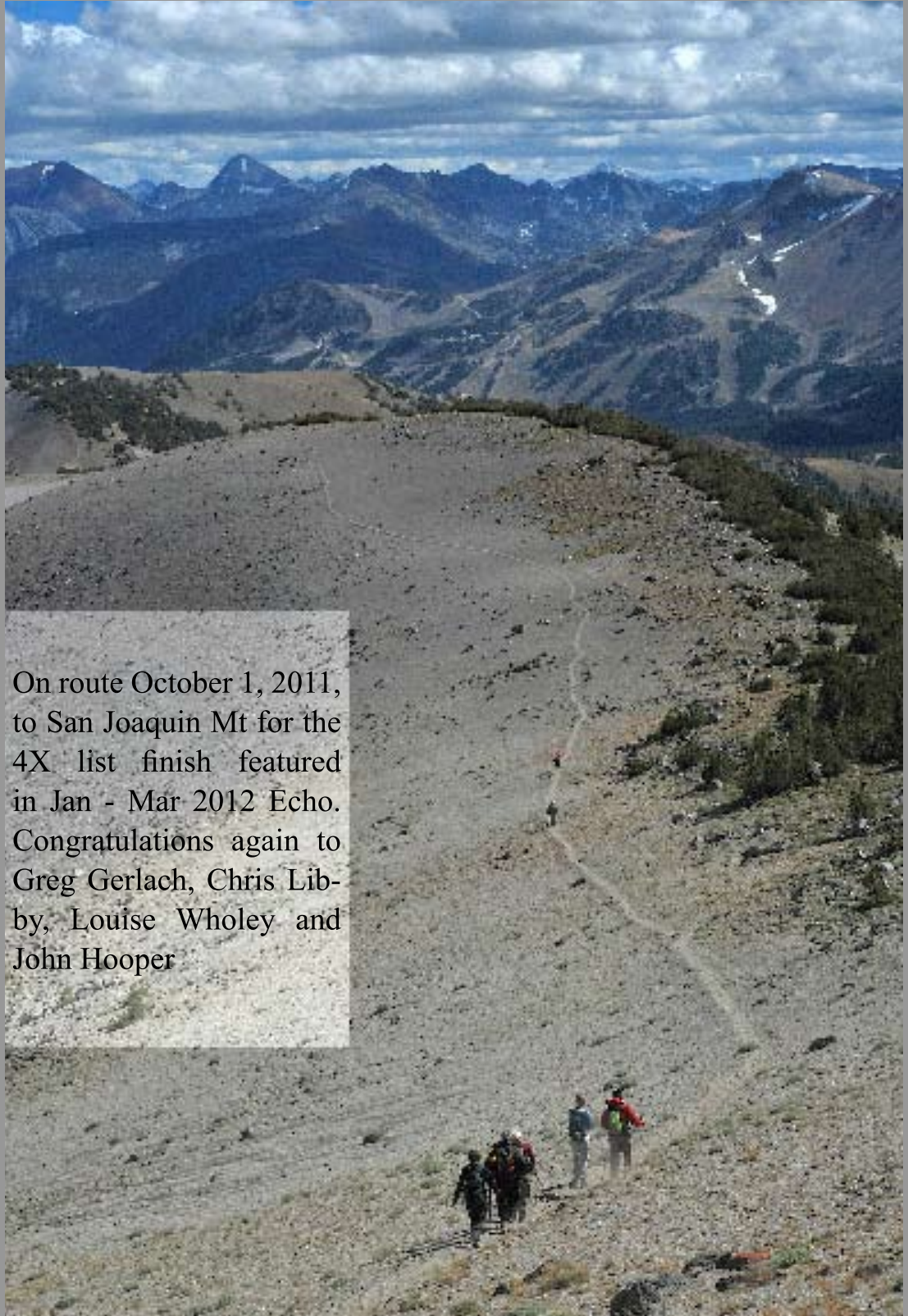




The Sierra ECHO

VOLUME 56 | NUMBER III | JULY - SEPTEMBER 2012



On route October 1, 2011, to San Joaquin Mt for the 4X list finish featured in Jan - Mar 2012 Echo. Congratulations again to Greg Gerlach, Chris Libby, Louise Wholey and John Hooper



Hello SPS Climbers,

The summer climbing season has begun. So far there are 4 trips scheduled in June, 2 in July, 9 in Aug and 5 in Sept. Please see our schedule on the website. These fill up fast, so try to contact leaders ASAP if you want to get on these trips. We could certainly have more trips scheduled. Leaders please consider adding something to this nice mix. And thank you for the leaders which are planning and conducting these trips.

On 19-20 May, LTC has 7 new Rock leaders successfully checked off (2 are SPS members). The new location, Alabama Hills, offers a nice rock climbing experience for Rock practice and checkoff. As a rock examiner, I was impressed by the skill level of the candidates and their commitment to Sierra Club leadership. Congratulations to the 6 M (Tonyce Bates, Caroline Lee, Mathew Kelliher/SPS mem, Pieter Kaufman, Laurent Hoffmann, Stacy Sanchez) and one E leader (Jack Keiffer/SPS mem) provisional candidates. I'm sure their provisional trips are coming soon, so look for them on the schedule. And I hope to add all the new leaders to the SPS membership too. Adding new leaders at the M and E level will definitely help in our quest to increase the number of SPS trips lead, especially at the E level, which we have not seen many in the past few years. I would like to also thank the LTC rock examiner leaders; Pat McKusky, Dan Richter, Ron Hudson, Matt Hengst and Neal Robbins; for their continued efforts in training new leaders.

I had a nice talk with Pieter Kaufman this last weekend about his idea of leading the historical first ascent peaks as a tribute to our climbing founders. Pieter's idea is doing a series of SPS trips that are of the first ascent routes. Mainly of the pioneering early first ascents by people like Brewer, King, Hoffmann, Muir, Cotter, etc.

These trips would attract participants who are interested in learning a little more about the cultural and natural history of Sierra climbing, something especially useful for WTC students, but perhaps also of interest to veterans looking for a fresh angle, and anyone in between. Alongside the outings listing, we are also looking at creating a single page on the website which outlines the series.

Pieter has an idea for a preface, Silliman, as it was the peak that Brewer's party climbed almost immediately before what became a few days later Mt. Brewer, the first really big achievement of the Whitney survey in 1864.

The series would begin with these peaks, in this order, which is the historical order in which they were first climbed: Silliman, Brewer (with South and North Guard included on the trip), Tyndall, Langley, Whitney, Williamson.

