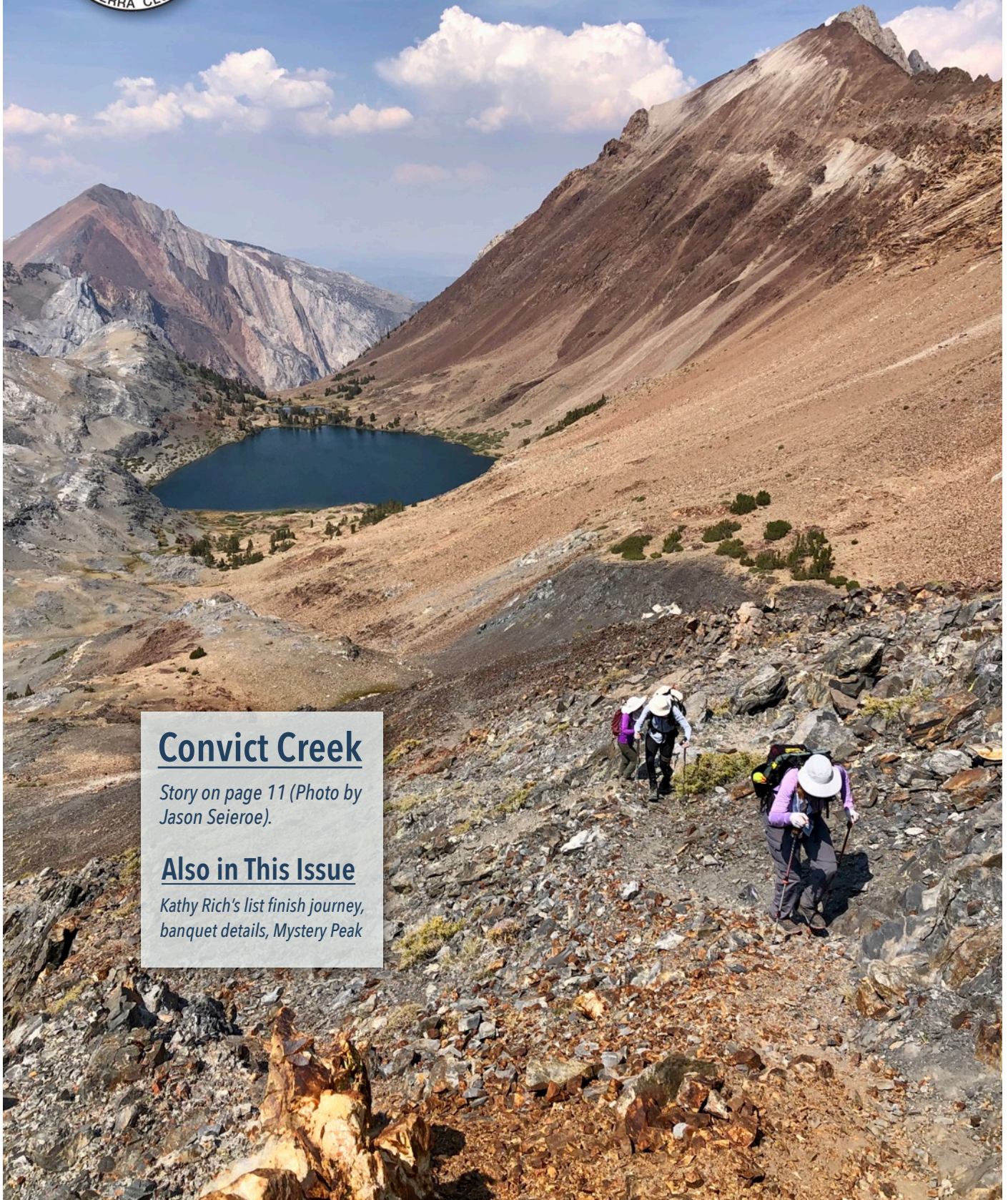




# The Sierra Echo

Volume 67 ▲ Number 1 ▲ January-March 2023



## **Convict Creek**

*Story on page 11 (Photo by Jason Seieroe).*

## **Also in This Issue**

*Kathy Rich's list finish journey, banquet details, Mystery Peak*



## Echoes from the Chair

Hi Everyone,

It's been quite the year! As the pandemic started getting under control, we were able to start hosting outings again and get a handle on the new safety forms. Our management committee (both elected and appointed) has been doing a lot to keep things going, so we should be in a good place to continue ramping up the outings program in 2023. I'm very grateful for all the work this group of dedicated volunteers has put in throughout the year.

With winter season now upon us, I hope all those that enjoy the winter solitude of the Sierra are able to get out and enjoy this time of year in safety. I would encourage all outings leaders to start planning for next year and get your plans ready so you can get your permits in the next few months. We look forward to having more posted trips in 2023 and continuing to grow the skills of all of our members and leaders.

I'm personally going to be working in Southern Africa by the time this newsletter comes out, so I won't have any snow to enjoy there. Still, I'm hoping to stay in good enough shape to join trips when I'm back home. Stay safe and take care of one another and our wilderness playgrounds.

Jason Seieroe



## 2022 Sierra Peaks Section Management Committee

### Elected

Jason Seieroe	Chair <a href="mailto:jasonseieroe@gmail.com">jasonseieroe@gmail.com</a>
Jim Fleming	Vice-chair/banquet <a href="mailto:vicechair@sierrapeaks.org">vicechair@sierrapeaks.org</a>
Laura Newman	Treasurer <a href="mailto:sierrapeakstreasurer@gmail.com">sierrapeakstreasurer@gmail.com</a>
Paul Garry	Secretary <a href="mailto:secretary@sierrapeaks.org">secretary@sierrapeaks.org</a>
Phil A. Bates	Fifth officer <a href="mailto:philipabates@gmail.com">philipabates@gmail.com</a>

### Appointed

Archives	Dan Richter <a href="mailto:dan@danrichter.com">dan@danrichter.com</a>
Conservation Chair	Sharon Moore <a href="mailto:justslm@earthlink.net">justslm@earthlink.net</a>
Echo editors	Tina Bowman <a href="mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com">tina@bowmanchange.com</a> , Beth Epstein
Echo mailer	Tina Bowman
Emblem Committee	Paul Garry, Kathy Rich, Daryn Dodge, Ron Bartell, Bob Pickering
IT Support	Greg Mason <a href="mailto:admin@sierrapeaks.org">admin@sierrapeaks.org</a> , Harry Lagenbacher <a href="mailto:admin2@sierrapeaks.org">admin2@sierrapeaks.org</a>
Keeper of the List	Tina Bowman
Merchandise	Patty Kline <a href="mailto:patriciakline@aol.com">patriciakline@aol.com</a>
Mountain Records	Harry Langenbacher <a href="mailto:register@langenbacher.org">register@langenbacher.org</a>
Outings	Phil Bates <a href="mailto:philipabates@gmail.com">philipabates@gmail.com</a>
Safety Chair	Doug Mantle <a href="mailto:sierradoug@icloud.com">sierradoug@icloud.com</a>
Webmaster	Joe Wankum <a href="mailto:jbwankum@aol.com">jbwankum@aol.com</a>
Asst. Webmasters	Harry Lagenbacher <a href="mailto:register@summitregister.org">register@summitregister.org</a> , Tina Bowman <a href="mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com">tina@bowmanchange.com</a>

### Regional Representatives

San Diego	Joe White
Central California	Daryn Dodge
Northern California	Lisa Barboza

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2023 Sierra Peaks Section Annual

# BANQUET

## Travis Soares Presents SPS List in A Year

In 2022, Travis Soares and Nathan Longhurst set out to climb all 247 SPS peaks in one year to set the Fastest Known Time. Travis completed the list in a remarkable 117 days, twenty days faster than Nathan, in a remarkable feat of planning, logistics, endurance, and adventure.



