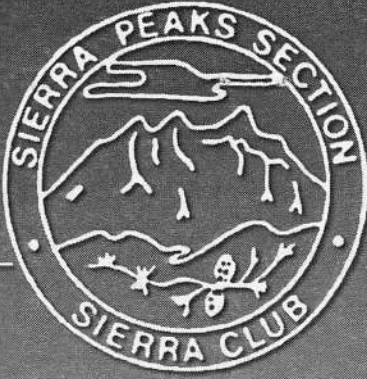


The Sierra

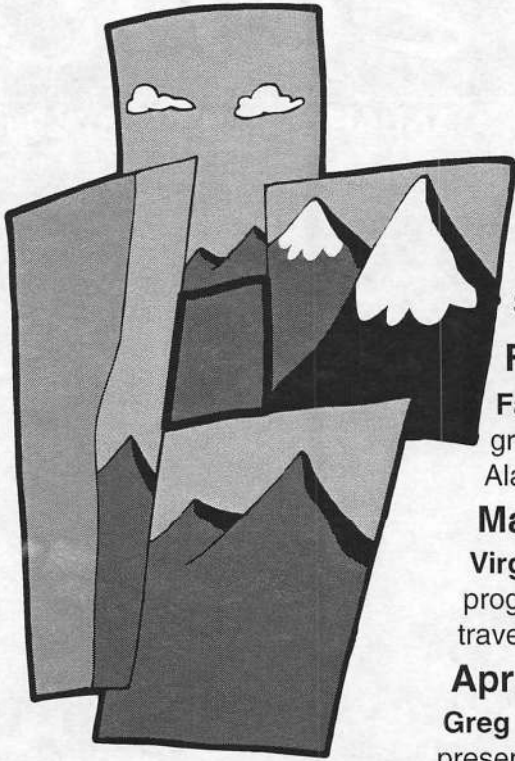
VOLUME 44 NUMBER 1



ECHO

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2000





SPS MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Sierra Peaks Section meetings are held in the Los Angeles room behind the cafeteria at the DWP, 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month. Department of Water & Power, 111 North Hope Street, Los Angeles. Free parking (please inform parking attendants that you are attending a Sierra Club meeting).

February 9

Famed Yosemite climber, Jim Bridwell, will present a program on his recent ascent of the North Face of Bear Tooth Peak, Alaska.

March 8

Virgil Talbott - Avalanche Awareness, Virgil will present a program on Avalanche Awareness for Sierra Nevada backcountry travel.

April 12

Greg Roach - Kings, Kern & Great Western Divide, Greg will present a program on climbing in the Sierra.

May 10

Les Stockton - The Red Baron Strikes Again! Butterflies in the High Sierra, Les, an old time SPS member will present the May program.

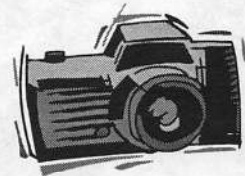
June 9

Ron Hudson - Mt Blanc & the Matterhorn, SPS Member Ron Hudson will present a program about climbing in Europe in the 80's to the Matterhorn and Mt. Blanc.

Peak List

Mt. Powell
Mt. Gilbert
Mt. Johnson
Mt. Thompson
Domelands
Longs Peak, CO
Mt. Adams, WA

Front Cover



"Surfing" The Sierra Crest Terry Flood

Photo by Greg Roach
See Story Page 12

Wanted: A Few Good People!

Retired people, students on break, or anyone with free time during the day, we need your help at the Los Angeles Chapter Office. The Chapter office relies on volunteers to carry out many important tasks. We need help with accounting, data entry, computers, graphic design and even carpentry. There are lots of opportunities to help out with general office work, such as copying, filing, sorting, mailing and telephone work.

Location: 3435 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 320, Los Angeles, CA 90010, phone (213)387-4287

SPS - Winter & Spring Trips 2000



See past editions of *The Sierra Echo* for detailed write-ups of trips without full write-ups. Trips previously described are listed without detailed write-ups in subsequent publications. Note all trips listed as MR or ER are restricted trips open to Sierra Club members only with the appropriate rock or snow skills.

FEBRUARY

M/E Feb 5 Sat LTC.SPS/DPS Annual Baldy Snow Practice same as Jan. 22. Ldr. Nile Sorenson, Asst. qualified safety instructors.

M/E Feb 12 Sat LTC/SPS Mt Rubidoux Workshop/Checkoff same as Dec 4-5 except the checkoffs for M & E must be pre-arranged. Ldrs.: V. Shields, D. Richter.

MARCH

T/MR: Birch Mtn (13,602') Ski the SE slopes of a cl2 SPS peak. Sat hike in via Tinemaha Crk, set up snow camp. Ski pm. Sun climb peak, ski out. Restricted trip. Must have suitable mountaineering experience. metal-edged skis, skin, beacons, ice axe, crampons, and advanced skiing abilities req'd. Send sase or e-mail w/ experience, h&w phones, rideshare info to co-ldrs: Reiner Stenzel, R.J. Secor.

APRIL

I Apr 8 Sat Lamont Peak (7429') Intro trip w/ car camp and moderately paced ascent (brief CI2) of an SPS qualifying peak near Walker Pass. 4 mi rt mostly on use trail, 2250' gain. Lug soles mandatory. Send sase and H&W phones. Newly added Hundred Peak nearby may be climbed independently on Sun. Ldrs: Jerry & Nancy Keating.

I/M April 15-16 Sat - SunLTP Navigation Indian Cove, Joshua Tree National Park. Checkoffs Sunday. Ldrs. Freimanis, Bradshaw

T/MR Apr 29 - May 7 Sat - Sun Trans-Sierra Ski Tour: SPS/SMS Join a 7-day backcountry ski tour across the Sierra Nevada. co-Ldrs: Reiner Stenzel, R J Secor.

MAY

M/E May 6-7 Sat-Sun LTC/SPS/DPS Sierra Snow Checkoff. Ldr: Nile Sorenson Asst: qualified safety instructors

MR: May 13 - 14 Sat - Sun Mt Agassiz (13,8931) and Mt Goode (13,0851) Ldr: Barbee Tidball Co-ldr. Barb Sholle.

I/M: May 20 - 21 Sat - Sun WTC/SPS Crag Pk (9515'), Smith Mtn (9455'): Ldr: Beth Epstein Co-ldr: Kim Gimenez

M: MAY 20 - 21 Sat - Sun Mt.Dade (13,600') Ldr: Tom McDonnell. Asst: Nile Sorenson

I/M/E May 21 Sun LTP Navigation Check-off Grinnell Ridge, San Bernardino Nat. Forest Ldrs. Freimanis, Creighton

E: May 27 - 29 Sat - Mon SPS Mt Powell (13,3641), Clyde Spires (13,2401+), Picture Peak (13,1201+) exploratory: The USGS moved the name of one of our listed peaks to another mountain! We will climb the new Mt Powell (steep snow w/ class 3 rock) and consider it for addition to The List. Also planned are climbs of two other non-listed peaks, class 4 Clyde Spires and class 3 Picture Peak. Please submit climbing resume with recent rock and ice experience, SC#, carpool info, sase to Ldr: RJ Secor. Asst: Dan Richter

T/MR: May 27-29 Sat-Mon SPS & SMS Powell (13,360') and Thompson (13,4941) Ldr: Reiner Stenzel, Asst.: Mark Goebel

Send your photos & trip write-ups to The Echo. We are always looking for stories of your mountaineering adventures.

MAY Continued

I: May 27-29 Sat-Mon Coyote (10,892') and Angora (10,1981) Ldr: Barbee Tidball Co-Ildr. Larry Tidball

JUNE

M/E: Jun 3 - 4 Sat - Sun LTC, SPS, DPS Sierra Snow Checkoff: For M & E candidates wanting to check off leadership ratings. Practice and instruction available for those wanting to brush up on new techniques. Check offs will be first. Restricted to SC mbrs with some prior basic training in snow. Send 2 SASE, SC#, climbing resume, H&W phones to Ldr: Nile Sorenson Asst: Doug Mantle

M/E June 3-4 Sat -Sun LTC/SPS/DPS Sierra Snow Checkoff same as May 6-7 trip. Ldr: Nile Sorenson Asst: qualified safety instructors

I: JUN 10 - 11 SAT - SUN SPS/WTC Olancho Pk (12,123') Ldr.: Patty Kline, asst. Paul Graff.

M: Jun 16 - 18 Fri - Sun Mt.Darwin (13,831') & Mt. Mendel (13,710')Ldr: Neal Robbins, Asst: Nile Sorenson

M: Jun 17 - 18 Sat - Sun Mt Dade (13,635'), Mt. Mills (13,468')Ldr: Beth Epstein Co-Ildr Kim Gimenez

MR: June 17 - 18 Sat - Sun Mt Baxter (13,125') Ldr: Larry Tidball Co-Ildr. Barbee Tidball.

MR: JUN 22 - 25 Thu - Sun SPS Mt Williamson (14,375'), Mt Tyndall (14,019') Ldr: Asher Waxman. Co-Ildr: Matthew Richardson.