Thanks Pieter for a great idea and I look forward to seeing this become a reality in the next few years.

The SPS MC is still working on the plan to increase lead trips and creating a better experience for the SPS leaders.

We will be formulating a survey (online of course) which we will send out to our SPS members for feedback about our ideas.

We will meet in **June (12th is the tentative date)** and any SPS members are welcome to contribute.

Please contact me directly if you would like to attend this meeting at chair@sierrapeaks.org

And last, please get to the SPS website too to see what is new there.

Thanks and happy, safe climbing,
Greg Mason
Chair, SPS

Chair Notes

Please be sure to read Greg’s letter in this Echo on previous page.

This year we will be asking our members to provide ideas about making a better SPS.

All SPS members should expect to receive future emails which will ask you to complete a short survey or look to joining an internet leader discussion group.

Please provide feedback to us when we ask. **This is your SPS and your voice counts.**

You may always provide your individual comments and suggestions to us directly.

USE THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESSES:



Greg Mason, Char, chair@sierrapeaks.org



Kathy Rich, Vice-Char, vicechair@sierrapeaks.org



Eric Scheidemantle, Secretary, secretary@sierrapeaks.org



Alex Smirnoff, Treasurer, treasurer@sierrapeaks.org



Matt Hengst, Outreach, outreach@sierrapeaks.org



Sara Danta, Echo Editor, echoeditor@sierrapeaks.org

See the website for the current committee members.

<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sps/management.htm>

Check out the SPS website if you have not been there in awhile.

<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sps/default.htm>

GLEN DAWSON AT 100

Bookman - Publisher - Mountaineer - Soldier - Family Man - GENTLEMAN



Climbing Mount Washington rooftop, c. 1916



Portrait by Ansel Adams, 1930



Rock Climbing at Stoney Point, Chatsworth, 1937

Join us . . . GLEN DAWSON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORY LUNCHEON

Date/Time: Saturday, June 2, 2012 at 12:00 Noon

Where: University Club of Pasadena

Cost: \$30.00

Entree Choice: Chicken - Salmon - Cobb Salad - Vegetarian



The quintessential bookman at his post in Dawson's Bookshop, c.1950

RSVP no later than May 25

Send Check payable "Glen Dawson 100" (with entree choice) to Elizabeth Pomeroy, 2111 East Mountain St, Pasadena, CA 91104. Phone: 626-791-7660

The University Club is located in Pasadena at 175 North Oakland Avenue, one block south of Walnut Street and one block east of Los Robles Avenue. Free valet parking.

For further details, call Nick Curry at 562-622-1732



Dr. Glen Dawson, bestowed by Azusa Pacific University, September 2009

GOOD BANTER - GOOD CHEER - SURPRISES

Misc Business

FROM THE EDITOR

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 **Sara Danta, Editor, The Sierra Echo**, preferably via email at echoeditor@sierrapeaks.org. Refer to the Schedule of Activities or SPS Roster for mailing address. The Echo will also be available as a PDF download at the SPS website and via a link to all SPS members opting for this method.

REGARDING E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION OF THE ECHO

Please contact this email address (newsletter@sierrapeaks.org) for any issues with hardcopy or email version distribution.

The Sierra Peaks Section maintains a website at
<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sps>.

SPS List Serve

You can find the information you need as a subscriber by checking out our listserv support site. Go to this address to enroll for the SPS E-mail list service: <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sps/listserver.htm>.

MEETING INFO

The SPS Management Committee will hold meetings every quarter at a location to be determined. Please contact SPS Chair Greg Mason at chair@sierrapeaks.org for meeting times, date and place.

Sierra Peaks Section

Management Committee Meeting

March 8th, 2012 At the Home of Greg Mason

1. Meeting Called to Order @ 7:30 p.m.

2. In Attendance

- a. Greg Mason, Chair
- b. Kathy Rich, Vice Chair
- c. Alex Smirnoff, Treasurer
- d. Eric Scheidemantle, Secretary
- e. Matt Hengst, Member at Large

3. Committee Reports

a. Chair

i. Explorer's Emblem

- 1. Barbara Lilly is the first to receive it.
- 2. Ron Bartell is the second to receive it.
- 3. It must be a named peak on a USGS 7.5 or 15 minute quat or in the USGS GNIS database.
- 4. It must be taller than 7,000 feet.
- 5. It must be in the Sierra Nevada range and North of Highway 178 and South of Highway 36.
- 6. It cannot be on any GSC list, i.e. SPS, HPS, DPS, etc.
- 7. The applicant must have been a SPS member for one year.
- 8. The first emblem is awarded for 50 non-SPS peaks.
- 9. Each additional 50 peaks warrants an additional emblem patch.
- 10. Applicants are encouraged to submit their paperwork electronically.
- 11. The applicant must provide: name, peak names, source of the name, map peak is found upon, nearest SPS peak, date climbed and elevation.
- 12. The Committee will audit the peak list at its discretion.
- 13. The Committee will archive the submission paperwork.
- 14. Kathy raised a motion to accept and Eric seconded.
- 15. Unanimous acceptance.

ii. Kathy read Barbara Lilly's letter of appreciation for the Explorer's Emblem.

iii. Diana Dee donated a personalized CA "I Climb" licence plate to the SPS.

- 1. Greg will contact her and ask if she has a minimum amount in mind for the auction.
- 2. Greg will setup an SPS and SCMA auction via email.
- 3. Alex will collect and track emails and bids.
- 4. Money will fund the SPS.
- 5. We may want a dedicated sierrapeaks.org e-mail address for the auction.

iv. We discussed possibly moving the Angeles Chapter SPS site to OARs or Google.

- 1. We are setting up OARs for SPS
- 2. Kathy was looking into it.