### Sunday, January 29, 2023

Almanson Court ▲ 700 S. Almanson St. ▲ Alhambra 91801 ▲ 626-570-4600  
5:00 Social Hour, 6:30 Dinner

Dinner ▲ Drinks ▲ Discussion ▲ Good Cheer

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

#### Entree choice:

(Please indicate total number of each)

Number of tickets:  @ \$60 / each if postmarked by January 20.  
TOTAL DUE =  Ticket price increases to \$65 each thereafter.

Salmon  
 Vegetarian  
 Prime Rib

Make checks payable to  
"Sierra Peaks Section"

To order tickets by mail, send  
this form and payment to:

Paul Garry  
2304 11th St.  
Santa Monica, CA 90405-2527

— OR —

You may order tickets electronically.

Log on to: <https://www.paypal.com>

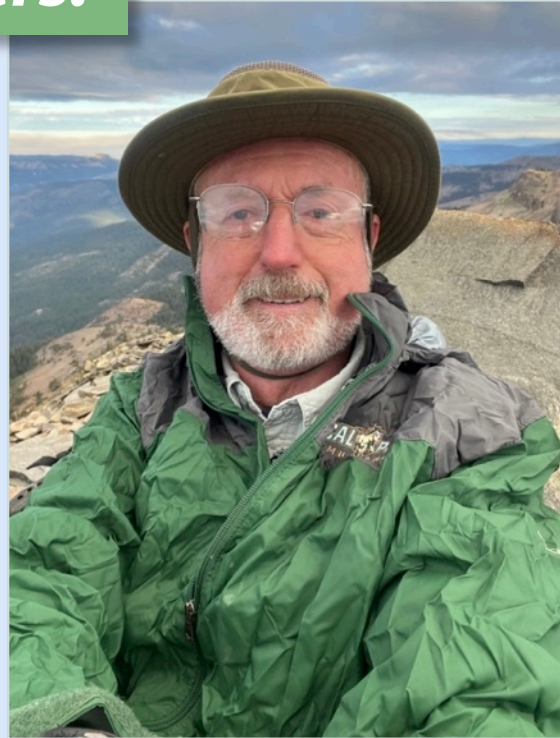
Send payment to: [treasurer@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:treasurer@sierrapeaks.org)

Please note that it is for banquet tickets, the number of tickets, and your entree choice.

# Welcome New Members!

## George Christiansen

George Christiansen (seen at right on the “slab throne” of Tinker Knob) hiked to his first SPS Peak in 1966 (Mt Lyell) and not to number two for forty years! In 2009 he joined the Sierra Club and, as work and family life allowed, began hiking with HPS and then pursued the Lower Peaks and San Diego Peaks Lists. After finishing those lists, he wanted to spend more time in the Sierra. Other than a handful of SPS peaks and a few international hikes, his concentration had been on Southern California. Now he is moving on to more SPS and DPS peaks throughout the state.



## Andrew McClure

When Andy was growing up in Orange County, his dad taught him how to read maps and frequently took his family to the Sierra, Owens Valley, Death Valley, and other many other beautiful spots in California. In his teens and twenties Andy did a lot of backpacking trips and enjoyed climbing some of the best peaks in the Sierra (Whitney, Muir, Sill, Banner Peak, and a few others), but kids and career took up most of his time for a few decades. Having left the workforce last year, he has rediscovered how much he loves the Sierra and the special experience of the challenge, solitude, and highs and lows of climbing Sierra peaks. Now that he has time, his goal is to climb all of the SPS peaks in the next twelve years, so he will be going on many trips in the future. He lives in Carlsbad with his basset hound, Maple.

### FREE First Year's Membership or Echo Subscription

New subscribers and members can receive their first year's subscription for free! Download the Membership Application Form at <http://sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/new-members#mr>. Please contact the chair if you have any questions.

# Welcome New Members!

## Marcus Sproll

Marcus is based out of San Diego and spends a lot of time peakbagging in the Eastern Sierra. In recent years he's been gaining experience with technical rock climbing and high-altitude international mountaineering. For his next big trip, he's planning to climb the tallest volcanoes of Ecuador. Besides mountaineering, he also enjoys sailing, skiing, and running. He's glad finally to join the SPS and is hoping to meet some other peakbaggers!



*We also welcome new members Mark Taylor and Harvey Wohlwend*

# Congratulations!



Doug Mantle completed soloing the entire SPS list for the second time on Thunder Mountain, August 30<sup>th</sup>. Wow! He is seen at left on the East Face of Mt. Whitney.



## around-the-web/

By Dave Sholle

*Editors' note: Dave Sholle is our correspondent for this column, sharing web links that SPS members may find interesting. If you see something you think would interest other members, please send it to Dave at [dsholle@verizon.net](mailto:dsholle@verizon.net).*

Some of these links may be behind paywalls.

From Barbara Lilley and others, finding Bradford Washburn's gear cache eighty-five years later: <https://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/exploration-survival/bradford-washburn-explorer-cache-found-saint-elias/>; <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/bradford-washburn-camera-cache-1.6633661>; and [https://apple.news/ATX5yjSlkQSeYqVe5aVsy\\_w](https://apple.news/ATX5yjSlkQSeYqVe5aVsy_w).

Tahquitz: <https://www.climbing.com/news/editor-film-light-former-nfl-tight-end-killed-climbing-accident-tahquitz/>; <https://www.climbing.com/people/remembering-chelsea-walsh-filmmaker-climber/>; <https://www.climbing.com/news/broken-sling-caused-tahquitz-double-fatality/>; and <https://www.climbing.com/news/climbers-stranded-in-storm-rescued-at-tahquitz/>.

