



# *The Sierra Echo*

Volume 62 ▲ Number 1 ▲ January-March 2018

New climber Donovan Pair finds treasure on  
Smith Mountain, story page 6

(Photo by Jason Pair).



*Also in this issue: Langley  
& Cirque; Jebel Toubkal;  
RJ Secor, Vieve Weldon,  
Rick Jali Passages*



# Echoes from the Chair

By Tina Bowman

I was so sorry to learn of the death of Vieve Metcalfe and Rick Jali, former SPSers and more recently of R.J. Secor, a member since the 1970s and chair in 1998 who authored, of course, *The High Sierra: Peaks, Passes, Trails*. See “Passages” in this issue for obituaries and reminiscences.

I just started reading *The Log of a Snow Survey* by Patrick Armstrong, our banquet speaker, and am I ever enjoying it. It’s a fascinating look at the work of the snow surveyors and what they encounter in the winter world of the Sierra. Lots of great stories, not just about snow surveying. I’m looking forward to hearing what Patrick has to tell us; I know it’ll be both entertaining and informative.

We had a great year in 2017 for gaining new members: twenty-three. Hoping to keep that ball rolling, the management committee approved two incentives. One is for a free first year’s subscription to the *Echo* or subscription with membership for those who qualify. The other is an incentive

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for leaders to lead SPS outings—a free year of the *Echo*. We’re hoping to have even more outings in 2018 than in 2017. See the notices in this issue of the *Echo* or on the website here: <http://sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks>.

Here’s to another great year for the SPS! See you at the banquet! Don’t forget that it’s time to renew your *Echo* subscription to maintain your SPS membership!

Happy trails,  
Tina

Tina Bowman, [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com)

## New Leader Incentives

Beginning in 2018, we are offering a free year’s SPS membership in return for leading one or more outings for the SPS. We have two leader categories: current leaders—i.e., those who have led for the SPS in the past three years—and new or returning leaders, those who have never led for the SPS or haven’t led for the SPS for three or more years.

To be eligible for the free year’s *Echo* subscription and SPS membership, current leaders need to do the following:

1. submit the post-trip paperwork in a timely manner, which means simply to send the outings chair the sign-in sheet (and medical forms for restricted outings) soon after the outing;
2. send the *Echo* editors a trip report, written by one of the leaders or a participant. The article can be mostly photos with captions for outings that are fairly standard.

Only two leaders per outing are eligible for the free year.

We ask new and returning leaders to send in the paperwork shortly after the outing. While an *Echo* article would be nice, we are not requiring it as an added incentive to lead for the SPS. As for current leaders, only two leaders per outing are eligible for the free year.

We greatly appreciate leaders who lead more than one outing per year, but we’ll be giving only one free year per leader. The free year will go toward the next subscription and membership cycle, i.e., 2019. Thank you, leaders, for conducting outings for the SPS!

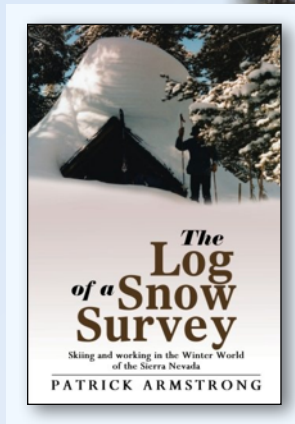
2018 Sierra  
Peaks Section  
Annual

# BANQUET



## Snow Surveying in The Sierra Nevada

Presented by Patrick  
Armstrong, author of  
*The Log of a Snow Survey:  
Skiing and Working in  
the Winter World of the  
Sierra Nevada*



**Sunday, January 28, 2018**

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

Dinner ▲ Drinks ▲ Discussion ▲ Good Cheer

*Patrick Armstrong began doing snow surveys in the Sierra in 1972, when he was also on the US Biathlon team, and has done them every winter since. Having been a college instructor, Forest Service wilderness supervisor, trail building contractor, and a commercial fisherman in Alaska, he lives in Bishop and McCall, Idaho, where he has a ranch.*

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tickets:

@ \$45 / each if  
postmarked by January 18.  
Ticket price increases to  
\$50 each thereafter.

TOTAL DUE =

Make checks payable to  
"Sierra Peaks Section"

**Entree choice:**

(Please indicate total number of each)

Fish

Vegetarian

Beef

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

— OR — You may order tickets electronically.

Alexander Smirnoff  
1701 Paloma St.  
Pasadena, CA 91104

Log on to:

<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3091658>

(A \$2.57 service fee applies)

# Welcome new members!

## John Sheehe

A native of the East Coast, John was introduced to the Sierra in the late 90s by his brother-in-law Kevin on a hike to Midnight Lake out of Lake Sabrina. Though wearing a cotton shirt and carrying three times his body weight, John's love of the Sierra was born. Local hikes with friends and family blossomed into peak bagging, be it county high points (nine), state high points (fifteen), or the recently added SPS (nine). As his family and friends can attest, John embodies John Muir's quote "The mountains are calling and I must go."



*John Sheehe on Mt. Williamson.*



## Signe Swenson

Signe's introduction to the Sierra began when a college friend took her backpacking in Yosemite and Signe was left with the lasting impression of a trail sign stating that Mt. Whitney was some 215 miles away. She became determined to accomplish this feat, which she did after graduating from college, but what was to be a one-time "check it off your list" kind of adventure, evolved into a forty-year quest to explore the countless side trails she had seen while hiking the JMT. Once she climbed her first off-trail mountain, nearly every backpack trip included climbing one or more peaks. While Signe has traveled to hike and climb in Canada, Nepal, Peru, and Argentina, the Range of Light remains her special home.

*We also welcome new member Matt Hooper.*

## Dave Titus

A week after summiting Mt. Whitney with his wife Janet on his thirty-fourth birthday, Dave suffered a debilitating back injury. Less than a year later he overcame the odds and reached the summit of Whitney again. The accomplishment turned into a passion, and twenty years later he's close to reaching his goal to bag a hundred peaks.



*Dave Titus on Black Giant.*

## Kate Ledesma

At an early age, Kate was introduced to the Sierra on yearly camping trips to Yosemite and Sequoia in her grandparent's RV. These fond memories later sparked a fire which ignited the passion of her life—the mountains. Over the past ten years she has quenched her thirst through dozens of backpacking, canyoneering, and mountaineering trips. Though she frequently hikes locally and has summited over eighty peaks in the San Gabriels, going to the Sierra for her is going home, and she hopes to complete the SPS list sometime in her lifetime! The mountains have been generous, and in them she has found love, friendship, solitude, peace, renewal, and the thrill of seeing the world from the tops of lofty heights! Kate and her husband, AJ, hope to tackle Rainier in 2018.



## Jack Eichler

Jack moved to California in 2010 because of a job opportunity, but exploring the Sierra Nevada quickly became a priority. He now makes his way to the High Sierra as much as possible. Since 2010 he has summited fifty-four different peaks over 9,000', including fourteen SPS peaks and 9 nine of the California 14ers. His exploration of the Sierra has inspired him to climb larger mountains, and he has summited peaks such as Mt. Chimborazu in Ecuador and Mt. Orizaba in Mexico. He can only dream of eventually bagging the entire SPS list but does plan to finish the list of California 14ers by the end of 2018. He looks forward to being inspired by all of the SPS peak baggers out there and hopes to see you in the Sierra.

*Jack Eichler on San Gorgonio.*



# Congratulations!

## Nile Sorenson

Nile Sorenson has attained his Smatko Emblem.

# New members!

## Jason Pair

Jason can credit his dad for his love of the Sierra. He would take Jason fishing every year when he was a child; while drowning worms was fun, the high peaks and passes beckoned. After backpacking for a number of years, Jason began to "peak bag" and now can't stop. He enjoys the solitude of a good solo jaunt, the camaraderie of great friends, and the pride of watching his son bag peaks along with him.

