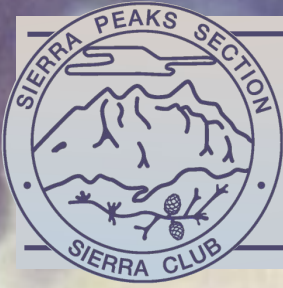


In 2015 the Sierra Peaks Section celebrates its 60th Anniversary



The Sierra Echo

Volume 59 ▲ Number 3 ▲ July-September 2015

Climbers approaching the summit of Mt. Resplendent in the Canadian Rockies on a Sierra Club High Trip, August, 1928. Photo by Niles Werner. See page 13 for John Robinson's article on the Werners.



Echoes from the Chair

By Tina Bowman

Summer is upon us, and Sierra peaks are beckoning! We have a great slate of outings—see the list starting on page 26—but keep checking the website (sierrapeaks.org—note the change in Web address) because outings might be added at any time.

Don't forget that a DVD of the banquet is available for only \$12, including the postage. With scenes during the social hour and after, Doug Mantle's speech, and still photographs, the DVD is a great way to relive a memorable evening or experience it if you were unable to attend and learn about the history of the SPS and many members. Send your check made out to the SPS to treasurer Alexander Smirnoff.

A proposal to name a peak in the Sierra for Andy Smatko has been sent to the Board of Geographic Names and is under consideration. The peak we chose was the last one Andy climbed in the Sierra just off the Sherman Pass Road in the south end of the range. Although a peak near Cottonwood Pass is informally known as Smatko Peak, making that name an official designation would be unlikely to be approved because the peak is within wilderness. I learned that one provision of the Wilderness Act is to prohibit giving names to unnamed features within wilderness areas; exceptions are made, but rarely and only with a variety of approvals, long local history of using the name, etc. By choosing a peak that is not within designated wilderness, I thought we had a better chance of success in naming a peak for Andy. Bob Burd pointed me to his list of Andy's Sierra ascents (<http://www.snowburd.com/dayhikes/people/Andy%20Smatko>) and this peak (8,916'), climbed on September 21, 1997.

Shane Smith saved Tehipite Dome for his list finish peak. While only a limited number can join him on this September 25–27 climb of the Dome (see the outing listing on page 31 for more information), everyone is invited to attend his Smatko Explorer Emblem list finish on Sugarpine Hill near Wishon Reservoir on the 27th.

Please don't be shy about throwing your name in the hat to run for the 2016 SPS management committee. Whether you served long ago, recently, or never, please do consider it. We need people to guide the section now and into a vibrant future.

Whether the SPS ever had potlucks in the distant past, I don't know, but the potluck on May 31st was a success. Preceded by a short management committee meeting, sixteen people gathered to talk of summer plans, routes, and past adventures. Because it was a success, we're thinking of having more on an occasional basis, not to conflict with DPS potlucks.

Have enjoyable and safe climbs this summer. Happy trails!

-Tina Bowman (chair@sierrapeaks.org)

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Congratulations!

Ralph Wright earned both his emblem (on Mt. Williamson, August 15, 2013) and the Andy Smatko Explorer Emblem (on Mt. Watson, October 4, 2014). [photo is of Ralph on Olancha]



Erik Siering has been awarded the Andy Smatko Explorer Emblem, which he earned on Mt. Robinson on September 7, 1997.

Save the Date!



Our Eastern Sierra representative Shane Smith will be finishing the SPS list and the Andy Smatko Explorer Emblem September 25–27. Although a limited number will be present to congratulate Shane as he finishes the list on Tehipite Dome—restricted outing with wilderness permit participant limitations—everyone is welcome to stroll up Sugarpine Hill near Wishon Reservoir as he completes his Smatko Explorer emblem on Sunday the 25th. See “Outings” for more information. Be there, or be square!

The next meeting of the SPS management committee will be on Tuesday, July 28th, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Alexander Smirnoff.

SPS Contacts

Chair: Tina Bowman chair@sierrapeaks.org
Vice Chair: Jim Fleming vicechair@sierrapeaks.org
Secretary: Paul Garry secretary@sierrapeaks.org
Treasurer: Alexander Smirnoff treasurer@sierrapeaks.org
Outreach: Jeremy Netka outreach@sierrapeaks.org
Outings: Gary Schenk gary@hbfun.org
Archives: Dan Richter dan@danrichter.com
Webmaster: Kathy Rich webmaster@sierrapeaks.org
IT: Greg Mason admin@sierrapeaks.org
Matt Hengst matthew.hengst@gmail.com

In Memory of Jon Inskip, February 2015

By Henry Arnebold

Jon was a very active member of the Southern California climbing community. He was a member of the Sierra Peaks Section and Desert Peaks Section of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club, the California Mountaineering Club, and the Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team.

As a member of the SPS, he earned his Emblem status in 1975 (#330) and went on to get his Senior Emblem in 1995 (#116). He was also DPS list finisher #42 on October 8, 1983. He climbed close to five hundred peaks and did all of the state high points west of the Mississippi including Alaska and Hawaii. Internationally he climbed Kilimanjaro, the Matterhorn, and Mount Blanc, and to 20,000' on Aconcagua.

He was a founding member of the California Mountaineering Club and served as vice president for the first two years, then became president for the next two years. Other positions held were outings chair for three years and fifth officer. The club recognized his many achievements for his service in mountaineering by bestowing him with an Honorary Membership Award in 2009.

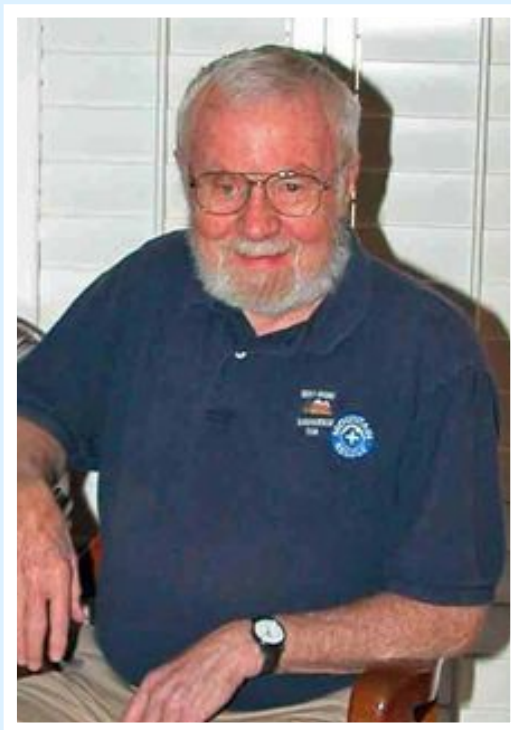
The Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team was fortunate to have Jon as a members for twenty-nine years. He served in many capacities and was also its president. He was part of a group that purchased their present location at the old firehouse in Sierra Madre. He was very proud of all his accomplishments over his long career in mountaineering.

From Mike Manchester:

I'm sorry to hear of Jon's passing. My contact with him was very limited. He was an excellent leader and was a member of the Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team. I believe he was a devoted family man. Having forgotten the slides for a program he was to give to the DPS, he told me to create a minor diversion for thirty minutes and said he would be back. I did, he came back, the program was delivered, and no one was aware of a near disaster. We kept it a secret so our reputations would not be tarnished (especially mine, but that's another story). I have reached an age where I am getting comfortable with my eccentricities and Jon is gone. I much admired him and will miss running into him for a chat.

From Bob Cates:

He was a wonderful gentle man, always willing to jump in and



lend a hand. I didn't do any hiking with him since the 1970s, but became reacquainted with him after he and his wife moved to the Villa Gardens retirement community a few years ago. We bumped into him by accident when visiting Glen Dawson.

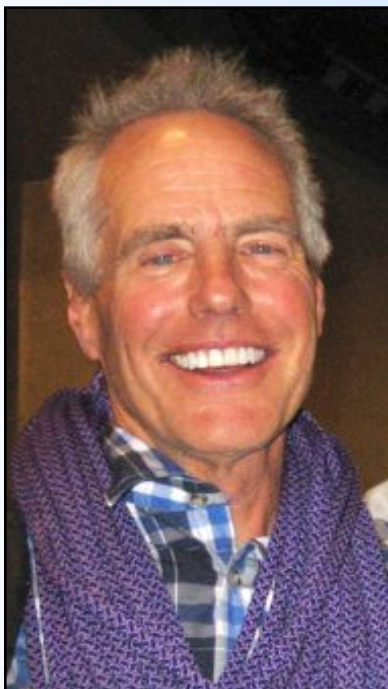
[Jon studied electrical engineering at Yale and worked at Caltech/Jet Propulsion Laboratory from 1960 through 1990 as a rocket engineer.]

Patricia Fletcher

Our apologies! Instead of a photo of Pat and Elton Fletcher in "Passages" in the last issue to announce Pat's death, we accidentally ran a photo of Joanne and Frank Bressel. We caught it in time for the online version but not for the print *Echo*. Here is the correct photo of the Fletchers.

Elton and Pat Fletcher, during the 2010 Old Timer's trip. (Photo by Mary McMannes)





Sixtieth Anniversary Banquet Speech

Part 2: 1960s and 1970s

By Doug Mantle

In the 1960s we kept on growing—over two hundred members, thirty trips per year.

Dick Jali's 1964 trip to Smith Mt. set the record, 124 participants. This was no big deal for Dick: after all, when he hiked up Mt. Fuji, there were 16,000

out there!

In 1964 the Wilderness Act became law.

SPS members already met once a month, now, and for the next sixteen years, we would meet at the Lemon Grove Playground; for a long time after, at the Department of Water and Power auditorium. We'd conduct section business, view a slideshow, and socialize over refreshments, sometimes over, shall I say, "enhanced" refreshments—Cheers!

The *Echo* was upgraded—somebody gave us a mimeograph machine!

That "somebody" was Sid "San Jack" Davis, 1967 chair who climbed his namesake peak 643 times. He never stopped making generous donations to SPS, right up through the 2005 anniversary videos.

With first mimeograph, and then multilith, we could now produce lots of copies of the *Echo*, including photos.

At first, to go on an SPS trip you just met at the water fountain in Lone Pine on Saturday morning. After a fatality on

Middle Palisade, we changed it. Now you had to telephone the leader before the trip to get an OK; we also instigated sign-in sheets at the roadhead to keep track of the group. A leader's life was still pretty simple!

Ancient Greeks celebrated heroes the likes of Achilles, Ajax, and Hippolyta (the Amazon queen). In the 1960s, SPS had legendary superheroes, too. Nobody was supposed to climb all the peaks on our list, but in 1964, Andy did it! Dr. Andrew Smatko made two thousand Sierra ascents, a mind blowing four hundred of which were first ascents or first recorded ascents.

In 1972 he added these to Hervey Voge's earlier book to provide the definitive *Mountaineer's Guide to the High Sierra*, published by the Sierra Club. In his spare time, he was a physician, and he delivered over five thousand babies!

His buddy Tom Ross remains the SPS photographer of record. How many *Echo* covers show off his artwork? I saw his camera; it was big as a house! In 2000, Tom and wife Candy published the first edition of the magnificent book of his photos, *Border of the Sky*.

Tom was personally responsible for a new SPS rule banning fireworks on our outings. I guess he never got the word; those explosions I heard on a trip of his in 1971 to Tinemaha were definitely cherry bombs.



Above: Doug Mantle at the Banquet (Photo by Mary McMannes). At right: Tom Ross, Andy Smatko, and John Robinson atop Mt. Washington in the Oregon Cascades, July 29, 1959, during a 2 1/2 week trip which included 220 miles of hiking, 70,000' of gain, and 13 summits. (John Robinson Collection)

Tom may not have skied thirty-seven List peaks like Reiner Stenzel, but he is the king of winter ascents; he'd use his home-made "sawed 'em hoff" short skis.

Tom was our second list finisher, on Norman Clyde Peak in 1965.

Next came Barbara Lilley about whom I'll have more to say. For now, I'll reprise Rich Gnagy's description of her List Finish. It was in 1969 on one of our most remote mountains, Marion Peak. Secretly, Rich carried two glasses and a bottle of champagne so he and Elton Fletcher and Art DeGoode toasted her achievement and began an SPS tradition.

I mean a tradition of champagne, certainly not a tradition of finishing on Marion. Say, did you know that

asked Andy Smatko: who was fastest—Arky or maybe Mike McNicholas?

Dr. Andy said, "Well, I was pretty fast. . . ."

Arky, along with friend and near-founder Graham Stephenson, perished coming



Left: Treasure Lakes camp, October 8, 1966, L to R, Tom Ross, Leon Pemple, Ellen Siegal, Doug Wendt, Bob Smith, an unidentified man, Don Woods (Photo by Fred Johnson).

Above: Arkel Erb in 1971 (Angeles Chapter Archives, Ken Ferrell Collection)

1980 chair and List Finisher Gene Mauk has climbed Marion three times—why, why? Or how?

Another in the 1960s SPS Pantheon would be List Finisher #5, Gordon MacLeod—he of many leads, winsome *Echo* articles, originally sponsored for the Sierra Club by Ansel Adams, he now of more than five thousand ascents! Gordon celebrated birthday number ninety last year!

And one Arkel Erb, chair 1965, List Finisher #6. Arky once climbed six SPS peaks in a day, the record; he once found the register can on Devil's Crag melted shut, so he brought it home, machined it open, and took it back up this hardest of all our peaks the next week!

When Ellen Siegal was hurt on Royce Peak, he stormed out to get help—seven miles in just over an hour—one young fella actually stuck with him—a guy named Ron Jones. Was anybody faster than Arky? I once

down Dunagiri Peak in the Himalaya in 1976. Arkel and wife Ruth's collection of 2,500 mountaineering books was donated to the L.A. County Library in Malibu. The website calls it "one of the most complete mountaineering collections in the United States."

1970s

By the 1970s we were a big cookie monster, surging to three hundred members, with fifty trips a year.