Some FKTs (Fastest Known Times): <https://www.backpacker.com/news-and-events/news/jeff-garmires-new-fkt-on-the-john-muir-trail-came-down-to-a-desperate-final-sprint/>; <https://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/hiking-and-backpacking/andrea-sansone-nolans-14-fkt/>; <https://www.planetmountain.com/en/news/alpinism/watch-nadir-maguet-set-fkt-on-piz-bernina-ortler-grossglockner.html>.

Maybe not official FKTs, but in the spirit of FKTs: <https://www.backpacker.com/stories/adventures/philip-carcia-hikes-white-mountain-guide-summer-season/>; <https://www.climbing.com/news/alex-honnolds-latest-absurdity-the-hurt-is-the-real-deal/>; and <https://www.climbing.com/videos/speed-record-piz-badile-north-ridge-filip-babicz/>.

Two Vitaliy accomplishments: From Beth Epstein: <https://fastestknowntime.com/route/wasatch-ultimate-ridge-linkup-ut> and from Tina Bowman: <http://>

[publications.americanalpineclub.org/articles/13201216057](https://publications.americanalpineclub.org/articles/13201216057).

Yvon Chouinard gives away Patagonia: <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/09/14/climate/patagonia-climate-philanthropy-chouinard.html>.

Fitzroy winter alpine solo: <https://gripped.com/profiles/colin-haley-makes-history-in-patagonia-with-big-alpine-solo/> and trip report with numerous photos: <https://colinhaley.com/fitz-roy-winter-solo/>.

Gorgeous photos of Peruvian Andes: <https://www.boredpanda.com/photography-nature-landscape-andes-mountains-peru-dream-karol-nienart/>.

Trailer for A Baffin Island Vacation (will be part of the Banff World Tour): <https://www.adventure-journal.com/2022/11/a-baffin-island-vacation/>.

Arctic ghost islands: <https://www.adventure-journal.com/2022/09/ghost-islands-of-the-arctic/>.

Vanishing glaciers in Switzerland: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-62689707>.

Kilimanjaro: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-63359145> and [https://edition.pagesuite.com/popovers/dynamic\\_article\\_popover.aspx?guid=294fdd22-92d5-4441-9cc0-1531ebbe6f03&v=sdk](https://edition.pagesuite.com/popovers/dynamic_article_popover.aspx?guid=294fdd22-92d5-4441-9cc0-1531ebbe6f03&v=sdk).

Himalayas:

Drone video over Mount Everest: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zz9oI3B6v4c>.

Garbage on K2: <https://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/climbing/k2-trash-video-nims-purja/>.

Kristin Harila 8000m speed record: <https://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/climbing/kristin-harila-14-peaks-speed-record/> and <https://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/everest/kristin-harilas-speed-record-on-the-8000ers-has-hit-a-snag-china/>.

## around-the-web/ continued

Manaslu: <https://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/everest/manaslu-summit-debate-record-climbers/> and <https://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/everest/manaslu-avalanche-death/>.  
Hilaree Nelson: <https://gripped.com/news/renowned-skier-hilaree-nelson-missing-on-manaslu/>; <https://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/everest/renowned-mountaineer-hilaree-nelsons-body-found-on-manaslu/>; <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/09/28/world/asia/hilaree-nelson-death-avalanche.html>;  
<https://www.outsideonline.com/video/hilaree-nelson-in-memorial/>;  
<https://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/snow-sports/hilaree-nelson-life-death-manaslu/>; and <https://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/climbing/hilaree-nelson-emily-harrington-friendship-manaslu-death/>.

## Wolves in California and Beyond

Want to read more about the history of wolves in California as well as what's happening now? Check out this *New York Times* article:

[https://www.nytimes.com/2022/03/11/science/california-wolves-misinformation.html?campaign\\_id=9&emc=edit\\_nn\\_20220313&instance\\_id=55693&nl=the-morning&regi\\_id=138953864&segment\\_id=85459&te=1&user\\_id=a7dfbd31f7d347bb88c64c888f23463b](https://www.nytimes.com/2022/03/11/science/california-wolves-misinformation.html?campaign_id=9&emc=edit_nn_20220313&instance_id=55693&nl=the-morning&regi_id=138953864&segment_id=85459&te=1&user_id=a7dfbd31f7d347bb88c64c888f23463b).

And here are some remarkable GPS tracking maps



(Photo Courtesy of California Department of Fish and Wildlife.)

of the travels of the Voyageurs wolf packs in Minnesota:

<https://www.thisiscoolossal.com/2019/01/voyageurs-wolf-project/> and <https://brilliantmaps.com/wolf-map/>.

## Time to Renew!

Subscriptions to the Echo expire on December 31st. If you haven't renewed, please do so! You can download the renewal form from the SPS web site here: <https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/membership>.



Wear 'em! Give 'em!

## SPS TEES



Front: NORTH PAL  
Back: FULL SPS LIST

By geographic area with Mountaineer & Emblem peaks highlighted

S, M, L in Ash & Sand  
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Yucca Valley, CA 92284

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# On Completing the SPS List

By Kathy Rich



My journey toward completion of the SPS list was arguably quite different from that of many of my climbing friends, who often began climbing these peaks as teenagers. Growing up in Australia meant that I was very unfamiliar with peaks and mountains and instead kept busy with flatlander sports such as squash and tennis. Even after moving to the USA in my late twenties, it would be many years until I discovered Angeles Chapter's marvelous WTC program (many thanks to Beth Epstein, our group leader in San Gabriel Valley, for a great experience). WTC snow camp was in fact my very first visit to the Sierra! I climbed my first SPS peak, Mt Brewer, on a WTC summer experience trip with the West LA group back in 2005. My second SPS peak was Mt Agassiz later that summer, with Neal Robbins. I remember thoroughly enjoying this climb and the exhilarating feeling of reaching the summit (despite a hailstorm brewing overhead). I found Neal to be a very inspiring leader—he was also the first person to give me an inkling that I might have some aptitude for mountaineering. I subsequently joined the WTC staff in West LA, eventually becoming a group leader. I was very grateful for the abundant leadership and mountaineering training opportunities with Angeles Chapter, eventually gaining my M-rating in both snow and rock.

Apart from Neal, others that I considered to be important mentors to me during this time were Dan Richter, Tina Bowman, Nile Sorensen, and Will McWhinney.