MR: JUN 24 - 25 SAT - SUN Mt Ritter (13,1432) Ldr: Mars Bonfire Co-Lrd: Doug Mantle.

JULY

I: July 1- 2 Sat - Sun SPS/HPS Sirretta Peak (9977'), Cannel Pt (8314'), Mt Jenkins (7921') Owens Peak (8453'): Ldr: Mars Bonfire Co-Ldrs: Virgil Popescu, Tom Hill

E: Jul 1 - 4 Sat-Tues Palisade Crest (13,553'), Temple Crag (12,976') Ldr. Nile Sorenson, Asst: Bill Oliver

MR: JUL 29 - 30 Mt. Ritter (13,1431) & Banner Peak (12,936') Ldr: Neal Robbins, Asst: Paul Graff

SPS**Membership Report****WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS**

Bill Stampfl
12709 East End Avenue
Chino, CA 91710
billstampfl@earthlink.net

ADDRESS CHANGES

Alex Saunders
211 South Wilson Avenue
#105
Pasadena, CA 91106-3226
Greg Campbell

Joseph White
josephwhite@earthlink.net



*Amazing
and unbelievable as it may
seem.....it's time to plan your
Summer 2000 trips*

The Angeles Chapter Schedule

284 deadline is March 13

*Plan your trips for
July 5 - Oct. 31*

*Submit your trips to
Ron Hudson ASAP!*

Echoes from the Chair

January 14, 2000

With the passage into this millennium year I am pleased to be the new chair of the Sierra Peaks Section. I am even more pleased to have the support and help of so many of our active leaders and volunteers. As have the previous years management committees, we are pledged to support the primary goal of the section which is to climb the peaks of the Sierra Nevada.

This year opens with the continuation of our mountaineering insurance and the ability to run our restricted trips. As a section we extend beyond the Angeles Chapter, with approximately forty percent of our membership coming from outside of the Angeles Chapter. We are able to lead climbs of our beloved peaks with true mountaineering challenges and to extend the opportunity to join us to Sierra Club Members from many different geographical locations. We are more than just an Angeles Chapter entity, we are a National entity.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated and active LTC which is expanding its efforts at creating new leaders and expanding its efforts to develop the skills of existing leaders. The introduction this year by LTC of its Mountaineering Leadership Course is one more example of the section's and the chapter's commitment to steadily improve and expand the mountaineering activities of the club. With the emphasis on trained leaders and participants and safe and accident free climbing the future looks promising. Dare we hope that soon we may also be able to bring back fifth class multi-pitch rock climbing to the club? We can only become giddy with the contemplation of the possibility.

We must also stay focused on why we climb as part of the Sierra Club. We are more than just a club of climbers selfishly promoting our own self interests (I am not trying to characterize non Sierra Club mountaineering clubs as being selfish). We are part of a larger organization which sees mountaineering as one more venue by which its members can experience the wonder, joy and sanctity of our wilderness areas. With the enlightenment that comes from our excursions into the wilderness comes a stewardship to protect that which we hold so dear. With the Sierra Club we can focus our activism in an effective and constructive manner. We must not forget our obligations to the club as a whole.

We will soon be preparing our schedule of Spring and Summer climbs. Leaders, watch for coming mail out from Ron Hudson our outings chair. You should be talking now to other leaders and planning your upcoming trips. We need to have your submissions by the end of February so we can get them into the Chapter Schedule for July through October.

Stay well, climb safe, revel in the glorious adventure of the mountains.

Keith Martin
Year 2000 SPS Chair

Special Word of Thanks

A special thank you and a round of applause goes to Ann Kramer who has valiantly always watched out for the SPS at the Angeles Chapter level. This time Ann once again rattled the stores warehouse at Chapter headquarters and convinced Linda Hoyer to generously contribute two books and a year 2000 Sierra Club calendar for door prizes at the 1999 SPS Banquet. Thank you to Ann Kramer, Linda Hoyer and the Angeles Chapter.

Other 1999 banquet prizes were Greg Epperson's book, donated by Barbee Tidball.

Sierra Peaks Section Meeting Minutes

November 22, 1999

Minutes taken by: Patty Kline & Keith Martin

Management Committee Meeting

The new management committee is as follows:

Chair: Keith Martin

Vice Chair: Ron Hudson

Secretary: Scott Sullivan

Treasurer: Paul Graff

Fifth Officer: Matt Richardson

Outings: Ron Hudson

Conservation/Echo/Banquet: Barbee Tidball

Co Echo: Barbara Sholle

Echo Mailer: Elena Sherman

Safety co-chairs: Duane McRuer, Doug Mantle

Mountain Records: Tina Bowman

Archives: Dan Richter

Council Rep: Ann Kramer

Historian: Bill Oliver

Membership: Paul Graff

December 8, 1999.

SPS Banquet

Location: La Canada Flintridge Country Club

Minutes taken by Scott Sullivan

Started at 6pm with no-host bar, followed by dinner.

Barbara Tidball provided some opening remarks and conducted the raffle.

Patty Kline presented the SPS leadership award to Dan Richter.

Patty Kline announced upcoming chapter awards to be given out at the Chapter Awards Banquet. Keith Martin will receive the Outings award and Barbee Tidball will receive the Conservation award.

Emblem, senior emblem, master emblem, and list finishers were recognized.

Outgoing chair Patty Kline thanked outgoing management and introduced new chair Keith Martin.

Past SPS chairs were recognized.

Keith Martin presented Patty Kline with past chair's pin.

Keith Martin introduced the new officers:

Greg Epperson presented a slide show.

LOTHAR KOLBIG - SPS MEMBER THROUGH THE 1960'S PASSED AWAY

Lothar Kolbig, 97 a 32-year resident of Sedona (Arizonia) died Nov. 8 at Kachina Point Health Care and Rehabilitation Center, following a brief illness.

A German immigrant, Lothar passed through Ellis Island in 1922 with only \$10 in his pocket. As an engineer, he made a substantial career around his specialized knowledge of glass processing and was always able to contract for two months vacation every summer. This enabled him to travel worldwide on adventurous journeys to pursue his passion for the outdoors.

As a hiker and climber, as well as a photographer, he succeeded in climbing all the 14,000 footers around the world. He climber Mt. Kilimanjaro; the Andes to Machu Pichu; the brooks Range in Alaska. He trekked the ancient Chinese silk route from Leh, Laddahr to Srinagar, Pakistan, plus treks in Afghanistan and India. He climbed the Matterhorn in Switzerland; did the Milford Trek in New Zealand; jaunted to Boswana and the Kalahari Desert and into Ethiopia. At the age of 79, he climbed the Japanese Alps.

Lothar's most harrowing experience happened while climbing in the Canadian Rockies. He slid 60 feet down into a narrow icy crevasse. Hours later, by using his ice ax to hack footholds into the glacier, he was able to save his own life.

He was active with the Sedona Westerners as Trail Boss (president) in 1975; the Oak Creek Camera Club; the Red Rock Rovers; the Verde Valley Archaeology Club; and the Sierra Club. He was a strong supporter of The Nature Conservancy, Save the Redwoods, as well as the Verde Valley Caregivers and the Sedona Public Library.

Lothar's wife of 53 years, Myrtle preceded him in death. He is survived by his companion of 8 years, Marcella (Marcie) Kesselring, presently of Eugene, Ore. *Sedona, Ariz. local newspaper article sent by Bud Bingham.*

Jerry Keeting noted the following SPS information on Lothar:

Lothar was an active mountaineer in the Angeles Chapter before he retired and moved to Sedona. Among offices Lothar held in the SPS were vice chair, 1961; treasurer, 1962; and alternate officer, 1960 and 1967. In addition, he chaired the SPS outings committee in 1963 and the mountain records committee in 1964. A frequent leader of SPS climbs, he completed requirements for the SPS emblem in 1962.

In 1960 and 1961, Lothar's name appears in the Angeles Chapter Schedule as program director of the chapter Training Committee, which I believe was a forerunner of BMTC.

SPS LEADERSHIP AWARD 1999

By Barbee Tidball

The fourth SPS Leadership award was presented at the December 1999 banquet to Dan Richter in recognition to his leadership in the SPS and the Leadership Training Program. Dan has been a member of The Sierra Club since 1990. He currently serves on the Sierra Club national Mountaineering Oversight Committee and as Chair of the Angeles Chapter Leadership Training Committee.

Dan joined the SPS in 1991 and he has been an active and motivating force in the section for the last 9 years. Dan was the SPS Council Representative in 1993 & 1996; Secretary 1994 & 1997; Membership Chair 1994-97; Archivist 1994-Present; Chair 1995; Vice Chair 1996; and Training Coordinator 1996. As a leader Dan has given to the section his time and his climbing skills and energy. Never one to sit back and follow Dan outdid all the other trip leaders in 1997 and 1998 when he led the most trips for the SPS of any leader for the year. Part of his motivation may have been the goal of achieving his Senior Emblem, which Dan received on Mt. Pinchot June 1997.

The Angeles Chapter recognized Dan's outings leadership achievements by giving him the Outings Service Award in 1997.