*The Pair family on their Smith Mountain hike, left to right: Donovan, seen also on our cover, Jasper and twin sister Scarlet, and older sister Belen, with their dad Jason behind.*



*The cover of this issue shows Donovan Pair, the son of new member Jason Pair, on the summit of Smith Mtn. Below, Jason describes his family's adventure on Smith.*

### **From Jason Pair:**

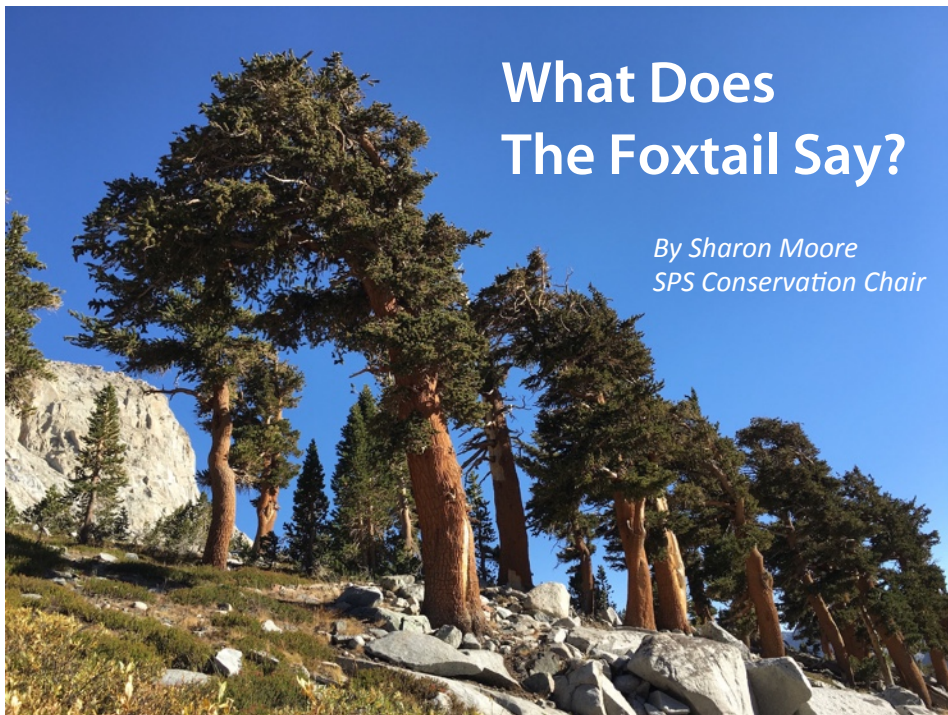
*We called him the cairn whisperer.* With his brother Jasper on my back, twin sister Scarlet on hiking partner John's back, and older sister Belen keeping pace, my son Donovan led the way up Smith Mountain, finding trail marker after trail marker. Because our attention was sometimes diverted on questions ranging from birds to big rocks to tree tunnels, Donovan took charge and marched us up to the base of the 9533' peak on the Kern Plateau. A fellow hiker had reached the site earlier and was now communicating with someone from Europe via morse code and his makeshift pole/antenna/radio. Donovan and I made the short scramble to the peak while John stayed with the kids below, negotiating allotments of Gummy Bears. Arriving at the top, we took in the panoramic views and located the old ammo box containing the logbook. Donovan wrote down his name and the date, capturing his first SPS peak on September 23, 2017, at the ripe old age of twelve.

**New for 2018--FREE  
First Year's Membership  
or Echo Subscription**

Beginning in 2018 new subscribers and members can receive their first year's subscription for free! See the Membership Application Form available for downloading on the Membership page at <http://sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/new-members#mr>. Please contact the chair if you have any questions.

# What Does The Foxtail Say?

By Sharon Moore  
SPS Conservation Chair



Spoiler Alert: *Pinus balfouriana*, foxtail pine, is a tree and therefore doesn't say anything, but its story is pretty interesting anyway. Foxtail pines are the highest (altitude) trees that can shade you as you pause on your way to your climbing adventures. This tree is a cousin to the ancient bristlecone pine, *Pinus longaeva*, found high in the mountain ranges of the Great Basin. If you look closely at the branches, the foliage is almost identical.

Densely packed bundles of five needles grow along the length of the branches, and the long-lived needles can stay on the tree fifteen to thirty years. Like the bristlecones, foxtail pines grow at high elevations from 10,000-11,000 feet, except for the northern subspecies that grows in the interior Coast Ranges at 5000-6000 feet. Also like the bristlecones, the trees are rot and disease



Top: Foxtails in Nine Lakes Basin. Right: Foxtails near Twin Peaks West (Photos by Sharon Moore).

resistant and can be sustained by a narrow strip of bark that reaches down to soil. They both grow in open stands on rocky soils that don't easily support fires. Unlike the bristlecone pines, foxtail pines always grow upright, and they do not live much beyond 3000 years, whereas the oldest bristlecones have survived for 5000. Scientists are not sure why the range of this tree is so bifurcated and limited. The initial cause was Ice Age glaciation, but for some reason the foxtail pine did not reclaim a large territory like other conifers. Almost all of the southern species are found within the boundaries of Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park, which ironically was created to protect its namesake tree. They are protected by these boundaries from logging or other development threats, but vulnerable to severe drought as all their water supply comes from winter snow. Our warming climate may lead to the extirpation of the northern species while causing stress for the southern species. Enjoy them while you can as you ascend to the high peaks of the southern Sierra Nevada. They are waiting for you near the passes out of Horseshoe Meadow, Mineral King, the Kaweah Gap, Kearsarge Pass, and other subalpine locations.

An excellent resource for information on all conifers is The Gymnosperm Database, <http://www.conifers.org/index.php>.

Distribution map, *Pinus balfouriana* - [https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1kghjPm5x99nNEf\\_Gblf6tv59AGI&usp=sharing](https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1kghjPm5x99nNEf_Gblf6tv59AGI&usp=sharing)

This continues 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 Tina Bowman tells us about a piece of technical equipment that makes her life better in the mountains. How about you? Send your proposal or article to Tina Bowman at [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com)

## The Luci Light

By Tina Bowman

Two years ago a friend gave me a Luci solar-powered light made by Mpowerd. I love it, as does everyone I've met who has one, like Mary Jo Dungfelder. Because it's inflatable, it flattens well for carrying in a pack or attaching to the outside of the pack to charge while I hike. With the valve open, all I have to do is pull the ends apart while squeezing the valve, and it pretty much inflates itself. Even on the low setting, it's bright enough for me to read by, and it offers a brighter setting as well as a flashing one. The website says on the bright setting, the charge of the lithium-ion rechargeable battery will last twelve hours. My Luci Original light has ten LEDs (50 lumens), charges in seven hours, has an indicator to show the charge level, and weighs only 4.4 ounces. The newer Outdoor 2.0 model, pictured here, is very similar and is the same price but has an extra "middle" setting and two straps, one of which is adjustable so you don't need a separate hook for hanging it. Using the strap on



mine, I clip it on my pack to charge or inside my tent at the peak and have great illumination. I've also moved it outside for packing up in the dark. All this for about \$20! Check out the website and other models at <https://mpowerd.com/>

## 2017 SPS Management Committee

### Elected

Tina Bowman	Chair <a href="mailto:chair@sierrapeaks.org">chair@sierrapeaks.org</a>
Jim Fleming	Vice-chair/banquet <a href="mailto:vicechair@sierrapeaks.org">vicechair@sierrapeaks.org</a>
Alexander Smirnoff	Treasurer <a href="mailto:treasurer@sierrapeaks.org">treasurer@sierrapeaks.org</a>
Paul Garry	Fifth officer/outreach <a href="mailto:outreach@sierrapeaks.org">outreach@sierrapeaks.org</a>

### Appointed

Archives	<a href="mailto:Dan.Richter@danrichter.com">Dan Richter dan@danrichter.com</a>
Conservation Chair	Sharon Moore <a href="mailto:justslm@earthlink.net">justslm@earthlink.net</a>
Echo editors	Tina Bowman <a href="mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com">tina@bowmanchange.com</a> , Beth Epstein
Echo mailer	Tina Bowman
Emblem Committee	Paul Garry, Kathy Rich, Daryn Dodge, Shane Smith, Ron Bartell
IT Support	Greg Mason <a href="mailto:admin@sierrapeaks.org">admin@sierrapeaks.org</a> , Matt Hengst <a href="mailto:matthew.hengst@gmail.com">matthew.hengst@gmail.com</a>
Keeper of the List	Tina Bowman



Merchandise	Patty Kline <a href="mailto:patriciakline@aol.com">patriciakline@aol.com</a>
Mountain Records	Harry Langenbacher <a href="mailto:register@langenbacher.org">register@langenbacher.org</a>
Outings	Gary Schenk <a href="mailto:gary@hbfun.org">gary@hbfun.org</a>
Safety Chair	Doug Mantle
Webmaster	Joe Wankum <a href="mailto:jbwankum@aol.com">jbwankum@aol.com</a>
Asst. Webmaster	Harry Lagenbacher <a href="mailto:register@summitregister.org">register@summitregister.org</a>

### Regional Representatives

San Diego	Joe White
Central California	Daryn Dodge
Northern California	Lisa Barboza
Eastern Sierra	Shane Smith



# How You Can Help Keep America's Most Successful Conservation Program Alive



The Land and Water Conservation Fund will expire at the end of next year—unless Congress reauthorizes it.

The Land and What Fund?

Aha—LWCF is not on the tip of your tongue—eh?

And yet, this venerable fund—for more than fifty years considered America's most important program to conserve irreplaceable lands and improve outdoor recreation opportunities throughout the nation—has helped fund countless new community parks and other outdoor public recreation facilities like bike paths, tennis courts, swimming pools, campgrounds, marinas. American families enjoy these places even if they don't know where the money comes from. See <https://www.lwcfcoalition.com/> to learn more about the LWCF work in California and other states and specific projects for different counties, such as the Eastern Sierra's Mono and Inyo.

Sierra Club supports the LWCF reauthorization bills in both Houses. We seek more Congressional cosponsors for this popular program. In the Senate there are forty-five bipartisan cosponsors and in the House 209. Unfortunately, the House bill is being held hostage by ONE powerful politician—Rob Bishop, of Utah, chairman of the Natural Resources Committee. To get around his obstruction, we need more than half the House as cosponsors—219 or more. *We're close!*

How can Californians help?