- v. Greg outlined the functionality and features of the sierrapeaks.org Committee website
 - 1. e-mail
 - 2. shared documents
 - 3. scheduling
 - 4. video conferencing
- b. Sierra Echo**
 - i. Sara is continuing as our great news letter editor.
 - ii. We discussed encouraging leaders to write up trips.
 - iii. Greg was going to talk to Barbee to see if she'd ask for trip reports.
- c. Outings**
 - i. How do we plan them?
 - 1. MOC submittals are complicated and a pain.
 - 2. Getting permits are problematic. It would be nice to do something like how the SCMA does it wherein the Club gets permits for campgrounds, campsites and/or trailheads and then asks for leaders to show up and lead some trips.
 - 3. We'd like to run a pilot program where we package up 3-4 trips that any qualified leaders can grab 'n go with. The write ups come from previous trips and the mileage and gain and routes are already documented and published.
 - 4. We want to publish lists of peaks that have not been led in awhile.
 - ii. Potluck Trip Planning Meeting
 - 1. Greg will contact Barbee
 - 2. We need to decide on a date and a leader list to invite.
- d. Treasurer**
 - i. Delinquent members who have not settled their dues by March 31st will be removed from active status.
 - ii. Citibank account is closed.
 - iii. Alex will open a Wells Fargo account.
 - iv. We wondered about our non-profit status.
- e. Banquet**
 - i. Kathy recommended the Monrovia in Monrovia with a buffet and capacity for 129 people. She also suggested the Luminarias Restuarant in Monterey Park.
 - ii. We want a real banquet committee instead of just Henry, though we may task him to lead it.
 - iii. We need a speaker.
 - iv. The banquet will be January 27th, 2013.
 - v. The 2012 one at The Proud Bird had 70 people but lost money due to the 'Bird's costs.
 - vi. We discussed whether we need to increase the fee.
- f. Archivist**
 - i. Not in attendance, no news provided.
- g. Mountain Records**
 - i. Not in attendance, no news provided.
- 4. New Business**
 - a. None discussed.
- 5. Old Business**
 - a. None discussed.

SPS Treasurer's Report 1st Quarter 3/31/2012

Checking Account

Income

Echo-----1665.00
 Banquet-----2800.00
 Donations-----280.00
 \$4,745.00

Expenditures

Banquet-----3210.10
 Bank Fee----- 15.00
 Printing-----188.70
 Postage-----150.00
 \$3,563.80

Balance on 12/31/2011-----8127.96
 Income-----4745.00
 12872.96
 Expenditures----- - 3563.80
 \$9,309.16

SPS TEES



Front: NORTH PAL

Back: FULL SPS LIST by geographic area with Mountaineer and Emblem Peak highlighted

M, L & XL in Sand & Ash

\$12 + \$3.50 shipping

(\$4 shipping when ordering 2 or more shirts). Send your order to

Datty Kline, 20362 Callon Drive,

Topanga, Ca 90290 & make

check payable to SPS

CST 2087766-40

WILDERNESS PERMIT INFO

INYO NATIONAL FOREST

Website www.r5.fs.fed.us/inyo

Pick up permit closest to departure trailhead
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) 647-3044

KERN PLATEAU (aka Kennedy Meadows)

Website: www.r5.fs.fed.us/sequoia

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

YOSEMITE NATIONAL FOREST

Website www.nps.gov/yose

Reservation requests for summer trips (mid-May through September) are accepted from 2 weeks to 24 weeks in advance online or by writing to:

Yosemite Association
PO Box 545, Yosemite, CA 95389.
By phone: reservations for summer trips are accepted by calling (209) 372-0740.

Obtain your free permit from the *Wilderness Permit Station nearest your departure trailhead*. Call (209) 372-0200 for permit station locations.

If entering park from Cherry Lake in the **Stanislaus National Forest** to Kibbie Lake and Lake Eleanor in Yosemite, you must get your permit from the Stanislaus National Forest Ranger Station on Highway 120 in Groveland. Call (209) 962-7825

If entering the park from Chiquito Pass in **Sierra National Forest**, permits for the whole trip must be obtained from the Forest Service in North Fork. Call (559) 877-2218

SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NP

Website: www.nps.gov/seki

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

SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST (WESTSIDE) ENTRY

Website: www.fs.fed.us/r5/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 Kinkey Lakes Wildernesses
Pineridge/Kings River Ranger District
29688 Auberry Road
Prather, CA 93651 (559) 855-5355



Leadership Training Committee

2012 Schedule of Activities



Leadership Training Program Seminar

Oct 6, 2012 LTC Seminar Steve Botan

Wilderness First Aid <http://wildernessfirstaidcourse.org>

Oct 26 - 28 Wilderness First Aid Course Steve Schuster

Navigation Practices and Checkouts

Jun 2, 2012	I/M/E Heart Bar/Grinnel Ridge Checkoff/Practice	Robert Myers
Aug 5, 2012	I/M/E Mt. Pinos Navigaiton Checkoff/Practice	Robert Myers
Sept 23, 2012	I/M/E Grinnel Ridge Navigation Checkoff/Practice	Robert Myers
Oct 21, 2012	I/M Indian Cove Navigation Clinic	Robert Myers
Nov 10, 2012	I Local Mtns Beginning Navigation Clinic	Diane Dunbar

Rock Practices and Checkouts

Oct 3, 2012	Advanced Mountaineering Program 6 - Safety	Dan Richter
Oct 6, 2012	Advanced Mountaineering Program 6 - Belaying	Dan Richter
Oct 13, 2012	Advanced Mountaineering Program 6 - Rappelling	Dan Richter
Oct 20-21,2012	Advanced Mountaineering Program 6- Anchors	Dan Richter

Various Dates - M/E P Vertical Adventures (This is not a Sierra Club activity, but can prepare candidates for rock checkoffs.) <http://www.verticaladventures.com/>

Snow Practices and Checkouts

Snow travel, avalanche, & related training - Kurt Wedberg's Sierra Mountaineering Int'l (Not a SC activity, but can prepare candidates for snow checkoffs.) <http://sierramountaineering.com>

Environmental Awareness

Check out the LTC website which has a calendar of events sponsored by the Natural Science section & info about training not offered by the Sierra Club: <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/>