The 70s were bad years for western civilization, and we experienced the fallout, notably as to oil. As gasoline prices quintupled, paradoxically there was a shortage and two gas crises—remember the gas lines and odd-and-even license days? But we husbanded our tanks; then we'd dash up highway 395 to Owens Valley, where there was plenty of fuel.

Then the rangers limited group size to twenty-five. Well, 124 on Smith or 102 in Palisade Basin was a bit unwieldy.

Then came wilderness permits, so we slept outside kiosks the night before the trip and got in line first.

Fires were banned in many areas, so instead of a dozen little cooking fires on every trip, we all brought Svea stoves, right, Gene?, and aluminum pots to replace our "billy cans"; and "Bingham Roasts"—gargantuan bonfires visible as far away as Idaho—were no more.

Ah, but then came a certain trip to Big Picacho in Baja with sixty people, and a broken leg, and all



Left: Cuno "Big Daddy" Ranschau at the trailhead for Coyote/Angora, June 24, 1979.

Right: Dick Akawie, a great navigator, on Mt. Elwell, September 22, 1979 (Photos by Ron Bartell)



hands missing on Monday morning, during which the chapter headquarters phone lines melted as worried spouses called.

SPS ran training trips almost from our beginning with George Wallerstein and Safety chairs Bill Sanders and Chuck Miller, but from now on, formal training would be mandatory for all leaders.

In all fairness, we admit a few were a tad soft on safety at times, best reflected in Tim Treacy's near-immortal plea on one trip: "RJ, if we don't cut out this safety sh-uh-stuff, we're not going to get the peak!"

Borrowing from the Mazamas and the Seattle Mountaineers, we established a Leadership Training Program, the LTP. Well, Duane McRuer established the LTP, along with Bill T. Russell.



Left: Mary Gygax Motheral on the summit of Noshaq, Afghanistan (24,580') on July 27, 1978. Mary summited with Mark Goebel and Sam Roberts (Courtesy of Mary Gygax Motheral)

The program was largely an appendage of the SPS: until recently, it was always headed by an SPS stalwart—Mac, Bill T., Randy Danta, Dan Richter, Tina Bowman.

We ran the rock, snow, and navigation trips. Our leaders were the examiners; we certified the students: we grandfathered the existing leaders like Gene Mauk and Mark Goebel—looking at our collective gray hairs, maybe I should say we great-grandfathered the leaders. Meanwhile, we kept on!

Charles Gerkens, a near-founder, began machining our elegant summit register cylinders and kept at it for thirty years!

In 1975 we approved Bill T. Russell's first "higher emblem," the senior emblem, an award for one hundred climbs, to coax members with emblems to keep going.



Top: Norm Rohn at Grayling Lake, June 30, 1979 (Photo by Ron Bartell). Below: Jerry Keating eating pea soup from a Sierra Cup. Sierra Peaks Section trip to Milestone Basin and beyond, August 1972. (Photo by Jerry Keating, Angeles Chapter Archives, Keating Collection)



We saw a parade of list finishings; by 1979, fourteen had done it. Number fourteen was Cuno Ranschau. He completed the Sierra, Desert, and Hundred Peaks Section Lists on "a day in October" 1979—Don Sparks, you were there on a twenty-one-hour-

long day. Irrepressible Cuno was *Echo* editor for seven years, during which we alternately chuckled or groaned at the offerings of original puns and one-liners that peppered every issue. "I crossed a rabbit with a lollipop; now there's a sucker born every minute!"

Here's the headline of an *Echo* story by a truly beloved leader: "Dick Akawie Climbs Peak West of Lake Tahoe, Names It for Himself, Proposes It for List Addition." Barbara Reber, Jim Fleming—we remember Dick, don't we?

Mary Motheral preceded Cuno editing the *Echo*. List finisher #48. Mary, a wave? In 1978, along with

Mark Goebel and barely ahead of the invading Red Army, she climbed a 25,000' high peak in Afghanistan, setting the SPS altitude record, which lasted fifteen years.

Talk about beloved leaders . . . of her first SPS trip, in 1973 to Angora and Coyote, she wrote, commenting on leaders Norm Rohn, Paul Lipsohn, and Bob Healy: "I felt I was in the presence of Jim Bridger, Kit Carson, and John C. Fremont."

We know all about Jerry Keating's SPS exploits, but back in the 70s he was better known for something else, as expressed by Barbara Lilley in a 1972 writeup about a particularly rain-soaked outing to Mt. Izaak Walton. She said, "It was real Keating weather."

It's true, it's true! America in the 1970s produced fabulous women entertainers--Streisand, Aretha Franklin, and one from Ohio well known to us: "Who would have dreamed that this St. Patrick's Day I would be in Twenty-Nine Palms with a broken tibia and fibula? That the doctor would call in my immediate family (who were not so immediate as they live in Cincinnati) and the local PRIEST to tell me the dark and dismal news: that I would not peakbag for FOUR MONTHS! I turned my face to the wall and wailed, long and loudly!" With Walt Kabler, our Mary McMannes, leg cast and all, was summiting Castle Peak just three months later, en route to her senior emblem and we hope more.

Elsewhere Mary wrote, "Sometimes, climbing, looking for a hero, I found it was me." "I found it was me?" Mary, you really taught English?

Banquet DVD Available!

A very exciting video taken at the 60th Anniversary Banquet is available on a DVD. Relive or experience for the first time this milestone occasion! It includes many captured moments of you and your favorite people both during the social hour and following the main program. You'll hear again the outstanding speeches by emcee Alexander Smirnoff and our favorite keynote speaker, Doug Mantle. There's music, tons of photos both by photographer Rouben and roving reporter Mary Mac. Order early, and don't be left out. Send your check for \$12 made out to the SPS to the treasurer, Alexander Smirnoff, at 1701 Paloma St., Pasadena, CA 91104. Order your copy now!



Sierra
Peaks
Section

60th Anniversary

Our Chairs Look Back

One of the many nice features of the fiftieth anniversary issues of the Echo was a series of reflections by the chairs from the previous decade on their years at the head of the management committee. So we asked the chairs from 2006 through 2014 to summarize their years to provide a great overview of the past decade. Enjoy! —TB

SPS 2006: A Year of Chaos

By Gary Schenk

It is hard to go back and remember all the details. Only one issue of the *Echo* came out that year, so that won't help. The management committee was Reiner Stenzel as outings and vice chair, Henry Arnebold repeating as treasurer-for-life, Mary Jo Dungfelder as secretary, Darrick Danta as fifth officer, and me as chair. Darrick never did bring a fifth to a meeting, though, a premonition of the way things were going to go that year. It was a good committee; whatever went right that year was due to their efforts.

There was the new requirement for medical forms. That set the committee off. There was some outright hostility to that. They asked me to write a letter to some veteran members to get their opinion, laying out the arguments against from various committee members. I was told that I had insulted and saddened one of our most respected members by this letter. Isn't that wonderful? It certainly wasn't meant to insult one of our greatest climbers.

There was the new requirement for helmets on any trip above class 2. That went over like a lead balloon with the committee.

Then Patty fell. There were many phone calls from national and trying to decide if it was a club outing or not. And that bizarre dream where she appeared and told me that she'd tried hard to self-arrest still spooks me. So many years later and Patty is still missed on club trips.

After a great and long run Barbee Tidball and Barbara Sholle resigned as *Echo* editors. A replacement was found, who produced one very nice issue, mostly as a memorial to Patty. Then he stopped replying to repeated emails about when the next issue would come out. Said issues never materialized.

We had a considerable balance in the bank, some of which was money dedicated to Matthew Richardson, which we were holding in trust. Eric Siering's cost cutting measures had eliminated our deficit, and we weren't losing money on the banquet, so we decided to lower the subscription fee. Unfortunately, the treasurer was not at that meeting. So, that was a big mistake. Still, I don't think any harm has been done by that subscription reduction.

On the plus side, Reiner did a very good job reinvigorating the outings program. I think we did pretty well that year, especially with M and E trips, an accomplishment not to be overlooked.

It was a good year for the membership accomplishments. SPS had two List Finishers: Bob Suzuki and Tina Bowman with her triple double. Daryn Dodge and John Cheslick achieved Master Emblem status, while Christine Mitchell and Daryn got their Senior Emblems.



Above: 2006 Chair and Current Outings Chair Gary Schenk with 2006 Secretary Mary Jo Dungfelder on Montecito Peak. (Photo by Gary Schenk)



2007: Darrick Danta

[Because Darrick Danta, chair for 2007, died in 2013, we asked Stephanie Gylden, who was vice-chair that year, to give us a recap—the Editors.]

For the 2007 SPS year, we fortunately didn't experience too many challenges. While always focusing on membership and skilled leader growth, there were also two significant additions. The first was the proposal and passing of adding Cal Tech to our beloved list. And, as a way to gain and keep interest in climbing the Sierra in bite sized pieces, the idea of a sampler list was born. In keeping with the hot new trend of the Internet, the website was always in conversation. It was a pleasure serving as vice chair and an honor to work and climb with Darrick.



2008: Virgil Popescu

Under Sara Danta's skilled editorial hand, the *Echo* began digital publication, with a PDF being sent to all members with email addresses. Vice-chair Kathy Rich proposed the Geographic Emblem. Harry Langenbacher earned his SPS emblem, Jim Scott his senior emblem, Mark Goebel his master emblem, and Scott Sullivan his list finisher status. The SPS argued in a letter to Sierra Club executive director Carl Pope against renaming North Palisade for David Brower, proposing various unnamed peaks that might be chosen instead. With solid assistance from Larry Hoak, the SPS Bylaws underwent a major revision to bring them in line with current practices.



2009-2011: Kathy Rich

2009: The Geographic Emblem (climbing two peaks in each of the four geographic areas) was created and added to the emblems list in January, 2009. Dan Richter and Shane Smith were the first awardees of this emblem. Daryn Dodge celebrated his List Finish on Cirque Peak in July 2009. In addition, Bob Suzuki was retroactively granted a List Finish completion after rejoining the SPS. Revisions to the Bylaws (initiated by Virgil Popescu in 2008) were approved by the membership in July 2009. In addition, Dan Richter initiated the Advanced Mountaineering Program as part of



the Leadership Training Program. **2009, cont:** This program has been a huge success and is now in its seventh year, training about fifty students a year.

2010: A number of SPSers earned emblems in 2010. Corrine Livingston completed the list on Starr King in October 2010. Paul Garry earned both his Senior Emblem and a Geographic Emblem, while Shane Smith, Kathy Rich, and John Fisanotti earned an Emblem. The rules to become an SPS member were revised in order to encourage more members to join the SPS (particularly WTC graduates), thus the two required peak climbs could be done with any section of the Sierra Club, not just SPS. Paul Garry was the speaker at the Annual SPS Banquet and presented a slide show on his recent climb of Cho Oyu, the sixth highest peak in the world at 26,906'.

2011: The Andy Smatko Explorer Emblem, which can be earned by climbing fifty peaks in the Sierra not on the SPS list, was developed in 2011 and enacted in January, 2012; eleven SPSers have earned this emblem to date. A bumper year for list finishers, Louise Wholey, Chris Libby, Greg Gerlach, and John Hooper all completed the list in 2011. A quadruple list finish was held on San Joaquin Mtn on October 1st, 2011. Two well-known climbers, Bob Burd and Matthew Holliman, managed to complete the SPS list by climbing all the peaks as dayhikes. Although they are currently not SPS members, this is quite an amazing accomplishment. Bob Burd is known to many SPSers for his Annual Sierra Challenge held each August, which involves climbing ten peaks in ten days.

2012: Greg Mason

As SPS chair and during my time on the management committee, my focus was on two things: increasing the number of SPS-sponsored outings and bringing some new IT management tools to the MC. On both we gained headway, which continues today. During my tenure, honorary member Glen Dawson turned



one hundred; the chapter was looking at significant budget shortfall; and the *Echo*, the *Southern Sierran* and the *Schedule of Activities* became available mainly online with a few "grandfather exceptions." The new Explorer's Emblem, later renamed the Andy Smatko Explorer Emblem, was in its infancy. The first of these emblems was awarded to Barbara Lilley, Terry Flood, Fred Johnson, Jerry Keating, Ron Bartel, Doug Mantle, Franklin Myers, Vic Henney, and Sue Wyman-Henney as would be expected. Terry Flood earned the Geographical emblem, Robert Ayers the Senior Emblem, and Shane Smith both the Senior and Master Emblems. Thanks to all the committee members for their time and devotion to the SPS today and its heritage.

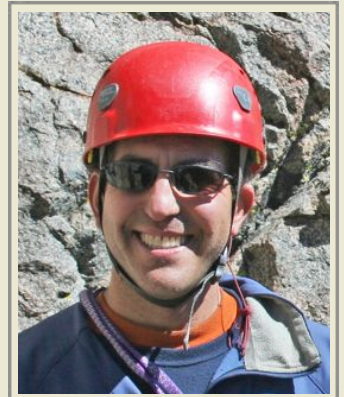
2013: Eric Scheidemantle

Although we had good plans for outreach and new social and climbing events, I was more of a maintenance chair, just keeping things going. We managed to score Peter Croft as the banquet speaker for January 2014. The *Echo* reported the deaths of members Art de Goede, Darrick Danta, and Bob Hicks. Three members—Neal Robbins, Tom Sakowych, and Ron Eckelmann—earned their SPS emblems. Other elected officers were Greg Mason, vice-chair; Lisa Miyake, secretary; Alexander Smirnoff, treasurer; and Reggie Bulman, outreach.