All California's Democratic members of Congress are already cosponsors of the House LWCF reauthorization bill—HR 502—except one. (And our Senators are both LWCF cosponsors.)

Congresswoman Karen Bass, from Los Angeles, who cosponsored the bill last Congress, has failed to return to her past support. Most of her colleagues have, but Karen Bass's staff seems to need extra pressure to sign on to HR 502. Staff folks in DC are overworked and have many issues flying at them, but constituent pressure or calls from anywhere around the Los Angeles area will help to raise this bill higher on their "to do" list.

Karen Bass's 37<sup>th</sup> Congressional District includes South Los Angeles, Crenshaw, Baldwin Hills, Miracle Mile, Pico-Robertson, Century City, Cheviot Hills, West Los Angeles, Culver City, and

unincorporated View Park and Ladera Heights. If YOU live in or near this area, please call her DC office at 202-225-7084, and tell the receptionist who answers that you urge the Congresswoman to cosponsor HR 502. You can add that you are grateful to her for cosponsoring last Congress and hope she will now return. Also, if you can take one extra step, then ask for her staffer Brandon Neal. Leave that message for Brandon. And follow up with an email to him at

[Brandon.neal@mail.house.gov](mailto:Brandon.neal@mail.house.gov).

What about Republicans? While HR 502 has more than two dozen Republican cosponsors nationwide, there are hardly any from the West and none from California. However, maybe there could be: *who is game for a challenge?*

Several Republican Congressmen from southern California might respond to constituent pressure. Are you in the district of Congressman Steve Knight (Santa Clarita area), Ed Royce (Fullerton), Darrell Issa, or Duncan Hunter? How about asking them to cosponsor LWCF reauthorization—HR 502?

The message is the same, except for no past support. But URGENCY due to imminent expiration is a rationale. Mention that California has had more moneys from LWCF than any other state and we want to keep that funding, which comes from offshore drilling royalties—NOT from us taxpayers—going.

And you can point out that California's expanding urban populations truly need more public parks and other green spaces for families to recreate outdoors and enjoy nature.

Contact info:

Knight, CA25: 202-225-1956.

Royce: CA39-202-225-4111; staff

[blair.rotert@mail.house.gov](mailto:blair.rotert@mail.house.gov).

Issa, CA49: 202-225-3906; staff

[Robert.risch@mail.house.gov](mailto:Robert.risch@mail.house.gov).

Duncan Hunter, CA50: 202-225-5672; staff

[tim.carlton@mail.house.gov](mailto:tim.carlton@mail.house.gov).

ANOTHER way to help: do you have friends or family in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Missouri, North Carolina, or Texas? Our targets in those states need a bit more lobbying. Go for it, or contact Vicky Hoover [vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org](mailto:vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org) for more details.

Vicky Hoover

Chair, Sierra Club LWCF Task Force

415-977-5527

# Cirque Peak and Mt. Langley

September 15-17, 2017

By Jim Fleming



This trip coincidentally occurred a week after another group had scheduled these peaks but, due to the popularity of Mt. Langley, still worked out well. After having numerous changes in the roster of participants, the final group of eight climbers met early (6:30 a.m.) on the morning of the 15<sup>th</sup>. Several in our group were able to stay overnight at the Cottonwood Lakes trailhead, which is almost the highest in the Sierra at over 10,000 feet (Mosquito Flat is a little higher).

The morning was very cool, if not down-right cold, to those of us Los Angelinos who had suffered extreme heat recently. Nevertheless, we got all the preliminaries done and were off hiking by 6:55 a.m. Such a gentle trail to begin our ascent, with stretches of downhill and a few stream crossings. Arriving at our campsite at Long Lake a bit after 10:00 a.m., the group minus one felt energetic enough to set up camp and go for the climb of Cirque Peak.

With much lighter day packs, we strode up the trail and reached New Army Pass in good time, where we had lunch; then we hiked along the top of the curved escarpment and up the rocks to the summit, arriving there at 2:00. Now we could gaze northward to see

Mt. Whitney, Mt. Russell, and many other peaks to the west and south. The route via distinct use trail to the summit of Mt. Langley was also easily visible.

Considering a return route via the more direct descent on the steep north side of Cirque, the group decided against it. So we went back around the arc to New Army Pass and followed the trail back to camp, arriving at 4:40. A good day's workout at fourteen miles and 3,000 plus feet of gain!

Saturday morning was another early, cold one. Having arranged to set off to ascend Mt. Langley at 6:30 a.m., with only a slight delay the group managed to get going by 6:36. The full contingent of eight eager mountaineers wanted to reach the southernmost 14,000' peak in the range,



*Top: on the way to Langley. Above: The view of Langley from Cottonwood Lakes (Photos by Tina Bowman).*

and a steady pace soon brought us up to the top of New Army Pass, then after a break, over to the point of departure for the use trail about 400' below the pass. The National Park Service has built large cairns along the route to keep the ever-increasing foot traffic from wandering all over the landscape and damaging the sparse vegetation. The use trail is very obvious, except at one section (approximately 12,800') where one must negotiate a steep rocky portion. Though tricky, it is short, and one soon regains the steady but steep uphill, finally leveling off towards the summit.

Arriving there at 10:30, we marveled at the fantastic views all about. It was early enough to consider our options for the return route to camp, and so we decided to plan on stopping at the old Army Pass and consider making a loop return



to camp. Working our way back down the steep slopes, we arrived at the old pass just before 12:30 and had a great lunch break—whew! With numerous hikers coming up and going down the trail there, we decided that it would be a go. Although we did encounter several sections where boulders and rockfall made the going slow, the route was passable, and soon we were hiking the trails through the upper Cottonwood Lakes. The trails were

*Above: Coming back to camp at Long Lake from Cirque. Right: On the summit of Langley, left to right: James Bias, Charles Corbett, Nuri Cabrera, Dmitry Medvedev, Jim Fleming, Ning Yeh, and Tina Bowman (Photos by Tina Bowman).*



well marked but we missed one section and crossed a marshy area to join the trail back up to Long Lake and our campsite. Another long day (twelve miles, 3,800' gain) but great to have climbed both peaks! We reached camp before 3:00.

We decided that we could take a slightly more leisurely time getting together in the morning, and leave by 8:00 a.m. One participant had to get home sooner and opted to sign out to hike out on Saturday evening. Another cold, but beautiful night at our campsite in the pines. Next morning we departed and were back to the trailhead before 10:45. Our convivial group stopped for breakfast/brunch/lunch at the Alabama

## Did You Know?

According to *Place Names of the Sierra Nevada: From Abbot to Zumwalt* by Peter Browning, Army Pass is "A route originally used by sheepmen. The trail was built in 1892, at a time when the US Army was patrolling Sequoia National Park, by black soldiers from Georgia—Troop K of the Fourth Cavalry. The name first appeared on the 1907 *Olancho* 30' map" (page 7). Because Army Pass usually retains snow late into the summer, the New Army Pass trail was built in 1955 as an alternative (Browning, 158).

Hills Café in Lone Pine (good food, decent prices), and then we were all off home. Thanks, Tina, for being my enthusiastic, patient friend and to participants Nuri Cabrera, Chris Wahl, Charles Corbett, Ning Yeh, James Bias, and Dmitry Medvedev. Y'all were great to hang with—Happy Trails!

# Mt. Toubkal, Morocco

## August 18-19, 2017

By Wasim Khan

Located in the Atlas Mountains about forty miles (sixty km) south of Marrakech, Mt. Toubkal, 13,671' (also called Jbel [or Jebel] Toubkal) is the highpoint of Morocco and the highest peak in North Africa. It is normally climbed in two days. In the hotel in Marrakesh I met a few other hikers also planning to hike the mountain. The next morning we hired a van to Imlil (the trek starting location), a ride of about an hour and a half. After arriving in town, we hired an English-speaking guide. He also arranged the night reservation at the refuge, dinner, and breakfast for the next day, and a mule to carry other belongings.

Day one we started trekking around 10:00 a.m., going through small alleys with souvenir stores, restaurants, and stores to buy snacks and water. The air was full of the aroma of different spices. After about forty-five minutes, we finally got on the trail. The trail bends to the east to the tiny settlement of Sidi Chamharouch, which has grown around a famous Muslim shrine. From here the route leads over the stream and runs steeply uphill to the right side of the Isougouane valley. Four hours into the hike, we stopped for a quick lunch break. After hiking about six to seven hours, finally around 6:00 p.m. we arrived at the Refuge du Toubkal, which is used as base camp at 3,207m (10,522'). There was a constant stream of people



Photo bottom of page 12: Wasim Khan on the ascent of Toubkal (Courtesy of Wasim Khan). (Map at right credit CountryReports.org).

arriving at the refuge at different times. It gets very noisy, so getting any rest is nearly impossible.