MOUNTAIN REGISTER REPORT

by Harry Langenbacher

SPS Summit Register Needs, 2012

Peak Name	Needs	Peak Name	Needs
Agassiz Mt	book and container	Morgan S Mt	book and container
Black Mtn	book	Morrison Mt	book and container
Carillon Mt	book	North Peak	book
Cathedral Peak	book and container (climbed too often?)	Recess Peak	book and container
Clarence King Mt	book (for SPS cylinder)	Red & White Mtn	book and container
Cotter Mt	book (for Ammo Box)	Rixford Mt	book and container
Dade	may need book and container	Rose Mt	book and container
Dana Mt	book	Round Top	large book (for Ammo Box)
Darwin Mt	Needs to be moved to summit - register is on plateau high point	Russell Mt	book and container
Four Gables	Move cylinder from bump between Four Gables & 12801, to summit	San Joaquin Mtn	book and container
Gabb Mt	book	Seven Gables	book
Gardiner Mt	book (for SPS cylinder)	Sierra Buttes	register and container register box is damaged - please send pictures
Gibbs Mt	book and container	Sill Mt	book and container
Goethe Mt	book and container	Silver Peak	book and container
Granite Chief	book, old book is FULL	Smith Mtn	container, book, pencil
Hooper Mt	container (has book in plastic box under summit rock)	Stanislaus Peak	container, book, pencil better container or plastic bags to stop water damage
Julius Caesar Mt	container & pencil, better book	Starr King Mt	book and a good drying out
Kaweah Mt	book	Tehipite Dome	2 cylinders on 2 summits - need consolidation. Contact Harry.
Koip Peak	book	Thunder Mtn	book and container (it's in the works)
Langley Mt	book (for Ammo Box)	Thunderbolt Peak	container
Lion Rock	book	Trojan Peak	need 30 cal Ammo box lid, or new container, has book
Middle Palisade	Sierra Club Box needs to be taken to summit	University Peak	book
Mokelumne Peak	book and container	Vandever Mtn	permanent container (has temporary one, with book)
Morgan N Mt	ziplock bag, pencil, dry out book	Young Mt	

And the following need pencils: Black Giant, Mt Gayley, Temple Crag, Mt Mendel

The list is over 10% longer this year, but the real tragedy was the disappearance of the treasured Black Kaweah summit register (there is a new register there now). *Let me emphasize the importance of keeping the identity of old registers off the evil internet!*

I still have the classic style Sierra Club aluminum box, embossed with the peak name "Middle Palisade". I have held on to this box entirely too long, and I will no longer require that it be bolted down - just take it back up there where it belongs and I'll be happy - please contact me well in advance if you can do this.

Although there is still no container on Thunderbolt, Mike R. has fabricated a beautiful container for it, which hopefully will be installed soon.

Please check my web site at <http://SummitRegister.org> for more info on register books, ammo boxes, & updates.

Outings

NOTICE TO LEADERS AND PARTICIPANTS

Please refer to the list of Summit Register Needs provided by long standing SPS member Harry Langerbacher on the previous page. As Harry states *“The list is over 10% longer this year”*, so contact him ahead of time before setting out for a peak that may need a register, pencil or container.

June 1-3 | Fri-Sun **SPS, WTC**
I: Angora Mtn (10,202), Coyote Peak (10,892): Long backpack to remote peaks in Golden Trout Wilderness. Sat hike from Jerkey Meadows across Little Kern to camp, approximately 12.5 mi, 3700' gain. Communal happy hour. Sun climb Angora & Coyote, 13 mi, 3800' gain, some xc travel. Mon pack out, 1700' gain. Send resume of conditioning & experience, h&w phones in email to Ldr: BETH EPSTEIN. CO-Ldr: TINA BOWMAN

June 2 | Sat **LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS**
I: Heart Bar Peak (8332'): Practice navigation for Sunday's checkoff on this 7 mile rt, 1400' gain hike. We will take a cross-country route to Heart Bar Pk and practice micro-navigation skills along the way. Send email (preferred) or sase, with contact info & recent conditioning to Ldr: ROBERT MYERS. Co-Ldrs: JANE SIMPSON, ADRIENNE BENEDICT, ANN PEDRESCHI

June 3 | Sun **LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS**
I: Grinnell Ridge Navigation: Navigation Noodle in San Bernardino National Forest for either checkout or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare, to Ldr: ROBERT MYERS. Asst: PHIL WHEELER

June 9-10 | Sat -Sun **WTC, SPS**
MR: University Peak (13,589): Snow mountaineering outing for Sierra Club members only. Sat backpack from Onion Valley trailhead to camp by Bench Lake, 3 mi, 1,667'. Sun cross country snow climb

University Peak from Bench Lake, third-class via the north face, 5 mi rt, 2746', then pack out. Helmets, ice ax, crampons, medical form and recent snow and 3rd class rock mountaineering experience required. Send an e-mail with resume of recent mountaineering experience and conditioning, H&W phones, and rideshare info to Ldr: STEPHANIE SMITH. Assistant Ldr: NEAL ROBBINS.

June 22-24 | Fri - Sun **WTC, SPS**
I: Merced Peak (11,726'), Red Peak (11,699'): Two peaks in southern Yosemite National Park. Fri 7:30am start from trailhead near Quartz Mtn that is 27mi from Oakhurst along a windy road. Strenuous 13mi, 2900' gain from trailhead to camp at or near Lower Ottoway Lake (9656'). Sat climb Merced Peak and Red Peak, 6mi, 3300' steep xc with talus and scree. Sun pack out. Trip designed for strong WTC students and others with comfort on loose terrain at elevation. Happy Hour both nights. Email recent high altitude tolerance, distance conditioning to Ldr: SANDY LARA, Co-ldrs: KC REID, PETER LARA

June 23-24 | Sat-Sun **SPS**
MR: Mt Dade (13,600'), Mt Mills (13,451'), Mt Abbot (13,704'): Sat dayhike from Mosquito Flat to Treasure Lakes; climb Dade via The Hourglass (12mi, 3400gain). Sun climb Mills via class 3 east couloir (10mi, 3,100gain). If time, climb Abbot via SE Buttress, then hike out (addl. 1.5 mi, 1,400 gain). Trip restricted to SC members having experience w/3rd class rock, ice axe/crampons. Send email w/ SC #, medical form & resume detailing experience, conditioning & rideshare info to: Ldr: MATT HENGST. Co-Ldr: DARYN DODGE.

July 14-15 | Sat-Sun **SPS**
M: Mt Izaak Walton (12,077'): Join us for this Western Sierra approach peak, Sierra wild flowers and 3rd class rock climbing. Ferry across Thomas Edison Lk and backpack to camp at Mott Lk. 7.5 mi and 2800' gain Saturday. Sun climb peak 1800' gain 4 mi rt and head home. Send email with resume detailing experience, including on 3rd class, rideshare info, phone Ldr.: LARRY TIDBALL Co-Ldr: BARBEE TIDBALL

July 28-29 | Sat-Sun **WTC, SPS**
I: Basin Mountain (13,240'): Moderate WTC experience trip to climb to the top of Basin Mountain out of Bishop for wonderful views of the Owens Valley. Sat. backpack on trail 4 mi., 2200' gain to camp at Horton Lake. Sun. class 2 climb to Basin 2.25 mi., 3,200' gain all cross-country, then pack out to cars. Send email (preferred) or SASE with conditioning/experience to Ldr: PAUL GARRY. Asst: JOSEPH BELL.