To my surprise, I found that I really enjoyed learning the technical aspects of mountaineering. Something about the focus and concentration needed was a mind-relaxing break from the

*Top: List finish on the summit of Kearsarge Peak, August 27, 2022. Front: Anne Mullins. Second row: Greg Gerlach, Tina Bowman, Catherine Rossbach, Lisa Barboza. Back row, l to r: Ron Moe, Keith Christensen, Nahid Shirazi, Paul Garry, MaryJo Dungfelder, Sunny Yi, Sandra Hao, Lisa Hazan, Kim La, Kat Jankaew, John Lee, Andreas Montes, Corinne Livingston, Craig Jagow (Photo courtesy Nahid Shirazi). Right: Kathy Rich on the summit of her first SPS peak, Mt. Agassiz, July 23, 2005 (Photo by Kathy Rich).*





*Clockwise from right: Kathy with son Andreas at list finish on the summit of Kearsarge Peak (Photo by Nahid Shirazi)). On the summit of Mt Stewart, August 5, 2022 (Photo by Kathy Rich). Kathy with Daryn Dodge on the summit of Kern Point, July 3, 2022 (Photo by Kathy Rich).*

rigors of a fairly-high-pressure job. Being deep in the mountains away from constant interruptions of modern technology was a great relief too—I have many fond memories of multiple Sierra backpacks over the sixteen years it took me to finish the list and of the special camaraderie of my fellow climbing partners. Multiday backpack trips are hard work for sure, but they always give a great feeling of accomplishment when we'd arrive back at the cars hungry and tired after (mostly) successful ascents. As I worked full time, in the beginning I never expected to finish the list, so instead I focused on climbing all the fun and challenging peaks, such as Temple Crag, Williamson, Clarence King, Gardiner, Ritter, Abbot, North Palisade, Clyde Minaret, Whitney (East Face route), Thunderbolt, Humphreys.

It wasn't until I retired from USC in 2017 and moved to Carson City that I realized finishing the list might actually be possible. In retrospect, however, I very much regret passing up several week-long backpack trips for fear of missing work, duh!—which is why I ended up with a number of “deep” SPS peaks near the end. In the month before my scheduled list finish on Kearsarge Pk (at the end of August 2022), two five-day backpacks—one to climb Kern Point/Picket Guard and the other into the Big Arroyo to climb Eisen, Lippincott, and Stewart—were touch and go due to forest fires and monsoonal weather. In between leading trips for SPS/WTC and DPS, I was very fortunate to have a seemingly ever-widening circle of climbing buddies—Daryn Dodge, Corrine Livingston, Keith Christensen, Paul Garry, Greg Gerlach, Jim Ramaker, Shane



Smith, Sandra Hao, Linda Sun, Craig Jagow, Sung Juno, Lisa Barboza, Craig Barlow, Samantha Olsen, Louie Kroll, Sean Casserley, Bob Wyka—most of whom were chasing the list as well (some for the second time!). Each January we would have a conference call to plan out the trips for the upcoming summer, based on who needed what peak, and assigned someone to be responsible for snagging a permit. This turned out to be a very successful strategy, and I would encourage

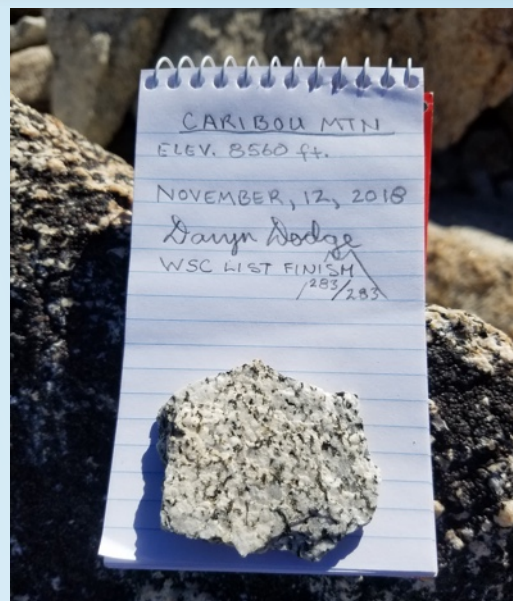


newcomers to try and do this as well. Our same group also organized a number of trips outside California—to Mts Baker, Granite, Olympus, Gannett, and Cleveland as well as an international trip to climb Mt Elbrus—all of which were a lot of fun.

When 2022 rolled around, I had eleven peaks left to complete the list. Worrying about a repeat of the previous two years when forest fires essentially closed down the Sierra at the beginning of September, I had planned a pretty busy schedule in order to try and finish before the end of August. Surprisingly, we had fewer fires and more flooding in 2022, but luckily all the trips turned out to be successful in time for the planned list finish on August 27 on Kearsarge Pk (my first finish and Daryn’s second). With the lure of a plane ticket from San Francisco to Bishop, I was thrilled to talk my younger son, Andreas, into joining us for the list finish hike and celebration. Some years ago we had climbed two SPS peaks together—Clouds Rest and Half Dome. I was happy to see Andreas wearing his older brother Ben’s hat on the list finish hike. Sadly, Ben unexpectedly passed away in April 2020, but it felt as if he were there in spirit.

I would like to acknowledge the help and support of my climbing partner, Daryn, in making my list finish possible. In the final stretches, he agreed to accompany me to climb a couple of key peaks that he already had twice—notably Kern Point and Mt Stewart—and the thought of doing them a third time was not too appealing. For Mt Stewart, we couldn’t start until 1:00 pm as we were stuck in the tent waiting out fifteen hours of continuous rain—thus not reaching the summit until 5:00 pm as the fog and rain finally subsided. After spending two days to get to our base camp in the Big Arroyo, I was determined not to leave empty handed! Daryn should also be credited with turning many of us on to the Western States Climbers (WSC) List. About 70% of the 283 peaks are SPS peaks. The remainder include Sierra, Cascade, coastal, Great Basin and Mojave desert peaks across California, Nevada, Oregon and Utah. It’s a fun list with many fine peaks on it (the best of the West?), originally put together by the Northern Alpine Section and later updated by Pete Yamagata. The list is currently managed by John Sarna and is hosted by [climber.org](http://climber.org) (it’s also on Peakbagger.com). Daryn was the first person ever to finish this list—solo on Caribou Peak in the Klamath Mountains on November 12, 2018. It took me four years to catch up, but our climb of Iron Mtn on July 23 was a special day as in addition to being an SPS peak we both needed, it was my final and 283rd peak to complete the WSC List. A big year indeed was 2022!

Below: Daryn’s 283<sup>rd</sup> peak and WSC list finish signature in the summit register book on Caribou Peak, Klamath Mountains, Nov 12, 2018 (Photo courtesy Kathy Rich).



Treasurer's Statement Year to Date (1/1/2022–11/30/2022)		
Money In		\$2256.52
Donations		755.00
Interest		0.69
Membership		1370.83
Merchandise Income		130.00
Money Out		-\$1630.45
Banquet - Speaker Honoraria		-900.00
Echo - Postage		-253.52
Echo - Printing		-422.31
Merchandise Expense		-20.70
PayPal Fees		-19.54
Sales Tax		-14.38
	Money In	\$2256.52
	Money Out	-\$1630.45
	<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$626.07</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Paypal		\$63.04
Checking		\$10,210.58
Savings		\$1,718.56
<b>NET WORTH</b>		<b>\$11,992.18</b>

# Convict Creek Peakbagging

September 9 - September 11, 2022

By Jason Seieroe



I had gotten a permit early in the year for Convict Creek on September 9th, figuring there were a couple peaks in the area I still needed to climb. I then decided to climb Mt Baldwin and Bloody Mountain and convinced Tina Bowman to join as my co-leader. Sandy Lara and Ning Yeh joined us as we met early Friday morning for the hike in. Also, Annie Rolls came from Big Pine to join us to the first stream crossing, where she turned back on her dayhike. Weather forecasts for the weekend were a little concerning with potential for thunderstorms throughout, but it looked like we could be successful with an early start each day if we were lucky.