Day two we had a quick snack around 12:30 a.m. and started hiking towards the summit. The trek goes through numerous scree fields, a seemingly endless carpet of boulders and loose rocks with some boulder hopping, but nothing extreme. After about five hours we made it to the summit around sunrise. After taking a few pictures and having a little rest, it was time to descend. The route has no shade and is all very exposed. We had almost no time to rest at the refuge before heading back to Imlil and the return by taxi to Marrakesh.

I would call this hike a medium-to-hard trek.

People used to hiking long distances at high altitude should find this hike pretty straight forward and enjoyable. I would not recommend this to a beginner. Weather and altitude will also make a difference.



## Dare to Lead! Spring Leadership Training Seminar Set for April 14, 2018

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 April 14th, location to be determined. Deadline to register is March 31st.

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](http://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 ([lcregistrar@hundredpeaks.org](mailto:lcregistrar@hundredpeaks.org)) or by phone (714-321-1296).

Scholarships are available for those with financial need. Apply to LTC Chair Anne Marie Richardson [AMLeadership@gmail.com](mailto:AMLeadership@gmail.com)



# Outings

Ascending Mt. Emerson on August 27, 2017 (Photo by Mat Kelliher).

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

leader as soon as possible.

**Jan 6-7 | Sat-Sun**  
**LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS**  
**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: Ann Shields. 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.

**Dec 10 | Sun** **LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS**

**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 with contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Ann Shields. 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

**Feb 3 | Sat** **LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS**

**I: Navigation: Mt. Pinos Navigation Practice on Snowshoes:** Ever wonder what it is like to navigate in snow? Find out on this navigation practice as we take a cross-country route to Mount Pinos (8831'). Four miles round trip, 700 feet gain. Snowshoes required. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co-Ldr: Ann Pedreschi Shields.

**Mar 31 | Sat** **LTC**

**Deadline** to register for the April 14<sup>th</sup> Leadership Training Program seminar. For information, see the LTC website (<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/>).

**Apr 14 | Sat** **LTC**

**Leadership Training Seminar:** Become a qualified Sierra Club leader. For information, see the LTC website (<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/>). Next seminar: Fall 2018.

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

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

# OUTINGS

**Apr 18 | Wed**

**LTC**

**M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (Spring 2018):**

**Knots and Basic Safety Systems:** First of four climbing workshops aimed at developing skills for 3rd, 4th, and 5th class climbing both as a participant or a future Sierra Club M and E leader. This will be an indoor workshop held in the evening, reviewing ropes, harnesses, helmets, basic climbing gear, and knots in preparation for later workshops. All participants must have prior roped climbing experience and commit to all four classes. To register please see <http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org> Ldr: Matthew Hengst. Assts: Dan Richter, Patrick McKusky.

**Apr 21 | Sat**

**LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC**

**M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (Spring 2018):**

**Belay Skills:** Second of four climbing workshops aimed at developing skills for 3rd, 4th, and 5th class climbing both as a participant or a future Sierra Club M and E leader. This workshop will focus on belaying and related principles, starting with standard sport climbing all the way up to advanced techniques to move large groups across dangerous terrain. All participants must have prior roped climbing experience and commit to all four classes. To register please see <http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org> Ldr: Matthew Hengst. Assts: Dan Richter, Patrick McKusky.

**Apr 21-22 | Sat-Sun**

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

**I: Navigation: Mission Creek Navigation Noodle:** Navigation noodle at Mission Creek Preserve 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: Ann Shields. 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.

**Apr 28 | Sat**

**LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC**

**M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (Spring 2018):**

**Rappelling:** Third of four climbing workshops aimed at developing skills for 3rd, 4th, and 5th class climbing both as a

## Leaders in this issue's schedule:

Phil Bates 949-786-8475 [philipabates@gmail.com](mailto:philipabates@gmail.com)

Richard Boardman 310-374-4371

Diane Dunbar 818-248-0455 [dianedunbar@charter.net](mailto:dianedunbar@charter.net)

Matthew Hengst [matthew.hengst@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.hengst@gmail.com)

Patrick McKusky 626-794-7321 [pamckusky@att.net](mailto:pamckusky@att.net)

Robert Myers 310-829-3177 [rmmyers@ix.netcom.com](mailto:rmmyers@ix.netcom.com)

Dan Richter 818-970-6737 [dan@danrichter.com](mailto:dan@danrichter.com)

Neal Robbins 310-540-5089 [neal.robbins@l-3com.com](mailto:neal.robbins@l-3com.com)

Ann Shields 818-637-2542 [apedreschi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:apedreschi@sbcglobal.net)

participant or a future Sierra Club M and E leader. This workshop will focus on rappelling using a variety of techniques with a heavy emphasis on redundancy, safety, and efficiency. All participants must have prior roped climbing experience and commit to all four classes. To register please see <http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org> Ldr: Matthew Hengst. Assts: Dan Richter, Patrick McKusky.

**May 4-6 | Fri-Sun**

**LTC**

**C: Wilderness First Aid Course at Harwood Lodge:** The course runs from 7:15 am Friday to 5:30 pm Sunday. Fee includes instruction, lodging, and meals. Proof of CPR within previous 4 yrs required to enroll. Fee \$250 (full refund until

## Call for Outings!

*By Gary Schenk, Outings Chair*

It's that time of year to start planning trips for 2018! Day hikes are a good way to avoid the quota crunch. Introductory trips are also a great idea. It can be tough to get a start in the Sierra, and an intro trip can be quite welcoming to those looking for a start. John Muir would approve.

For MR and E trips, please give sufficient lead time for MOC review. And for provisional leads also be sure the trip has been approved by the provisional lead committee.

As always, send any questions, ideas, or criticisms to [gary@hbfun.org](mailto:gary@hbfun.org).

# OUTINGS

Visit the SPS website for an even more up-to-date listing of upcoming trips at <http://www.sierraclub.org/sps>

Also, please check at [summitregister.org](http://summitregister.org) whether a peak needs a register book or pencil before you go on a climb.

Club M and E leader. This weekend completes the series of AMP workshops at Joshua Tree National Park and focuses on building anchors and applying previously learned skills in real world climbing situations with multiple participants. All participants must have prior roped climbing experience and commit to all four classes. To register please see <http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org> Ldr: Matthew Hengst. Assts: Dan Richter, Patrick McKusky.

9/22). For sign-up, see instructions and application at [www.wildernessfirstaidcourse.org](http://www.wildernessfirstaidcourse.org)

**May 5-6 | Sat-Sun** **LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC**  
**M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (Spring 2018):**  
**Anchors and Real World Applications:** Fourth of four climbing workshops aimed at developing skills for 3rd, 4th, and 5th class climbing both as a participant or a future Sierra

**May 19 | Sat** **LTC, WTC, HPS**  
**I: Navigation: Beginning Clinic:** Spend the day one-on-one with an instructor, learning/practicing map and compass in our local mountains. Beginners to rusty old-timers welcome, and practice is available at all skill levels. Not a checkout, but it will help you prepare. Many expert leaders will attend; many I-rated leaders started here in the past. 4 mi, 500' gain. Send sase, phones, rideshare info, \$25 deposit, refunded at

## 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.fs.usda.gov/main/inyo/home](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/inyo/home)  
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](http://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](http://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.fs.usda.gov/sequoia](http://www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia)  
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: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sierra>  
Ansel Adams Wilderness—North  
Bass Lake Ranger District  
57003 Road 225  
North Fork, CA 93643  
Phone: (559) 887-2218

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



# OUTINGS

trailhead (Sierra Club) to Ldr: Diane Dunbar. Co-Ldr: Richard Boardman.

**Jun 16-17 | Sat-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. Sat for practice, skills refresher, altimeter, homework, campfire. Sun checkout or additional practice. Send email with contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare, to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Ann Shields. 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 8-9 | Fri-Sun**

**SPS**

**ER: Thunderbolt Pk (14,003'):** Climb one of the most spectacular and technical Mountaineers' Peaks. Early Fri depart from South Lake Parking Lot Bishop Pass TH. Hike on trail to Bishop Pass, continue off trail to make camp on benches SE of Thunderbolt Pass (7 mi, 3000' gain). Alpine start Sun to climb Thunderbolt via Southwest Chute 1 (1 mi, 1800' gain). We will return to camp and TH via same route. Technical gear: climbing helmet, alpine harness, ATC, 2 standard and 1 double 6mm prusiks, 2 locking biners, 1 non-locking wire gate biner. Mandatory alpine climbing skills: rappelling, ascending rope with prusiks, and climbing on class

## SPS Income Statement 11-19-2017

	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	Final	Final	Final	Final	YTD
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>INCOME</b>												
Echo Subscriptions	1,580	1,020	460	180	120	60	20	1,835	1,360	1,560	1,560	1,630
Banquet Income	2,840	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,800	2,940	4,610	4,110	3,760
Donations	670	465	160	60	30	15	-	340	440	575	651	873
Merchandise Sales	112	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	27	276	395	262
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,202</b>	<b>1,485</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5,014</b>	<b>4,767</b>	<b>7,021</b>	<b>6,716</b>	<b>6,525</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>												
Postage	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	609	-4	14	938	522
Printing	229	-	-	-	-	-	-	578	898	640	706	433
Merchandise	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	196	234	130
Raffle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	250	-	-
Banquet Expenses	3,553	3,500	-	-	-	-	-	3,216	4,206	5,640	4,772	4,710
Bank Fees	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	2	10	6	18
Website	96	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	268	36	84
Charitable contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	400	-	-	200	200
Outreach	82	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	899	254
Membership meetings/activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,257	174
Register Related	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>4,060</b>	<b>3,520</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,821</b>	<b>5,103</b>	<b>7,019</b>	<b>9,048</b>	<b>6,583</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>1,142</b>	<b>-2,035</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>-336</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-2,332</b>	<b>-58</b>

# OUTINGS

4 terrain. Email climbing resume, and altitude training info to Ldr: Philip Bates. Asst. Ldr. Neal Robbins.

