of Saturday we went through the basics of outside climbing. Knots and hitches were learned, as well as equipment basics. For the second half of the day we went up to the crag and learned about placements. We used nuts and cams to build trad anchors, and were educated on the importance of equalized anchors as well as how to build them. That capped off the day for climbing, but the fun wasn't over just yet. Once we returned to the parking lot, Stella gave us an early halloween and gifted us with lollipops and snickers. The next day, a lot more climbing was

involved. Luckily, both days the weather was great, cold but sunny and perfect for sending. On Sunday we headed directly to the crag and were ready for climbing. Our group set up at the end of the wall and worked on two climbs. We split into two groups of three. One person climbed, and placed gear while practicing good technique. One person lead belayed the person climbing, and the last person top-rope belayed them for safety. After everybody cycled through and did all the "stations" we moved to a harder climb nearby. While we climbed this route, some more people went around to the top and practiced rappelling. That was a lot of fun for me and I'm sure I wasn't the only one. After our rappel lesson, it wrapped up the day for us and we headed down. Overall, I learned some valuable information that weekend and I can't wait to climb on my own with my new knowledge. Unless you're a pro climber with tons of experience, there's no reason to not take Leading on Rock at some point in your Post career. I would highly recommend it because there's always something new to learn.