*Above: Red Slate Mountain from camp at Mildred Lake (Photo by Tina Bowman). Right: The team crossing the creek which runs into Convict Creek from Genevieve Lake (Photo by Jason Seieroe).*

We had decided to make an attempt of Baldwin Friday afternoon if the group was feeling up to it and weather looked stable. As we made our way up the beautiful valley along Convict Creek, we eventually arrived at the creek crossings that can sometimes be difficult. Even though there were recent rains, the creek crossings were easily navigated by the team, and we hoped they would be just as easy on our way out in two days after the forecast storms.

Camp was quickly set up by Mildred Lake, and with our packs much lighter we headed up the valley, enjoying the views of the meadows and spotting several frogs and a toad along the path. We soon made a left turn and started our journey up. The use trail up this side of Mt Baldwin comes and goes, but it was generally easy to follow most of the way. As we got up above 11,000', it was clear that the recent thunderstorms had washed away some of the trail, but we were able to piece it together. Just before the quartz mine where we climbed to the final west face, we found a bundled-up hiker sitting off to the side, waiting to see which way we went, a bit freaked by what she had come up (off the use trail). We made it to the summit without any issues and had some well-deserved snacks and looked out to great views of the surrounding peaks and clouds threatening to come our way (luckily the storm never materialized). When the other hiker joined us on the summit, we realized she was Corinne Newton, a friend of Tina's, and so she joined us for the hike back down to camp.





With a long hike over to Bloody Mountain and afternoon storms again forecast for Saturday, we got an early start the next morning. Lake Dorothy and Genevieve were both such pretty settings and made me think I wouldn't mind coming back to this area in the future, even if I didn't have any unclimbed peaks here. While Sandy decided to hang back a bit and climb Laurel Mountain (she had no desire to climb up Bloody again), Ning, Tina, and I headed up the long ridge leading to Bloody's summit. As we approached the summit, the thunderclouds that had been west of us and moving north were suddenly overhead, making our time at the summit very short. We hurriedly made our way down the ridge, chased by thunder, soon getting pelted by large rain drops from the side as strong winds came up. We had to stop a couple

times due to the high winds, but quickly continued our way down, attempting to stay on the leeward side of trees and the ridge when we could. As we got to the saddle between Bloody and Laurel, we took shelter from the wind behind some low trees and ate our lunch. Luckily the rains had stopped, but the wind was still fierce.

We had seen Sandy already down from Laurel and starting her way back to camp, so we figured we might catch up to her, but she proved faster than we anticipated and we didn't see her until after Lake Genevieve. The rains started and stopped as we hiked along, but then after Lake Genevieve it rained all the way back to camp. This was the longest I had needed to hike in the rain, and I was able to get a good test of both my jacket and pants. I got in a bit of fishing back at Mildred Lake as winds continued to blow low clouds and rain through the valley. The weather blowing low through the valley made for a magical scene and quick but wet dinner preparation.



*Above: On the summit of Mt. Baldwin, left to right Corinne Newton, Sandy Lara, Tina Bowman, Ning Yeh, Jason Seieroe (Photo by Corinne Newton). Right: Genevieve Lake with Mt. Baldwin on the middle left and Red Slate on the middle right (Photo by Tina Bowman).*

We had heavy rain off and on into the night, and we all dreaded having to pack up and hike out in the morning in heavy rain. Luckily, we woke to clear skies, so although our tents were still wet when we packed up, everything else was dry. We had a great hike out with no issues at the creek crossings and were soon at our cars, starting the journey home.

*Right: Ning Yeh and Tina Bowman making their way quickly down Bloody Mountain as the fast moving storm pelted them with sideways rain (Photo by Jason Seieroe).*



### SPS Management Committee Meeting Minutes Monday, September 12, 2022, 7:00 pm via Zoom

1. Call to order. Present: Jason Seieroe, Paul Garry, Laura Newman, Joe Wankum, Patty Kline.
2. Standard business and reports
  - a) Secretary/Approval of minutes—Minutes from May 2, 2022, previously approved via email. No meeting in July due to vacations.
  - b) Chair
    - i) Elections at the end of the year. Jason will ask Tina to serve on Nominating Committee.
    - ii) Tina Bowman to set up Survey Monkey ballot for elections.
    - iii) Committee discussed the need to have training for next year.
  - c) Vice Chair
    - i) Banquet speaker—No Report.
  - d) Outings—No Report.
  - e) Treasurer’s report
    - i) Laura needs letter from Jason to change Paypal account.
    - ii) Committee discussed automating membership renewals on website.
  - f) Emblem Committee Report—Daryn Dodge submitted his Second SPS list finish. Kathy Rich submitted her first list finish; Phil Bates and Paul Garry submitted Andy Smatko Explorer’s lists.
  - g) Outreach—Phil Bates and Megan Birdsill were contacted about a table at Reel Rocks film festival at Caltech.
  - h) Archivist—No Report.
  - i) *Echo*—No Report.
  - j) Mountain Records—No Report.
  - k) IT
    - i) Joe Wankum reported on the Sierra Club change to Drupal 9 for website administration. This will provide more capabilities but also more work to revise webpage.
    - ii) Joe to review and streamline Emblem page on website.
  - l) Website—No report.
  - m) Conservation—No report.
  - n) Safety Chair—No report.
  - o) Merchandise
    - i) Patty Kline reported having small, medium, large shirts. Extra-large out of stock.
    - ii) Patty to verify if vender still in business.
    - iii) Paul suggested getting an SPS flag made. Laura knows of website to order. Tina to provide logo.
3. Old business—None.
4. New business
  - a) Next meeting date: Monday, November 12, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom.