**Sep 23 | 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 with contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare, to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Ann Shields. 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.

**Oct 20 | Sat**

**LTC, WTC, HPS**

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

**Nov 17-18 | Sat-Sun**

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

**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. Sat for practice, skills refresher, altimeter, homework, campfire. Sun checkout. To participate, send email with contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst:

## **SPS Management Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, August 14, 2017, 7:00 p.m.**

**Alexander Smirnoff's home**

**1701 Paloma St., Pasadena 91104**

1. Call to order. Present: Tina Bowman, Jim Fleming, Paul Garry, Alexander Smirnoff.
2. Standard business and reports
  - a. Approval of minutes—already approved via email
  - b. Chair—see reports under “Old business”
  - c. Vice Chair
    - i. Banquet speaker—Patrick Armstrong (Sierra snow surveyor, lives in Bishop, wrote *Log of a Snow Survey*). Jim to contact Patrick for Bio for flyer.
    - ii. Banquet flyer/ad for *Echo* and distribution. It will be in Oct-Dec *Echo*.
    - iii. We'll be in in Palm Court at Almansor. October deposit submitted.
  - d. Outings—no report
  - e. Treasurer's report—\$5921 balance
  - f. Emblem Committee Report—Paul to follow-up with regard to Shane Smith's submittal of Smatko Explorer list.
  - g. Outreach—no report
  - h. Archivist—no report
  - i. *Echo*
    - i. August 25<sup>th</sup> deadline for next issue
    - ii. More old issues to be scanned and uploaded to the website given to Paul.
  - j. Mountain Records—No report
  - k. IT—No report

l. Website—Question about the index to trip reports on the web site—when did that stop (what are the most current reports) [2009]. Ask Harry about indexing, linking to reports.

m. Conservation—no report

n. Safety Chair—no report

### 3. Old business

a. Unofficially name a peak for Andy Smatko? Decided to leave the issue open for now with possibly two peaks unofficially named for him, the one we proposed near Sherman Pass in the southern Sierra and the other close to Cottonwood Pass.

### 4. New business

a. Revise list re summit of Colosseum (west summit)? Yes, Tina will do. Register is now on east summit at benchmark location on topo map. Tina will update list to switch peak to higher west summit.

b. Nominating committee, people to run for management committee: Tina will contact Mary McMannes, Don Sparks, Matt Hengst, Kristen Lindbergh.

c. Candidates for leadership and/or lifetime achievement awards: discussed one person for each award.

d. Participation in 2017 CalTech lecture series: Waiting for invitation from Caltech, probably not participating but not ruled out.

e. Medals for SPS emblems: see <http://www.hikermedals.com/>. Decided too expensive, too little interest to pursue.

f. Next meeting date: Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m., at Alexander's house.

# OUTINGS

Ann Shields. 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.

**Dec 9| Sun LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS**

**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 with contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Ann Shields.

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 Management Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, October 18, 2017, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Alexander Smirnoff's home**  
**1701 Paloma St., Pasadena 91104**

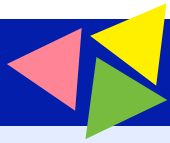
1. Call to order. Present: Tina Bowman, Jim Fleming, Paul Garry, Alexander Smirnoff.
2. Standard business and reports
  - a. Approval of minutes: no minutes to approve. Paul to send out by email.
  - b. Chair: Colosseum summit restored on list (west, not east summit).
  - c. Vice Chair—Banquet: Jim had a spreadsheet of banquet tasks for each member of the committee, which we went over. The banner needs to be delivered to Tina. Final deposit paid. Ask Lisa Miyake to provide Facebook post to ask new SPS Group members to join the Section.
  - d. Outings: no report
  - e. Treasurer's report: balance of \$6191 at the end of September.
  - f. Emblem Committee Report: Shane Smith and Nile Sorenson have applied for the Smatko Award.
  - g. Outreach: no report
  - h. Archivist: no report
  - i. *Echo*
    - i. November 24<sup>th</sup> deadline for next issue
    - ii. Hand over more old issues to be scanned and uploaded to the website—No update
    - iii. Move to HTML version—postponed discussion till when Beth Epstein has more information.
  - j. Mountain Records: Harry sent report
  - k. IT: no report
  - l. Website: no report
  - m. Conservation: no report
  - n. Safety Chair: no report

3. Old business

- a. Unofficially name a peak for Andy Smatko? The committee decided to recognize the last peak in the Sierra that Andy Smatko climbed as Smatko Peak, though the designation is unofficial. Jim suggested asking Mark Allen, who has made signs for HPS peaks, to make a sign for Smatko Peak. Tina will inquire.
- b. First year membership/subscription free starting in 2018? Yes.
- c. People to run for management committee? Jim, Paul, Alexander, and Tina were all willing to run again. Tina will suggest that Mary McMannes, chair of the nominating committee, contact Laura Newman and Sandy Lara and any others she thinks might run.
- d. Candidates for leadership and/or lifetime achievement awards? Continued discussion from last meeting. Decided against the leadership award candidate for this year. Will present a lifetime achievement award at the banquet.
- e. Caltech Alpine Club speaker series? Not participating this year.

4. New business

- a. Free year's membership/subscription for those who lead one or more SPS outings, submit all paperwork in a timely manner, and submit a trip report for the *Echo* (written by a leader or participant)? The free year would be for the following year, and only two leaders per outing are eligible. Decided to try this to encourage more leaders to lead outings for the SPS.
- b. Donate to the chapter? Yes, \$200 as in the past several years.
- c. Nominations for chapter awards (due November 1<sup>st</sup>)? The SPS will nominate Jim Fleming for an outings service award.
- d. Next meeting date: Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00, at Alexander's home.



# Mystery Peak Challenge Answer



The answer to the last puzzle is the Mt. Jordan summit step across framing South Guard. Shane Smith correctly solved the puzzle twenty-eight minutes after the new *Echo* links were emailed! Talk about waiting by the (electronic) mailbox! Gary Schenk also knew the answer, as did Ron Bartell.

Wear 'em! Give 'em!  
**SPS TEES**



**Front: NORTH PAL**  
**Back: FULL SPS LIST**

By geographic area with Mountaineer & Emblem peaks highlighted

M, L & XL in Sand & Ash

\$12 plus \$3.50 shipping

(\$4 shipping when ordering 2 or

more shirts). Send your order to:

Patty Kline, 20362 Callon Drive

Topanga, CA 90290

Make check payable to SPS

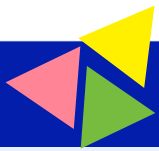
CST 2087766-40

## Time to Renew!

Don't let your *Sierra Echo* subscription expire! The annual \$10 subscription is due each year by January 1st and delinquent after 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



## Mystery Peak Challenge

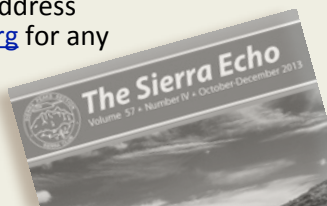
This occasional just-for-fun puzzle is for you to figure out which Sierra peak or peaks are featured in the image. If you have a fine mystery peak puzzle to challenge *Echo* readers, please send it to [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com). We welcome any mountain images, including those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



Shane Smith sent this photo of the B-52, B-1, and B-2 bombers flying over the Sierra. Can you name the peaks and maybe some other features in the photo? **Send your answer to Tina Bowman at [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com).**

### REGARDING DISTRIBUTION OF THE *ECHO*

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



**FREE:** "Traditional" Italian mountaineering boots--heavy-duty leather, Norwegian welt, new and used.

Men's sizes 7 & 1/2, 8 & 1/2 and 9. Can bring them to SPS banquet or to a meeting place in the San Fernando Valley. Would rather give them to a peak climber than to charity. Contact:

Barbara Lilley  
P.O. Box 128  
Simi Valley, CA 93062  
805-527-7703 (leave message)

## RJ Secor

September 1, 1956–October 26, 2017



### **Remembering RJ: Sierra Club Mountaineer and Author**

By Mary Forgione

R.J. Secor, Sierra Club mountaineer and author of a detailed climber's guide to Sierra peaks, may never know how many people he inspired to tackle the highest points in the Range of Light. His 1992 book *High Sierra: Peaks, Passes, Trails* became a climber's bible, one that reflected his own devotion to climbing and to keeping the Sierra Club's rich mountaineering tradition alive.