2014: Alexander Smirnoff

It was certainly an honor to serve as the SPS chair this year, as we prepared for the sixtieth anniversary of the organization. And how sweet it was! Although I had served on the committee for four years, serving as the chair was certainly unique and presented a different set of personal challenges. Challenges were as simple as trying to set up agendas and run periodic meetings (it's harder than it seems!) to more difficult ones trying to figure out what to accomplish in the coming year. I would imagine that every new SPS chair desires to improve the club and brings lots of new ideas (or a dearth of them as was in my case!). I had desires to



2014, cont.: do something big and different but wasn't sure what that would entail nor how much I could really get done. But we had a number of accomplishments throughout the year, all capped by a super nice and well-attended banquet which included Doug Mantle's memorable third straight anniversary keynote speech. These accomplishments came through the efforts of an all-new board (besides me). The club has survived the last sixty years due to the hard work and dedication of the leaders of the club. It certainly helped that the legends that are still with us today—such as Barbara Lilley, Gordon MacLeod, John Robinson, and Jerry Keating and the younger legends such as Tina Bowman and Doug Mantle—continue to inspire us. I hope that behind them comes a new list of legends. New members are the livelihood of any club. We managed to bring on fifteen new members in 2014, the most new members in recent years. Many thanks to the subscribers that stay with us year after year! We also had four list finishers in 2014, also a larger number than we have had in recent years—thanks to Lisa Barboza, Doug Mantle, Nile Sorenson, and Bob Wyka! And last we tried to figure out how to get more trips scheduled so that more members—and new members—can be active in the club. We started the day hike program, and we hope it will lead to many years of maintaining a level of service to the hiking/climbing membership. We are more than half way to the one-hundredth anniversary of the SPS—I look forward to the next forty successful years!

History of the Sierra Peaks Section List

By Tina Bowman

In 1995, Bill T. Russell compiled a history of peaks list up through the sixteenth edition (see the history on the SPS website at <http://sierrapeaks.org/fifty/spslisthistory.htm>). The first list, probably published in November 1955, had two hundred peaks, and that number increased to 247 peaks by the sixteenth edition. Let's take a look at the evolution of the list since then.

The seventeenth edition, dated February 1997, had minor changes: time requirements for emblem, senior emblem, and list completion status were included, and a spelling error was corrected.

In March of 1999 the eighteenth edition was released with only minor changes again made from the previous one: corrections to peak names (such as Mt. Muah changed to Muah Mtn.), changes in elevations to agree with current maps, and the revision of climbing difficulty for nine peaks, such as changing the rating of Bear Creek Spire from class 3 to class 3 with a class 4 summit block.

The nineteenth edition of August 2001 changed the name of the SPS summit from Mt. Powell to Pt. Powell with the same coordinates as before (for a discussion of the summit location, see the third edition of R.J. Secor's *The High Sierra: Peaks, Passes, and Trails*, page 289). Climbing ratings were also changed for eight peaks, for example, Disappointment Peak changed from class 3 to class 4.

The next two editions had only one change each: the twentieth (April 2009) added Caltech Peak, and the twenty-first, the current one, (July 2011) suspended Pilot Knob (S).

Wear 'em! Give 'em!

SPS TEES



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Back: FULL SPS LIST

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60th Anniversary



Great Leaders of The Past: Niles and Louise Werner

By John W. Robinson

Niles and Louise Werner, veteran Sierra Club leaders, joined the Sierra Peaks Section in the spring of 1957, adding valued leadership experience to the fledgling group.

Anyone looking back at the record of Angeles Chapter activities from the 1930s into the 1960s would notice, time and again, the names of Niles and Louise Werner. This husband and wife team epitomized Chapter outings, particularly climbs of desert peaks. Niles was the consummate leader, setting a steady pace with frequent rest stops, always knowing exactly where he was going, always considerate of participants' needs and abilities. Louise was usually back in the pack or bringing up the rear, offering words of encouragement and sound advice to novices. How well I remember my first Desert Peak Section trip, a climb of Keynot Peak in the Inyo Mountains led by Niles and Louise over the Memorial Day weekend of 1953. I was made to feel completely welcome, so important for one beginning a Sierra Club relationship.

Niles Werner Johansson was born in Goteborg, Sweden, in 1890. Possessed of a restless spirit and eager to escape the Swedish military draft, young Niles migrated to the U.S. in 1908. He settled first in Minnesota, home of many Swedes, and found employment in the lumber

Niles and Louise Werner with dog Bundle, C. 1948. (Location and photographer unknown. Werner Collection, Angeles Chapter Archives)

industry. This was followed by four years of college in Indiana where he earned a degree in structural engineering, then two years with the steel industry in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Young Niles long had a desire to see the American West. He succumbed to this desire in the early 1920s when he and a friend purchased a used Model T Ford and drove west to California, visiting Yellowstone and Yosemite en route. To Niles, this was Nirvana, the fabled land he had long dreamed about.

Structural engineers were in short supply in Los Angeles of the 1920s, and Niles had no trouble finding a job. One of his first projects was helping to design buildings on Wilshire Boulevard's "Miracle Mile," just being developed at the time of his arrival. A few years later Niles opened his own business with an office in downtown L.A. During World War II he helped to design aircraft plants.

Niles was in L.A. just a short time before he learned about the Sierra Club's outdoor activities. The prospect of exploring and climbing mountains had long appealed to him. He joined the Sierra Club in 1922 and soon became an accomplished climber on the Club's annual high trips. On the 1926 high trip to Yellowstone, Niles was introduced to serious climbing. None other than famed mountaineer Norman Clyde led him and a party of seven up the Grand Teton. In 1928 the Sierra Club ventured into the Canadian Rockies. Niles climbed two major Canadian peaks, Mt. Edith Cavell and Mt. Resplendent, both major glacial ascents, with Norman Clyde, but declined to follow Clyde up Mt. Robson, the very exposed crown of the Canadian Rockies.

It was on a climb of Telescope Peak above Death Valley in November 1934 that Niles met his future mate. Louise Top was born in Sioux Center, Iowa, of Dutch parents

on March 2, 1902. She earned her B.A. at Iowa State Teachers College (now the University of Northern Iowa) and taught in Dennison, Iowa, for seven years. She came to California in 1930 and was hired as an adult physical education instructor by the Los Angeles School District.

Louise joined the Sierra Club in 1934 and immediately became an active participant in Club activities. After meeting Niles on the climb of Telescope Peak, she soon became his main hiking companion. Friendship soon turned to romance. Louise recalls that Niles proposed "on the trail." She accepted, and they were married in 1937.

One of their early objectives was to climb all the 14,000-foot peaks in California, then fourteen in number. Niles already had six or seven of them, several with the legendary Norman Clyde.

But Louise had only Mt. Whitney. In the late 1930s and 40s Niles accompanied his wife up all the lofty summits but North Palisade and Barnard. (It should be noted that Mt. Barnard was pegged at 14,003' on the old fifteen-minute quads but lowered to 13,990' on the newer 7.5-minute maps. So California lost one its 14,000ers to the frustration of many climbers.) Niles and Louise reached the summit of Mt. Barnard in July 1946, supposedly completing the list for Niles.

Only North Palisade remained to be climbed by Louise and Freda Walbrecht, a prominent Los Angeles attorney who also aimed to climb all the 14,000ers. Freda hired Norman Clyde to lead the two women up "North Pal." Clyde led them to the summit but was so annoyed by Freda that he refused to accompany her up any more peaks. Louise and Norman Clyde remained friends for many years.

The Werners found time to explore the Swiss Alps, climaxed by a successful ascent of the Matterhorn. "The exposure was extreme," exclaimed Louise, "but we trusted our Swiss professional guide."

In the 1930s and early 40s, the Southern California Chapter of the Sierra Club met every Friday night at Boos Brothers Cafeteria (later Clifton's) in downtown Los Angeles. It was here at Boos Brothers that Niles and Louise often listened to Chester Versteeg talk up the idea of a Sierra Club group that would specialize in climbing desert summits. Despite a lot of indifference at first, Chester's persuasiveness gradually changed a few minds. The Werners were early converts.



Summit block of Mt. Darwin, 1946 (Photo by Niles Werner, Werner Collection, Angeles Chapter Archives)

The first scheduled outing of the new desert peaks group was a climb of New York Butte over the weekend of November 15-16, 1941, led by Chester and Niles Werner. All twelve members of the party made the summit, to enjoy the fabulous view over Owens Valley to the snow-capped Sierra crest. Niles, who had been surmounting desert summits

since climbing Telescope Peak in 1934, was second to qualify for membership by finishing the seven-peak qualifying list on Waucoba Mtn. in June 1942. Chester made a formal occasion of the event, with a crown for Niles and an appropriate welcoming speech.

The Desert Peaks Section was formally organized in November 1945, with a full schedule of activities. Both Chester and Niles declined the chairpersonship. Elected first chairperson was James Tow. Niles and Louise continued to play a leading role in the growth of the Section and the expansion of the desert area covered from the original trans-Sierra ranges to mountains all over the Southwest and into Baja California.

The year 1948 was a banner one for Niles and Louise. They joined a party of fifteen climbers to attempt Mexico's Pico de Orizaba, at 18,851 feet, North America's third highest summit (after Denali and Logan). The Werners were among the several who reached the top.

Louise made the acquaintance of Edward "Bud" Bernhard of Coronado and in 1950 helped to organize

an attempt on El Picacho del Diablo, the crown of Baja California. They approached the mountain from the west, via the Meling Ranch, and failed in their first attempt. (El Picacho is separated from the San Pedro Martir Plateau by the 3,000-foot gash of Canon del Diablo.) In 1955 Bud Bernhard and Louise, along with DPSers Bill and Margie Henderson and two of Bud's San Diego friends, pioneered the route up Canon del Diablo and reached the twin summits via the so-called "Slot Wash."

The climb of "Big Picacho" ignited a desire by Niles and Louise to explore more of Old Mexico. The early 1960s saw the Werners spending more time south of the border, first to explore the Pinacate region, then south into the Sierra de Occidental, where they negotiated Barranca del Cobre, Mexico's Grand Canyon. They continued south into the heart of Mexico, where they climbed Popocatepetl (17,800'), Iztacchuatl (17,300'), and La Malinche (14,600'), three major volcanoes.

Then tragedy struck. The Werners continued on their Mexican trip and were on the way to the Yucatan Peninsula. The passenger train on which they were traveling stopped at Tocotalpa, some 600 miles southeast of Mexico City, when a freight train barreling north at high speed smashed headlong into it. Forty-one passengers were killed and 74 injured in one of Mexico's worst railroad disasters. Niles was seriously wounded and had his right arm amputated, while Louise suffered minor injuries. Both of them were hospitalized for several weeks in nearby Villa Hermosa. Sadly, in January 1965, Niles, approaching his 75th year, died from complications caused by his injuries. Louise returned home, her Mexican adventure abruptly over.

In addition to their forty-year legacy as outstanding Sierra Club leaders, Niles and Louise Werner were also a superb photographer-writer team. Niles' photos of climbs in the Sierra Nevada, the desert ranges, Mexico, and the Canadian Rockies appeared in

numerous periodicals. Louise was an accomplished writer. Her articles on desert peaking, often accompanied by Niles' photographs, were published in various issues of *Desert*, *Westways* and *Summit* magazines, mostly in the 1950s and '60s. Louise served as associate editor of *Summit Magazine* for several years in the 60s.

Louise continued her climbing sojourns well into

her eighth decade. She became SPS emblem holder No. 118 in August 1967, not a difficult task because she had previously climbed all, or nearly all, of the required emblem peaks with Niles in years past. She climbed San Gorgonio twice at age 80, trekked in the Himalaya at 84, and



Niles and Louise Werner on the summit of Mt. Darwin, 1946. (Photographer unknown, Werner Collection, Angeles Chapter Archives)

reached the summit of Blue Bottle (Cerro Botella Azul), Baja California's second highest peak, a year later.

In 1991 Louise sold her Alhambra hilltop home, which she and Niles had built fifty years earlier, and moved into the Artesia Christian Home for retirees. Until she reached the age of 95, Louise walked a mile or so almost every day. "It keeps me in shape," she exclaimed.

This "Grand Lady of the Angeles Chapter" passed away after a very eventful life on October 7, 2001, at the mature age of 99, surrounded by mementos of family and Sierra Club days.

SOURCES: Interviews with Louise Werner in Alhambra, 1990, and in Artesia in 1995 and 1998. *DPS Newsletter* (later *Desert Sage*), *Sierra Echo*, *Southern Sierran* and *Westways*, various issues, 1950 to 1994. *Desert Magazine*, 1951 to 1982. Robert Cates, Angeles Chapter historian. SPSers Bill T. Russell and Jerry Keating. Lillian Versteeg, various interviews. Correspondence with Parker Severson and Freda Walbrecht.