Aug 3-5 | Fri-Sun **SPS, WTC**
I: Seven Gables (13,080') Join us for three days of fun deep in the Sierra and climb the spectacular SPS Mountaineers Peak Seven Gables. Friday we'll hike in from Lake Thomas Edison then join up with the PCT to Upper Bear Creek Meadows (12 mi, 3800') Saturday we'll summit (4 mi, 3000') and Sunday we'll hike out (12 mi, 1000') Send email with conditioning & experience to Ldr: MATTHEW HENGST Asst: BILL PAYNE

Aug. 4-5 | Sat-Sun **SPS, WTC**
I: Three Sisters (10,572'): Gourmet Backpack! Join Us for Decadent Wilderness Weekend X! Sat backpack 5 mi, 1200 ft gain from Courtright Reservoir to Cliff Lake for 5-star dining experience. Sun work off those calories with 1.5-mi, 1200' gain to Three Sisters. Send e-mail (preferred) or sase with H&W phones, recent conditioning and your most outrageous culinary ideas to Ldr: RON CAMPBELL. Assts: GEORGETTE RIECK, ED COTTONE LISA BUCKLEY.

Aug 5 | Sun **LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS**
I: Mt. Pinos Navigation: Navigation noodle in

Los Padres National Forest for either check-out or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare, to Ldr: ROBERT MYERS. Asst: KIM HOMAN

Aug 9-12 | Thur-Sun **SPS**
MR: Ruskin Peak (12,920'), Arrow Peak (12,958'), Cardinal Mountain (13,397'): Join us for 2 rocky peaks & a walkup up over the dreaded Taboos Pass. Thursday we'll pack into Kings Canyon (9 mi, 6000') & set up camp. Over the next 2 days we'll do 3rd class climbs of Ruskin & Arrow w/possibility of additional peaks. Sun we'll finish up w/spectacular views on Cardinal before descending. Experience on exposed 3rd class rock required. Restricted to SC members, Send SC #, medical form, & resume to Ldr: MATTHEW HENGST Co-ldr: NEAL ROBBINS

Aug 12 – 18 | Sun – Sat Mule Pack, SPS, WTC
O/I: Thousand Island Lake Mule Pack: Mt Davis (12,303'), Rodgers Peak (12,978'), Electra Peak (12,442'): Trip designed for strong hikers who desire cross-country routes and peak bagging. Start Sun AM from Agnew Meadows (8300') in Mammoth area, hike 9 miles, 2500', to camp at Thousand Island Lake (9850'). These peaks, many lakes, the John Muir Trail, and other trails are accessible from base camp. Mon-Fri climb peaks, hike, photo, fish, or relax in camp. Enjoy nightly organized dinners (you'll know exactly what to bring and won't have to guess) with wine provided. Sat hike out. \$325. Mules will carry 50 lbs gear per person. Participants selected will be asked to complete the Participant Medical Form found at <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/forms/html>. Note reservation/cancellation policy. It can be found at: http://angeles.sierraclub.org/mps/Reservation_Policy.htm. To apply, email or phone high altitude and distance conditioning to Co-ldr: SANDY LARA. Co-ldr: PETER LARA.

Aug 13-16 | Mon – Thur **SPS, WTC**
I: Mount Davis (12,303), Rodgers Peak (12,978), Electra Peak (12,442), Foerster Peak (12,057): Backpack to the beautiful Ansel Adams Wilder-

ness from Agnew Meadows via the PCT and then x-c over North Glacier Pass. Four days of mountaineering will cover 41 mls. and 14,100' gain. Contact leader with resume and current conditioning. Ldr. RUDY FLECK, rudy.fleck@gmail.com; Co-Ldr. TINA BOWMAN.

Aug 18-20 | Sat-Mon **SPS, WTC**

I: Red Slate Mtn (13,123'): SPS Intro Trip geared to WTC Students and prospective SPS-ers. Relaxed, casual and enjoyable with slow to moderate pace. Sat backpack up McGee Creek to Big McGee Lake at 10,472' in 7 mi, 2300' gain. Sun climb class 2 Mountaineers Peak, 6 mi rt, 2700' gain, considerable cross country. Mon hike out. Legendary community happy hours Sat and Sun eve. Send SASE with \$5.00 permit fee, recent conditioning and high altitude experience, H,W and Cell phones, ride share info to Ldr: PATTY KLINE. Asst. MAT KELLIHER.

Aug 24-26 | Fri-Sun **SPS**

I: FOUR GABLES (12,720'); PILOT KNOB (12,245'): Climb 2 peaks near Humphreys Basin in the eastern Sierra. Friday, backpack from North Lake, over Piute Pass, to camp near Lower Desolation Lake (8 miles, 2100'). Saturday, hike cross country to climb Four Gables by the class 1 southern slopes (8 miles rt, 1500'). Sunday, climb nearby Pilot Knob, then pack out. Happy hour both nights. Send email (preferred) or SASE with conditioning and rideshare info (resume preferred) to Ldr: JOE SPEIGL; Co-Ldr: ANNE MARIE RICHARDSON.

Aug 25-26 | Sat-Sun **SPS, WTC**

MR: Mt Winchell (13,775'): Sat backpack to Sam Mack Meadow 6.5 miles and 3400' gain. Sunday get an early start and head towards the Thunderbolt Glacier to climb Mt Winchell via the east arête. 3.5 miles 2600' gain roundtrip then return to camp, and pack out to the cars. This trip is restricted to Sierra Club members, must have experience on 3rd class rock. Helmets will be required. Send e-mail or SASE with resume, medical form and recent conditioning to Ldr: DAVID CHAPMAN. Asst. Ldr: NEAL ROBBINS.

Aug 25-26 | Sat-Sun **SPS**

I: Mt. Rixford (12,887), Mt Bago (11,870) or option Mt. Gould (13,005): Saturday backback over Kearsarge Pass 2400' gain and over to Charlotte Lk to camp 7 mi. total trip. Afternoon climb Bago, 1500' gain. Sunday climb Mt. Rixford, 2500' gain 4-5 mi rt and then back 7 mi to cars. Send email with resume detailing experience, rideshare info, phone Ldr: LARRY TIDBALL Co-Ldr: BARBEE TIDBALL

Sept 1-3 | Sat-Mon **SPS, WTC**

MR: Red Pk (11,699'), Ottoway Pk (11,480'), & Merced Pk (11,726'), Triple Divide Pk (11,611') Saturday hike in to Ottoway Lakes from Chiquito Pass (13 mi, 2800') and enjoy a lakeside happy hour. Sunday we'll do a loop grabbing Merced, Ottoway, and Red (6 mi, 3000') with some 3rd class before returning to camp. Strong possibility of adding nearby Triple Divide Peak (4 mi, 2200'). Sunday we'll hike out (13 mi, 1300') WTC students must be fit and provide prerequisites. Send Sierra Club #, medical form, and resume to Ldr: MATTHEW HENGST. Co-ldr: JACK KIEFFER

Sept 14-16 | Fri-Sun-Sun **SPS, WTC**

I: Mt. Julius Caesar (13,200'): SPS introductory trip in eastern Sierra geared to prospective SPSers and WTC students. Fri backpack from Pine Creek to Honeymoon Lake (10,600'), 7 mi and 3200' gain. Sat climb Mt Julius Caesar via Italy Pass, 9 mi rt., 2600' gain. Sun pack out. Legendary community happy hours both evenings. Send e-mail or SASE with recent experience. Ldr: NEAL ROBBINS, Co-Ldr: KC REID

Sept 14-16 | Fri-Sun **SPS**

O: Western Sierra Redux: Leisurely hikes to three unlisted peaks in Kings Canyon/Sequoia Nat'l Parks with car camping in Giant Sequoia Nat'l Mon. Part of an "old-timers" series, the trip is open to vintage climbers and newcomers. Long happy hours guaranteed Fri and Sat nights at USFS's Stony Creek CG (6400'). On Sat, climb Big Baldy (8209'), 4.4 miles rt/600' gain, then ample free time to ascend spectacular Buck Rock LO (8502') via its 172 airy steps. On Sun, a quick climb of Buena Vista Pk (7602'), 2 mi rt/430' gain, then plan to climb Little Baldy (8044'), 3.4 mi

rt/700' gain. Or Sun, independently join a 2.5-mi trail hike in Converse Basin to view the Boole Tree, one of the world's largest trees. Ldr: MARY MCMANNES. Send sase with H&W phones and e-mail address (sase not needed for those supplying e-mail addresses) to Reservationist/Asst Ldr: JERRY KEATING.

Sept 15-16 | Sat-Sun **WTC/SPS**
I: Mt Bago (11,870'), Mt Rixford (12,887') Join us for two days and two peaks in the SEKI wilderness. Saturday we'll hoof it in over Kearsarge Pass and make camp near Charlotte Lake (7 mi, 1400') before climbing the nearby Mount Bago (2 miles, 1200') After enjoying the view we'll return to camp for a rollicking happy hour potluck. Sunday leave camp early and enjoy an even more spectacular view from the top of Mount Rixford (3 mi, 2200') before packing out (5 mi, 1200') Priority given to WTC students. Send conditioning / experience to Ldr: MATTHEW HENGST . Co-ldr: WAYNE VOLLAIRE

Sept 19-23 | Wed-Sun **SPS, WTC**
I: Mt Pickering (13,474'), Joe Devel Peak (13,327'), Mt Newcomb (13,422'), Mt Chamberlin (13,169') Mt Guyot (12,300'); Strenuous backpack, including significant xc travel in the High Sierra. From Horseshoe Mdw, hike 12-miles on trail to Soldier Lakes (10,400'). We'll make camp and from here climb nearby peaks Thursday through Saturday. Thursday Pickering and Joe Devel (9 mi. rt. 3800' gain). Friday Guyot (16 mi, 4,200' gain), Saturday (Chamberlin and Newcomb (5 mi, rt. 2,700'gain). Sunday pack out. E-mail experience, recent conditioning, phone to Ldr: KC REID. Asst JACK KIEFFER

Sept 22 | Sat **LTC**
Deadline for Leadership Training Seminar: Last day for receipt of application and payment by LTC. Register for Oct 6 seminar. Next Seminar: Spring 2013. Contact: STEVE BOTAN.

Sep 23 | Sun **LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS**
I: Grinnell Ridge Navigation: Navigation Noodle in San Bernardino National Forest for either checkout or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/

training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare, to Ldr: ROBERT MYERS. Asst: PHIL WHEELER

Oct 3 | Wed **LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC**
Workshop: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP6) – Basic Safety System: First of 4 climbing workshops open to SC members with prior roped climbing experience. Today's indoor evening workshop of 4 hours reviewing ropes, knots, harnesses, helmets, and basic climbing gear will take place in Pasadena. As space is limited priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send e-mail with SC#, resume, phones to Ldr: DAN RICHTER . Asst: PAT MCKUSKY

Oct 6 | Sat **LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC**
M/E R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP6) – Belaying: 2nd of 4 climbing workshops open to SC members with prior roped climbing experience. Today at Stoney Point in Chatsworth, focus is on belaying and principles of anchor building. As space is limited priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send e-mail with SC#, resume, phones to Ldr: DAN RICHTER . Asst: PAT MCKUSKY

Oct 6 | Sat **LTC**
Leadership Training Seminar: Become a qualified Sierra Club leader. For info, see LTC web page. Deadline for receipt of application and payment is Sep 22. No registration after this date or at door. Next seminar: Spring 2013. Contact: STEVE BOTAN.

Oct 13 | Sat **LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC**
M/E R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP6) – Rappelling: 3rd of 4 climbing workshops open to SC members with prior roped climbing experience. Today at Stoney Point in Chatsworth, focus is on rappelling. As space is limited priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send e-mail with SC#, resume, phones to Ldr: DAN RICHTER . Asst: PAT MCKUSKY

Oct 20-21 | Sat-Sun **LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC**
M/E R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP6) – Rock Climbing Techniques and Anchors: 4th of 4 climbing workshops open to SC

members with prior roped climbing experience. This weekend completes the series of AMP workshops at Joshua Tree National Park and focuses on climbing and anchors. As space is limited priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send e-mail with SC#, resume, phones to Ldr: DAN RICHTER . Asst: PAT MCKUSKY

Oct 26 - 28 | Fri – Sun LTC, Harwood Lodge, WTCC: Wilderness First Aid Course: Runs from 7:30 am Fri to 5:00 pm Sun. Fee includes lodging, meals and practice first aid kit. Proof of CPR within previous 4 years required to enroll. Fee \$210 (full refund through Sept 21). For application send e-mail to Ldr: STEVE SCHUSTER.