**SPS Management Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, November 7, 2022, 7:00 pm via Zoom**

1. Call to order. Present: Jason Seieroe, Paul Garry, Laura Newman, Joe Wankum, Dan Richter, Lisa Barboza, Phil Bates, Phil S. Bates, Patty Kline, Tina Bowman.
2. Standard business and reports
  - a) Secretary/Approval of minutes—No minutes ready to approve.
  - b) Chair
    - iii) Elections at the end of the year. Tina and Mary McMannes to serve on Nominating Committee.
    - iv) Paul Garry, Laura Newman, Phil Bates to run again. Jim Fleming and Jason Seieroe not running for re-election.
  - c) Vice Chair
    - i) Banquet speaker
      - (1) Paul Garry to contact venue to make reservation for January 29, 2023, and to contact Nathan Longhurst and Travis Soares to be presenters.
      - (2) Need to confirm presenters by November 25 for *Echo*.
  - d) Outings
    - i) Phil to send sample Safety Management Plans to Joe Wankum for posting on website.
    - ii) Discussion on training for next year.
    - iii) Dan Richter suggested contacting Bob Gaines for a rock course.
    - iv) AMP, LTC, rock training program are now operational.
    - v) Phil to contact Kurt Wedberg to teach ice axe/crampon course with SPS subsidy.
  - e) Treasurer's report—Laura to send financial report separately.
  - f) Emblem Committee Report—Richard Carey's Smatko Explorer list still pending submittal of additional information.
  - g) Outreach—Jason, Paul, and Alexander Smirnoff attended Reel Rock festival with a good turnout and interest at booth.
  - h) Archivist
    - i) Committee discussed where paper and hard copy archives are sent. Dan clarified that Sierra Club Colby Library will receive digital archive information in addition to UCLA and UCLA will continue to receive paper archives.
    - ii) Registers older than 1940s will still be sent to Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley.
    - iii) A contact link to UCLA library to be added to website so people know where to go to view archives.
  - i) *Echo*—Next submission deadline is November 24, 2022.
  - j) Mountain Records—No Report.
  - k) IT—No Report.
  - l) Website
    - i) New Drupal website software requires a photo release.
    - ii) Joe suggested putting photo release on membership application to allow photo use in newsletter.
    - iii) Joe scrubbing *Echos* for potential copyrighted materials. Issues from 1990-2013 completed. Older *Echos* not yet checked. Links to un-redacted issues to be removed until reviewed.
    - iv) Joe missing twenty copies of *Echo* to digitize. Dan says all have been digitized.
  - m) Conservation—No report.
  - n) Safety Chair—No report.
  - o) Merchandise
    - i) No recent orders.
    - ii) Paul and Laura to get website information to Patty to order flag.
3. Old business – None
4. New business
  - a. Peak Ratings discussion introduced by Phil S. Bates.
  - b. The committee discussed the current ratings and potential changes for Split Mountain (north slope is currently Class 1 on official SPS Peak List but class 2 in R.J. Secor's book.) and for Mt. Kaweah (south slope currently class 1 on SPS Peak Guide and in R.J. Secor's book).
  - c. Phil suggested that rating of Split Mountain be changed to Class 2 and Mt. Kaweah be changed to Class 2.
  - d. Per SPS bylaws, the Committee voted to place these two questions on the ballot with the Management Committee election at the end of the year.
  - e. Next meeting date: Monday, January 16, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom.

**Please note:** Currently the Sierra Club requires all participants on an outing more than an hour from help to complete a medical form, and leaders for such outings must complete a safety management plan. Both are fairly simple forms, which are available at the LTC web site here: <https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/leadership-outings/forms-resources>.



We've chosen the photo above taken by Mat Kelliher, showing climbers ascending Mt. Emerson on an SPS trip, to represent the outings section. Do you have a photo you would like to see here? If so, please send your submission as an email attachment to [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com) or via USPS to Tina Bowman.

**Dec 3-4 | Sat-Sun**

**LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS**

**I: Navigation: Mission Creek Preserve Navigation Noodle:** Navigation noodle at Mission Creek Preserve to satisfy the basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. Saturday for practice, skills refresher, altimeter, homework, campfire. Sunday checkoff or additional practice. Medical form required from all participants. Send email with contact info (mailing address, phone numbers), navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant: Ann Shields. Note: Early (at least two

## Leaders in this issue's schedule:

Robert Myers [rmmyers@ix.netcom.com](mailto:rmmyers@ix.netcom.com)

Ann Pedreschi Shields [apedreschi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:apedreschi@sbcglobal.net)

**SPS outings can always be viewed online on the electronic Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activities:**

<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/activities>

<https://sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/outings-schedule>

weeks prior to the event) sign-up for all navigation checkoffs and practices is recommended. These outings require substantial pre-outing preparation work, including completion of both a comprehensive written exam and a route planning assignment that will be mailed to you prior to the checkoff. See Chapter 6 of the *Leader's Reference Book* for more information.

**Jan 14 | Sat LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS**

**I: Navigation: Warren Point Navigation**

**Noodle:** Navigation noodle at Warren Pt to satisfy the basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. Practice skills or checkoff.

Send email with contact info (mailing address, phone numbers), navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant: Ann Shields. (This is a backcountry outing; a medical form will be required.) Note: Early (at least two weeks prior to the event) sign-up for all navigation checkoffs and practices is recommended. These outings require substantial pre-outing preparation work, including completion of both a comprehensive written exam and a route planning assignment that will be mailed to you prior to the checkoff. See Chapter 6 of the *Leader's Reference Book* for more information.

**May 6-7 | Sat-Sun**

**LTC**

**C: Wilderness First Aid Course:** The course runs from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm on Saturday and Sunday in Fullerton plus four hours of video lectures (on-demand) during the following week. This course meets the 24-hour WFA requirement for I/M/E leader ratings. Fee includes instruction, pdf of course notes and two laminated cards

# OUTINGS

with response protocols. COVID precautions include distancing when possible and masks. Proof of CPR within previous 5 years, signed release of liability and proof of COVID vaccination status are required to enroll. Fee \$180 (full refund until 4/8/23). For sign-up, see instructions and application at <http://wildernessfirstaidcourse.org>.

## Smoke Blanchard: Mountain Ramblings, Picnics, and Pilgrimages

A new exhibit at the Eastern California Museum in Independence created by Guest Curator Andy Selters celebrates the life, philosophy, and photography of local climbing legend Smoke Blanchard. Smoke Blanchard stands tall as the Eastern Sierra's pioneering rock climber, and this exhibit portrays this and his sixty-plus years of creative mountain journeys—as an expedition mountaineer, long-distance walker, long-haul trucker, expert cragsman, and Buddhist raconteur. He became one of America's first international mountain guides, using a Zen-styled wit to light up their own better nature. The exhibit weaves Smoke's own photographs, stories, and artifacts into an artful presentation of his life and legacies. On exhibit from October 22, 2022, through March 24, 2023. (From the museum's website at <https://www.inyocounty.us/residents/things-to-do/eastern-california-museum>.)

## Thinking of leading a trip or looking for info on a trip you've already decided on?

SPS Safety Chair Doug Mantle invites you to e-chat about it, get his input, flesh out your ideas—[sierradoug@icloud.com](mailto:sierradoug@icloud.com).

## From the Outings Chair

Hey, SPSers!

I hope that you all met your peakbagging aspirations this summer. I was so happy that the fire season was less intense than the last few years and the weather wasn't too bad either.