Sierra
Peaks
Section

60th Anniversary

Palisade Crest

by Bob Hartunian

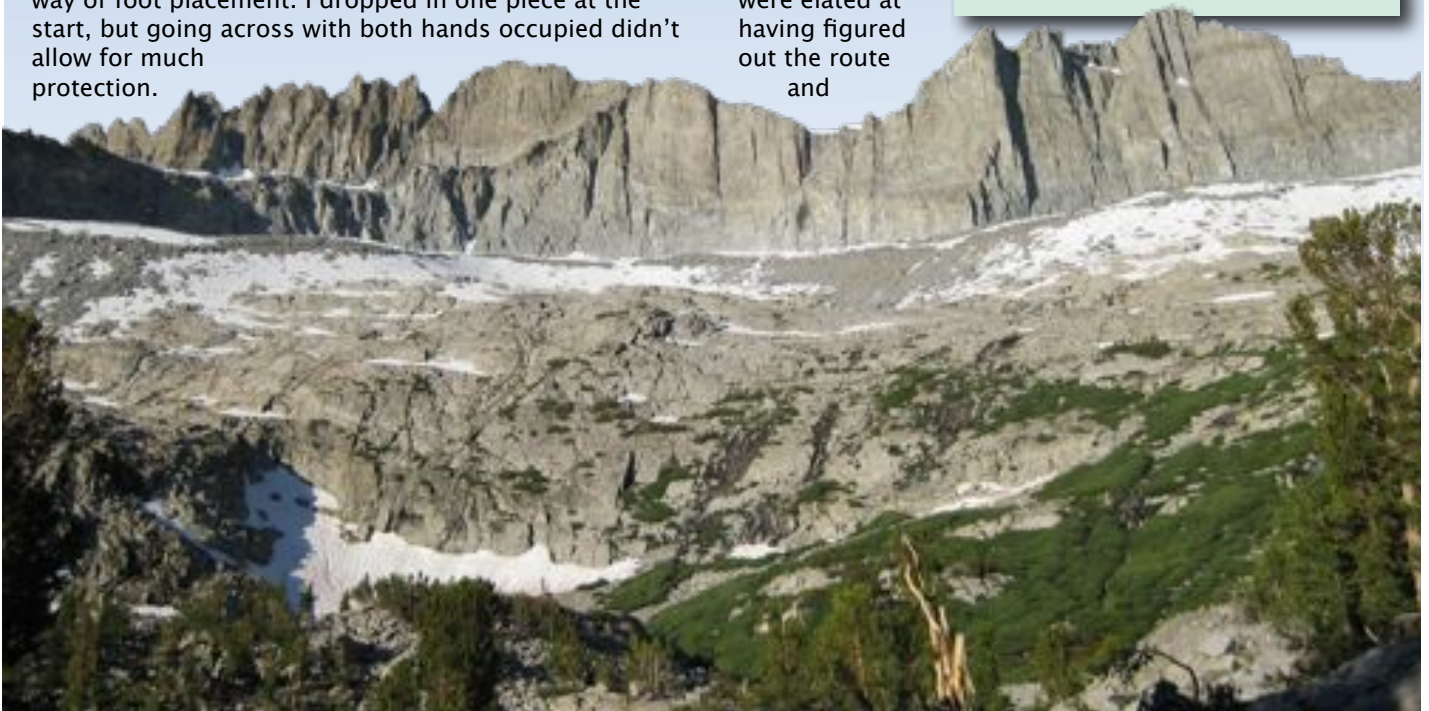
Back around 1984, I used to climb with Dave Vandervoet as a mountaineering partner. I was good on 5th class rock, so we climbed harder peaks together like Norman Clyde with me usually leading. Dave came up with an idea to try something unknown, at least to us. He thought we should do a peak as a first ascent, and Dave picked Palisade Crest as an objective to try. Neither one of us had even heard of PC, let alone anything about its history or whether it had even been climbed before. We liked adventures with no guaranteed outcome, and as long as we returned healthy, making an attempt was just what we wanted. Now thirty years later, my recollection might be rusty, but here is what I recall.

We picked a mid-July time frame, took a couple of days off from work and packed in going up the Big Pine trail and then cross country to just south of the Crest. We were not even sure where the peak actually was or whether it was even climbable. I had a few pieces of pro, a 150' perlon rope, and a few runners, and with that we left camp and climbed a slope to the north on snow until making the ridgeline. The topo gave no hint of the route, just that it appeared to be to our south. I led off roped and came to a knife edge requiring handholds along the knife as we traversed with little in the way of foot placement. I dropped in one piece at the start, but going across with both hands occupied didn't allow for much protection.

Once over that stretch, we dropped over to the east face and made our way south and downward following the contour of the steep slope. The rock was loose and prone to rolling when stood on. I put up small ducks as we progressed to enable getting back the way we had come. Making a mistake on that place could be fatal.

Eventually, we came to a separation between the slope and a higher peak ahead. In this opening was a big chockstone. Dave belayed me as I tested the chockstone for security as it could have easily been loose and unreliable. I imagined standing on it and having the works drop out from beneath, with me on it like riding the nuke bomb in *Dr. Strangelove*. The stone proved secure, but we still had only one person on it under belay just in case. Ahead was a smooth face that looked like it may lead toward the top, so I started up and placed pro in horizontal cracks as I went. Did a full pitch and brought Dave up. From there, the top seemed doable and went ok. On top, we were elated at having figured out the route and

Below: Palisade Crest, left of the rounded skyline ridge to the left of center. Page 17 top: Palisade Crest summit (Photos by Tina Bowman.) Page 17 bottom: Bob Hartunian's climbing diagram which appeared in the Echo.

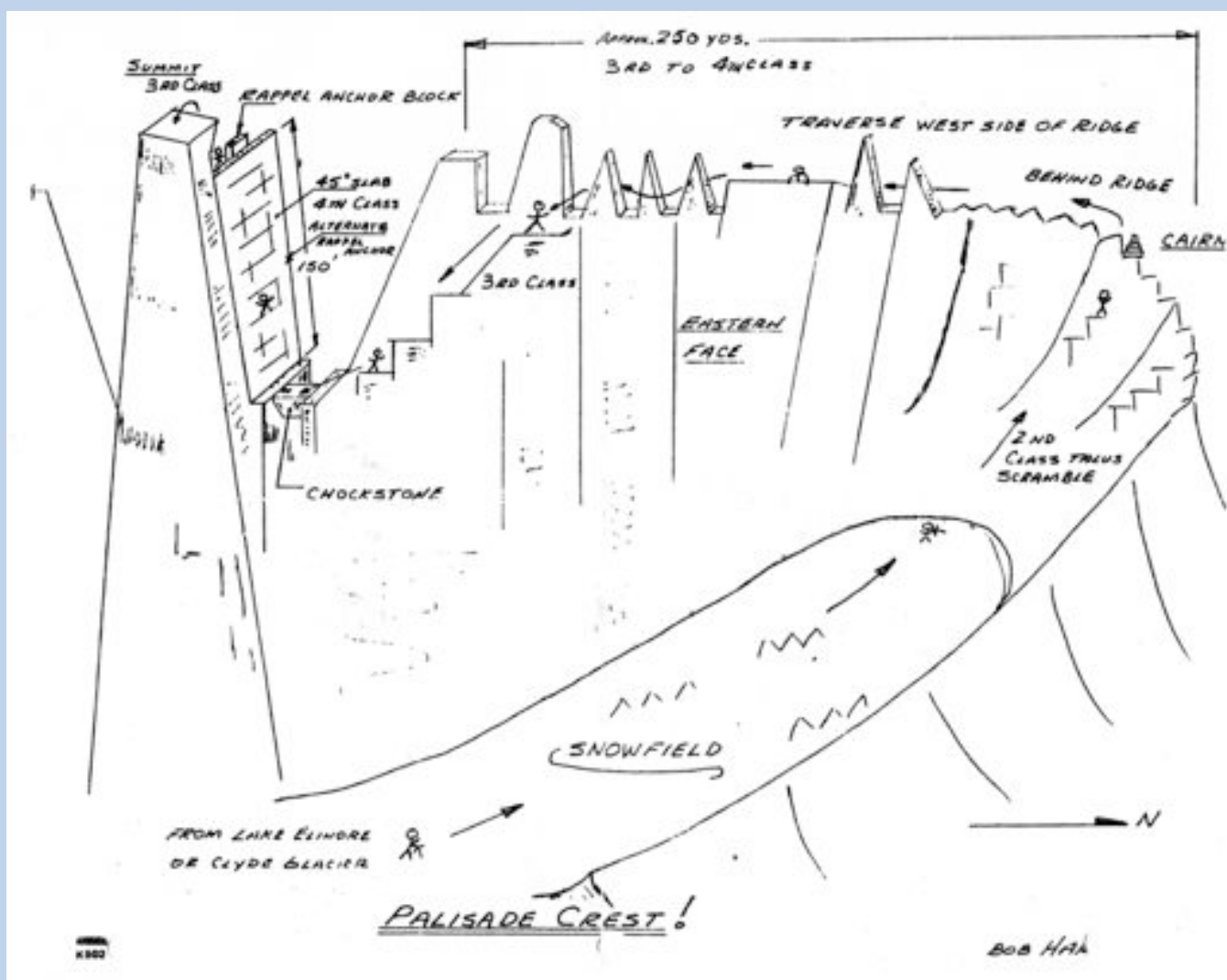




executed the climb.

There was no indication that anyone had done it previously so we assumed that we may have been the first ones. Later, Secor indicated that two groups did it about 20 years before. But we thought it was a fine climb, and I did a write-up with a climbing diagram for the Echo. Most of the SPS guys like Cuno paid little attention to it except for Bill T. Russell, who gathered a few climbers and did it the next year, following the diagram. He was really enthusiastic afterward and petitioned to have Palisade Crest put on the SPS list.

Dave and I still refer to that climb as our best adventure ever.



This continues what we hope will be a series of brief articles contributed by SPS members who would like to share information about their favorite pieces of trail technology. For this issue Bill Oliver tells us about a piece of technical equipment that makes his life better in the mountains. How about you? Send your proposal or article to Tina Bowman at tina@bowmanchange.com

Because it's an anniversary year, we're taking advantage of that to reprint an early "Trail Tech" article—before there was a Trail Tech column—from 1997 by Bill Oliver. We're including the note from co-editor at the time Barbara (Cohen) Sholle to add to the fun. Bill also has brought us up to date with his note at the end. Enjoy!
—The Editors

"Dirty Ass" Revisited : Preparation H Totables to The Rescue

By Bill Oliver

Sierra Echo July-August 1997

There's probably a technical name for this affliction, no doubt employing obscure ancient Greek or Latin words. But if you looked up the word origin, it would undoubtedly come across as "dirty ass."

I never learned about dirty ass in BMTC or AMTC (Basic/Advanced Mountaineering Training Course), nor in training for the M or E leader ratings. I never heard of it from anybody. But when I started mountaineering, I discovered I had it—and suffered silently.

It didn't seem to matter whether or not I had a "dump." Apparently, just getting sweat down my crack for a couple of days could lead to a painful rectal inflammation. It was especially painful when I took my first post-trip shower. And then it would go away—until my next trip.

On the verge of cutting short my mountaineering career, I somehow stumbled upon the solution that revived my spirits and relieved my ass—Rantex. I found it—a "medicated, moistened personal cloth wipe"—in the pharmaceutical section at Fedco. It comes in a convenient foil-type packet (very similar to other small protective devices).

A box of thirty-six packets currently goes for only

\$2.14. It does not require a prescription, and it is not hidden behind the counter. (If you have to ask for it, you can say it's for a friend!) I use one after every mountain dump or, if none, at the end of the day for sure. (I recommend only one application per packet.)

On a recent six-day trip through The Maze in Canyonlands N.P., I was joined by my gnarly Purdue-Co-op friends (now grad students) Beau and Joel. Trust me, with these guys, nothing is sacred. Long before the trip began, dirty ass became a focus of our frequent group email discussions. (Oh, the joy of just knowing that you are not alone, that others likewise share in your suffering.) The subsequent daily happy hour discourses among our group of six confirmed that everyone was successfully dealing with dirty ass, thus virtually assuring the success of our adventure.

You may notice in the supermarket, next to the toilet tissue, products similar to Rantex by both Kleenex and Scott—"flushable moist wipes." Some of us in Utah thrived on these. However, they are not "medicated," and you'll have to carefully repack the tissues to keep them moist. Rantex is much more travel-friendly.

So, I'm out. Life is worth

living. If you never had this problem, you're still OK. If you've had it, you weren't alone. Relief is truly at hand. Go for it!





Above: Three Happy Asses in the Grand Canyon, L-R: Lou, Bill, and Kevin (Photo by Beau).

Page 18, single packet photo by Bill Oliver.

Echo Editor's note, 1997: Butt seriously folks, not to give Rantex a bum rap—any brand of “baby wipes” found in your local market’s baby aisle will do the trick. Also panty liners can prolong the crotch integrity of your underwear. (Guys, say you’re buying them for a friend.) Of course, this editor’s note is tongue in-cheek. . . . Barbara Cohen

Update by Bill, May 31, 2015

Weird, but of the six of us on that '97 Maze trip, four of us were recently reunited on a Grand Canyon backpack/climb. Needless to say, “dirty ass” remained a major focus of our dialog before and during the adventure—and none of us suffered!

It would appear that Rantex (like Fedco) is history. I currently use and recommend Preparation H Totables, “hemorrhoidal wipes with witch hazel, formulated with aloe.” Note: it is not necessary to prove hemorrhoids in order to purchase the Totables, nor will use of them lead to hemorrhoids, as far as I can tell. I usually buy a box of

ten individually wrapped wipes at Wal-Mart. It’s also available on Amazon (with a rating of 4.7 stars out of 5). (Walgreens also sells their branded version.) Just to be safe, try them at home first. Also buy extras—a great way to make new friends outdoors.

Relief remains truly at hand. Go for it!

Send Articles and Photos!

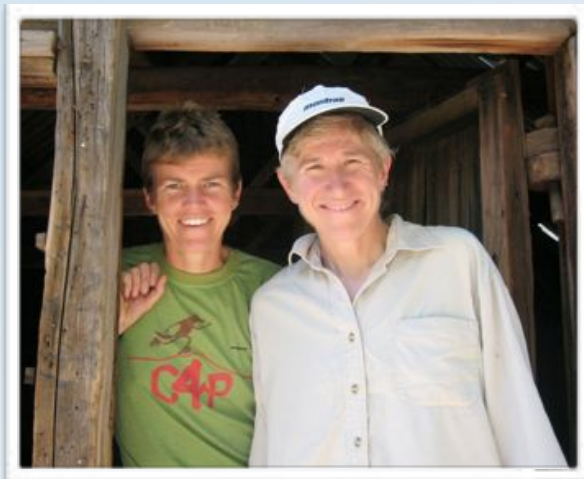
The SPS is celebrating its sixtieth anniversary in 2015. We’d love to have photos and reminiscences about peaks, outings, and people that stand out for you (past and present) for The Sierra Echo. Please send contributions to Tina at tina@bowmanchange.org

The 60th anniversary offers an occasion to look back at some of the great experiences we've had on SPS trips over the years. And I finally have a good excuse to publish a trip report I didn't submit in a timely way! As time passed it seemed to become less and less pertinent, but I realize now that isn't the case. I still love seeing everyone who was on the trip, and I laugh whenever I remember the fun we had. —BE

Our Loopy Summer: Kern Peak, Jordan Hot Springs, and Indianhead (6/30-7/1/07)

By Beth Epstein

I love loop routes, probably to excess if you ask my hiking companions. When the possibility of a loop materializes on a map or in the field, I see the promise of a grand tour. Of course I know as well as you that when you turn around and walk the other way in a simple out and back the world looks completely different, yet going out and back still seems redundant—wasteful even!—if there is a chance of seeing new terrain by connecting the dots into a circle. The allure is powerful, so when the long scree field or open ridge reveals itself from the summit and I start a sentence with “What do you think about . . .” and eyes roll and grumbling about previous shortcuts and so-called bright ideas begins, I do listen seriously. Search and rescue expert John Inskeep advised me many years ago that one key to avoiding accidents is to return the way you came, so I take a hard look when tempted. I know I have been luckier than smart on a regular basis.