Secor (the R.J. stands for Robert John), who lived in Pasadena, died October 26 at the age of sixty-one. He had conquered numerous peaks in the United States as well as

Canada, Mexico, South America, the Himalayas, and the Karakoram region on the Pakistan-Indian border. His *alpina vitae* (climbing resume) includes summits of Alaska's Denali (1995), Aconcagua in Argentina (1986), and the Mexican volcanoes.

To those who climbed and hiked with him, Secor was a good friend with a wry sense of humor. His cousin Joan Colgrove says the Sierra Club was a big part of his life. "The friendships he made were important to him and brought him much joy," she said.

In 2013, Secor received the Sierra Club's prestigious Francis P. Farquhar Mountaineering Award, which honors "an individual's contribution to mountaineering and enhancement of the Club's prestige in this field."

*High Sierra*, now in its third printing, is the successor to the pioneering work begun by the Sierra Club in the late 1930s. Secor credits those who provided guidance before him and writes about his beloved Sierra peaks in the book:

One of my goals in life is to go around the world three times and visit every mountain range twice. But whenever I have wandered other mountains, I have been homesick for the High Sierra. I am a hopeless romantic, and therefore my opinions cannot be regarded as objective. But how can I be objective while discussing the mountains I love?

In working on the mammoth project, Secor completed more than 700 Sierra mountain ascents on about 300 different peaks, climbing as many as sixty peaks in one year. The book covers more than 600 Sierra peaks and provides a great deal of history and first ascent records, plus a vast number of invaluable photos and many maps.

In honor of R. J. Secor, a memorial hike to Henninger Flats and picnic will be held Sunday, April 15th. Details about time and meeting place will follow.

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Through his book, Secor provided an invaluable service to countless thousands of mountaineers who have entered the High Sierra far better prepared to contend with and to succeed on its vast array of peaks than otherwise would have been the case.

Secor has also earned international recognition for producing three editions of *Mexico's Volcanoes: a Climbing Guide*, two editions of *Aconcagua: a Climbing Guide*, and one edition of *Denali Climbing Guide*. All four books are still in print and available on Amazon, which has an "R. J. Secor Page." All his books have a strong statement about minimizing the environmental impact of climbing.

In 1997 he became the second person to have twice climbed the 247 peaks on the Angeles Chapter's Sierra Peaks Section's peaks list. He was also active and held positions in the Chapter's Ski Mountaineering Section. In 1989-90, he served as president of the California Mountaineering Club and in 1998 he served as chair of the Angeles Chapter's Sierra Peaks Section.

Secor lived in Pasadena, the only son of Leta and Jack Secor. His mother was extremely supportive and proud of his considerable achievements. His mother died in 2016 ; his father in 2008. His cousin remembers him even at a young age as "a self-starter and an interesting person because he was so interested in the world around him. Although he was often the smartest person in the room, he was an innately kind person . . ."

In 2005, Secor suffered skull fractures and other injuries from a glissading accident on Mt. Baldy in Southern California. He regained most of his mobility but last year suffered a second head injury that ultimately led to his death, Colgrove said.

A memorial may be planned in Altadena at a later date. Contributions may be made in his honor to the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter.

Those who want to share memories and stories about R.J. Secor with his family should email [southern.sierran@sierraclub.org](mailto:southern.sierran@sierraclub.org).



Above: Glen Dawson and RJ Secor at the Angeles Chapter Centennial Picnic held at Malibu Wilderness Preserve on July 16, 2011 (Photo by Allan Der, Sierra Club-Angeles Chapter Archives). On page 22: RJ Secor with his book *High Sierra: Peaks, Passes, and Trails* (Photo by Dan Richter).

## RJ

By Dan Richter

Eccentric? Sure. I prefer to think of R. J. as listening to a different drummer. Folks like that often do special things, and R. J. wrote *The High Sierra: Peaks, Passes, and Trails* which opened up the Sierra for tens of thousands of people. Before his book, the existing guide books just scratched the surface, and unless you were an experienced mountaineer, the backcountry was often unreachable. R. J. changed all that. His years of climbing all over the Sierra that he loved, combined with endless hours in his family home on Las Lunas in Pasadena, where he lived with his mom and dad, researching old trip reports from the SPS archives and numerous other sources, finally gave climbers a thorough and detailed guide that became the Sierra climbers' bible.

A double list finisher with a Master emblem, R. J. was close to finishing the list a third time. He

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## *RJ from Dan Richter, continued*

certainly would have done that had he not had his accident on Baldy. He had many awards, the most prestigious being the Francis Farquhar Award. As well as his Sierra guide book, he also wrote guides to the Mexican volcanos, Aconcagua, and Denali.

If you ever climbed with him, you would have seen that the gear and clothing he wore were from long ago or just plain eccentric. He was an accomplished rock climber and a founding and honorary member of the Southern California Mountaineers Association, the continuation of the old Sierra Club Rock Climbing Section. Instead of a harness he used 1" webbing and belayed with a body or shoulder belay. The gear he wore in the mountains was ancient and delightfully quirky. He used a very old wooden shafted ice axe, and his snow pants were an old pair of foul weather gear, which he was wearing on that fateful day coming down Baldy Bowl when he lost control of a steep glissade on hard snow. Some say they were the reason he got going too fast.

Over the years we climbed quite a bit together, and every trip was unique because he was on it. Once we were on a trip being led by Greg Vernon and Ellen Holden to climb Disappointment and found ourselves stuck in a downpour in camp just below the Middle Palisade Glacier. I was in a cramped Gore-Tex bivy sack, and the rain just kept coming down. I was dry but felt like I was in a coffin. R. J. had an old Black Diamond Megamid pyramid tent held up with a center pole with no floor but some space. Randy Kirkpatrick was also on the climb with only a bivy.

"R. J., can we come in?"

"By all means, gentlemen."

We spent a day and a half crowded in there with him as the rain relentlessly fell.

Through it all R. J. was, well, R. J., carefully dressed in gear from another time long ago, reading from cover to cover CFO Magazine.

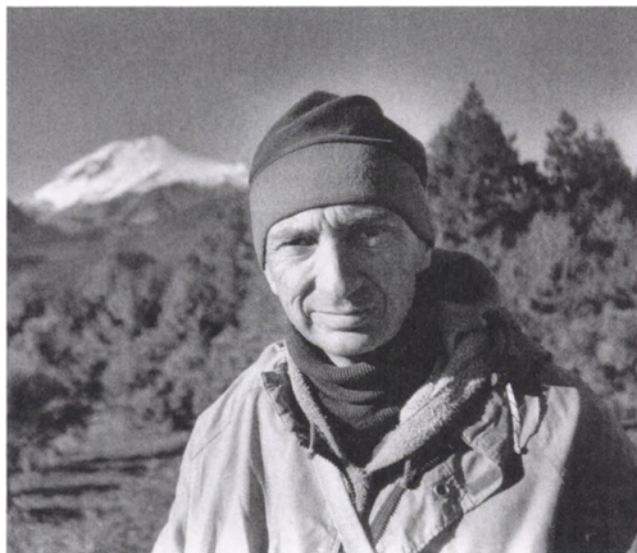
## *From Asher Waxman*

The only thing I clearly remember from the first SPS meeting I attended is RJ. He looked my age, but was actually ten years younger. He had been rock climbing and mountaineering for many years, and he had published at least one of his guidebooks.

I was new to climbing and serious mountaineering but quite enthusiastic. When I approached RJ, I got the feeling he didn't really have time for me. Some years later we were finding ourselves on the same trips (led by others), and we got to know each other better. I happily shared my food with him.

My reputation as a climber and mountaineer was mostly good. By the late 80s RJ told me about some trips he was planning. I got lucky. With RJ I ended up doing at least three of my best SPS/CMC outings.