Naturally we're all hoping for a good winter. If we have a good winter, you might want to plan some peaks in the snow to bypass some of the talus and scree. Permits are so much easier to get in the fall, winter, and spring. A heads up, SPS management is working on a plan to promote and subsidize leader training for snow climbing, so watch for an announcement before the end of this year.

Pease also let me know if you need support on leadership or ratings advancement as well as suggestions for fun climbs.

Happy Climbing,

## Dare to Lead! Virtual Leadership Training Seminar for Spring 2023



Interested in starting on your path to become an Angeles Chapter outings leader? The first step is to take the Leadership Training Seminar offered virtually this spring on April 1st. The five-hour class costs \$25. The application is on-line at <https://www.sierraclub.org/sites/default/files/sce/leadership-training-committee-and-outings-management-/2022-LTP-seminar-app-fill2.pdf>, where you can also check for the dates for future seminars. At this site, <https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/leadership-outings/angeles-chapter-leadership-training-program>, you can learn more about the Leadership Training Program.



# OUTINGS

You can visit the SPS website for an up-to-date listing of outings at <http://www.sierraclub.org/spa>.

## Wilderness Permit Info

Most wilderness permit reservations are now made through <http://recreation.gov>. For day use permits for Desolation Wilderness, get a free permit from a local Forest Service office any time of year or at the trailhead in summer. For overnight permits year round, go to [recreation.gov](http://recreation.gov).

### INYO NATIONAL FOREST

Web site: [www.fs.usda.gov/main/inyo/home](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/inyo/home)

All wilderness permits are reserved through <http://recreation.gov>. Follow instructions regarding permit pick up. This includes the "walk-up" permits (and you now have to pay for them!).

Eastern Sierra InterAgency Visitor Center, Lone Pine, CA  
(760) 876-6200

White Mountain Ranger Station  
Bishop, CA 93514  
(760) 873-2500

Mammoth Lakes Visitor Center  
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546  
(760) 924-5500

Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center, Lee Vining, CA 93541  
(760) 647-304

### KERN PLATEAU

Web site: [www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia](http://www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia)

Wilderness permits are required only for overnight stays in the Golden

Trout Wilderness. For trips departing from a Sequoia National Forest trailhead, permits are free via email using the application you'll find at [https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sequoia/passes-permits/recreation/?cid=fsbdev3\\_059517](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sequoia/passes-permits/recreation/?cid=fsbdev3_059517). For entry into the Golden Trout Wilderness from Inyo NF or Sequoia/Kings Canyon NPs, make your reservation through <http://recreation.gov>.

Cannell Meadow Ranger District  
105 Whitney Road  
P.O. Box 9  
Kernville, CA 93238  
Phone: 760/376-3781  
Fax: 760/376-3795

Tule River Ranger District  
32588 Highway 190  
Springville, CA 93265  
Phone: (559) 539-2607

### YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Web site: [www.nps.gov/yose](http://www.nps.gov/yose)

Yosemite wilderness permit reservations become available by lottery twenty-four weeks in advance through <http://recreation.gov>. Any remaining reservations become available on a first-come, first-served basis after the lottery process is complete for that week's reservations up until seven days in advance. May-October walk-up unreserved permits (40% of the trailhead quota) are available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 11:00 a.m. on the day before the intended date at permit issuing stations. Reservations aren't needed from November through April, but permits are required. Trailhead quotas are in effect in winter. See <https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm>.

If your starting trailhead is outside Yosemite NP, obtain your permit from the land agency that manages that trailhead.

### SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NP

47050 Generals Highway  
Three Rivers, CA. 93271-9599  
Phone (559) 565-3766 for permit & trail info. Fax (559) 565-4239

For general information go to [www.nps.gov/seki](http://www.nps.gov/seki). For wilderness permits go to [www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/wilderness\\_permits.htm](http://www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/wilderness_permits.htm).

Up to six months in advance of your trip, permits may be reserved at <http://recreation.gov>. Permits may be self-issued outside the quota period, from roughly mid-September to mid-May.

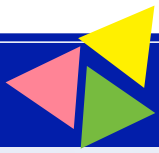
### SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST (WESTSIDE) ENTRY

Web site: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sierra>

Ansel Adams Wilderness—North  
Bass Lake Ranger District  
57003 Road 225  
North Fork, CA 93643  
Phone: (559) 887-2218

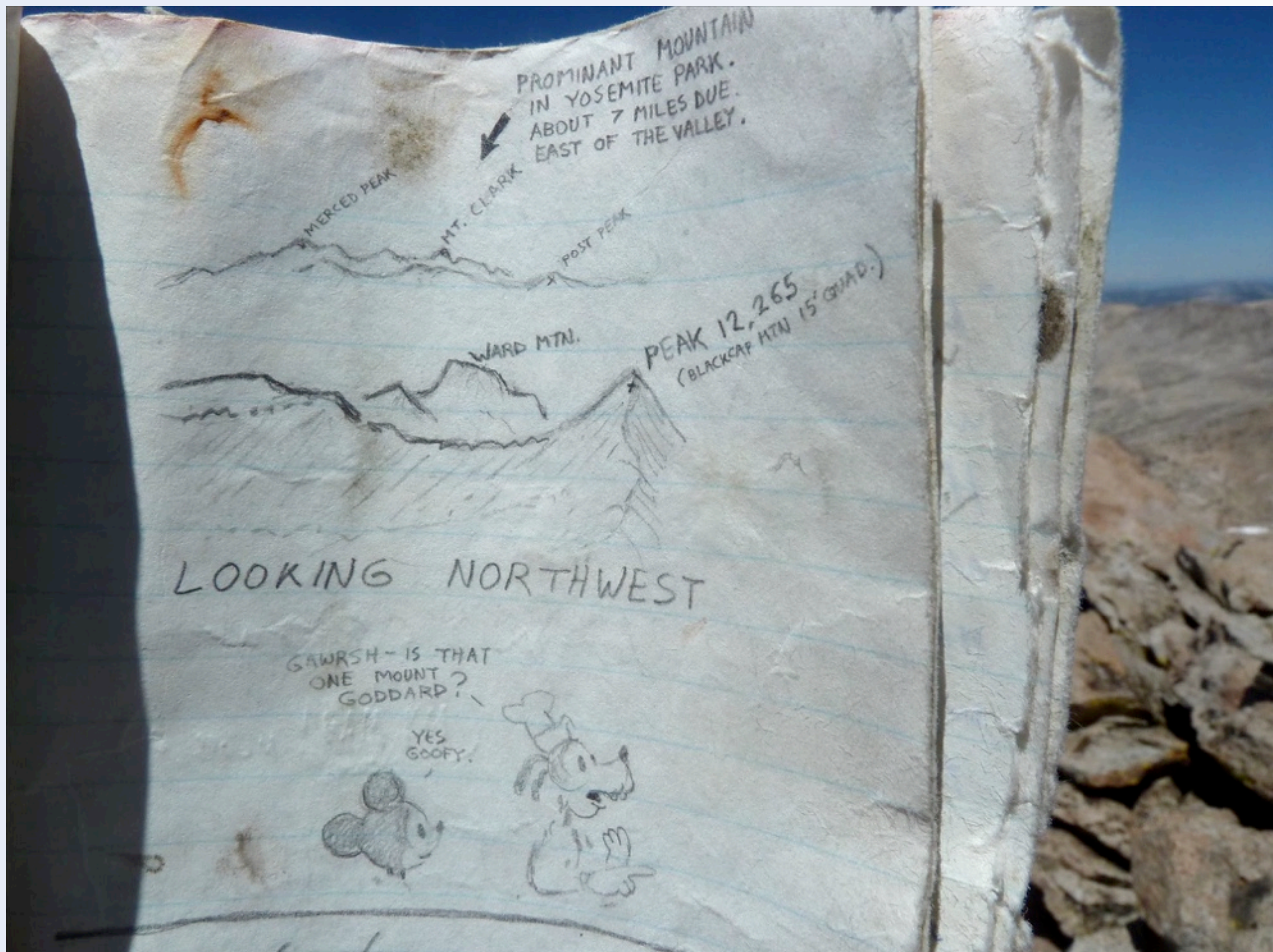
Ansel Adams Wilderness—South  
John Muir, Kaiser, and Dinkey Lakes  
Wildernesses  
Pineridge/Kings River Ranger District  
29688 Auberry Road  
Prather, CA 93651  
Phone: (559) 855-5355