Above: Kim Gimenez and Beth Epstein at Jordan Hot Springs. Right: Beth and Diana Estrada at the springs. (Photos by Edd Ruskowitz)

In 2007, Kim Gimenez and I did two backpacking loops that I'm finally getting around to describing. One was an SPS/WTC Kern Peak climb which we co-led; the

other a longer private tour of SPS Section 22 in Northern Yosemite, opposite ends of things Sierran, but connected by a yearning to complete a circle. I'm dredging up Kern Peak here and will save Section 22 for later.

The standard route in and out to Kern Peak is the undulating nine-mile trail 34E17 from Blackrock trailhead to Redrock Meadows, but I'd always wondered about nearby historic Jordan Hot Springs. Checking the map I realized why it's not combined more often—the 2400' lost between the trailhead and Jordan needs to be recovered in the four miles up to camp at Redrock Meadow, which for many outings adds another day. Well, heck, I figured if we made it a loop and just swung by Jordan for a visit and a quick soak on the way in, it only added up to a moderate ten miles and 2400' gain to camp. An adventurous, large, and wonderfully congenial group took me up on the proposition. It was comprised of several unsuspecting but well-prepared WTC students—Eva Eilenberg, Anne Mullins, Dave Scobie, Horacio Cerutti, and Jackie Greenspan—but also some more experienced hikers and SPS members—Eric Lesser, Steve Curry, Edd Ruskowitz, Diane and Jorge Estrada, and Michael Dougherty. We met at 7 am at the Blackrock trailhead with beautiful blue skies over the meadows. The forecast was for heat: 90 degrees at 8,000', which was concerning. I was expecting it would be too late for flowers so far south, but the streamsideways were a riot of color, and we were lucky to have a landscape architect (Eric) and a horticulturalist (Horacio) to help us appreciate it all.

We turned northwest from Casa Vieja Meadow on trail 34E19 and walked down, down, down through the forest beside Ninemile Creek as it tumbled toward the

Kern. As we approached the hot springs, the canyon opened, and the scars from the 2002 McNally fire began to show. (Remember the woman who was cooking hot dogs after pursuing her estranged husband to Road's End outside Kernville and managed to engulf 150,000 additional acres?) Miraculously, the ruins and land around the hot springs had been saved. We poked around the cabins and antiques and sat in the streamside springs for a couple of hours, napped, and



lunched, then headed off for Redrock Meadows around 1 pm.

Perhaps we should have waited until the heat was less intense; the sun bore down as we ascended the south facing slopes which had been denuded in the McNally burn and we picked our way uphill amid the blackened deadfall. At one point I commented that it couldn't be too much more unpleasant, and Michael reminded me optimistically that it could still be burning. All in all, it was interesting terrain, and the trail was still pretty clear, though I finally lost the track around 2500 meters as we climbed toward Indianhead.

There was shade in the pleasant saddle at Indianhead, where some folks rested while others looked for a route up the outcrop's red and rocky face.

Circling clockwise from the north around to the east, Steve Curry finally found the key and Steve, Kim and I climbed the fun class 3 crack to the summit and signed the register. Then it was down through the pretty forest across Redrock Creek to camp.

Since we were approaching from the west, we stopped before we got to the corrals and camped along some rocky outcrops. The showing for happy hour was stupendous. Coincidentally three different people hauled up wine, though the prizes went to the excellent bottle produced by Eric's own family winery, Edd's bottomless quesadillas, and Dave's homemade fritters. The party continued into the evening and included a bear bagging demonstration, which I'm sure had the bears in stitches in the shadows and may have been affected by the agreeable happy hour. I have a pretty good arm but we couldn't get the cord over the branch for all the laughing. We were beginning to feel a bit hopeless when Michael appeared and sent a fastball like a shot over the branch. A cheer erupted, which was probably



Above: Hiking up to Indianhead from Jordan Hot Springs.



Below: Approaching Indianhead. (Photos by Edd Ruskowitz)

heard all the way to his beloved Fenway Park. Enjoying each other's company too much, no one wanted to go to sleep, so we took a real estate tour of all the tents. Thanks to Eric's astronomy expertise, the night was finally capped by a tour of the stars.

So much frivolity led to a bit of a late start at 7:30 the next morning. As others have noted, the good trail over the south ridge of Kern Peak is clear leaving camp then disappears briefly crossing Redrock Creek, but it is mapped correctly on the west side of the creek so was not too hard to find. We left the trail at the ridge and went up some of the east face talus at the end. The ridge proper would have been easier all the way, and we took it on the descent. The views to Olancho, the

meadows below, and the higher peaks to the north were wonderful.

We returned to camp about 1:00 and packed out. We paused for more flowers at River Spring and were grateful for the water in every stream on another hot day. We followed bear tracks through Beer Keg Meadows (was he confused by the spelling?). Around Long Canyon we began to see cattle—and by Casa Vieja, signs of other

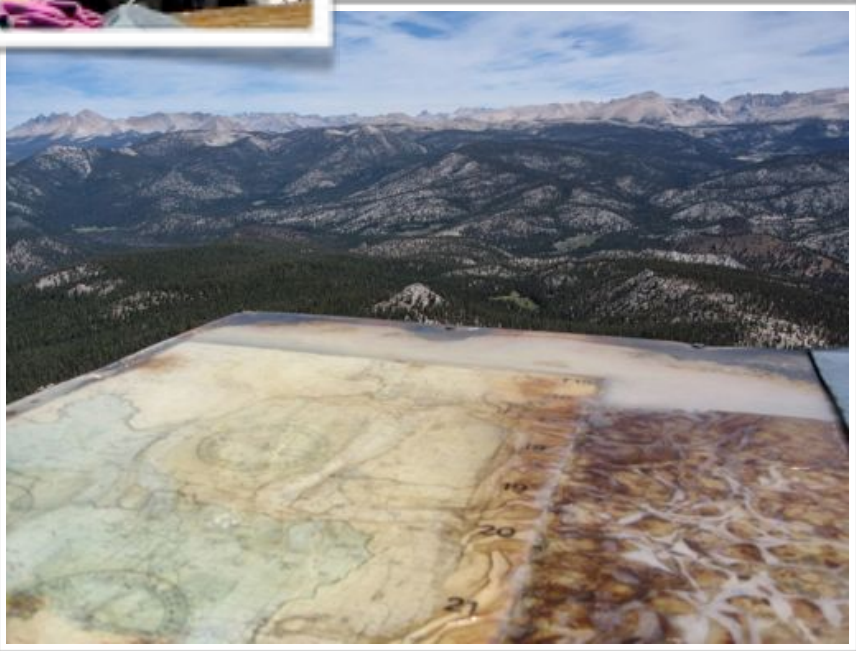


Above: Ascending Kern Peak's south ridge. (Photo by Edd Ruskowitz).
Left: Kern Summit. Back, L-R; Diana Estrada, Anne Mullins, Jorge Estrada. Middle: Michael Dougherty, Steve Curry, Eric Lesser, Beth Epstein. Front: Edd Ruskowitz, Jackie Greenspan, Horacio Cerutti, Eva Eilenberg, Kim Gimenez, Dave Scobie. (Photo by Dave Scobie). Below: Looking north over the old fire lookout map, which has since disappeared. (Photo by Edd Ruskowitz).

people again, including some pistol-toting horse packers. We were back to the cars about 5:00.

Thanks to Michael and his GPS, everyone was later proud to learn that our traveling house party was also a slightly longer-than-estimated weekend marathon: twenty-six miles and 6700' or so. But a wonderful group of participants made it seem too short.

With an outing ranging over multiple maps and different destinations, several resources were helpful, including the Toby, Kline, and Eckert reports in the SPS and climber.org archives, Tom Harrison's composite map "Golden Trout Wilderness," Suzanne Swedo's *Hiking California's Golden Trout Wilderness*, and Jenkins' *Exploring the Southern Sierra: East Side*.



In High Places: Hungary

By Burton "Hegymászó" Falk

What first comes to mind when you think of Hungary? Budapest? Paprika? Goulash? Franz Liszt? The Gabor Sisters? But probably not mountains or highpoints.

If you'd been asked the same question one hundred years ago, however, your answer may have been different as the central European nation once encompassed an area many times larger than that of its current borders.

During World War I, Hungary, a member of the Central Powers—including Germany, Austria, the Ottoman Empire and Bulgaria—was on the losing side. The resulting 1920 Treaty of Trianon greatly diminished the area of Hungary, taking away 71% of its territory, 58% of its population, and 32% of its ethnic Hungarians.

That meant that the Western Carpathian range—the site of Sněžka, the 5,259' high point of the Czech Republic; Rysy, the 8,212' high point of Poland; and Gerlachovský štít, the 8,710' high point of Slovakia—was lost. Also gone were the Southern Carpathians, including Moldoveanu Peak, the 8,346' high point of Romania, and Mt. Midzur, the 7,116', high point of Serbia, plus an array of ranges, including the apexes of Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Kosovo, and Bosnia/Herzegovina. Hungary was left with its comparatively low highpoint, Kékes, measuring in at a mere 3,327'.

Before recounting my October, 2014, ascent of Kékes, however, let's take a quick look at the complicated but interesting history of Hungary and the Hungarian people.

Lying astride the Danube River, in the middle of the Carpathian Basin, today's Hungary occupies what was once part of the Western Roman Empire, a hegemony which collapsed upon the arrival of Attila and his Huns in 435 AD. And as the short-lived Hunnish rule began to wane, a series of Germanic tribes migrated into the area, followed in the 560s, by the Avars, equestrian warriors from Eurasia, who maintained supremacy in the region for 250 years.

Next came the Franks under Charlemagne, who held sway until the late 800s, after which the area came under control of the Magyars, a coalition of seven tribes that originated in a region between the Volga River and the Ural Mountains.

The Magyars, also known as Hungarians, had a strong military force and soon began a conquest of much of Europe, including areas as far west as Spain and as far east as Constantinople. Vajk, of Magyar descent, founded the state of Hungary circa 1000 and accepted the Catholic religion. Upon being blessed by the Pope, Vajk assumed the Holy Crown of Hungary as King Stephen I.

But even the Magyar/Hungarians weren't able to remain dominant for long. In 1241–42, the Mongol horde invaded eastern Europe, creating a tide of immigrants that destabilized Hungary. And in the early 1500s, the Ottoman Empire, following a long series of battles, took control of most of Hungary, only to be pushed out by the Holy League, a large multi-European Army, in 1686. Following the Ottoman's complete retreat in 1718, the Kingdom of Hungary, waltzing with the neighboring Kingdom of Austria, became joined in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Following WWI, the dual monarchy was split, and, as noted, Hungary was shorn of much of its territory.

In World War II, the diminished Hungary once again sided with Germans, and once again was left holding the bag. Indeed, the Russians, who "liberated" the country in 1944, set up a repressive Communist government which stayed in power until 1989, at which time the current Republic was formed.

Today, Hungary has a population of some 10 million and is a member of both NATO and the European Union. While the official currency is the Forint, the Euro is commonly accepted. Hungarian is the official language of Hungary and is also spoken by communities of Hungarian people in neighboring countries—especially in Romania, Slovakia, Serbia and Ukraine. Akin to Finnish and Estonian, Hungarian belongs to the Uralic

language family, and is one of the few languages of Europe that are not part of the Indo-European family.



The author at Hungary's highpoint.

Map courtesy of <http://www.ispor.org>

KÉKES

The highpoint of Hungary, 3,327' Kékes, lies in the Mátra Range, 97 kilometers (60 miles) east northeast of Budapest. It is Hungary's third most popular [tourist](#) attraction, following Lake Balaton and the Danube, and has several ski runs, plus a number of nearby hotels. The giant Kékestető TV Tower stands at the summit.

Two months prior to my wife's and my arrival in Budapest, I made arrangements with the concierge at the Budapest Marriott Hotel for a car and driver to take me to Kékes on the morning of October 28. Yes, Alice, it's a drive-up summit.

My driver's name was Toth Balazs, a 30-some year-old fellow, who spoke excellent English. His car was a black, late-model Mercedes sedan, and the tab for my mini-expedition was a fixed 200 Euros (about \$240).

Leaving the hotel at 9 a.m., we drove out of Pest (the eastern half of Budapest) on the M3 Freeway, passed through rolling farmland, and finally broke out of the low cloud cover about 10 a.m. Stopping for a moment, we gained our first view of the Mátra Range almost directly in front of us. Continuing on, we turned off the freeway at the town of Gyöngyös and were soon driving up a twisting road through an autumn-beautiful deciduous forest. Reaching a pay parking area at 10:25 a.m., we then began walking a hundred yards or so up a steep, grassy ski run to the apex of the country, a rock painted the national colors of Hungary—red, green and white.

To the west, through a bit of mist, we could see what Toth claimed were the High Tatra mountains in neighboring Slovakia. Looking southwest, back toward Budapest, there was nothing but low clouds.

Driving back to Budapest, Toth told me several things about Hungary, all of which sounded plausible, but some of which I've been unable to confirm.

Regarding Kékes, he said that due to lack of trails most hikers walked the road to the summit. This could be true, as we did see several folks trudging along just off the pavement. He also mentioned that Hungary had a volcanic past, a fact he said was confirmed by the country's many hot springs.

Regarding food, Toth averred that in Hungary, goulash is always served as a soup, while in surrounding countries it is usually a main dish consisting of a rich meat sauce served over pasta, rice, etc. The standard goulash seasoning, paprika, is made of dried, ground peppers, and, in Hungary, it is also available in paste form.

Because the late actor Peter Falk's father was from Budapest, Toth wondered if I had any Hungarian blood. He said that a street in Pest was named after the senior Falk.