Dan learned to climb in 1947-1951 in White Mountains of New Hampshire and with Swiss Guides in Switzerland. After years of not climbing he returned to the sport with energy and respect for the dangers as well as the joys of the sport. Between 1991 and the present he has taken the American Red

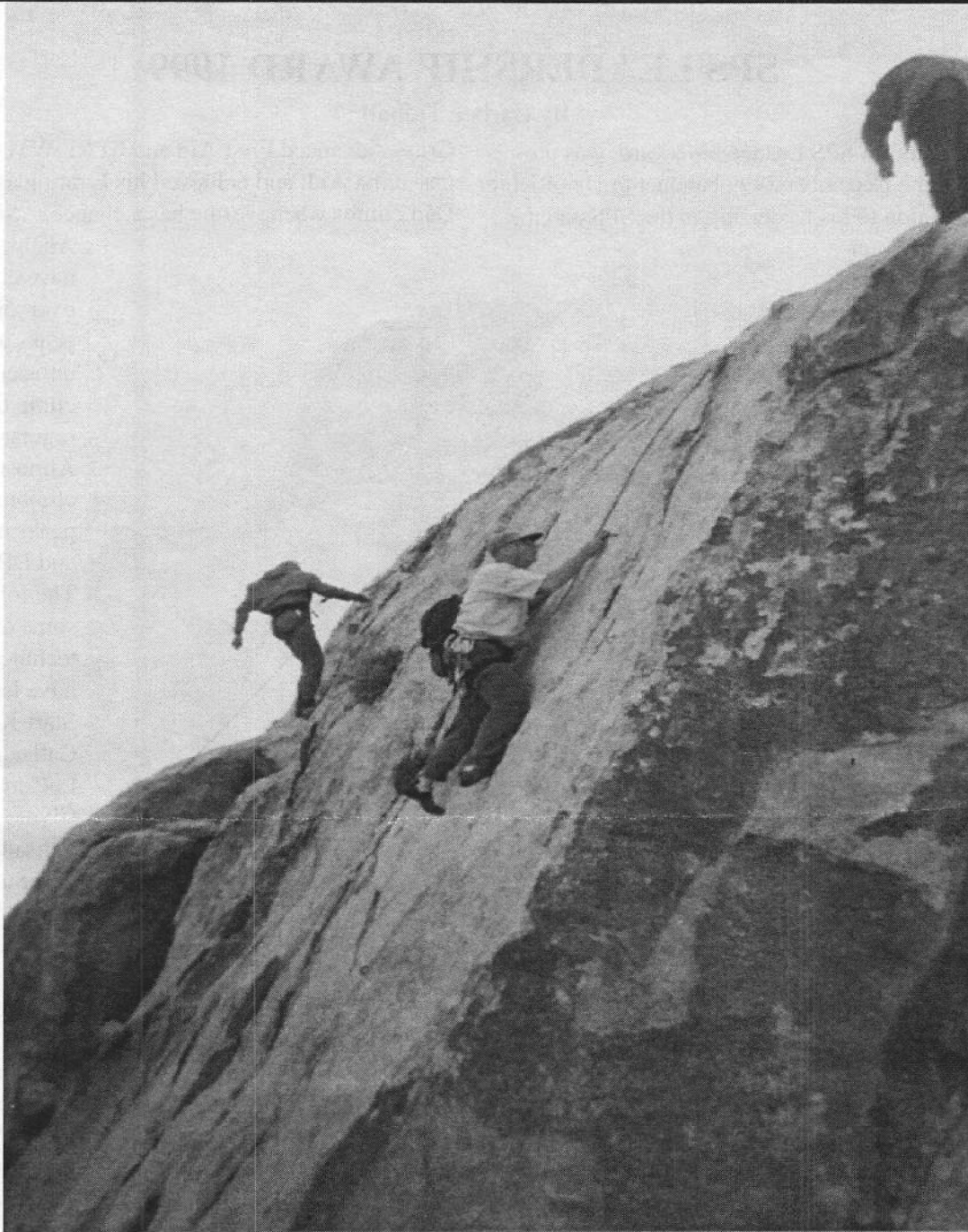
Cross Advanced First Aid and CPR; WMA Wilderness First Aid; and achieved his E rating as a leader. Dan climbs whenever he has a chance. "Since

August of 1989 I have climbed over 500 listed peaks and many unlisted. I rock climb on a regular basis. Almost all of my climbing is of peaks on the SPS and DPS lists. The following are some of the more technical peaks I have led recently: Starr King; Clark, Cathedral; LeConte; Norman Clyde; North Palisade; Thunder; Stanford; Ritter; Whorl; Jordan; Clarence King;

Humphreys; Weavers Needle; Little Picacho (2x); Russell; Snow climb of Mts. Williamson, Trojan, and Barnard from George Creek; Shasta; day hike of San Jacinto as a snow climb via Snow Creek; and the Guardian Angels. Recent climbs I have co-led or assisted on include: LeConte, Baboquivari (2x), Abbott, Bear Creek Spire, The Kaweahs, and Big Picacho."



Patty presents the Leadership Award to Dan.



Leadership Award winner and LTC Rock examiner - Dan Richter on a face at Joshua Tree

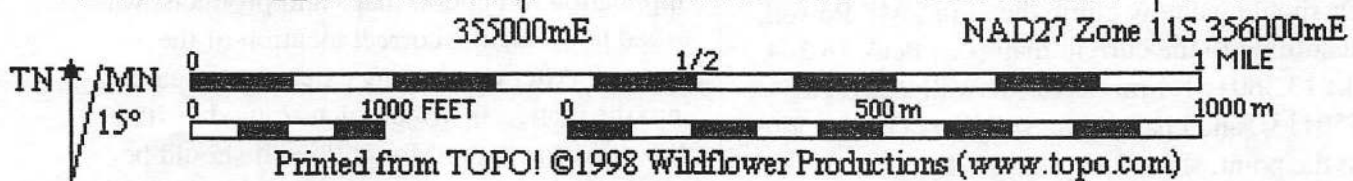
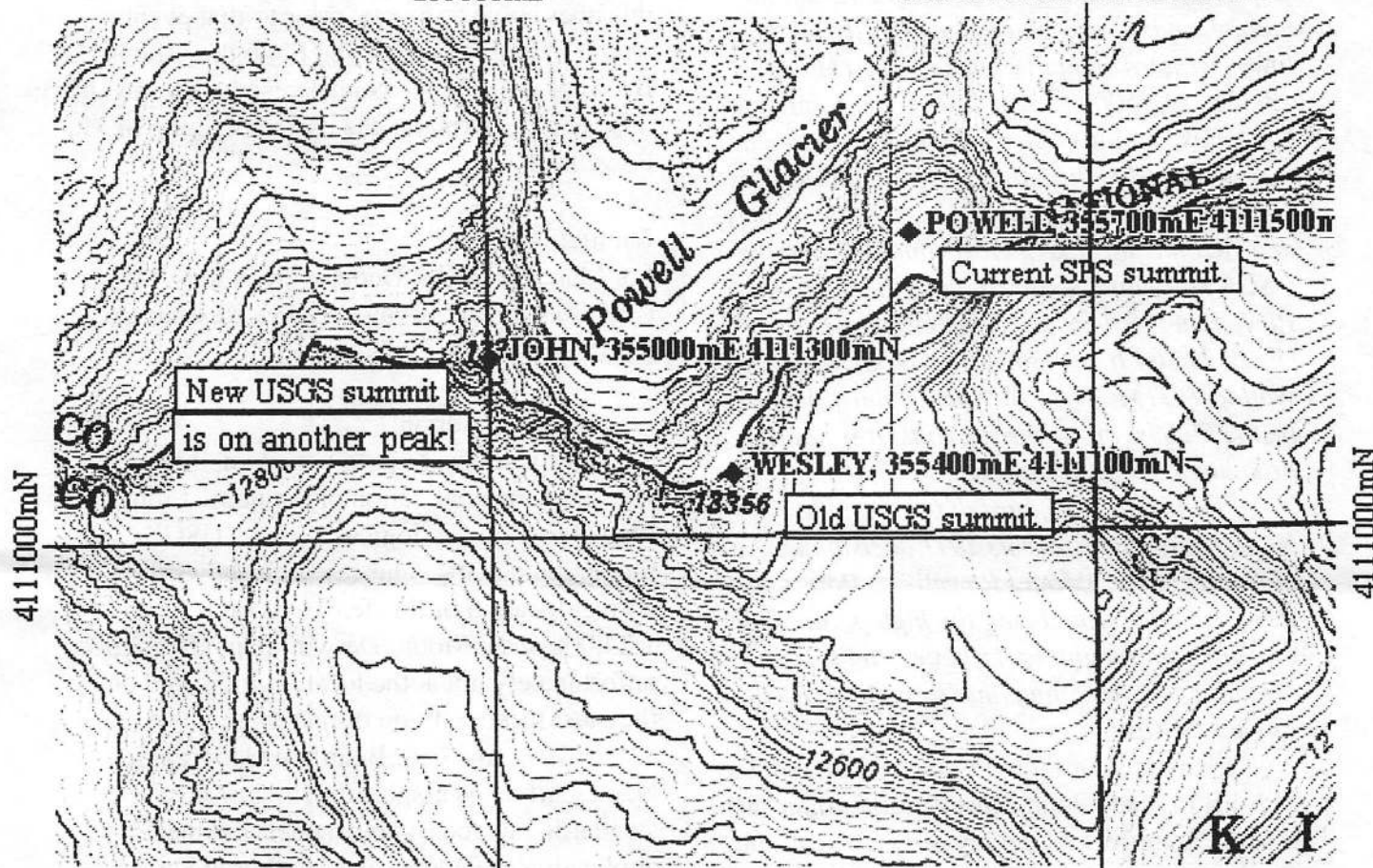
Leave No Trace - Leave What You Find

- Leave the land as you found it. If you must move soil, rocks, or logs, return them when done. Minimize site alterations in camp.
- Avoid damaging live trees and plants. Spread out if crossing a meadow in a group. Never strip trees for firewood.
- Leave natural objects and cultural artifacts - let the next wilderness visitor have the pleasure of discovery too.
- Avoid disturbing wildlife - even marmots !