Oct 21 | Sun LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS I: Indian Cove Navigation: Navigation noodle at Joshua Tree National Park to satisfy the Basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare, to Ldr: ROBERT MYERS. Asst: PHIL WHEELER

Nov 10 | Sat LTC, WTC, HPS I: Beginning Navigation Clinic: Spend the day one-on-one with an instructor, learning/practicing map and compass in our local mountains. Beginners to rusty old-timers welcome and practice is available at all skill levels. Not a checkout, but it will help you prepare. Many expert leaders will attend; many I-rated leaders started here in the past. 4 mi, 500' gain. Send sase, phones, \$25 deposit (Sierra Club, refunded at trailhead) to Ldr: DIANE DUNBAR. Co-Ldr: RICHARD BOARDMAN

Leadership Training Committee

LTC offers training throughout the year for aspiring Sierra Club leaders and others wishing to improve their skills. We also promote relevant opportunities provided by other groups. We sponsor a seminar required for all leader candidates as well as training in first aid, navigation, rock and snow.

Through our Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP), we offer training both for candidates seeking the Angeles Chapter's advanced "M" and "E" ratings and to leaders who already have earned these ratings and want to catch up on the latest techniques.

Candidates can get required environmental awareness training through outings sponsored throughout the year by the Natural Sciences Section.

You can learn and practice your skills at any LTC event. Checkoffs, offered throughout the year, give prospective leaders the chance to advance to higher ratings. Bookmark this site and check back frequently for new events.

<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/schedule.asp>



Important Note

Angeles Chapter has a Problem

At the meeting of the Chapter and Committee members on Thurs 24 May, there was a discussion about the Chapter budget and more important, the decisions made to reduce and/or eliminate distribution of the Southern Sierran (6 times a year) and the Schedule (4 times a year). You may have read the flyer in the last Sierran. Internet distribution may be right around the corner for all Sierra Club publications. The reality is this... In the past year National has reduced their allocation to the chapter from \$5 to \$2, reserves have been nearly spent (at the insistence of National), membership level is down to 40k from 50k a year ago, the budget is reduced to \$700k from last years \$1M, donations are down, to name a few of the problems. Each of the publications (Sierran and Schedule) costs about \$50k/yr. This \$100k along with Staff salaries/benefits (about \$350k/yr, rent (\$50k/yr) and other important expenses is the real cost. March budget is balanced, but we will be in deficit soon without a change. So the publications will be cut. With the new plan, Oct is the LAST Schedule to be published hard copy. The new online OARS along with a once a year leader roster is what we would get. The Sierran is online and available by print only if you ask (with optional \$Donation). There are 2 committees formed, one for each publication, but it is a single problem. Most of those at the meeting either disagreed or were concerned about the demise of our papers. The decision is made by EXCOM. The committees formed are to figure out exactly what the next steps will be. So contact the main office to let them know what you think or if you want to be involved in that process.

Greg Mason

Chair, SPS

Birch Mountain

TRIP REPORT

May 11-13, 2012

By Gary Schenk

Friday morning May 11 at 7 AM, six climbers dutifully met, as instructed, at McMurray Meadows Road and Glacier Lodge Road near Big Pine ready to start the drive to the Birch Lake trailhead.

Unfortunately for them, the leader was at that moment in Lone Pine waiting for the visitor center to open so he could pick up the permit he'd forgotten. Not an auspicious start for a provisional lead.

We had no trouble finding the trailhead, and having had consolidated into two vehicles had no trouble finding parking at the rather small and lightly used Birch Lake trailhead. High clearance is a must, but 2WD was sufficient.

Lady Luck smiled upon them though, and it was uphill from there. Lots of uphill.

The start of this trail is a might confusing. Assistant

Leader Tina Bowman had been up the trail within the last year and kept us on route, and we began the steep grind to the lake. The weather cooperated, and despite the later than scheduled start it was pleasant going. We reached the lake and its small camp sites in good time, tired for sure, after 4500' of gain with snow climbing packs.

broad plateau on the west side of Birch. We passed one chute then came to second that looked promising. The group climbed well, everyone properly climbing in balance with good technique. Things were going well, and I thought we had a decent chance of bagging The Thumb, also.



From left to right: Gary Schenk, Mary Jo Dungfelder, Ron Campbell, Jennifer Yano, Tina Bowman, Steve Donmyer, Yvonne Lau and Chuck Ernst. Photo by Yvonne Lau

We took care of camp chores, then gathered for happy hour. Incredible as it might seem to those in the know, in this reporter's opinion, Ron Campbell was taken to the woodshed by the marvelous bacon wrapped asparagus provided by rookie Jennifer Yano. After a tough day's approach, bacon wrapped bugs would have been a winner!

The night was clear and milder than forecast by NOAA, and we were up at 5 and ready to go an hour later. After some slight equipment issues, we were off.

While there was little snow, it was firm and made for excellent cramponing early on. We skirted the south side of the lake, and ascended a finger of snow to the

Alas, the good snow ran out and we were forced onto particularly loose talus. This cost us quite a bit of time. We zigged and zagged up the chute, staying out of each other's fall line. It was near impossible to avoid dislodging small rocks. Wanting to keep the group together we spent a lot of time reconsolidating ourselves. The Thumb no longer seemed viable, for that day at least, as we moved quite slowly through this section.

After a very long climb in the chute, we obtained the ridge and were soon on the summit of Birch Mountain, a grudge peak for a woman once known as Mary Jo Birch! This also proved to be Jennifer's first Sierra peak. We spent a half hour eating lunch and enjoying the really great views of the Palisades and Owens Valley.

Looking down the ridge we spotted what looked like a slightly easier broad chute heading down and decided to descend that way. It was a bit better and led us back to snow. The snow was a little softer than in the morning, the angle reasonable and the runout good, so we glissaded quite some distance back down to the plateau.



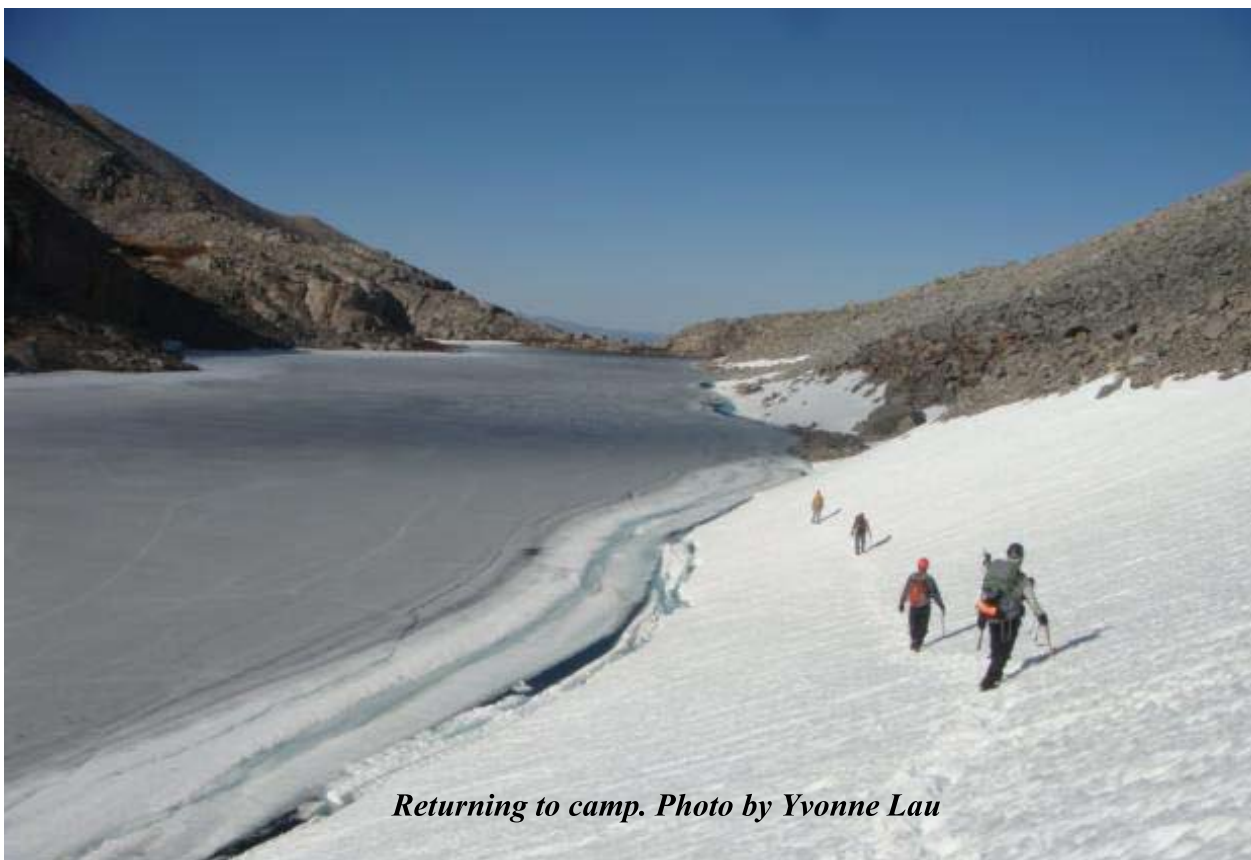
Tina Bowman on Birch

out, the lupine and woolly mule's ears were particularly nice. We were spied upon by many mule deer, their radar ears sticking up over nearby ridges.

We finished the trip off in good form at the Pizza Factory in Lone Pine.

Soon we were traversing back to camp along the lake. It was mid-afternoon at this point and the postholing fun had just begun! We arrived tired, but elated over our successful climb. It was early to bed that night. We left camp at 7:30 Sunday morning and got back to the trailhead in half the time it took reach the lake on Friday. This ease of travel gave us an opportunity to more thoroughly enjoy the area. We stopped to mull the fate of a decomposed cow we found in a high meadow. He had died a free cow and we felt there was a certain dignity to that, unlike the cow that ended up on our pizza later that day. Plenty of wildflowers were

Special thanks go to Tina Bowman for assisting and evaluating on the trip. Tina's skills and vast knowledge of the Sierra Nevada are an asset to any trip. And thanks also to the participants who made this such a great outing: Mary Jo Dungfelder, nee Birch, who was the inspiration for this trip; Ron "Chef" Campbell whose culinary creations are legendary; Steve "Sean Connery" Donmyer who kept us thoroughly entertained; Chuck "The Importance of Being" Ernst whose love of the Sierra is very apparent; Yvonne "Laugh Out" Lau who provided the laugh track for the trip; and Jennifer "Kid" Yano who brought a cheerful outlook.



Returning to camp. Photo by Yvonne Lau

The Sierra Echo

VOLUME 56 | NUMBER III | JULY - SEPTEMBER 2012

The Sierra Echo is published quarterly by the Sierra Peaks Section (SPS) of the Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter; this issue edited by Sara Danta

Publication dates are Jun 15, Sept 15, Dec 15 and Mar 15. All text submissions for publication, including trip reports, articles, etc., can be submitted in electronic format such as MS Word, WordPerfect, email (electronic format is preferable), or through regular U.S. mail. 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 Sara Danta or emailed to s_wyrens@yahoo.com.**

Deadline for all submissions is three (3) weeks prior to the publication date.

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Subscriptions \$10 per year, due by April 30. Subscribing to the Echo is a requirement for active membership in the SPS. A suggested donation to the section: \$25.00 which includes \$10.00, plus a suggested \$15.00 donation to the SPS operating fund. Thank you for your support of SPS. Submit new subscription applications and renewals to the Section Treasurer Alexander Smirnoff; include your Sierra Club number. New applications received after Oct 1 are credited to the follow-

ing year. Only one ECHO subscription is necessary for multiple members of a family residing at one address. Contributions or gifts to the Sierra Club or SPS are not tax deductible.

Advertising Private activity announcements and advertisements are accepted at the following rates: Private trip announcements / \$1 for the first 4 lines and \$1 each additional line. Other announcements and product/service advertisements / \$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 Alexander Smirnoff; email treasurer@sierrapeaks.org

Peaks List Copies of the SPS Peaks List can be obtained by sending \$1 and a SASE to the section Treasurer Alexander Smirnoff.

Missing Issues Inquires regarding missing issues should be directed to the section Mailer Beth Epstein..

Awards Send notification to Secretary Eric Scheidmante; email secretary@sierrapeaks.org Awards merchandise is available through Patty Kline and include Emblem pins (\$15) and SPS section patches (\$5). Make checks payable to SPS. All prices include sales tax.

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