And this is why I'm reluctant to give full credibility to all that my driver told me that day. Indeed, while there is a Miksa Falk street in Pest, Peter Falk's father was of Polish and Russian heritage, not Hungarian. Regarding my heritage, Grandfather Otto Falk emigrated from Germany.

That evening, back in Budapest, Jo and I set out for dinner at Pest's highly-rated Cyrano restaurant. To our surprise, we couldn't hire a taxi to take us there. Why? That evening the downtown area near the restaurant was awash with demonstrators protesting a proposed tax on the internet.

And so it goes.

Next morning, Jo and I boarded a train for an all-day ride to Prague. The following day I stood at the top of the Czech Republic. Stay tuned.

SOURCES include *Wikipedia*, *The Free Encyclopedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, Inc. 22 July 2004. Web. 10 Aug. 2004.



Dare to Lead!

Fall Leadership Training Seminar Set for October 24, 2015

Becoming a Sierra Club outings leader starts with curiosity and a love of the outdoors. What better way to step up and lead than by taking advantage of the training opportunities that the Angeles Chapter's Leadership Training Committee provides each year?

As home to one of the largest outings programs on the planet, the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter's many groups, sections, and committees sponsor thousands of trips ranging from beach barbecues to mountaineering expeditions. You can take the first step toward becoming a leader by attending a class offered on Saturday, October 24th.

The seminar covers all the basics of leadership. Experienced leaders will tell you how to plan a trip, prevent problems on the trail and make sure that everyone—including you—has a great time. They'll also explain good conservation and safety practices. And they'll give you tips for getting your "O" rating quickly and then, if you choose, pursuing more advanced ratings.

The all-day class costs \$25. The application is on-line at angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc. At this same site, you can pore over more of LTC's upcoming offerings, which are also on the Schedule of Activities page.

Mail the application and check, payable to Sierra Club, to Steve Botan, LTC Registrar, 18816 Thornwood Circle, Huntington Beach 92646. You also can reach Steve by email (lctr registrar@hundredpeaks.org) or by phone (714-321-1296).

Applications and checks are due October 10, 2015.

Scholarships are available for those with financial need. Apply to LTC Chair Anne Marie Richardson AMLeadership@gmail.com

SPS Potluck

May 31, 2015

The inaugural—at least the first in many, many years—SPS potluck was a successful affair. The management committee thought it worth trying because monthly programs went the way of the dinosaurs ages ago and because we have no social events other than the banquet. Climbs, of course, can be very social, but they're different. So, emulating the DPS and its successful potluck series, we gave it a try.

This potluck was held at my home in Long Beach, following a management committee meeting. Unfortunately, Jeremy Netka (fifth officer) needed to go home after the meeting, so he missed out on the good food and great conversation. Doug Mantle intended to join us for the meeting and potluck and got more than halfway here till thwarted by traffic.

So, who came? Management committee members Paul Garry (secretary), Alexander Smirnoff (treasurer), Gary Schenk (outings), Kathy Rich (webmaster), and Harry Langenbacher (mountain records) joined me for the meeting. Those coming at 6:00 for the potluck were Ron and Christine Bartell, Keith Christensen and Lisa Hazan, Pat and Gerry Holleman, Sue Holloway (visiting from Massachusetts), Barbee and Larry Tidball. My husband, Tom, played host.

We're thinking of another potluck, maybe at the end of summer or early fall without infringing on the DPS potlucks. Anyone interested? Do let me know.

—Tina Bowman

Top: Kathy Rich, Paul Garry, and Gary Schenk.

Middle: Keith Christensen and Ron Bartell.

Bottom: Pat Holleman, Barbee Tidball, Sue Holloway, and Tom Bowman. (Photos by Tina Bowman)



Outings



Mt. Humphreys (photo by Jack Keiffer).

Jun 27–28 | Sat–Sun WTC, SPS

I: Three Sisters (10,612'): Join us for a leisurely weekend in the Dinkey Lakes Wilderness Area of the Sierra National Forest near Fresno, CA. Sat we'll pack in 4.7 mi and gain 1,200' at a comfortable pace on trail to our camp at Cliff Lake (9,438') and spend a relaxing afternoon fishing, swimming, snoozing, or heading off on an optional hike to nearby Dogtooth Peak (10,302'). Sat evening we'll enjoy a highly festive Happy Hour (award given to the tastiest contribution!) before turning in for the night. Sun we'll cover about 1.5 miles over x-c terrain while gaining 1,150' to reach the summit of Three Sisters. After thoroughly enjoying the excellent views up top, we'll return to camp, pack up and head out for a day's total (including the peak) of 7.7 mi with 1,150' gain. Priority given to current WTC students. Permit limits

We've chosen the photo above taken by Jack Kieffer on his E provisional to Mt. Humphreys to represent the outings section. If you have a photo you would like to see here, please send your submission as an email attachment to tina@bowmanchange.org or via USPS to Tina Bowman.

Visit the new address of the SPS website for an even more up-to-date listing of upcoming trips at www.sierrapeaks.org

Also, please check at summitregister.org whether a peak needs a register book or pencil before you go on a climb.

group size and permit fee (\$75) will be split among the group. Email recent conditioning and experience, contact and vehicle/rideshare information, for trip status and details to mkelliher746@gmail.com. Ldr: Mat Kelliher. Co-Ldr: Sridhar Gullapalli.

Jul 10–12 | Fri–Sun SPS

I: University Peak (13,589'), Mt Rixford (12,887'): Fri we will hike in from Onion Valley over Kearsarge Pass and set up camp near the Kearsarge Lks (5.5 mi, 3100' gain). Sat we will climb University Pk via its NW side (2.5 mi, 3100' gain). Sun we will climb up Mt. Rixford's south slopes to its summit for beautiful views of the Rae Lakes Basin and many deep Sierra peaks (2.5 mi, 2300' gain) before packing up camp and hiking out. Total for the trip is 16 mi, 9800' gain. Send email with recent experience and conditioning to Ldrs: Jen Blackie (blackiejennifer@gmail.com). Co-ldr: Jim Fleming.

Jul 11–12 | Sat–Sun WTC, SPS

M: Mt Gould (13,005'), Mt Rixford

(12,890'): SPS intro climb; preference given to recent WTC students. Join us to get two of first six peaks you need for SPS membership. Sat backpack 3.5 mi, 2200' gain to Big Pothole Lake; fabled evening potluck. Sun climb 5 miles, 3100' over Kearsarge Pass and then up south slope to Rixford, contour to Gould via class 3 summit block, drop back to camp, and pack out. Send recent conditioning, carpool info, \$5 for permit payable to Ldr: Ron Campbell. Asst: Tom McDonnell.

Jul 11–12 | Sat–Sun WTC, SPS

MR: University Pk (13,589'): Two-day mountaineering outing in the Eastern Sierra. Sat backpack from Onion Valley to our campsite (3 mi, 1400'). We will have a leisurely afternoon camped next to a lake followed by a happy hour in the evening. Sun we will have an early start as we travel cross-country passing alpine lakes to the start of our climb. We will be climbing class 3 terrain on the north face of University Peak (4 mi r/t, 3000'). After our successful climb, we will pack out that same day. Participants must be comfortable on third class terrain and have excellent conditioning. Helmet, harness, Sierra Club membership, and medical form required. Please

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bring cash for permit fees @ the trailhead. Send email with resume containing recent mountaineering experience, contact, and rideshare info to Ldr: Jeff Atijera. Asst. Ldr: Matt Hengst.

Jul 11-12 | Sat-Sun SPS

M: Kennedy Mtn (11,433'), Mt Harrington (11,009'): Join us for two peaks in Kings Cyn NP. Sat backpack up the Lewis Creek Trail to Frypan Mdw (6 mi, 3300' gain), set up camp, and head to cl 1-2 Kennedy (4.5 mi, 3600'+ gain), then back to camp. Sun we'll try to follow the old trail to Grizzly Lks and go x-c from there to cl 3 Harrington (4.5 mi, 3200' gain), retrace our steps, and backpack out. Send email, class 3 experience, and current conditioning to Ldr: Tina Bowman. Co-ldr: Gary Schenk.

Jul 17-19 | Fri-Sun WTC, SPS

I: Foerster Peak (12,057'): Explore a seldom visited area of the Ansel Adams Wilderness on this moderate climb to Foerster Peak. Fri backpack on trail 8.5 mi., 2300' gain from Isberg trailhead at Granite Creek Campground to Long Creek. Sat cl 2 climb to Foerster Pk, 7.2 mi. round trip, 3000' gain on trail and cross-country. Sun pack out to cars 8.5 mi on trail. Send email (preferred) or SASE with conditioning/experience to Ldr: Paul Garry. Asst: Anne Mullins.

Jul 17-19 | Fri-Sun WTC, SPS

I: Mt Stanford N (12,838'), Mt Morgan N (13,005'): Starting from Rock Creek on Fri, we'll pack in 4.2 mi (825' gain, 700' loss) on trail at a comfortable pace to our camp at Lake 9852' and then spend a leisurely afternoon acclimatizing and enjoying a low-key evening Happy Hour. Sat we'll head out from camp to the south and ascend a series of terraced lakes before turning northwest to travel cross country up the steep, sandy, loose talus, eastern slope of Mt Stanford to its summit, and then return to camp for a day's total of about 7.8 mi and 3,000' gain. Sat evening we'll enjoy a festive Happy Hour under a moonless, starry night sky. Sun we'll head north from camp and ascend the steep, sandy, and loose SE Ridge of Mt Morgan to its summit and then return to camp for a total of about 4.4 mi and 3,200' gain. At camp we'll pack up and head out the 4.2 mi (700' gain, 825' loss) back to our cars. Priority given to

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

<http://angeles2.sierraclub.org/activities>
<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sps/outingsAwesome.asp>

Leaders in this issue's schedule:

Patricia Arredondo 562-618-4391 paarredo@verizon.net
Jeffrey Atijera 714-724-0515 jeff.atj@gmail.com
Phil Bates 949-786-8475 philipabates@gmail.com
Jennifer Blackie 949-309-0783 blackiejennifer@gmail.com
Tina Bowman 562-438-3809 tina@bowmanchange.com
Lisa Buckley 720-238-2581 lbuckley@gmail.com
Ron Campbell 714-962-8521 campbellr@verizon.net
Ed Cottone 949-679-1636 ecottone@yahoo.com
Daryn Dodge 530-601-1023 daryn.dodge@oehha.ca.gov
Beth Epstein 562-439-0646 b.epstein@verizon.net
Jim Fleming 805-405-1726 jimf333@att.net
Paul Garry 310-399-2334 pwgarry@earthlink.net
Sridhar Gullapalli 310-821-3900 sridhar_gullapalli@yahoo.com
James Hagar 818-243-6574 jhagar1@gmail.com
Matthew Hengst 714-478-3933 matthew.hengst@gmail.com
Laurent Hoffmann 949-295-5980 laurenthoffmann@outlook.com
Mat Kelliher 818-667-2490 melliher746@gmail.com
Jack Kieffer 714-522-1376 jockorock42@yahoo.com
Tom McDonnell 949-422-2661 t.mcdonnell@sbcglobal.net
Patrick McKusky 626-794-7321 pamckusky@att.net
Anne Mullins 323-698-6455 hike2thepeak@gmail.com
Robert Myers 310-829-3177 rmmymers@ix.netcom.com
Jeremy Netka 818-703-8607 jnetka@gmail.com
Kathy Rich 323-309-1850 kathrynrich@gmail.com
Dan Richter 818-970-6737 dan@danrichter.com
Georgette Rieck 310-396-6397 tworiecks@aol.com
Neal Robbins 310-540-5089 neal.robbins@L-3com.com
Sherry Ross chross@yahoo.com
Gary Schenk 714-596-6196 gary@hbfun.org
Steve Schuster 714-315-1886 steve.n.wfac2@gmail.com
Kent Schwitkis schwitkii@earthlink.net
Alexander Smirnoff 626-818-5724 alsmir1701@gmail.com
Steve Smith 760-382-0764 sssmith4@yahoo.com
Nile Sorenson 714-203-1405 nsorenso@pacbell.net
Phil Wheeler 310-214-1873

current WTC students. Permit limits group size and permit fee (\$51) will be split among the group. Email recent conditioning and experience, including high altitude experience, along with contact and vehicle/rideshare information, to melliher746@gmail.com for trip status and details. Ldr: Mat Kelliher, Co-Ldr: Jim Hagar.

Jul 18-19 | Sat-Sun WTC, SPS

I: Mt Starr (12,835'), Pk 11,902': Gourmet Backpack! Step up your game for Decadent Wilderness Weekend XII. We'll trek 2 mi, 1,000' through the howling wilderness to Box Lake. A hardy few will brave the northeast ridge of Peak 11,902' (Lookout Peak). Then the decadent many will break out appetizers, salads, entrees, desserts, and wines along with the traditional brass candlesticks, tablecloths, and pink flamingos for

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dinner. After breakfast Sun, climb Mt. Starr, pack out and look for something delicious to tide us over the long drive home. Send your most outrageous culinary idea and \$5 permit fee to Ldr: Ron Campbell. Assts: Ed Cottone, Georgette Rieck, Lisa Buckley.