ARE WE THERE YET?

Maybe not if you're climbing Mt. Powell

TOPO! map printed on 09/15/99 from "Kings Canyon.tpo" and "Kings Canyon GPS Waypoints.tpg"
 355000mE NAD27 Zone 11S 356000mE



Point Powell?

by Tina Bowman, Mountain Records Chair

Mark Adrian has noted the discrepancy between the location of the SPS Mt. Powell and the Mt Powell on the map, leading to 1998's

SPS Management Committee voting to retain the peak at UTM 557115 (37 08' 27" N, 118 37' 27" W) as the SPS List's Mt. Powell. As Mark and R.J. Secor have noted, what we call Mt. Powell is not what the USGS call Mt. Powell but rather "Point Powell." In the second edition of his The High Sierra: Peaks, Passes, and Trails, R.J. Secor details the history of the peak designation problems:

"Point Powell" (13,360 ft.+; 13,360 ft.+;

UTM 557115) Confusion has surrounded the naming of this peak, formerly called "Mount Powell." In 1911, the Board of Geographic Names named a peak in memory of John Wesley Powell, the noted western explorer and former director of the United States Geological Survey. Unfortunately, on the Mt. Goddard 15-minute map, the name was placed incorrectly on the lower western summit of this plateau (Peak 13,356; 13,360ft+; UTM 554111), informally known as "Point Wesley." This error made its way onto early editions of the Mt. Darwin 7.5-minute map. The Board of Geographic Names detected this mistake in 1983 and directed the USGS Mapping Center to place the name Mt. Powell on the third peak, called "Point John" (Peak 13,364 ft.; 13,360+; 1.4 mi SE of Mt. Wallace; UTM 550113). While Point John may be the highest of the three points, it is not as prominent as Point Powell.

I hope that the Board of Geographic Names will reconsider its 1911 decision and place the name "Mount Powell" to Point Powell. Aside from being the high point of the plateau, this summit looks better and it is an aesthetic, challenging climb from the Powell-Thompson Col.

What are your thoughts about changing the SPS list to read "Point Powell" rather than "Mt Powell" to reflect the reality of what we climb? Or should we now climb the "true" Mt. Powell, according to the current map (i.e., Peak 13,364 ft.; 13,360+; 1.4 mi SE of Mt Wallace; UTM 550113), and change the SPS List? To be more to the point, should we change the name of what we climb or change what we climb? Should we leave our list and what we climb as is? And then there's the whole can of worms of Point Powell not being an official place name approved by the Board of Geographic

Names. The "new" Mt. Powell will be led over Memorial Day, so join the trip or read all about it in the Echo.



More Thoughts.....

Mark Adrian writes:

I read in the latest Echo that RJ is leading a trip 5/27 - 29/00 to Mt. Powell and states:....will "consider it for addition to The List". If indeed this does come to a vote, prior to that event, I would like to submit to The Echo the official Board of Geographic Names response to my query this year that explains the correct naming of Mt. Powell.

Jennifer Runyon

For Manager GNIS, Geographic Names Office
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Reston VA
(703) 648-4550 e-mail jrnyon@usgs.gov

Dear Mr. Adrian:

This is in response to your e-mail inquiry regarding the application of the name Mount Powell to U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps. Our research shows the correct location of this feature is on the USGS 1:24,000-scale Mount Darwin map, although unfortunately not at the location indicated on the most recent edition of that map.

In 1982, the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, which is responsible by law for standardizing geographic names and their application to Federal maps and products, was asked to define the correct location of the feature. After conducting extensive research into the matter, the Board determined in June 1983 that the name Mount Powell should be applied to the peak shown at 37°08'19" North, 118°37'59" West, which has an elevation of 4,073 m (13,364 ft). These coordinates are situated on the Mount Darwin topographic map, at an approximate midpoint between Mount Wallace and Mount Thompson, and just northwest of the head of Powell Glacier. This 1983 decision by the Board further affirmed a decision it had rendered in 1911, when it first approved the name Mount Powell in honor of John Wesley Powell (1834-1902), the pre-eminent explorer and former director of the USGS. The historical files for the 1911

decision also pinpointed the location at the coordinates provided above, although the elevation of the summit was listed as 4,072 m (13,361 ft).

Unfortunately, at some time after the 1911 decision, the name of the summit was incorrectly applied to another feature located 427 m (1,400 ft) to the southeast of the correct location (elevation 4,071 m (13,356 ft). This incorrect application appeared on the 1948 edition of the 1:62,500-scale USGS Mount Goddard map, and again on the 1970 reprinting of that map. When, in 1982, the first 1:24,000-scale map of that area was in production by the USGS, the misapplication was detected, thus prompting the 1983 decision by the U.S. Board. Although the 1983 edition of the Mount Darwin map carried the earlier incorrect application, the reprinting of that map in 1985 showed the correct location.

Unfortunately, however, when the Mount Darwin map was revised in 1994, the incorrect source material was used, and the former, incorrect, point was labeled Mount Powell. We have notified the Mapping Center of the inaccuracy, and have been assured that the correct application will be reflected on future editions of the map.

With regard to the location cited in your message, in which you indicate that Mount Powell should in fact appear on the Mount Thompson topographic map, our research shows that that name has never been applied to that location on any Federal sources. However, if you believe that the name is applied incorrectly to the Mount Darwin map and would like the U.S. Board to revisit its earlier decisions, please let us know. We shall be happy to provide you with a packet of material outlining the Board's principles and policies, along with the procedures necessary for submitting proposed changes to the Board for consideration. Or, you may prefer to view these guidelines at our website at the following address:

<http://mapping.usgs.gov/www/gnis/pppdgn.html>

As with all name proposals, we would coordinate any research on the matter with all

interested parties, which in this case, would include the Fresno and Inyo County governments; the California State Advisory Committee on Geographic Names; the National Park Service; and the U.S. Forest Service.

We hope this information will be helpful to you, and we appreciate you bringing this matter to our attention. If you have further questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

SNOW

January 23, 2000 Ron Jones submitted an article by William Tweed, Visalia Times-Delta on the LOW snowfall we were having. In fact the January 8, 2000 article started out by stating "We seem to be entering the driest spell in the mountains in more than 20 years." By January 8th we were 1/3 of the way into what looked like it was going to be an extremely dry year. William Tweed noted "We've seen winter weather this dry before, but not since the back-to-back drought winters of 1975-1976 and 1976-1977." Ron Jones commented that "I remember backpacking to Alta Meadow in February, 1977 and camping on barren ground at 9,200 feet."

On January 8th the year 2000 was looking like it would surpass 1977 for the record super-dry year. "In 1976-1977 total precipitation at Lodgepole eventually totalled a deficient 23 inches;" Old Man winter seems to have heard our concerns, before I could run Ron's story it snowed!

As of February 1st the snow back was up to 70% of normal. The northern Sierra has the majority of the snowpack with 80% of normal snowfall, central Sierra is at 68%, and southern Sierra is at 61%. 1999 ended with the 6th driest December on record according to the LA Times. We still need to continue have normal snowfall in February and March, but the late January and early February storms are easing concerns for now.

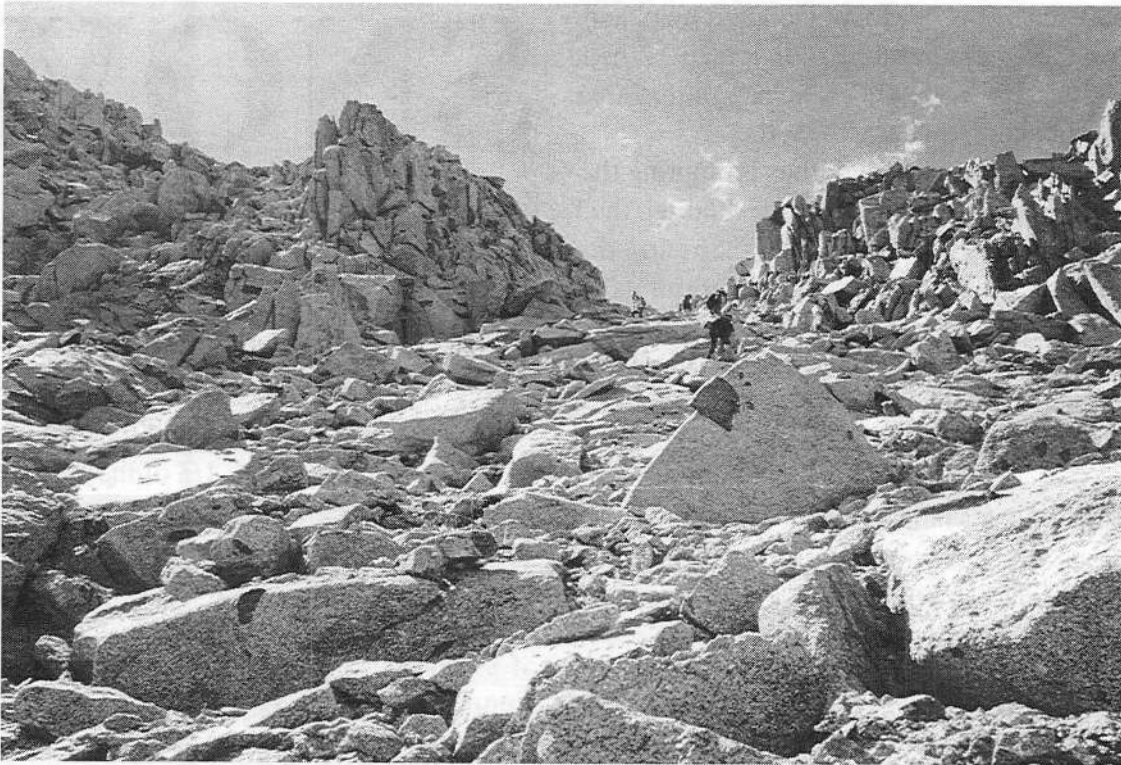
Mt. Gilbert & Mt. Johnson

July 17 -18, 1999

by Greg Roach

This trip was supposed to be a provisional lead for Maria Roa but she got giardia and couldn't come, so I took over as leader and Rich Gnagy was the assistant leader. The other members of the group were Allan Conrad, Gary

are good camp sites here and it is never as crowded as the lower lakes. We camped at the northernmost lake. After setting up camp we had some lunch and then continued up the drainage to Mt. Johnson.



Descending from Mt. Johnson

Photo by Greg Roach

Craig, Terry Flood, Tom Randel, and Mirna Roach.

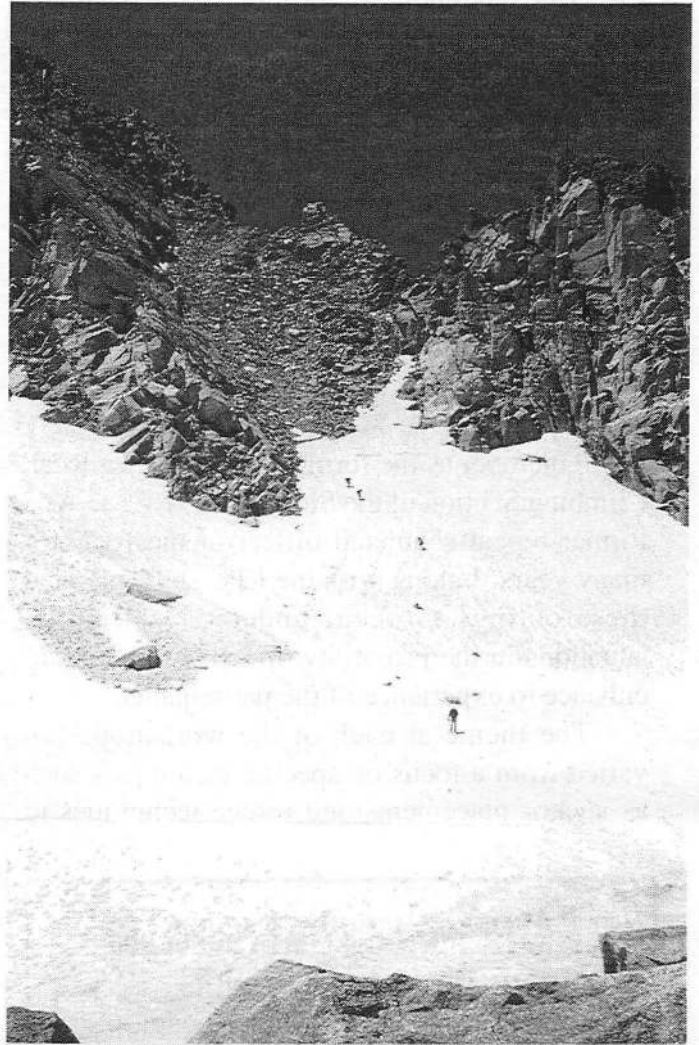
We left the parking lot at South Lake Saturday morning after shuttling some cars down to the overflow backpacker parking area and were soon up at the largest Treasure Lakes 10,688. It is about 4 miles and 1,000 feet elevation gain to here along a good heavily used trail. We then followed a use trail which goes up along the stream to the next higher lakes. In about a half mile cross the stream and climb over some rock slabs and you will be at the chain of three lakes at elevation 11,175. There

We crossed a snow field as we climbed up past the next higher lake on its east side and arrived at the highest of the treasure Lakes. From here we then climbed directly up the northeast ridge of Mt. Johnson staying a little bit on the east side. Halfway up we came to a broad chute to the top of the ridge where we could look down the other side and see Treasure Col and Mt. Gilbert - the route for tomorrow. From the saddle we continued on up the ridge staying on the east side until right below the high point. Then up to the summit where we enjoyed the view. This route is very straight-

forward. We were back in camp in time for an early dinner.

The next morning we were off early to climb Mt. Gilbert. This time we passed the next higher lake in the drainage on its western side and headed up the canyon towards Treasure Col. The Snow was very hard as we came to the first snowfield. Those of us who had crampons put them on here and we cut steps in the snow for the people who did not think they would be necessary. Treasure Col is located about .3 of a mile northwest of Mt. Johnson. There was snow on the lower half of the chute leading up to the col. The rock on the side of the chute was loose and we found it better going in the middle of the chute. We stopped at the top of the Col for a snack and enjoyed the view. The southern side of the col is not as steep and we followed the ledges down the south side angling over towards Mt. Gilbert. The southeast side of Mt. Gilbert is easy class 2 with a plateau-like summit. The north and east sides of the peak are steep drop-offs. Some of us had fun climbing up on a large boulder on the east side of the plateau overlooking the drop-off. (see cover photo)

This was an enjoyable trip. The weather was perfect, the wildflowers were out, and even the mosquitos were not too numerous. Thanks to everyone who joined the outing.



Descending Treasure Col on the way back from Mt. Gilbert.
Photo by Greg Roach

“A Touch of Italy Amist the Domes”

by Virgil Shields/LTC Rock Chair

“I’m not sure that I’d have climbed up here if I knew what I was getting into”, said Peter Veregge, a trip participant, as he lowered himself on a sling attached to a bolt from the summit of Church Dome. He refused to look down as his feet searched out the 4 inch wide sloping catwalk beneath him that led to the rappel. The 160 foot vertical and free rappel onto 3rd class rock that

followed made him even more certain. Though it was twilight and windy which added to the thrill of the descent, the day had gone extremely well. It had been an exciting one amidst the domes of Domelands Wilderness.

The LTC and SPS sponsored Rock Workshop and Italian Potluck was held on the weekend of September 23-24 alongside climbers from the

Southern California Mountaineers Association (SCMA). The choice of location was in the midst of Domelands Wilderness back along what my assistant leader, Pat McKusky, referred to as a 25 mile long "class 3" dirt road. This outing was the first of a series of LTC Rock Workshops that are scheduled to occur each month extending through May of the year 2000 to provide opportunities for Sierra Club leaders to enhance their climbing experience. In addition, this particular trip, as well as the Owens Ridge trip in the spring of this year, was arranged to occur in the same area and time as a trip led by the SCMA which unfortunately few remember as the formerly well known Rock Climbing Section of the Sierra Club (RCS). As a former repeat chair and officer of the RCS for many years, I along with the LTC staff, planned these outings to occur under real climbing situations in the proximity of active climbers to enhance to experience of the participants.

The theme at each of the workshops has varied from a focus on specific techniques such as anchor placements and rescue techniques to

actual leading of parties under mixtures of real 3rd, 4th and low 5th class ascents. During the two days of the workshop we exposed the group to 5.8 to 5.10 top rope climbs in a Sierra alpine environment and a mixed 3rd, 4th and 5th class ascent to the highest point in the Church Dome massif. Meanwhile we had the pleasure of a successful E level checkoff by Scott Carlisle who was examined by assistant leader, Pat McKusky. The E level checkoff in this case was performed with an audience composed of part of the workshop participants with Scott required to act as an instructor while performing his tasks as part of the checkoff. But of course, the highlight of the first day was the gathering that evening for the potluck feast alongside the SCMA members who had returned from their climbs.

Well known SCMA climber, rock climbing guidebook author and Sierra Club leader, Greg Vernon, treated us to his authentic Naples Ragu Sauce. The potluck theme was Greg's idea and all enthusiastically enjoyed the food and Italian wine that seemed unending in quantity. There was far more food shared than we were capable of consuming however various SCMA climbers made sure that no leftovers remained as the banquet approached a satisfying end. A couple of LTC participants, Neal Robbins and Will McWhinney, along with myself and Greg Vernon, attempted to continue the old RCS tradition of "carousing till midnight and rising early to climb". Unfortunately my attempts to hand off that tradition so I could get a good night's sleep had little success. Fortunately I was able to stagger safely to my bed in the back of my truck shortly before midnight. However blowing up a sleeping pad after a night of carousing doesn't help one's physical condition.

The final day of the trip involved an ascent into the area of Church Dome known as the Convent. Here we covered the more practical aspects of anchor placements and belaying while an opportunity for 5.10 top rope climbing was provided by Greg Vernon who led the routes. The workshop ended in the mid afternoon on a satisfying note as all participants descended the few hundred feet back through the forest to their cars. Unfortunately there was still that class 3 road.

NEW NATIONAL MONUMENT PROPOSALS

SEND YOUR LETTERS NOW!!!

President Clinton, The White House,
Washington, D.C. 20500
Fax (202)456-2461
e-mail president@whitehouse.gov

Encourage Clinton to confer National Monument status to these CA sites.

The Carrizo Plain - CA central valley
Soda Mountain - 38,000-acres at the CA OR border.

Medicine Lake - volcanic region w/ wildlife & Native American history

Giant Sequoia Groves - 75 remaining groves w/ 400,000 adjoining watersheds

Pinnacles National Monument addition - Babbit proposed doubling the monument, an add. 24,000 acres of fed. land.

Rock and Islands- 7,000 rocks and small islands within 12 mi of CA coast

Santa Rosa - Pyramid Pk roadless area, San Jacinto & Santa Rosa wilderness areas. Palm Canyon, bighorn sheep.

Through the Keyhole to Longs Peak

A Colorado Classic

11 October 1999 - Bill Oliver

Colorado is God's country. Well, OK, Colorado and Utah are God's country. Utah has lots of slick rock and Colorado has lots of slick 14ers.

I came to Denver Saturday, 9 October, for a Sierra Club meeting - the Outdoor Activities Governance Committee. [I chair a subcommittee that has oversight over all Club outings that involve the use of climbing ropes and/or ice axes.] We actually met in nearby Golden, the home of both Coors and the American Mountaineering Center. The latter facility is the joint headquarters of the American Alpine Club and the Colorado Mountain Club, and we met in it. Our meeting went very well. End of that story.

Now, time to get serious and head NW two+ hours up to Rocky Mountain National Park. From anywhere near Denver, Longs Peak easily dominates the Front Range skyline. At 14,255 feet, it is the most northern 14er in the state and one of the most solitary among the 54. Named for Maj. Stephen Long, who in 1820 led the first "official" exploratory expedition to the area, it was not topped by non-natives until 1868. [It had previously been "unclimbable."] The gnarly inaugural ascent party was led by Maj. John Wesley Powell, the same one-armed dude who the following year made the gnarly inaugural descent of the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon.

Longs Peak is now one of the most climbed 14ers in Colorado. At upwards of 10,000 ascents a year, it must also rank as about the most crowded during the summer season! Among the easier 14ers, however, it is certainly not. The last mile on the "classic" Keyhole Route, the easiest path to the summit plateau, provides sustained, often exposed, 3rd class rock in mid-to-late summer. The rest of the year it is

"technical" due to snow and ice. Then we have the old Cables Route on the north face - two pitches, 5.4; Kiener's Route, the easiest on the east face - multi-pitch, 5.4; and a plethora of other high end lines up Longs enormous near-vertical east face. The latter also encompasses the infamous, sheer, blank Diamond wall, first climbed in 1960 when the Park finally granted permission. I would be content with the mere goal of summitting!

September must be the most popular month to climb Longs, as the mid-summer threat of afternoon thunderstorms drops from something like over 75% to under 25%. Climbing in July and August thus requires about a 3 AM start to ensure that one is well on the way down when the thunder first barks. The Keyhole Route had officially gone "technical" a couple of weeks ahead of my arrival - after the Rockies' first heavy dusting of snow. Not much of this blanketing remained on the sun-facing slopes, but there was significant snow and some scattered ice in the shady upper reaches of the peak. Summer was somehow still hanging in there, however, as it was currently shorts and T-shirt weather throughout the state under near cloudless skies. Let us not dally.

A short walk from the East Longs Trailhead (9400'), the Longs Peak Campground (first-come, first served, \$10) was now nearly deserted, and the piped water had already been turned off for the lurking winter. The ranger station was also closed. Less than 30 minutes away, however, the tourist haven of Estes Park still managed to be stuck in gridlock for the weekend.

Monday, Columbus Day, a little past 0500 I signed in at the trailhead register and set off amid very mild conditions under a moonless, greatly starved sky. I abruptly emerged above treeline (10,600') about 6:30, as the yet unseen sun quietly struggled to awaken in the east. This boundary also signaled my crossing into a somewhat windy day. I was now in the realm of the tenuous elfin timber and fragile alpine tundra. Before long, as I approached the

Chasm Lake junction, the great Diamond wall loomed menacingly ahead of me. I was quite content to be on the Keyhole Route, even though it meant making a wide detour that eventually would almost circle the mountain CCW. Total distance one-way is 7.5+ miles.

Although Longs is most commonly climbed as a dayhike (no permit then needed), there are three designated (reservation-only) camping areas near water on the way to the Keyhole. None appeared to be currently in use, although two climbers were observed to be quietly bivied at the Chasm Lake junction.

headwall ridge above the Boulderfield. The route to it across the latter is somewhat ducked, but you can largely play it by ear. Immediately below the left edge of the slot is the Agnes Vaille Memorial Shelter. This octagonal stone hut (~10-ft inside diameter) was completed in 1927 in memory of Ms. Vaille, who succumbed to exhaustion and hypothermia on descent after she and her partner achieved the first winter ascent of the east face. Unfortunately, according to Longs climbing ranger Jim Detterline, when the peak won Wilderness status in 1973, the man-made shelter had to go.



“The Keyhole with hut”

photo by Bill Oliver

[Rock climbers are supposed to have a special permit to bivvy!] By 8:45 I was past Granite Pass and at the base of “The Boulderfield.” There are remnants of the old cabin and stables, superseded by quite a few rock-walled tent sites. This was supposed to be my last chance for running water. Luck was against me, however, as the small creek was already hopelessly frozen.

The so-called “Keyhole” was now clearly at hand (13,150’), a distinctive slot in the steep

They successfully evaded this somewhat by simply removing its door, thereby changing the character of the structure from a building to just a memorial. So, it still functions as a summer storm shelter, but fills with snow in the winter. [The code having been broken here, please keep this under your hat!] The Park also had to remove the cables referenced above – making a then-common route revert to 5.4. “You win some and you lose some,” per Jim. Undaunted, I took refuge in the empty “shelter” for half an

hour at 9:20, snacking up, readying my crampons and caching some gear.

Stepping through the Keyhole is the defining moment of the climb. One crosses from the north face to the west face, from an easy slope in the Boulderfield to a daunting wall high above Glacier Gorge, from the realm of the hiker to that of the mountaineer. Any hope that the winds would diminish around the corner was quickly blown away. The route finding from the Keyhole to the summit is seriously "aided" by red and yellow bulls-eyes painted on the rocks. These were not pictographed by the Anasazi! Sometimes you can see two or three ahead, sometimes they're just a tad elusive. They are always comforting.

From the Keyhole, a long mostly snow-free traverse with several ups and downs landed me at the base of "The Trough" – the upper 550 ft of a prominent couloir that would be only moderate 3rd class without snow. A couple of climbers were now on their way back from the summit, without the use of ice ax, crampons or bottled oxygen. While clearly doable, this meant carefully traveling on the mostly snow-free left edge of the gully amid steeper rock. Partway up, experiencing intermittent ice, I finally unsheathed the ax and affixed my crampons. The convergent head of the gully is guarded by an implacable chockstone. This sentinel, however, can be outflanked on either side with one or two semi-hard moves.

Turning another corner now, onto the upper south face, one next encounters "The Narrows" – thin ledges with the most sustained exposure on the route, but currently snow-free. YES! Again, more up and down traversing. Ah, but surely I could smell the summit now; all that remained was "The Homestretch." Good grief! Another shady gully, shorter and narrower than the Trough but with steeper rock and snow and some ice. Avoiding the latter two by the edges was doable but non-trivial. While climbing I placed my pick in the firm snow several times along here and was glad I had the ax.

Five minutes to noon, two hours from the

hut, the summit is under my feet. YES! It is startlingly flat, somewhat smaller than a football field, and somehow wind-free under a warm and cloudless sky. The Colorado Mountain Club stows its registers in plastic pipes. The current book was getting close to full, and I was surprised to note that it had been placed less than five weeks earlier yet now held about 425 names. Most names, of course, were entered prior to the route going "technical." There were nine entries on Sunday, and there would be another 8 or 9 today. [CMC registers allow one line per name, including your hometown and optional comments! When full, they are sent to their archives in Golden.]

Summit views from this part of the state are certainly different than those from the Sierra Nevada. Any glance to the east yields a disturbingly flat horizon – at least as far as Minnesota. About a hundred miles to the south, Pikes Peak stands out as another solitary 14er. Both Longs and Pikes belong to the Front Range of the Rockies, well east of the Continental Divide.

Following a solitary 40-minute topside vigil, I turned around at 12:35 and reclaimed the Keyhole hut by 2:30. This arrival was delayed a little when I idly misplaced the bulls-eyes and went for a prominent "false" keyhole notch. The trailhead was regained just past 6:00, about a half-hour ahead of sunset. I probably could have completed the climb a couple of hours sooner without the current snow cover. Guides generally recommend allowing 7-8 hours up and 5 down. Disappointingly, I failed to spot any elk, bighorn sheep or even marmots, contenting myself instead with assorted little rock conies/pikas.

While descending the Trough with ice ax and crampons, I was startled to meet a young man ascending in shorts and running shoes. So, was I more alarmed about his safety or about his view of my wimpy style? This gnarly dude from North Carolina later caught up with me back near the Keyhole. Having



**“The Narrows” on the way to the summit.
photo Bill Oliver**

reflected more about the concerns I had shared with him, he turned around short of the Narrows. A free spirit on a youth’s odyssey, he

had plans for heading up to Wyoming then Mexico, and sometime later hiking the Pacific Crest Trail. I commented that he sounded a little like Chris McCandless. He understood me and said that he intended not to make the mistakes of the young man who perished in the Alaskan wilderness. [Refer to “Into the Wild,” by Jon Krakauer.]

So, how does Longs Peak compare to, say, Mt. Whitney? Hey, don’t be that way - they’re both great peaks and offer a variety of fun climbs. I’ll only add my observation that the Keyhole Route, the easiest path to Longs’ summit, is comparable to the Mountaineers’ Route on Whitney. When in the Denver area, head for Longs. When in the Lone Pine area, don’t miss Whitney. End of story.

Longs Peak Web Resources:

Official RMNP site: www.nps.gov/romo/

Unofficial RMNP site: estes.on-line.com/rmnp/

Colorado Rocky Mountains Trip Reports:
net.indra.com/~stevep/CRMTR/

Colorado’s 14ers: www.mountainweb.com/
[formerly: www.14ers.com/]

Hiking in Colorado: www.hikingincolorado.org

Opposed to the Fee Demonstration Program?

Don’t just complain about the Inyo permit fees

.....take action, write letters, make this a year 2000 election issue.

Vice President Al Gore has come out in favor of the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program and increased private ventures on our public lands! The Sierra Club is opposed to this policy.

Write Mr. Joe Andrew, Chairperson Democratic Nat. Comm., 403 S. Capital St., S.E., Wash. DC 20003 and/or Mr. Jim Nicholson, Chairperson Republican Nat. Comm., 310 1st. St., S.E. Washington, DC 20003.

Urge them to seek the support of the environmental community by coming out firmly against the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program.

Mt. Adams, Washington

July 27, 1999

by Bob Sumner

Mt. Adams is a prominent Cascade volcano located in southern Washington. When approached via the south in summer, the moderately steep snow slopes can be safely and enjoyably climbed.

From the town of Trout Lake, you go north and follow the signs for the Mt. Adams Recreation Area. This gets you onto road 8040 (dirt), which is then followed to the Cold Springs trailhead and camping area (5,600').

I left the cozy confines of my car at 3:45 am. The trail didn't last long and soon my headlamp was lighting up the well-trodden path in the snow. It wasn't until light a couple of hours later that a brief respite from the snow was found at Lunch Counter (9,000'). Here there were oodles upon oodles of campers. Far above, many earlier-birds were already nearing the summit.

I stopped for a snack at Lunch Counter, and to warm my chilly hands in the early morning sun. Next was the Suksdorf Ridge, the south spur that leads up to the false summit, known as Piker's Peak. Shortly I pressed on. There must have been 60 people slowly switchbacking up the firm steep snow slope. A few groups were roped together for safety.

I was about halfway up the slope and near a little glissade trough when I heard a scraping noise coming from above. I could hardly believe my eyes, for some idiot was attempting to glissade down the still-frozen trough. He was hopelessly out of control and his ax was just scraping along on the ice with no effect. The look on his face was one of fear. I stepped away from the trough and watched him whizz by. Down he went, a full 2000 feet to the snow flats near Lunch Counter. When he stopped he didn't get up for quite a while. My guess is that he walked away with some ass bruises that he won't soon forget. Miraculous that he didn't fly

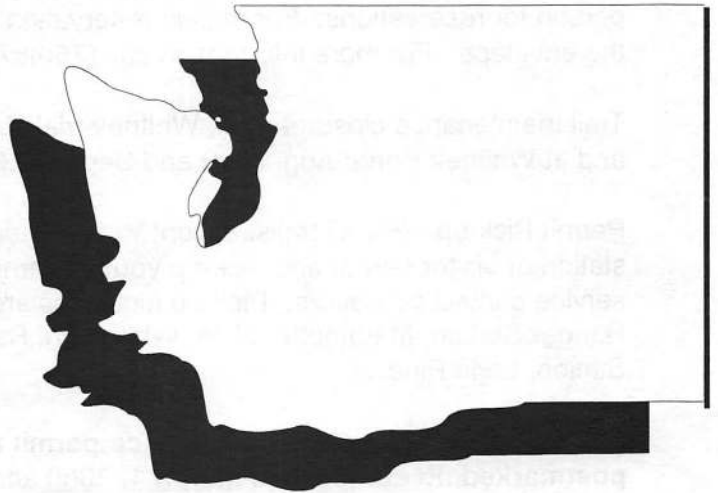
out of the trough and start tumbling.

Once this buffoonery was done, I plodded on to Piker's Peak (11,657'). Here many groups were resting so I continued on. By 9:00 am I was on the 12,276' summit admiring the views of Mt. Ranier and Glacier Peak to the north. There were a dozen others on top and we all sat in a row on a snowbank, facing north to Ranier.

It was still very cool and breezy so I left after 15 minutes. The descent included many fun glissades, both long and short, though I avoided the still-frozen trough. By noon I was back at the car, having completed the climb in just over 8 hours.

Since the time of this trip, the Forest Service has included the Mt. Adams area in the Recreation Fee Pilot Project. In order to legally ascend the peak, you must purchase a Cascade Volcano Pass. This is valid for travel above 7000' feet on Mt. Adams, and includes day or overnight use. A weekend pass is \$15.00 (Fri-Sun) or a weekday pass is \$10.00. An annual pass can be had for \$30.00 and includes Mt. St. Helen privileges as well.

Mt. Adams is a fun climb, but unfortunately, it's no longer free.



Statistics: Mt. Adams, 10 miles, 7000' gain, class 3 snow.

2000 WILDERNESS PERMIT INFORMATION

Yosemite: Yosemite requires permits for overnight use year round. Day use permits are not required. Applications may be made by mail or phone. Permits applications are processed in random order. Your permit application will be processed for any trip 24 weeks to the day before departure up to 2 days before departure. 60% of permits are issued to reservations and 40% the day of entry on a first come 1st serve basis. For mail in reservations write Wilderness Permit Reservations, Yosemite, P.O. Box 545, Yosemite, CA 95389. To phone in a reservation call 209/372-0740 Advance reservations are **\$5.00 per person**, make checks out to Yosemite Association, or use a major credit card number with the expiration date. Permits are issued by mail or in person. For general permit and day use information call 209/372-0310 or log on to www.nps.gov/yose/wilderness/permits.htm. For trail information call 209/372-0200.

Inyo National Forest/ Whitney Zone: Permits are required year-round for overnight trips and day use wilderness permits are required on the main Mt. Whitney trail for hikes beyond Lone Pine Lake. Trailhead quotas are in effect the last Friday in June through Sept. 15th, except Whitney where the period is May 15th through Nov. 1st. For all trails, except Mt. Whitney 60% of quota permits can be reserved ahead. On the main Whitney trail, 100% advance reservations, with permits awarded through an April lottery. Then if any remain unreserved or cancelled these will be available up to one day before departure on a 1st come basis.

Permit applications are accepted starting **March 1, 2000** up to 3 weeks before an entry date. Fees of **\$5.00 per person** are charged for advance reservations only. Mt. Whitney applications are accepted in February only, advance reservation fee is **\$15.00 per person**. Mail or FAX Wilderness Reservation Office, Inyo National Forest, 873 N. Main, Bishop, CA 93514, FAX 760/873-2484. Confirmation letters will be sent. No refunds for cancellation of confirmed reservations. Group size maximum 15. Note if you enter the Mt. Whitney zone the fee is a total of \$15.00 per person for reservations. For mail-in reservation indicate trailhead on outside lower left corner of the envelope. For more information call (760)873-2408 or log on to www.r5.fs.fed.us/inyo.

Trail maintenance closures - Mt. Whitney trail above Lone Pine Lk. Aug. 8,9,10 and Sept. 5,6,7 and at Whitney Portal Aug. 7,8,9 and Sept. 4,5,6.

Permit Pick-up - For all trails, except Whitney trail, bring your confirmation letter to the ranger station or visitor center and pick-up your wilderness permit in person. This maximizes forest service contact w/ visitors. Pick-up locations are Mono Basic Visitor Center, Lee Vining; Mammoth Ranger Station, Mammoth Lakes; White Mtn. Ranger Station, Bishop and Mt. Whitney Ranger Station, Lone Pine.

The following areas all have advance permit reservations available. Requests should be postmarked no earlier than March 1, 2000 and no later than 3 weeks before a planned trip .

Sequoia & Kings Canyon Park: Wilderness Permit Reservations, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, Three Rivers, CA 93271. Phone 559/565-3134. \$10.00 reservation fee for permits is required. Group size maximum is 15 in heavy use periods, mid May to mid Sept.

Sierra National Forest: Kaiser, John Muir wildernesses Wilderness Reservations, Pineridge Ranger District, P.O. Box 300, Shaver Lake, CA 93664. Phone 559/855-5355. \$3.00 per person permit fee. Permits issued by pick-up in person only. All areas require overnight permits and group

size maximum is 15. Reservations considered by mail only at least 3 weeks in advance. **North of the San Joaquin River- Dinkey Lks., Ansel Adams** Wilderness Reservations, Minarets Ranger District, P.O. Box 10, North Fork, CA 93643. Phone 559/877-2218. \$3.00 per person permit fee. Note Monarch does not have a quotas and therefore does not have permit reservations.

Sequoia National Forest - Golden Trout: Westside Wilderness Reservations, Tule River Ranger District, 32588 Hwy 180, Springvale, CA 93265 (559) 539-2607 **Southside** Cannell Meadow Ranger District, P.O. Box 6, 105 Whitney Rd., Kernville, CA 93238 (760) 376-3781

Toiyabe National Forest: Bridgeport Ranger District, P.O. Box 595, Bridgeport, CA 93517. Phone 619/932-7070. \$3.00 per person permit fee and reservations available for Hoover Wilderness only. Permits issued by mail or in person.

Stanislaus National Forest - Mokelumne, Carson-Iceberg, Emigrant Wilderness Areas: Stanislaus National Forest, Supervisor's Office, 19777 Greenley Road, Sonora, CA 05370. Phone 209/532-3671. No permit or permit reservation fee. Overnight permits required.

Include on your applications the following information:

Entry Date _____ Exit Date _____
Trail Entry _____
Trail Exit _____
Method Of Travel _____
Number of People _____
Number of Stock _____

<u>Overnight Camp Areas</u>	<u># Nights in Camp</u>
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____

Organization/Group Name _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone: _____

Most areas recommend sending in alternate dates, trailheads etc. Send in a check or note your credit card number w/ exp. date for each permit. Request permits separately, per date of entry.

Note: Steve Eckert has organized an electronic file of Ranger Contacts on the web at <http://www.climber.org/eckert/RangerContacts.html>

Get your permits early and remember to cancel if you can't use a permit you receive. Let's schedule lots of SPS climbs this summer! Barbee

!!!! SUBMIT SUMMER TRIP WRITE-UPS TO RON HUDSON BY THE END OF FEBRUARY !!!!

RESTORE HETCH HETCHY

P.O. BOX 289
YOSEMITE, CA 95389
www.hetchhetchy.org

Dam Hetch Hetchy! As well dam for water-tanks the people's cathedrals and churches, for no holier temple has ever been consecrated by the heart of man.—John Muir

Dear Friend of Hetch Hetchy,

I have some exciting news to share about Hetch Hetchy.

A new organization, RESTORE HETCH HETCHY, has been formed to focus public attention on the benefits of restoring Hetch Hetchy Valley, the place John Muir called “a wonderfully exact counterpart of Yosemite Valley . . . a grand landscape garden, one of Nature's rarest and most precious mountain temples.” In the very near future, RESTORE HETCH HETCHY will become a (501©(3) non-profit corporation that can accept tax-deductible contributions from people like yourself—people who envision Hetch Hetchy's future to be worthy of John Muir's description.

Already, a wonderfully talented group of people has been assembled to accomplish the goals of RESTORE HETCH HETCHY—naturalists, restoration ecologists, investment bankers, attorneys, engineers, economists, public policy and public finance experts, teachers, river enthusiasts, musicians, actors, artists, and photographers.

We have big plans:

- conducting a feasibility study by competent experts to outline—in detail—how Hetch Hetchy Valley can be restored in a way that presents a “win-win” situation for the City of San Francisco and other Bay Area water and power users;
- pursuing an aggressive public education and outreach campaign that will include coalition building with like-minded organizations, and a petition drive targeted at the Secretary of the Interior;
- preparing a new educational video;
- publishing a new book: Hetch Hetchy Valley—A Grand Landscape Garden with John Muir's exuberant writing, beautiful paintings by Albert Bierstadt, and photography by award-winning photographers;
- conducting educational outings to Hetch Hetchy, and through the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne River;
- commissioning a new song by a professional singer-songwriter;
- preparing sample lesson plans for outdoor educators and regular classroom teachers.

All of these things will take financial support from people like yourself—people who envision Hetch Hetchy's future to be worthy of John Muir's description. I'm asking you to help us achieve our goals. I'm asking you to send RESTORE HETCH HETCHY a tax-deductible contribution today. And, because we're a new organization with the need for critical seed money to begin this venture, I'm asking you to consider giving more than you would otherwise.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH for your support. Together, we can, as John Muir said, “do something to make the mountains glad.”

Ron Porter Good

On behalf of the Board of Directors of RESTORE HETCH HETCHY

P.S. Until RESTORE HETCH HETCHY receives its 501©(3), tax-deductible status from the IRS, your tax-deductible contributions are being handled—at no charge—by the Planning and Conservation League Foundation in Sacramento.

So, please send your tax-deductible contribution made out to the “PCL Foundation” and earmark it for RESTORE HETCH HETCHY. The address is PCL Foundation, c/o Dr. Jerry Meral, 926 J Street, Suite 612, Sacramento, CA 95814.

November - December 1999 VOL. 43 NO. 6

Published six times a year by the Sierra Peaks Section (SPS) of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter.

EDITORS: Barbee Tidball & Barbara (Cohen) Sholle. Mailing Address 3826 N. Weston Place, Long Beach CA, 90807, Phone (562) 424-1556. E-Mail: bsholle@aol.com. Echo cover layout by David Sholle. ECHO copy deadlines are the third Saturday of odd numbered months. Please send trip reports, photos, slides, articles, jokes or any other item of interest for publication. E-mail, Computer Disks IBM format/MSWORD-WIN or Word Perfect are appreciated. If you would like your submission returned to you, please enclose a SASE.

The Sierra Echo is the property of the Sierra Peaks Section of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club. All rights reserved. The Sierra Peaks Section maintains a Website at: <http://angeleschapter.org/sps/>.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.00 per year, due by March 31st. Subscribing to the ECHO is a requirement for active membership in the SPS. Sustaining membership is \$25.00 per year, and includes first class postage. Submit new subscription applications and renewals to the section Treasurer: Paul Graff P.O. Box 5050 Torrance, CA 90510-5050 and include your Sierra Club membership number. New applications received after October 1 are credited for the subsequent year. Only one ECHO subscription is necessary for multiple members of a family residing at one address. Contributions or gifts to the Sierra Club or the SPS are not tax-deductible.

ADVERTISEMENT: Private activity announcements and advertisements are accepted at the following rates. Private trip announcements: \$1.00 for the first 4 lines and \$1.00 for each additional line. Other announcements and product/service advertisements: \$1.00 per line or \$25.00 for a half page space. Reach out to our climbing constituency and place an ad today! Send copy and check made out to the SPS, to the Editor.

ADDRESS CHANGES: Send address changes to Scott Sullivan, 11277 Ryandale Drive, Culver City, CA 90230. The ECHO is mailed via 3rd class mail and will not be forwarded by the post office.

PEAKS LIST: Copies of the SPS peaks list can be obtained by sending \$1.00 and a SASE to the section Secretary: Scott Sullivan, 11277 Ryan0dale Drive, Culver City, CA 90230.

MISSING ISSUES: Inquiries regarding missing issues should be directed to the section Mailer: Elena Sherman, 11277 Ryandale Drive, Culver City CA 90230.

AWARDS: All prices include sales tax. Emblem pins (\$15.00), senior emblem pins (\$15.00), master emblem pins (\$15.00), list finisher pins (\$15.00), and section patches (\$2.00) are available from Patty Kline, 20302 Callon Dr, Topanga Cyn, CA, 90290. Make all Checks

SIERRA CLUB, ANGELES CHAPTER
SIERRA PEAKS SECTION
3435 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 320
Los Angeles, CA 90010-1904
"To explore, enjoy, and preserve"

Payable to the SPS

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 36438
Los Angeles, CA

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

A