See [https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sierra/passes-permits/?cid=fsbdev7\\_018115](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sierra/passes-permits/?cid=fsbdev7_018115) for wilderness permit information; reservations are made at <http://recreation.gov>.



# Mystery Peak Challenge Answer

The summit register in last issue's puzzle is on Mt. Reinstein. First to answer correctly was Romain Wacziarg, then Ron Bartell. As Romain notes, "... peak 12,265, Ward Mountain, and Mount Clark are all in a straight NW line from that summit. It must have been a clear day to be able to see Clark 60 miles away." Ralph Wright guessed peak 12,241 but then realized it was Reinstein. Similarly, Jason Seieroe went with Finger Peak. Thanks again to climber Tom Becht for permission to use one of his excellent photos. He has chronicled his climbs very thoroughly on Flickr, and this image is from his outing to Crown Basin: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/becht/albums/72157630575306646>



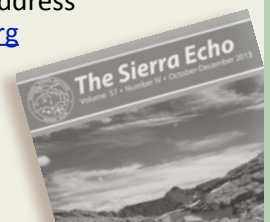
## We Need Your Stories!

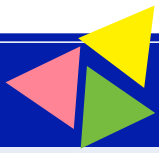
We need YOU to submit reports of SPS and private climbs, Trail Tech articles, Mystery Peak challenges, and anything else you think would be of interest to *Echo* readers! Please send submissions to co-editor Tina Bowman at [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com).

Thanks!

## REGARDING DISTRIBUTION OF THE ECHO

Please contact this email address [newsletter@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:newsletter@sierrapeaks.org) for any problems with distribution of hardcopy or email versions.





# Mystery Peak Challenge

This occasional just-for-fun puzzle is for you to figure out which Sierra peak or peaks are featured in the image. If you have a fine mystery peak puzzle to challenge *Echo* readers, please send it to [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com). We welcome any mountain images, including those from popular culture—imagery used and abused in film and print!

Matt Hooper sent this photo taken by James Shoshone. Which SPS peak is he standing on, and which two SPS peaks are prominent in the background?

Send your answer to Tina Bowman at [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com).



## The Sierra Echo

is a quarterly publication of the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter. For more information, see the back of this newsletter. All questions, copy, and photo submissions should be directed to Tina Bowman, Editor, *The Sierra Echo*, preferably via email at [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com). The *Echo* will be available as a PDF download at the SPS website and via a link sent to all SPS members and *Echo* subscribers.



# The Sierra Echo

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Publication dates are Mar 15, Jun 15, Sept 15, and Dec 15. All text submissions for publication—including trip reports, articles, etc.—can be submitted in electronic format such as MS Word (preferred), WordPerfect, email, or through regular U.S. mail (electronic format is preferable). Photos may be submitted as electronic files (jpeg, tiff, or Photoshop in a resolution high enough for print media) or submitted as prints or slides. If submissions are to be returned to you, please include a return envelope with sufficient postage. **All submissions should be sent to Tina Bowman or emailed to [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com).**

**Deadline for all submissions is three (3) weeks prior to the publication date, i.e., Feb 22, May 25, Aug 25, and Nov 24.**

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**Subscriptions** \$10 per year, due by January 1, delinquent after March 31. Subscribing to the *Echo* is a requirement for membership in the SPS. A suggested donation to the section is \$25, which includes the \$10 subscription and a \$15 donation to the SPS operating fund. Thank you for your support of the SPS. For new subscriptions and renewals or to apply for membership, fill out the subscription and renewal form or new member form that can be found on the SPS website under “Membership Requirements” at the bottom of the page: <https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/new-members#mr>. Mail the form and your check to the SPS Treasurer, 11755 Entrada Ave., Porter Ranch, CA 91326; make sure to include your Sierra Club number if you are applying for

membership. To subscribe or renew on-line, please email the form to the treasurer ([sierrapeakstreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:sierrapeakstreasurer@gmail.com)). Then pay via PayPal for renewals using the email address [sierrapeakstreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:sierrapeakstreasurer@gmail.com). Note that first-year memberships or subscriptions are free. New applications received after October 1 are credited to the following year. Only one *Echo* subscription is necessary for multiple members of a family residing at one address. Contributions or gifts to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible.

**Advertising** Private activity announcements and advertisements are accepted at the following rates: \$1 for the first four lines and \$1 each additional line. Other announcements and product/service advertisements are \$1 per line or \$25 for half-page space. Send copy and check to the *Echo* Editor, payable to SPS.

**Address Changes** Send to the treasurer via email [sierrapeakstreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:sierrapeakstreasurer@gmail.com).

**Peaks List** Copies of the SPS Peaks List can be downloaded from the website here: <http://sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/sps-peaks-list>.

**Missing Issues** Inquiries regarding missing issues should be directed to the section mailer at: [newsletter@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:newsletter@sierrapeaks.org).

**Awards** Send notification to Secretary Paul Garry: email [secretary@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:secretary@sierrapeaks.org). Awards merchandise is available through Patty Kline at 7409 Hermosa Ave, Yucca Valley, CA 92284, and include emblem pins (\$20) and SPS section patches (\$5). Make checks payable to SPS. All prices include sales tax.

**Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter  
Sierra Peaks Section  
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Los Angeles, CA 90010**

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