Jul 25-27 | Sat-Mon SPS, WTC

MR: Tower Pk (11,755'), Ehrnbeck Pk (11,240'), Hawksbeak Pk(11,341'): Join us for an exploratory outing on the northern border of Yosemite NP as we climb two unlisted peaks and the most northerly Mountaineer's Peak on the SPS list, Tower Pk. Fri we'll backpack on trail from Buckeye Creek TH up Kirkwood Pass (11.5 mi, 3200' gain), and then go XC over Hawksbeak Pk and down to camp in the head lakes of Rainbow Canyon, 14 mi and 4300' gain. Sat we'll go ~direct at the east side of the north ridge of Tower Pk to access the standard 3rd class NW chute route. Bob Burd calls this variant that he pioneered "2nd class"; we'll do our best to find that. From the summit of Tower Pk we'll traverse the 2nd class ridge from Tower to Ehrnbeck Pk (cl 3) before descending the east slope and looping back to camp, 6 mi and 3500' gain. On Sun we'll reverse our backpack 14 mi and 1400' gain to soak in natural hot springs at the trailhead. This is a strenuous trip (34 mi RT, 9200' gain) restricted to Sierra Club members in excellent condition and with comfort on 3rd class rock and loose talus. Send email with climbing resume, Sierra Club number, and recent experience & conditioning to Ldr: Neal Robbins. Co-Ldr: Matt Hengst

Jul 31-Aug 2 Fri-Sun WTC, SPS

I: Mt Bago (11,870'), Mt Rixford (12,887'): Starting from Onion Valley on Fri, we'll pack in on trail about 4.5

mi (2,775' gain, 1,000' loss) at a moderate pace alongside and up past a series of scenic alpine lakes to cross over Kearsarge Pass and make camp near one of the Kearsarge Lks. Sat we'll continue on trail to the west across spectacularly scenic forested terrain and then head off xc to ascend the cl 2 eastern slopes of Mt Bago to its summit and then return to camp for a day's total of about 7.0 mi rt with 1,800' of gain; back at camp we'll enjoy a festive Happy Hour under a night sky made bright by the full moon. Sun we'll put in about 3.5 mi rt xc with 2,200' of gain to ascend Mt Rixford via its cl 2 southern slopes and then return to camp. Back at camp we'll pack up and head out the way we came in. Priority given to current WTC students. Permit severely limits group size and permit fee (\$41) will be split among the group. Email recent conditioning and experience, including high altitude experience, along with contact and vehicle/rideshare information, to mkelliher746@gmail.com for trip status and details. Ldr: Mat Kelliher. Co-Ldr: Alexander Smirnoff.

Aug 2 | Sun LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS

I: Navigation: Mt. Pinos Navigation Noodle: Navigation noodle in Los Padres National Forest for either checkout or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. Send email or sase, navigation experience/training, rideshare info, contact info, any WTC, leader rating to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Phil Wheeler.

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. Send contact information (including mailing address) and your qualifications to the leader as soon as possible.

Aug 13-16 | Thurs-Sun SPS, WTC

ER: Devils Crag (12,400+), Wheel Mtn (13,282'): Spend four days in the Black Divide to climb 2 SPS peaks, including the infamous Devils Crag, a Mountaineer's Peak and true Sierra classic. Thu pack from South Lk over Bishop Pass, down to LeConte Canyon, jog a bit south on the JMT before climbing XC up Rambaud Creek to camp at the lower Rambaud Lakes, 16 mi and 4500' gain including 2 mi and 2200' of XC. Fri we'll ascend Devils Crag from Rambaud Pass via its northwest arete, 3 mi and 1800' gain all XC with much exposed cl 3 and some cl 4 climbing. Sat we'll climb Wheel Mtn, 4 mi and 2200' gain all XC. We'll then break camp and retrace our backpack 8 mi and 2800' gain to camp in the Dusy Basin. Sunday we'll complete the remainder of our backpack out over Bishop Pass with 8 mi and 1700' gain. Participants must be Sierra Club members, in excellent condition, have alpine 4th class roped

Call for Outings

By Gary Schenk, Outings Chair

Leaders, it's already getting late in the season, planning-wise anyway, but not too late to get another outing or two scheduled. Especially dayhikes. No quotas for dayhikes, so no need to plan six months ahead of time. A lot of our peaks can be done car to car in a day. Some even say they can ALL be done in a day, but we'll leave that discussion for another day.

The Outings Chair is always, well almost always, available to take your questions about leading, becoming a leader, keeping certifications current, OARS, or any other subject about our outings program. Just shoot an email to gary@hbfun.org.

"It's a tough lesson: There is no summit that comes before you expect it."

—Mark Obmascik

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climbing experience, and be comfortable on exposed 3rd class and loose talus. Send email with climbing resume and recent conditioning & experience to Ldr: Neal Robbins. Co-Ldr: Jack Kieffer.

Aug 14–16 | Fri–Sun SPS

M: Matterhorn Pk (12,279'), Whorl (12,033'), Twin Pks (12,323'): Join us on this strenuous grand circle tour of Sawtooth Ridge. Fri backpack 12 mi, 3500' gain via Robinson Creek Trail to camp in Piute Canyon. Sat climb Matterhorn (Emblem Peak) 2 mi, 2600' gain by southwest slope, then descend 1 mi by southeast slope to camp in Spiller Creek basin. Optional climb of Twin Peaks 1 mi, 1700' gain. Sun climb Whorl 2 mi, 1400' gain via southeast chute and out 5 mi, 3600' loss via Horse Creek Trail. Recent 3rd class rock experience required. Send email or sase (email preferred) with H&W phones, recent conditioning, climbing resume, rideshare info and \$3 check for permit to Ldr: Ron Campbell. Asst: Phil Bates.

Aug 14–16 | Fri–Sun WTC, SPS

I: Koip Pk (12,962'), Kuna Pk (13,002'): Starting from our trailhead in Tuolumne Mdws, we'll pack in Fri about 5.5 mi and gain 1,600' at a moderate pace and make camp outside the park boundary near Parker Pass and enjoy a nice Happy Hour under the moonless night sky. Sat will be a strenuous day; we'll get up early and make our way SE over to and then up the steep and talus strewn switchbacks on the NW slope of Parker Peak to Koip Pk Pass. From here we'll set off cross country to the west to climb first the SPS-listed Koip Pk and then continue west from there on a Class 2 traverse over to Kuna Peak, the 3rd highest peak in the park. If time and group energy permit, after returning to the pass we'll head east to traverse along the Class 2 ridgeline to get a couple of non-listed peaks: first Parker Pk (12,850') and then Mt Wood (12,657'). After all that we'll head back to camp for a day's total of about 8.0 RT mi and 2,250' of gain (11.2 RT miles and 3,400' if we get the east ridge peaks) and enjoy another festive Happy Hour under the starry night sky. Sun we'll break camp and pack out the way we came in. Priority given to current WTC students. Permit limits group size and permit fee (\$50) will be split among the group. Email recent conditioning and experience, including high altitude experience, along with contact and vehicle/rideshare information, to mkelliher746@gmail.com for trip status and details. Ldr: Mat Kelliher. Co-Ldr: Pat Arredondo.

Aug 15–16 | Sat–Sun WTC, SPS

I: North Pk (12,242'): Do you dream of waking up surrounded by the majestic peaks of our Sierra Nevada? If you answered yes, please join us for a weekend backpack and peak climb! Our adventure begins at Saddlebag Lk (10,087'), where we'll begin with a hike (2+ mi) to Greenstone Lake (10,167') and set up camp. We'll have a chance to explore the area and practice nav

before having a shared happy hour & dinner under the stars. Two prizes will be awarded for the most creative happy hour treats! Sun morning we'll navigate to North Pk (2.5 mi, 2075' gain), return to camp, and pack out. Please send a resume of recent conditioning to Ldr: Georgette Rieck. Assts: Sherry Ross, Kent Schwitkis.

Aug 20–23 | Thu–Sun SPS

M: Mt Stewart (12,205'), Lion Rock (12,320+'): Join us on the High Sierra Trail to Nine Lakes Basin to climb two peaks in Sequoia Natl Park. Thu leave Crescent Mdw on the HST to camp at the upper Hamilton Lk (16.75 mi, 3500' gain). Fri we backpack over Kaweah Gap to set up camp in Nine Lk Basin (4.5 mi, 2500' gain), then continue to cl 2 Mt. Stewart and back to camp (2+ mi, 1800' gain). Sat we head to the S ridge of Lion Rock and to the cl. 2–3 SSW slope to Lion Rock (4 mi, 3000' gain rt), retrace our route, pack up, and head back to Hamilton Lk (4.5 mi, 300' gain). Sun we'll hike back to Crescent Mdw on the HST (16.75 mi, 1000' gain). Send conditioning, 3rd cl rock experience, carpool and contact info to Ldr: Tina Bowman. Co-Ldr: Paul Garry.

Aug 26–30 | Wed–Sat SPS, WTC

ER: Thunder Mtn (13,517'), Milestone Mtn (13,638'), Midway Mtn (13,665'), Table Mtn (13,632'): Brutal >50 mi and >20K' gain sojourn to clear out a very remote and beautiful section of the Great Western Divide including three Mountaineers Peaks. Wed backpack over Shepherd Pass and across the Kern Plateau to camp in the Thunder Mtn drainage, 18 mi and 8000' gain. Thu climb Thunder Mtn, 7 mi and 2700' gain, then break camp and move to Milestone Lk, 4 mi and 1200' gain. Fri climb Milestone, Midway and Table Mtns, 7 mi & 5100' gain. Sat pick up Table Mtn if needed and/or move camp towards our exit. Sun pack out, 19 mi and 3200' gain (less any distance and gain from Sat's backpack). Participants must be Sierra Club members, in excellent condition, have alpine 4th class roped climbing experience, and be comfortable on exposed 3rd class and loose talus. Send email with climbing resume and recent conditioning and experience to Ldr: Neal Robbins. Co-Ldr: Jack Kieffer.

Aug 28–31 Fri–Mon WTC, SPS

MR: Arrow Pk (12,959'), Mt. Ruskin (12,920'): Join us on this very strenuous 4-day backpack into Kings Cyn Natl Park in quest of a couple of classic SPS Mountaineer's Peaks. Fri we'll pack in over the dreaded Taboose Pass (6.3 mi, 6,000' gain) and descend (2.8 miles, 780' loss) to our camp at 10,850' for a day's total of 9.2 mi with 6,300' of gain and 780' loss. Sat we'll travel west, passing along the north shore of the lovely Bench Lk, and follow the NE spur route to the summit of Arrow Pk. Arrow's NE spur involves solid cl 3 climbing along an airy and exposed ridge with breathtaking drop-offs and includes narrow knife edges near its top. We'll return to camp for a festive Happy Hour via the

same route we came in, for a day's total of 8.2 mi and 3,400' gain (includes 700' on return). Sun we'll travel north along the John Muir Trail for a couple of miles and then head off to the west to gain the E ridge of Mt Ruskin via its southeast flank. Expect more solid cl 3 climbing with lots of exposure and outstanding scenery; be prepared for absolutely exquisite views once we reach the summit! From the summit we'll return to camp for another festive Happy Hour via the same route we came in. The day's total will be 8.4 mi and 3,500' gain (includes 800' on return). Mon we'll pack out the way we came in. This is a restricted mountaineering outing requiring current Sierra Club membership and submittal of the Sierra Club Medical Form. Participants must be in excellent condition and be comfortable at high elevation on exposed 3rd class rock. Helmet, harness, belay device, and experience with their use required. Permit severely restricts group size and permit fee (\$36) will be split among the group. Email Sierra Club number, contact info, climbing resume, recent experience and conditioning, and carpool info to Mat Kelliher for trip status and details. Ldrs: Mat Kelliher, Beth Epstein.

Aug 29 | Sat SPS
I: White Mtn (12,057') and Vagmarken Sierra Crest
List Finish: Join us to celebrate as Greg Gerlach and

Daryn Dodge complete the 100 peaks on the Vagmarken Sierra Crest List. These 100 named peaks on the crest of the Sierra Nevada stretch from Olancho Pass in the south to Sonora Pass in the north. The Vagmarken, a Swedish term for trail marker or cairn, were the climbing club of Rockwell International. Long-time SPS member and 2x SPS List Finisher Greg Vernon (the Lone Yeti) was a member. The list, which was developed in the late 60s, contains 73 peaks on the SPS list and 27 additional named peaks. From camp at Saddlebag Lake, we will head xc to the Conness-White Mtn Saddle via Alpine Lk, then traverse south on the crest to ascend the class 2 south slope of White Mtn (~7 mi r/t, 2500'). Car camp and potluck Sat night at Saddlebag Lake campground; opportunities to climb other peaks nearby on Sunday. No space limit, all are welcome! Contact Ldrs Kathy Rich and Daryn Dodge for trip details and more information.

Sep 4-7 | Fri-Mon SPS
ER: Palisade Crest (13,553'), Mt Gayley (13,510), Temple Crag (12,976'): Enjoy the Labor Day weekend on some peaks in the Palisades. Fri we'll backpack up the South Fork of Big Pine Creek trail to near Willow Lake, going cross-country from there to Elinore Lk (6 mi, 3600' gain). Sat it's Palisade Crest, cl 4, (4 mi, 3000' gain). Sun we'll move camp south of Temple

Wilderness Permit Info

In addition to the permit information described below, most reservations for the Inyo National Forest and the Desolation Wilderness up to 48 hours in advance of entry can be handled at: <http://recreation.gov>

INYO NATIONAL FOREST

Web site: 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) 647-304

KERN PLATEAU

Web site: 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
 32588 Highway 190
 Springville, CA 93265
 Phone: (559) 539-2607

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Web site: www.nps.gov/yose
 Reservation requests for summer trips (mid-May through September) are accepted from 2 weeks to 24 weeks in advance on-line 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

Web site: 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

Web site: 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 Dinkey Lakes Wildernesses
 Pineridge/Kings River Ranger District
 29688 Auberry Road
 Prather, CA 93651
 Phone: (559) 855-5355

Crag and climb Gayley (3.5 mi, 3000' gain). Mon we'll climb Temple Crag probably from Contact Pass (30' of cl 4, also rated 5.2) and out via the North Fork trail (8+ mi, 2250 gain). Helmet and harness required. Participants must be Sierra Club members with roped climbing experience on 4th cl rock. Send SC#, email, H and W/cell phone, climbing resume and Sierra Club participant medical form to Ldr: Tina Bowman. Co-Ildr: Nile Sorenson.