Fin Dome I'd admired since the first time I saw it in the 70s on the Rae Lakes Loop and really wanted to climb it. It turned out to be one of the best class 3 and 4 climbing I had done on a peak. We set up the

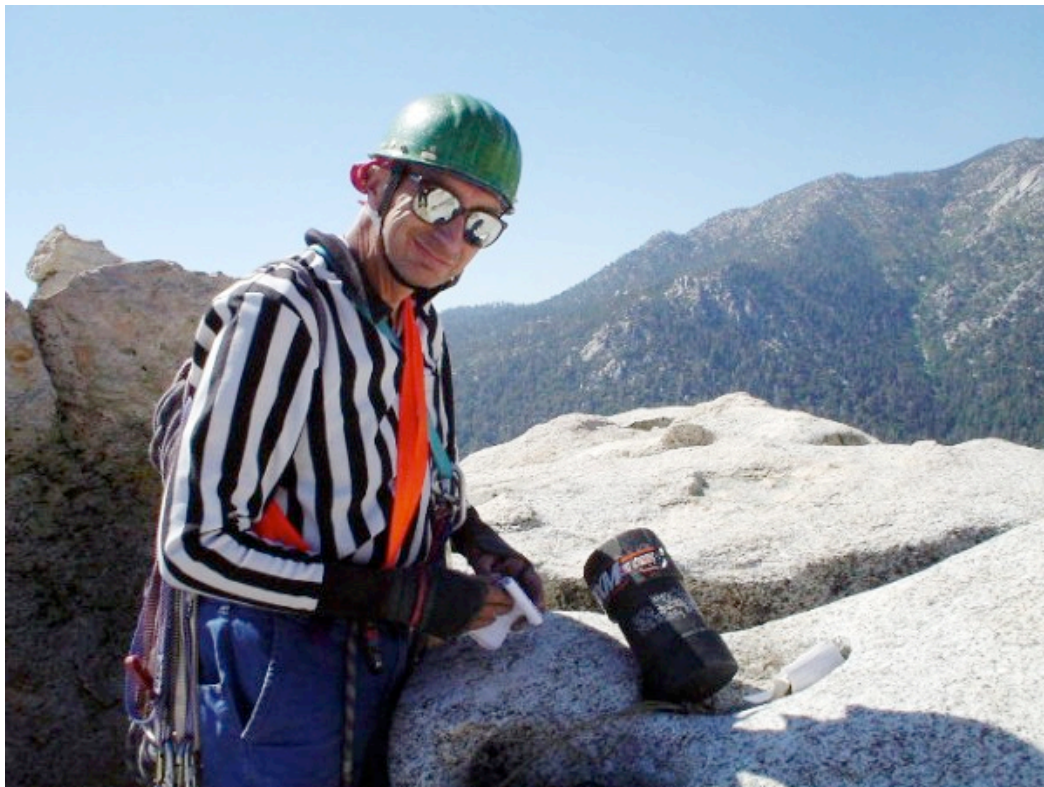


*John Secor's portrait of his son, RJ, for RJ's book Mexican Volcanoes: A Climbing Guide (copyright Mountaineers Books)*

rope for just one move, up and back on a high ledge. Now that I think of it, Fin Dome would be a wonderful addition to the SPS list.



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## *From Gary Schenk*

Here's a photo of RJ in happier times. He's signing the register on Tahquitz Rock after our climb of the White Maiden. He had declared 2004 the Year of Rock, and we'd done several climbs at Tahquitz and Joshua Tree with RJ. RJ being RJ, each was memorable in its own way. We even had a mini-epic at Tahquitz. MJ [Mary Jo Dungfelder] joined us several times, and we always had a lot of fun (*Photo by Yvonne Tsai*).

After that I was on RJ's trip to Thunderbolt and Starlight. Descending from Starlight, it got too dark to continue, with only several hundred more feet to go. We bivouacked next to each other on a downward sloping ledge, all of us tied in to the wall, unprepared for a night out. I remember putting my feet in my daypack to help keep them warm. A lot of good that did. Come morning we got down in a jiffy (seems like an RJ word) in good spirits and not much the worse for wear.

Finally, in 1999 I got to join RJ on a trip to the Mexican volcanoes, his fifteenth+ time. RJ drove down with his dad, Father John, and met us in Mexico City. From

there he drove us to Paso de Cortes, for Ixtacciatl. At the pass we got out to enjoy the views and saw some mountaineers from Germany. When they saw RJ, they did a double-take. They were holding his *Mexican Volcanoes* book, which had a photo of RJ, wearing the same clothes as that day (and probably on his last glissade). RJ happily autographed it for them. For the record, the others on this trip were all good friends and mountain buddies: Matthew Richardson, Erik Siering, Virgil Popescu.

After doing Ixta (Popo was already off-limits), we headed to Citlaltepētł (Orizaba), Mexico's high point (~18,400'). The regular route is up from the north with a night

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*RJ Secor from Asher Waxman, continued*

at Glacier de Jamapa. As we drove towards the mountain, RJ says to us. "The south slopes are covered with snow, which is very rare, and looking very good. How would you feel about heading up that way?" We all thought it mahvelous.

I appreciated RJ's flexibility about changing our approach and his putting it to us, rather than just presenting a *fait accompli* (pardon my French).

*From Tony Yeary*

*Chair of the Southwest Section of the American Alpine Club and member of SCMA (Southern California Mountaineering Association)*

One night after an SCMA meeting, a bunch of us, including RJ, retired to the Tam for drinks as was usual. Because RJ had always been a bit of an enigma to me, I

That night we stayed at the Fausto Gonzalez Gomar hut, around 15,000', and my coldest night ever. RJ took a picture of us four and put it in his next edition. The next morning was sunny and clear and the way up was a straightforward trudge to the summit (the highest point I've been to, so far).

Three of my most memorable trips to the mountains were RJ's gift. I miss him.

decided after lubricating my tongue with a few Black and Tans, that I should engage him in conversation, hoping to divine a fuller understanding of the man. RJ was a mountaineer, guide book author, occasional climbing partner, and respected fellow member of the AAC, but RJ the man remained much a blank area on the map for me.

After an hour of talking climbing, writing, and the hardships of collecting accurate information on climbing routes and first ascents, I felt I was nowhere closer to a deeper understanding of R J. Finally, in a bit of frustration,

## The Sierra Echo



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## *RJ Secor from Tony Yeary, continued*

I asked RJ what he really did for a living. I mean, like, what did he really do beside write guide books? RJ took a long, even draw from his Black and Tan and matter-of-factly said, "I'm an international playboy." I smiled and said, "Right, RJ, what do you really do?" He looked me straight in the eye and said rather smugly, "I am an international playboy." Then the conversation returned to my climb of Aconcagua without skipping a beat. What a character! If you knew RJ, you knew that being an international playboy was about 180 degrees out from who he really was. I laughed so hard I almost peed my pants, but I think RJ was serious!

I remember that day, up on Baldy, the day he had his accident. It was a bluebird day, and hordes of folks were trudging up Baldy from all directions. Once on the summit, I enjoyed the view from Catalina Island to the Southern Sierra. I swore I could just make out Whitney.

RJ was sitting near us, eating his PB and J. My partner and I were done with lunch and making preparations to head on down, so I asked RJ if he wanted us to wait for him and then we'd all go down together. He declined saying, "No, I'm going to finish my sandwich, and then I'll be down." So down the hill we went. It wasn't until we were nearing the parking that we heard the thump,

thump, thump of the rotors of a helicopter making its way up canyon toward us that we had any inkling of what had transpired. After his surgeries, I went to visit RJ at the hospital. He was still unresponsive, in a vegetative state. There just didn't seem to be a lot of hope at that point. I left in his room a picture of Alpamayo and a bundle of California Sage. With time, RJ fought back and made, in light of his grievous injuries, a remarkable recovery.

We saw each other sporadically after his accident, until he all but disappeared. At times he seemed the same; however, more often, the lingering impact of his injuries was painfully obvious.

RJ's enduring legacy will certainly be his written works: guides to Denali, the Mexican Volcanoes, Aconcagua, and above all else, his guide to the Sierra—*The High Sierr.; Peaks, Passes, and Trails*. I once asked RJ if there were any unclimbed peaks left in the Sierra. He said that he was certain there were a few and gave me a short list. But it was not complete. He had purposely left at least one peak off that list in the hopes of always knowing there remained one untrodden summit left.

I'd like to think he's camped below that peak now, dreaming of its summit secrets, watching a sky on fire at sunset, in his beloved Range of Light.

## *From Cameron Burns\**

RJ found Steve Porcella and me during our now well-known (I guess) blitzes of the Sierra Nevada in 1989 and 1990. Greg Vernon somehow knew what we were up to and suggested RJ contact us.

He wanted info on routes we'd been doing (65 routes on 14ers the summer of 1989 and 12 more routes on 14ers in the summer of 1990, including what we believe was the first 5.11 on a CA 14er.)

RJ wrote these careful letters about EXACTLY what he wanted. He'd enclose envelopes with stamps so we didn't have to pay for postage. He'd address the envelopes so we Cro-Magnon-esque climbers didn't have to think. He was very careful and very smart. All I knew about him at that point was that he lived in Pasadena, although I had used his book on Mexico's Volcanoes in 1988 and 1989.

In about 1990 or so I met him at an AAC event, and we'd carry on meeting at those for seven or eight years. He was an odd guy, but extremely likable. He'd show up at the AAC events with his father, a chap whose name I can't remember. John, I think. Over the course of several days of "AACing," we'd eat about 3 or 4 meals together.

\*From Wikipedia:

**Cameron M. "Cam" Burns** (b. 1965–) is an Australian-American author and climber.<sup>[1]</sup> Born in **Melbourne**, Burns grew up in **Sydney**, Australia, where he was exposed to surfing and climbing at a young age. In 1978, his family moved to **upstate New York** where he took up skiing, then subsequently developed a lasting interest in climbing. In 1991, he and fellow climber Stephen F. Porcella published the first guide to **California's fourteeners**. In 1996, he wrote the first guidebook to **Colorado ice climbing**.

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## *RJ Secor from Cameron Burns, continued*

He was always very polite, but he rarely laughed. He was extremely sarcastic and funny himself, so silly jokes from a twenty-four-year-old climber barely made a ripple. He had this look too, the kind of look that said, "You're joking, right, and on top of that do you realize you're an idiot?" I'm not kidding. It was that kind of look.

He was an heir of sorts, didn't have a regular job, and he used to complain to me that managing all his money was really hard, time-consuming work. I'd scoff at that and get some very RJ-esque glares.

I invited him to climb with me many times, but he never did. I suspect that was due to the age difference or ability or something. Maybe just schedules.

## *From Brian Smith*

I have had little time to reflect on the passing of RJ. Secor, as I only heard about it two days ago. Needless to say, I was shocked to hear the bad news. In losing RJ, we have lost a mountaineering giant. His four famous mountaineering books are now classic and indispensable works for both budding and experienced mountaineers. His finishing the SPS List twice speak volumes for his dedication to and love of the Sierra Nevada.

While some found him abrupt ("those of you who think you might not be able to do this trip, you probably can't" or similar) or difficult to get along with, I valued his friendship and enjoyed our times in the mountains together very much. Without his leadership, advice and example, I am sure I would not have been an SPS List Finisher, and if I had not done peaks with him (notably Starr King and Gardiner), I may not have done them at all. There are many memories from the 90's, but just two would be our weeklong adventure to "bag" nine peaks in the Great Western Divide and our three weeks together on Denali, which resulted in summit success for both of us (though on separate days). In both, I can remember interesting and enlightening conversations on all manner of topics as the sun went down in camp.

RJ, you left too early, but I shall not forget you.

His books were first class. When I went alone to Orizaba in Mexico, I followed his book to a T, and it got me everywhere I need to go perfectly. And the old guy, Señor Reyes, who ran the hostel/hut/bungalow/whatever in Tlachichuca, was there exactly as he said. I hung out a bit with Señor Reyes before going up the mountain the next day.

RJ was an impressive and determined climber, a true "every-scrap-with-a-note-counts" scholar, and a gentleman. He was also fun to be around.

Rest in peace, old friend.



*RJ Secor carrying "Sawtooth Pass" sign up to Sawtooth Pass, September 4, 1981 (Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Archives).*

## Rick Jali

December 1, 1932–October 7, 2017



*By Fred and Barbara Richter*

Born December 1, 1932, in Portland, Oregon, Richard (Rick) Milton Jali was an only child. He passed away peacefully in his sleep at the age of eighty-four on October 7, 2017, at Solheim Lutheran Home in Los Angeles after suffering from Alzheimer's for seven-and-a-half years.

Over the years Rick lived in Portland, southern California, Malaysia, Iran, Seattle, Mammoth Lakes, Bishop (three years at Sterling Heights Assisted Living), and Los Angeles (three years at Solheim Lutheran Home). An outstanding student, he was brilliant with an IQ of about 130. Rick decided to take on an intellectual challenge and attended Caltech where he earned two degrees, a

bachelors and masters in physics. He became an engineer working in the aerospace industry, including time with Hughes Aircraft and Boeing. In the early 1970s, when the aerospace industry took a down turn, Rick enrolled in the Peace Corps and taught high school physics in Malaysia, a decision he often said was the best one in his life. Rick was working for Hughes Aircraft in its missile division in Iran for nearly two years when he decided that the situation in the country was very unstable and about to get worse. He was offered a new two-year contract, which he declined, and left the country, less than six months prior to the 1979 Revolution.

Rick was recognized, but often not known by name, to many in Mammoth Lakes. You may have seen him skiing Mammoth Mountain in his old faded jackets and colorful jester helmet cover or riding his bike around town, wearing his bright yellow helmet. Many of his acquaintances and friends found him quirky, but lovable. He was a hiker and a peak bagger and member of the Sierra Club, Sierra Peaks Section (SPS), of which Rick was chairman in 1967. He recorded 142 climbs of the 247 named peaks on the SPS list. He was one of three men that initiated a petition that resulted in the naming of a previously unnamed, but prominent peak, now known as Caltech peak. Rick had made the third recorded ascent of the peak.

He enjoyed backpacking, camping, kayaking, reading, model airplane building, and skiing. It was clear to all who knew him that his biggest passion was to travel. Rick most frequently traveled to locations that were far from average. He never took a traditional "cruise" as his cruises for him involved staying in the crew quarters of a deadheading freighter. Often Rick would avoid traditional tour groups and through extensive research would design his own tours, which were always far from the "beaten path." He would return from these trips and present incredibly interesting slide

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shows at the Mammoth Lakes Library as part of his collection of over 47,000 slides. In his travels he made sampling beer a high priority, something he did in more than one hundred countries. If beer was included in an event in Mammoth Lakes, Rick would usually be there front and center.

As an only child who never had children of his own, his interest in young people was keen. He was an Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 370 in Mammoth Lakes from 1989 to 2001.

He was our dear friend for nearly thirty years, and we will miss him so very much.



## From Jerry Keating:

I didn't know Rick well enough to add things that really should be part of an obit, but I can offer some factual material that I found in my files. Dick (as he first was known in the SPS) lived in LA's westside (then zone 49), while I first lived in Reseda as an SPSer but then moved to Sacramento in 1961. Then, I came back to SoCal in 1967 and have resided in Orange County thereafter.

Rick was SPS chair in 1966, vice chair in 1967, and treasurer in 1969. He earned his SPS emblem in August 1959 and his senior emblem in October 1978.

Rick was a Caltech alumnus, and I suspect he was an engineer. You'll recall he was a major advocate for adding

Rick is survived by his cousin and only living relative, Norman Battaglia, and Norman's wife, Rachelle, of Portland, Oregon; parishioner friends from St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Mammoth Lakes; and his dear friends and caregivers for the past nine years, Fred and Barbara Richter of Mammoth Lakes.

It was his wish to be cremated and his ashes to be spread over the Sierra Nevada near Mammoth Lakes. A Celebration of Life will take place at a future date to be determined and will be announced.

Donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association at [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).

Caltech to the SPS qualifying list, and he submitted some thoughtful thoughts about list additions on p. 6 of the May-June 1964 issue of *The Sierra Echo*.

In that same issue (pp. 12-13) appears his trip report on what stands as the SPS's largest trip turnout: 124 persons for the April 25-26, 1964, beginner's mountaineering training field trip. It was in the Southern

Sierra with Smith Mtn. and Crag Peak climbed.

I checked my photo files and confirmed that Rick was on an independent trip with me to Matterhorn Peak from the west side on July 30-August 1, 1959, and on the joint SPS/DPS trip to Mono Craters and Bloody Mtn. on May 23-24, 1964. Attached photo 1 [on page 29] was taken in Spiller Canyon on the Matterhorn trip, and photo 2 [above] was taken on the joint SPS/DPS trip on May 23, 1964, at Hot Creek with Rick in the lower left, Lothar Kolbig center, Ted Maier directly behind Lothar and Barbara Lilley to the right. (Note: A cropped version of photo 2 appeared on p. 9 of the January-March 2015 issue but showed only Ted.)

## Vieve Metcalfe

November 2, 1934–August 22, 2017



*By Jay Holladay*

Vieve Metcalfe\*, a resident of La Crescenta for the past twenty-five years, died on August 22. Born in Boston Massachusetts on November 2, 1934, she was the daughter of John Brownlow Metcalfe and Genevieve Alice Parker Metcalfe.

Vieve grew up in Massachusetts while maintaining a strong link to Alaska through her mother's family connections to that state. She graduated with a BA degree from Cornell University and an MBA from Santa Clara University. While she lived in the Bay Area, one of her employers was Stanford Research Institute. After

*Photo from the Vieve Metcalfe Collection*

relocating to the Los Angeles area, she was employed by Times Mirror Corporation where, at the time of her retirement, she was a Business Research Manager.

Among her many interests were travel, genealogy and family history, and gardening. An accomplished pianist in her youth, in later life she enjoyed handbell ringing at Neighborhood Unitarian Universalist Church in Pasadena. She was also a longtime enthusiast of outdoor activities and the environmental movement.

Her volunteer activities included many years as a National Ski Patrol member. She was very active in the Sierra Club and served as treasurer of the club's Angeles Chapter. In the 1980s she climbed with the SPS, and a favorite memorable backpack and climb of hers was an outing to Petit, Piute, and Volunteer, led by Norm Rohn and Walton Kabler. More recently she volunteered at the Southern California Genealogical Society as a director and as co-chair of the Library Operations Committee.

Vieve will be remembered for her kindness, ready smile, wry sense of humor, intelligence, lively curiosity, and willingness to help.

She is survived by her Life Partner Jay Holladay and his two grandchildren; her brother John Parker Metcalfe and sister-in-law Alison of Salisbury, Vermont; sister Nancy Metcalfe Hearne and brother-in-law Bill Salvo, who reside in Italy; five nieces and nephews; and six great-nieces and great-nephews.

Donations in Vieve's memory may be made to The Sierra Club Foundation, 2101 Webster Street, Suite 1250, Oakland, CA, 94612, or to City of Hope, 1500 East Duarte Road, Duarte, CA 91010.

\*Many knew her as Vieve Weldon during her association with the SPS.

For more information:  
Jay Holladay  
818-957-8346  
Jholladay@ca.rr.com



# The Sierra Echo

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**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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