Sep 12-13 | Sat-Sun SPS

I: Florence Pk (12,432'), Vandever Mtn (11,947'): Enjoy an intro trip in beautiful Mineral King. Sat backpack on the Farewell Gap and Franklin Pass Trails to Franklin Lks, where we'll make camp (4.25 mi, 1500' gain). Then we'll continue on trail to Franklin Pass, leave the trail, climb cl 2 Florence (2.5 mi, 2000' gain), and return to camp (2.5 mi). Sun after packing up, we'll retrace our steps to the Farewell Gap Trail, leave backpacks, and continue with daypacks to Farewell Gap and on up cl 1 Vandever (5+ mi, 2500' gain), then return to the cars. Send email, recent experience and conditioning to Ldr: Tina Bowman. Co-Ildr: Gary Schenk.

Sep 20 | Sun LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS

I: Navigation: Grinnell Ridge Noodle: 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. 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. Send contact information (including mailing address) and your qualifications to the leader as soon as possible.

Sep 25-27 | Fri-Sun SPS

MR/I: Tehipite Dome (7708') and Sugarpine Hill (7021'): Sierra Peaks & Smatko Explorer Emblem List Finish: Join Shane Smith as he completes both the Sierra Peaks List and Smatko Explorer Emblem (along with Laura Newman) east of Fresno. Fri meet at Wishon Village RV Park (www.wishonvillage.com), hike to base of Tehipite Dome (11 mi, 2000'). Sat climb Tehipite Dome (short exposed move on summit) and hike out (13 mi, 1000') by Sunday morning with optional side-trip to climb Spanish Mtn (10,051'). Limited permit space for Tehipite Dome with climbing resumes, Sierra Club membership, and medical form required. If Tehipite Dome is a bit lengthy for your idea of a celebration, opt to join in the double celebration on Sun with an easy hike to Sugarpine Hill (1 mile r/t, 350'). Meet up with Shane and the leaders after they return from Tehipite Dome at 11am on Sunday at Wishon Village RV Park. Many easy qualifying Explorer Emblem peaks (Hall,

Hoffman, Patterson, Lost) surround the area for those who would like to make a full weekend of climbing and skip lengthy Tehipite Dome. For Tehipite Dome, please reserve by emailing sssmith4@yahoo.com. For Sugarpine Hill, no reservation is required and there is no space limit—all are welcome! Trip Ldr: Daryn Dodge. Co-Ldrs: Kathy Rich, Steve Smith, Paul Garry.

Sep 30 | Wed LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC

M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP12):

Basic Safety System: First of four climbing workshops open to Sierra Club members with prior roped climbing experience. Today's indoor evening workshop of four hours reviewing ropes, 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 email or sase, phones, Sierra Club number, resume to Ldr: Dan Richter. Asst: Patrick McKusky.

Oct 3 | Sat LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC

M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP12):

Belaying: Second of four climbing workshops open to Sierra Club 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 email or sase, phones, resume to Ldr: Dan Richter. Asst: Patrick McKusky.

Oct 10 | Sat LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC

M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP12):

Rappelling: Third of four climbing workshops open to Sierra Club 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 email or sase, phones, resume to Ldr: Dan Richter. Asst: Patrick McKusky.

Oct 17-18 | Sat-Sun LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC

M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP12):

Rock climbing techniques and anchors: Fourth of four climbing workshops open to Sierra Club 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 email or sase, phones, Sierra Club number, resume to Ldr: Dan Richter. Asst: Patrick McKusky.

Oct 30-Nov 1 | Fri-Sun LTC

C: Wilderness First Aid Course runs from 7:15 am Fri to 5:30 pm Sun. Fee includes instruction, lodging, and meals. Proof of CPR within previous 4 yrs required to enroll. Fee \$245 (full refund until 9/25/15). App available at wildernessfirstaidcourse.org. For more information send email to Ldr: Steve Schuster.

Nov 14 | Sat

LTC, WTC

M-R: Navigation: Workshop on 3rd-Class Terrain: This navigation workshop is limited to individuals participating in the Indian Cove Navigation Noodle and is intended to explore special navigation issues that arise on 3rd-class terrain. Class 3 rock travel experience required. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Helmets and medical forms required/group size limited. Send email/sase, SC#, class 3 experience, conditioning, contact info to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co-Ldr: Jack Kieffer.

Nov 14-15 | Sat-Sun LTC, WTC, HPS, SPS, DPS

I: Navigation: Indian Cove Navigation Noodle:

Navigation noodle at Joshua Tree National Park to satisfy the basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. Sat for practice, skills refresher, altimeter, homework, campfire. Sun checkout. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Phil Wheeler. 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. Send contact information (including mailing address) and your qualifications to the leader as soon as possible.

Nov 14-15 | Sat-Sun LTC

M/E-R: Rock: Indian Cove Checkout, Joshua Tree National Park:

M- and E-level rock practice and checkout for LTC leadership candidates. Practice Sat, checkout Sun. Restricted to Sierra Club members with technical rock climbing experience. Climbing helmets and harnesses required. Email climbing resume to Ldr: Patrick McKusky. Asst: Dan Richter.

Dec 6 | Sat LTC, WTC, HPS, SPS, DPS

I: Navigation: Warren Point Navigation Noodle:

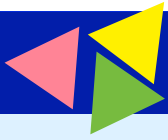
Navigation noodle at Joshua Tree National Park for either checkoff or practice to satisfy the basic (I/M) level or advanced (E) level navigation requirements. To participate, send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Phil Wheeler. 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. Send contact information (including mailing address) and your qualifications to the leader as soon as possible.

SPS Income Statement 5-14-2015

	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	Final	Final	Final
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2012	2013	2014	
INCOME													
Echo Subscriptions	1,450	690	360	150	60	20	20	20	10	1,835	1,370	1,550	
Banquet Income	4,110	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,800	2,940	4,610	
Donations	600	250	160	45	45	0	0	0	0	340	440	575	
Merchandise Sales	152	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	27	276	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Income	6,312	940	520	195	105	20	20	20	10	5,014	4,777	7,011	
EXPENSES													
Postage	201	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	609	(4)	14	
Printing	194	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	578	898	640	
Merchandise	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	196	
Raffle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250	
Banquet Expenses	4,772	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,216	4,206	5,640	
Bank Fees	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	2	9	
Website	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	268	
Charitable contributions	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	400	0	0	
Outreach	163	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Expenses	5,531	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,821	5,103	7,019	
OVERALL TOTAL	781	940	520	195	105	20	20	20	10	193	(326)	(7)	

Minutes of SPS Management Committee Meeting, April 19, 2015 at Alexander Smirnoff's home

- 1) Call to order: present were Tina Bowman, chair; Jim Fleming, vice-chair/banquet; Paul Garry, secretary; Alexander Smirnoff, treasurer; Jeremy Netka, fifth officer/outreach; Dan Richter; Harry Langenbacher
- 2) Standard business and reports
 - a) Approval of minutes. Minutes of February 1, 2015, approved.
 - b) Chair
 - i) Banquet DVD completed. Cost is \$12.00 each. It was decided to wait two weeks and then order discs based on the demand. Complimentary DVDs to be provided to Doug Mantle, Bob Cates, Jerry Keating, John Robinson, Gordon MacLeod, and Barbara Lilley.
 - ii) By-laws Change. It was agreed to publish pros and cons of the two proposed by-laws changes in the next *Echo* and any rebuttals in the following *Echo*.
 - iii) Naming a peak for Andy Smatko. Tina suggested a peak near Cottonwood Pass that is named for Andy on summitpost.com, but there could be issues with it being in a wilderness area. As an alternative Tina submitted an unnamed peak that was Andy's last climb near Sherman Pass in the Southern Sierra to the USGS naming board.
 - c) Vice Chair—banquet planning
 - i) Program ideas. It was agreed to use Almansor again next year. Jim will make reservations for next year. Jim to look into inviting Rick Ridgeway or a Patagonia ambassador. Jim to speak to Patty Kline for suggestions.
 - ii) SPS Leadership Award. The committee discussed several names for possible consideration.
 - d) Outings. Twenty-two (22) trips in the schedule so far for 2015. WTC and AMP courses have been feeding leaders to SPS.
 - e) Treasurer's Report. The club has a balance of \$10,661.
 - f) Emblem Committee Report. Eric Siering was awarded the Andy Smatko Explorer Emblem and Ralph Wright earned his SPS Emblem and Andy Smatko Explorer Emblem
 - g) Outings
 - i) New member survey.
 - (1) Jeremy spoke to eight of sixteen new members from 2014.
 - (2) Outings listings in more locations will help awareness.
 - (3) SPS day hikes will lower barrier to getting onto trips.
 - (4) Too many MR trips right now.
 - (5) New members like lists, confident leaders, and safe outings.
 - (6) Documentation is daunting for obtaining leadership ratings.
 - (7) People want more trip reports.
 - (8) Website can be aggregator of content for all things Sierra.
 - ii) Outing Access
 - (1) There are issues with some people being able to get onto trips.
 - (2) Leaders need to be responsive to requests from participants.
 - (3) Dan suggested an email to all leaders re protocols.
 - (4) More trips will increase engagement.
 - (5) People want more training opportunities.
 - (6) Jeremy suggested doing an annual new member interview.
 - iii) Banff Film Festival. Jeremy and others handed out flyers. We need a banner, stickers or other give-aways at outreach events.
 - iv) Using Facebook—No update.
 - h) Archivist. No new report.
 - i) *Echo*—electronic Voting. On hold until bylaw changes are resolved, then if approved we can have E-voting next year.
 - j) Mountain Records—Harry gave overview of SEKI register plan. There was no formal register policy in Draft Plan and Final Plan has language for SEKI to work with SPS on how to manage registers on SPS peaks in the SEKI wilderness. Tina sent a letter to SEKI with a list of the SPS peaks in the wilderness. There was discussion regarding whether original registers should be retained on peaks or rescued for preservation. There was discussion about ordering new register containers, and Harry will begin to request reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses for preparing register books.
 - k) IT. Outings on website has been updated to OARS.
 - l) Website. No report.
 - m) Conservation. No report.
- 3) New business
 - a) Next meeting on May 31 will include a membership potluck on May 31. Meeting will precede the potluck at Tina Bowman's house.



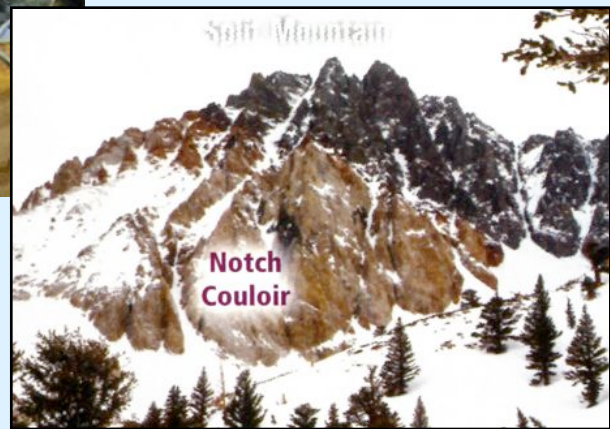
Mystery Peak Challenge Answer



No one solved the Mystery Peak Challenge submitted by Mark Goebel in the last issue, the painting at left by Sid Mountain. The answer is Split Mountain.

Mark wrote: "I have always wondered how much 'artistic license' Sid put into this painting. The peak in the painting seemed a little more extreme than what I remembered from the Red Lake approach. But it turns out from a

different angle, the painting clearly represents Split Mountain." As proof, Mark provided the photo at right from page 321 of *Backcountry Skiing California's Eastern Sierra* by Nate Greenberg and Dan Migori (Wolverine Publishing, 2nd Edition, 2014).



Don't forget to renew your *Sierra Echo* subscription! The annual \$10 subscription is due each year by March 31st.

For more information, see the back cover of this issue. Please make out checks to the Sierra Peaks Section and mail to the treasurer:

SPS Treasurer
1701 Paloma St.
Pasadena, CA 91104

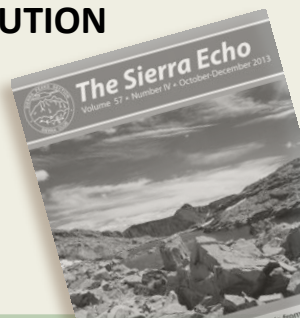
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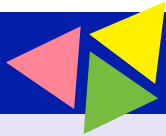


is a quarterly publication of the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter. For more information, see the back of this newsletter. All questions, copy, and photo submissions should be directed to **Tina Bowman, Editor, *The Sierra Echo***, preferably via email at tina@bowmanchange.org. Refer to the SPS Roster for mailing address. The *Echo* will also be available as a PDF download at the SPS website and via a link sent to all SPS members opting for this method.

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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.org. We welcome any mountain images, including those from popular culture—imagery used and abused in film and print.

This issue's Mystery Peak is from a painting by Chiura Obata and was submitted by northern member Aaron Schuman. In the summer of 1927, the Japanese-born California painter Obata made his first visit to the High Sierra. This painting appears with many other wonderful examples of his work in *Obata's Yosemite: The Art and Letters of Chiura Obata from His Trip to the High Sierra in 1927*, with essays by Janice T. Driesbach and Susan Landauer (Yosemite Association, 1993) ISBN 0-939666-67-7.

Please send your answers to Tina at tina@bowmanchange.org.



Check out the SPS web site if you have not visited in a while—the puzzle also appears there!
www.sierrapeaks.org



The Sierra Echo

Volume 59 ▲ Number 3 ▲ July-September 2015

The Sierra Echo is published quarterly by the Sierra Peaks Section (SPS) of the Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter.

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 (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 Tina Bowman or emailed to 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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Address Changes Send to the treasurer via email treasurer@sierrapeaks.org

Peaks List Copies of the SPS Peaks List can be obtained by sending \$1 and a SASE to the SPS treasurer, 1701 Paloma St., Pasadena, CA 91104.

Missing Issues Inquires regarding missing issues should be directed to the section mailer at: newsletter@sierrapeaks.org.

Awards Send notification to Secretary Paul Garry: email secretary@sierrapeaks.org Awards merchandise is available through Patty Kline at 20362 Callon Drive, Topanga, CA 90290 and include emblem pins (\$15) and SPS section patches (\$5). Make checks payable to SPS. All prices include sales tax.

**Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter
Sierra Peaks Section
3435 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 660
Los Angeles, CA 90010-1904**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED