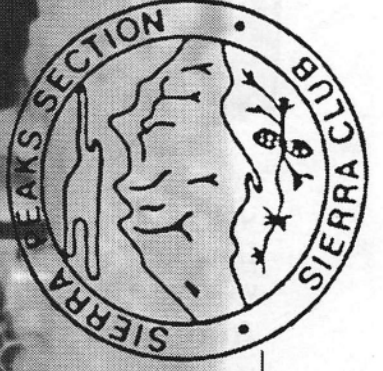


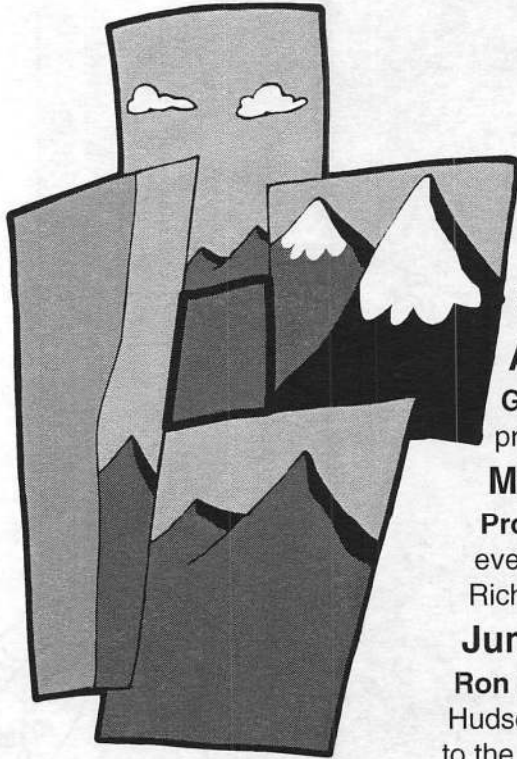
# *The Sierra*

VOLUME 44 NUMBER 2



# *ECHO*

MARCH - APRIL 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).

### April 12

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

### May 10

**Program to be determined. Rich Henke - Peruvian Peaks**, For everyone who has dreamed of climbing in the Cordilleras Blanca, Rich will present a slide program on his trip to Peru.

### 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.

### July 12

**Dan Richter - Leadership Training Committee**, LTC Chair, Dan Richter and other LTC members will give a presentation on rock and ice climbing in summer Sierra conditions.

### August 9

**Kurt Wedberg - Mt. Elbrus, the Alps and the Sierra**. Kurt, a member of the American Mountain Guides Association, will show slides of this year's trip to Mt. Elbrus, the Alps, plus some Sierra favorites.

### September 13

**RJ Secor - La Malinche, Iztacc Huatl & El Pico de Orizaba**. RJ will show slides of his recent trip to the Mexican volcanoes of La Malinche, Iztacc Huatl and El Pico de Orizaba

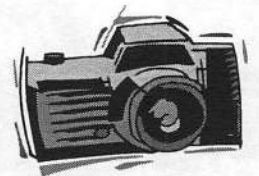
### October 9

**Alois Smrz - Mt. Langley**. Alois, former president of the Southern California Mountaineering Association (SCMA), will show slides of his technical climb of Mt. Langley in the Sierra.

## Peak List

Mt. Powell  
North Maggie  
Crag Peak  
Mt. Gould  
Mt Rixford  
Mt. Humphreys

Front Cover



## MT. HUMPHREYS

Photo by Joe White  
Using the camera's self timer  
See Story Page 21



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.

## APRIL

**I/M April 15-16 Sat - Sun LTP 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: Randall Danta

**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

## MAY Continued

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

**MR: May 21 - 22 Sat - Sun Bloody (12,544')** Sat pack to camp (5 mi, 2000' gain) at Laurel Lks. Sun climb mellow, 1500' north couloir to summit Return to camp, pack out. Crampon, ice axe skills required. Send 2 SASE, qualifications, conditioning and exper. H & W phones, SC# rideshare info to Ldr: Matthew Richardson Asst: Tim Keenan

**ER: May 27 - 29 Sat - Mon SPS Mt Powell (13,3641), Clyde Spires (13,2401+), Picture Peak (13,1201+) exploratory:** 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

**I: May 27-29 Sat-Mon Coyote (10,892') and Angora (10,1981)** Ldrs: Barbee & Larry Tidball

## JUNE

**M/E: Jun 3 - 4 Sat - Sun LTC, SPS, DPS Sierra Snow Checkoff:** Ldr: Nile Sorenson Asst: Doug Mantle

**I: JUN 10 - 11 SAT - SUN SPS/WTC Olancha 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-ldr Kim Gimenez

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

**M/ER: Jun 17 - 18 Sat - Sun Snow Safety Skills & Safety Systems Course w/ John Fisher, Onion Valley, LTC/SPS**, Restricted to Sierra Club members, current leaders, or LTC candidates. Refresh/learn new techniques. Review snow travel, crampons, ice axe, arrests, anchors, belays, rope travel on snow and rescue techniques. Send 2 SASE, SC#, experience resume, H&W phones to Ldr: Paul Graff Co-ldr Virgil Talbot.

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

---

## JUNE Continued

---

**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

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

---

**MR: Jul 7-8 Fri - Sat Mt. Leconte (13,960')** Restricted climb of this fine peak close to Mt Whitney. Ice axe and cl 3 rock climbing exper. req. Fri bkpk to upper Meysan Lk. Sat climb peak and out. Send SASE, SC#, recent experience, H&W phones, rideshare info. to Ldr: Bob Bruley Asst. Larry Hoak.

---

**MR: Jul 8-9 Sat - Sun Provisional Lead WTC/SPS Mt. Leconte (13,960')** Sat backpack to Meysan Lakes, 3.6 mi 3300' gain. Sun climb peak via 3rd class route, 4 mi rt, 2500' gain, pack out. Climb may require ice axe and crampons. Not for WTC students. Send 2 SASE, SC#, climbing resume, H&W phones, e-mail, rideshare info. to Ldr: Sheryl O'Rourke Asst. Mike Adams.

---

**ER: JUL 15-16 Sat - Sun WTC/SPS, Mt Starr King (9092'), Cathedral Peak (10,911')** Restricted to SC mbrs w/ technical climbing exper. Not intended for WTC students. Technical ascent of 2 gnarly peaks near Yosemite Valley. Sat, Starr King, low 5th class, 2800' gain, 11 mi rt. Car camp Tuolumne Mdw. Sun Cathedral, 4th class, 2400' gain, 6 mi rt. Send 2 SASE, SC#, climbing resume, H&W phones, e-mail, rideshare info. to Ldr: Bill Oliver Asst. Paul Graff.

---

**ER: JUL 15-16 Sat - Sun SPS/LTC, Bear Creek Spire (9092'), Rock Check Off** Aspiring "E" and "M" leader candidates may complete rock checkoff on Sat. and lead Bear Creek Spire (13,701', class 3-4) on Sunday. Send SASE, climbing resume, H&W phones, SC# to Ldr: Doug Mantle Asst. Greg Roach.

---

**MR: Jul 21-24 Fri - Mon - Sun WTC/SPS Mt. Brewer, South Guard, North Guard,** Restrict. to SC mbrs w/ ice axe/crampon and class rock 3 experience. Not intended for WTC students. Fri bkpk from Onion Valley. Climb 3 peaks over next 3 days. Contact leaders, then send 2 SASE, SC#, climbing resume, H&W phones, e-mail, rideshare info. \$5 permit fee to Ldr: Virgil Shields Asst. Paul Graff.

---

**MR: JUL 22 Sat Independence (11,744')** Good day hike for this restricted climb from onion Valley via Robinson Lk. Class 3 rock climbing experience required. Send SASE w/ recent exper., H&W phones to Ldr: Bob Bruley, Asst. John Cheslick.

---

**I: JUL 22-23 Sat-Sun WTC/SPS Mt Langley (14,042')** Sat bkpk 6 mi, 1200' gain to camp near Cottonwood Lk #5. Drop packs and ascend peak via strenuous xc route, 5 mi rt, 3000' gain. return for well deserved happy hour. Sun bkpk out after leisurely morning. WTC or equivalent required. Send SASE, H&W phones, e-mail, recent conditioning/experience, rideshare to Ldr.: Will McWhinney Co-ldr Bill Oliver.

---

**MR: JUL 28-30 Fri- Sun WTC/SPS, Mt Lyell (13,114') Maclure (12,960')** Fri. strenuous 10.5 mi and 1719' bkpk from Tuolumne Meadows to camp and happy hour. Sat climb Lyell via east arete, traverse to Maclure, then descend back to camp, 7.5 mi and 2786' gain. Sun pack out. Restricted to SC mbrs w/ substantial snow & rock exper. Not intended for WTC students. Send 3 SASE, SC#, climbing resume, H&W phones, e-mail, rideshare info. to Ldr: Ken Wagner Asst. Nile Sorenson. Provisional Lead.

---

**ER: JUL 28-30 Fri - Mon, Mt Clarence King (12,861'), Mt Gardiner (12,907')**: Mountaineers list or equivalent for two fine class 4 peaks. Strenuous. Send resume to Ldrs. Doug Mantle, Tina Bowman.

---

**I: JUL 29-30 Sat - Sun SPS/GLS Mt Baldwin (12,614')**: Mod. climb in the high Sierra w/ optional hot springs soak afterwards. Sat bkpk from Convict Lk to Bright Dot Lk, 5 mi, 3000' gain, drop packs, then climb Baldwin via northwest slope, 4 mi rt, 2000' gain. Sun easy hike out. Send SASE, e-mail, H&W phones, recent conditioning/climbing resume, rideshare info, \$5 permit fee to Ldr. Will McKinney Co-ldr. Asher Waxman.

---

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

---

## AUGUST

---

**MR: Aug 5-7 Sat - Mon Middle Palisade (14,140')** Allow 3 days to climb Mountaineer's List Peak via the northeast face. Need Helmet & Harness for 3rd, crampons & ice axe to cross glacier. Send SASE, H&W phones, experience, SC#, rideshare info, \$5 permit fee to Ldr. Keith Martin Asst: Paul Graff

---

**I: Aug 5-7 Sat - Mon Mt Stanford - North (12,838')** SPS intro trip geared to WTC and prospective SPSers. Casual, relaxed and enjoyable. Sat bkpk 5-1/2 mi to Hilton Lk, 500' gain. (Cont. on next page)

August 5-7 Mt Stanford Continued

Sun climb cl 2 Stanford in 4 mi rt, xc. Mon out. Legendary community happy hours Sat & Sun eves. Send 2 SASE, H&W phones, recent conditioning, rideshare info, \$5 permit fee to Ldr. Patty Kline Asst: Mars Bonfire, Joe Wankum

**MR: Aug 12-13 Sat - Sun, Mt LeConte (13,930'), Mt McAdie (13,799')** Strenuous trip to climb 2 exciting Mtnr's Pks in one wknd. Sat pack into Meysan Lk (3-1/2 mi, 3,600' gain) make camp, then climb LeConte via 3rd Cl NW chute (1-1/2 mi, 2,450' gain). Sun climb McAdie by 3rd Cl route from Arc Pass (approx. 2 mi, 2,400' gain on way). Return to Meysan Lk, break camp and pack out. 3rd Cl rock exper, Mtnr's List or equivalent req. Send 2 SASE, H&W phones, qualificatoins, experince & recent cond. SC#, rideshare info, \$5 permit fee to Ldr. Matthew Richardson Co-ldr. Bill Oliver

**I: Aug 19-21 Sat - Mon, Red Slate Mtn. (13,123')** SPS intro trip geared to WTC and prospective SPSers. Casual, relaxed and enjoyable. Sat bkpk up McGee Creek to McGee Lks at 11,040, 6-1/2 mi, 2,900' gain. Sun climb cl 1 Mtnrs Pk, 4 mi rt, 2,200' gain, xc. Mon hike out. Legendary community happy hours Sat & Sun eves. Send 2 SASE, H&W phones, recent conditioning, rideshare info, \$5 permit fee to Ldr. Patty Kline Asst: Mars Bonfire, Joe Wankum

**MR: Aug 25-28 Fri - Mon, Mt Carl Heller (13,211'), The Cleaver (13,355'), Pk 4245 (13,920'), Mt Russell (14,086')** Not for WTC students. Strenuous. Fri, 8 mi, 5000' gain/1900' loss climb from Whitney Portal over Cleaver Col, up The Cleaver and down to camp at Wallace Lk. Sat, climb Carl Heller, 2 mi, 1,800' gain. Sun climb Pk 4245 and Russell, both from the north, and return to camp, 3,800' gain, 6 mi. Monday, sign the Carillon register on way down the Russell-Carillon Col and back to Whitney Portal. Restricted to SC mbrs w/ substantial exper and comfort w/ 3rd Cl rock. Send 2 SASE, e-mail, H&W phones, resume & SC# to Ldr: Ken Wagner, Asst. Tom Sexton. Provisional Lead

**MR: Aug 26-27 Sat - Sun, Dragon Pk (12,999'), Mt Gould (13,005')** Easy bkpk if we get permit; otherwise intense day-hike for both pks. Restricted to SC mbrs w/ appropriate exper. (exposed 3rd Cl). Send SASE, H&W phones, e-mail address, SC#, Mtn. exper./training/cond. to Ldr. Asher Waxman Asst Matthew Richardson

**MR: Aug 26-27 Sat - Sun, Mt Winchell (13,775')** Kick off at Glacier Lodge, Sat hike into camp at SamMack Meadow 6 mi 3,500' gain; possible afternoon adventure (continued top of next column)

August 26-27 Mt Winchell Continued

peak via Cl 3 East Arete, 1-1/2 mi 2,400' gain. Return o camp, cars. Send SASE, H&W phones, detailed climbing resume w/ 3rd Cl rock exper., recent cond. to Ldr. Tom McDonnell Asst Nile Sorenson. Provisional Lead.

**MR: Aug 26-27 Sat - Sun, Mt Winchell (13,775')** **WTC/SPS** Pack from N Fork Trail to Sam Mack Meadow. Strenuous 20 mi rt 6000' gain Sun climb 1.8 mi 2,200' gain via E Arete to summit, pack out. Experience w/ exposed 3rd Cl.req. Not intended for WTC students. Send 2 SASE, H&W phones, e-mail address, SC#, resume of recent exper. & cond., \$5 permit fee to Ldr. Larry Gibson Asst. Mike Bolde. Provisional Lead.

**I: Sept 2-4 Sat - Mon, Joe Devel Pk (13,327'), Mt Pickering (13,474')** Bkpk and Cl 2 climb in South. Sierra w/ a mod. pace. Sat hike from Horseshoe Mdw. to Rock Crk., 11 mi, 1,800' gain, community hors d'oeuvres. Sun climb pks w/ Cl 2 traverse, 5 mi xc, 3,000' gain, views of the Whitney region of the main crest and the Kaweahs. Mon hike out. WTC/ equivalent req. Send 2 SASE w/ recent cond./exper., H&W phones, rideshare infor to Ldr: Carlton McKinney, Co-ldr Beth Epstein.

**I: Sept 9-10 Sat- Sun, Mt. Stanford (12,838') WTC/SPS** Pack in 4.8 mi, 950' gain on trial to camp near Hilton Lks in E Sierra. Sun all xc climb of Mt Satnfors, 2.4 mi, 2,500' gain and pack out. WTC/equiv req. Send 2 SASE, H&W phones, recent cond & Exper., rideshare info to Ldr. Christy Grimsley Asst. Sheryl O'Rourke. Provisional Lead.

**I: Sept 9-10 Sat- Sun, Mt Langley (14,042'), Mt Cirque (12,900')** Climb the Sierra's southernmost 14,000' pk and we'll throw in Cirque for comic relief. Enjoy fall weather and colors on this mod. paced bkpk. 21 mi rt, 5,700' gain. Send SASE w/ H&W phones, recent peak bagging exper/cond. to Ldr. Mars Bonfire, Co-ldr Virgil Popescu

**I/M Sept 9 - 17 Sat- Sun Northern Sierra Peak Camp** Spend a week car camping and day hiking pks in the Sonora, Ebbetts and Carson Pass area after the Labor Day crowds have gone and before deer season opens. The plan is to climb a peak per day from the following list: Leavit Pk (11,569'), Stanislaus Pk (11,233') Highland Pk (10,935), Round Top (10,381'), Freel Pk (10,881'), Pyramid Pk #2 (9,983'), Mokelumne Pk (9,334'). Car camp. primarily in FS campgrounds (participants respons. for own fees, meals, etc.) w/ driving to trailheads. Excellent conditioning expected since day hikes range from 3,200' to over 4,500' in elev. gain (continued top of next page)

Sept. 9 - 17 Northern Sierra Continued

each with some falling into the "death march" category (20+ mi RT) Early winter snow or foul weather cancels trip. Well behaved K-9s in good condition welcome on hikes and/or camp. Send SASE w/ exper.& conditioning to Ldr. Igor Mamedalian, Asst. Suzanne Mamedalin, Ron Jones.

**I: Sept 16 - 17 Sat - Sun, Cardinal (13,396'), Goodale (12,772') & Striped (13,170') WTC/SPS** Sat bkpk up Taboose Crk, 5 mi, 5,00' gain to camp. Hike to Taboose Pass and climb Cardinal, 2 mi, 3,000' gain. Sun climb Striped and Goodale, 3mi, 3,500' gain, return to camp and packout. WTC/ equivalent req. Send 2 SASE w/ recent cond./exper., H&W phones, rideshare info to Ldr: Dave Endres, Co-ldr. Vaughn Sherman.

**E/MR: Sept 16 - 17 Sat - Sun Church Dome Rock Workshop/Potluck LTC/SPS**, Intermediate and advanced workshop based on rock req. for E & M. Restricted to SC mbrs w/ suitable rock climbing exper. Car camp in Big Meadows area adjacent to Domelands Wilderness. Sat/Sun dayhike into climbing aea. Potluck Sat eve. Contact ldr. then send SASE, climbing resume and rideshare info. Ldr: Virgil Shields, Asst. Darrell Lee.

**I: Sept 23 -24 Sat - Sun, Four Gables (12,720') WTC/SPS**, Sat bkpk to upper Gable Lk above Bishop, 4 mi, 3,600' gain. Sun 2 mi, 1,800' gain xc to peak and out. WTC/equivalent req. Send 2 SASE, climb resume, H&W phones, e-mail, rideshare info to Ldr: Eddie Rivera, Asst. Sheryl O'Rourke.

**I: Sept 23 -24 Sat - Sun, Mt Gilbert (13,106') PV-SB/WTC/SPS**, Sat bkpk from South Lk parking area along Bishop Pass trail & Treasure Lks trail to Treasure Lks, 4 mi, 1,000' gain. Sun climb peak 2,300' gain, 4 mi rt and hike out. Send 2 SASE or e-mail, H&W phones, recent cond, exper., rideshare info to Ldr: Dave Heenan, Asst Bob Beach. Provisional Lead

**I: Sept 23 -24 Sat - Sun, Yosemite Volunteer Project** Work under direction of Park rangers on conservation and restoration projects. Limited camping space avail. Send 2 SASE, conservation or restoration exper., H&W phone to Ldr: Keith Martin, Asst. Virgil Talbot

**MR: Sept 30 - Oct 1 Sat - Sun, Four Gables (12,720'), Basin Mtn (13,181'), WTC/SPS** Sat bkpk to Horton Lk above Bishop, 4 mi, 2,000' gain, climb Basin 3 mi, 3,200' gain more, or fish; prize for best contribution to gourmet happy hour. Sun climb Four Gables by 3rd Cl E ridge, 4 mi, 2,700' gain, pack out. Comfort on 3rd Cl and talus req. Send 2 SASE w/ recent cond./exper., (continued top of next column)

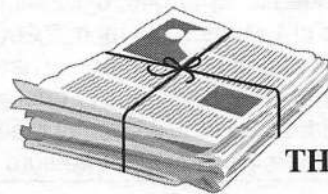
Sept. 30 - Oct 1 Four Gables & Basin Continued

H&W phones, rideshare info to Ldr: Beth Epstein, Co-ldr. Ron Campbell

OCTOBER

**E/MR: Oct 14-15 Sat - Sun, Owens Ridge Rock Workshop LTC/SPS**, Intermediate and advanced workshop based on rock req. for E & M. Restricted to SC mbrs w/ suitable rock climbing exper. Car camp will be in Indian Wells Canyon adjacent to Owens Ridge Wilderness. Sat/Sun dayhike into climbing aea. Contact ldr. then send SASE, climbing resume and rideshare info. Ldr: Virgil Shields, Asst. Dan Richter.

**I: Oct 14-15 Sat - Sun, Yosemite Backpack & Koip Peak (12,979') WTC/SPS**, Sat bkpk xc 3.5 mi to 11,100' and set up camp north of Parker Pass Trail. Sun bag peak from the east and pack out. Bring secret ingredient for garbage bag salad. Prize awarded for creativity. (no Mystic Mints or Bazooka Gum in salad!) Ldr: Georgette Rieck, Co-Ldrs. Greg & Mirna Roach



**Back Issues Available**

**THE SIERRA ECHO**

Volume 8 #5 (November/December 1964) through Volume 33 # 2 (March/April 1989) Complete run except for 3 issues in 1965 and one in 1966. Mailing costs, only. Contact Fred Hoepfner Mon, Tue. or Thur. at 818/ 249-8914

**LEAVE NO TRACE  
Snow-camping Tips for the Sierra**

Human waste buried in snow cannot decompose and is visible when the snow melts. When terrain is snow-covered, seek bare ground for your catholes near trees. If no soil is visible, pick a site in the "well" under a tree where falling needles will help cover the waste. be sure the tree is well away from water and potential summer-use area.



## Echoes from the Chair

March 21, 2000

The Management Committee has been busy dealing with the business of the section. We are finishing the submittal process for trips to the Chapter Schedule. We currently have 31 trips listed for the period July through October with 15 of those trips being coled with WTC and several other trips being coled with other sections. It's a great start for our summer season and we thank all the leaders who have gone to the effort of getting trips submitted. Although it is too late to get trips into the Chapter

Schedule, it is not too late to get trips into the Echo and we encourage all the SPS leaders to consider leading a trip this summer. Two years ago we had 48 trips listed in the Schedule with 13 of those being coled with WTC. It would be nice to continue offering more opportunities for our membership to enjoy the glories of the mountains. The management committee will be contacting our leaders to see if there is any chance they can lead any additional trips.

Your Management Committee has also added some significant new positions to the SPS management team. Recognizing that we are more than an Angeles Chapter entity, we have asked some of our members in other areas outside of the Angeles Chapter to act as regional contacts. As of now the following have volunteered to fill these new positions:

- Steve Thaw has volunteered to be Northern California Representative.
- Rich Gnagy has volunteered to be Central California Representative
- Rick Jali has volunteered to be the Eastern Sierra Representative
- Sue Holloway has volunteered to be the San Diego Representative.

These are new positions for the Section and their exact duties have yet to be defined. They are to be local contacts for anyone interested in the Sierra Peaks Section. They are to act as conduits between the membership in their areas and the Management Committee if a member does not want to approach the committee directly. They are to represent the section and correspond with the Management Committee where there are issues of a geographical nature for which a local representative would be helpful. Basically, the positions will become what their holders make of them and we look with excitement towards what will develop.

Spring has sprung, and the mountains, still wearing their winter blanket of snow, are readying for the blessed days of summer. So shall we.

**Keith Martin**  
**Year 2000 SPS Chair**

## Sierra Peaks Section Meeting Minutes

### January 12, 2000

Location: Department of Water and Power  
downtown Los Angeles  
Minutes taken by Scott Sullivan

#### Management Committee

Attendance: Keith Martin, Patty Kline, Scott Sullivan, Matthew Richardson  
The meeting started at 6:40pm

Reading and approval of November minutes was postponed until February meeting

Final approval was given for management committee positions as shown below:

Chair: Keith Martin  
Vice Chair/Outings: Ron Hudson  
Secretary: Scott Sullivan  
Treasurer/Membership: Paul Graff  
Fifth Officer: Matthew Richardson  
Conservation/Banquet: Barbee Tidball  
Echo: Barbee Tidball and Barbara Sholle Echo  
Mailer: Elena Sherman Safety  
Training: Doug Mantle and Duane McRuer  
Mountain Records: Tina Bowman  
Archives: Dan Richter  
Historian: Bill Oliver  
Merchandise: Patty Kline  
Chapter Council: ? (volunteer needed)

Approved SPS management policies and procedures. Elected members of the management committee received copies of SPS by-laws. Treasurer's reports a total bank balance of \$3844.78. For 1999, SPS income exceeded expenses by \$402.

Ron will send a letter to leaders soliciting trips in early February. February 29 is deadline for submission of trips to Ron.

Discussed and approved the SPS safety and

training program presented by Duane McRuer and Doug Mantle. Mountaineer list requirements are identical to M leader requirements. The SPS will try to conduct more training in the Sierra.

Discussed sending SPS representatives to WTC meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30.

#### General Meeting

The meeting was a joint SPS/HPS/DPS meeting chaired by Wayne Norman, the DPS chair. The elected officers of the DPS, SPS, and HPS were introduced. The Jennifer Mencken memorial service was announced. Jennifer died climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro. The Inner City Outings committee presented a brief description of their activities and encouraged everyone to help out. Matthew Richardson presented a slide show of his climb of Aconcagua.

### February 9, 2000

Location: Department of Water and Power  
downtown Los Angeles  
Minutes taken by Scott Sullivan

#### Management Committee Meeting

Attendance: Keith Martin, Paul Graff, Scott Sullivan, Matthew Richardson, Patty Kline, Duane McRuer, Dan Richter  
The meeting started at 6:40pm

Read and approved the November and January minutes.

Approved Steve Thaw as Northern CA representative. Discussed appointing representatives from other areas since approximately 40% of SPS membership is outside Angeles chapter. Possibilities include: Bishop - Rick Jali San Diego - Sue Holloway or Terry Flood



(February Continued)

Discussed sending Echos to Eastern Nevada Museum in Independence. Scott will draft a letter to send along with selected Echos to gauge interest.

Treasurer reports a checking balance of \$3842 and a savings balance of \$916 for a total of \$4758.

Patty presented potential program ideas for future meetings.

Outings deadline is March 8, the board will approve trip submissions at the March 9 meeting.

Paul suggested some changes to the Echo renewal form.

Dan Richter reported that the deed of gift for the Russell Memorial Archive was signed by Paul Sailor. Erik Siering will be the archivist for the SPS and Andrea Leigh is the archivist at UCLA.

Finalized SPS representatives for WTC meetings:

West LA: Paul Graff or Bill Oliver  
San Gabriel: Matthew Richardson  
Orange County: Nile Sorenson  
Long Beach: Barbara Sholle  
Barbee Tidball distributed SPS flyers for each of these people.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30.

**General Meeting**

Keith Martin chaired the meeting which started at 7:40pm. New attendees and SPS officers were introduced. Treasurer reports a checking balance of \$3842 and a savings balance of \$916 for a total of \$4758. Keith gave an outings report. Dan Richter announced the Mountain Leadership Course which starts in April, space is still available. Patty Kline read a trivia question, "Who first climbed the Nose on El Capitan in a day?" Answer is Bridwell, Long, and Westboy in 1975.

Jim Bridwell presented the program on the Moose's Tooth and Bear's Tooth in Alaska.

---

## MOUNT POWELL COMMENTS

March 13, 2000

Frank J. Meyers  
10681 Baton Rouge Ave.  
Northridge, CA 91326

Dear Editors:

Last summer David Underwood and I attempted the "new" Mount Powell, 13,364 ft., from Echo Lake. A thunderstorm stopped us near the top, but I certainly found it to be a nice peak, as good as many Mountaineer's Peaks.

According to the Geographic Names people, this has always been the correct peak. The others are simply map labeling errors. Our list is made up of named summits. Climbing a

mis-labeled summit is unavoidable while the true peak is unknown, but now that it has been clarified we should only make ascents of the true Mount Powell, at 13,364, northwest of the plateau. Of course, good-faith ascents of mis-labeled peaks should count.

Yours truly,

Frank Meyers

**Make sure your comments are heard and documented. Send your thoughts on the Mt. Powell location debate to The Sierra Echo before our October election when this will be a ballot issue.**

# **SPS Membership**

## **Report**

March 2000

### **CONGRATULATION! ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Senior Emblem - Aaron Schuman 9/12/99  
Mt. Clarence King

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Damon Vincent  
587 F N. Ventu Park Road, #508  
Newbury Park, CA 91320-2710  
h(805) 494-4281 w(805) 447-1640  
dvincent@amgen.com

Steve Erskine  
1460 Morton Circle # D Claremont, CA  
91711 h(909) 626-2627 w(909) 627-6191  
serskine@cyberg8t.com

### **HAPPY READING NEW SUBSCRIBERS**

Annemarie Mikolaitis  
P.O. Box 7082 Tahoe City, CA 96145-7082

### **MOVERS & CHANGERS ADDRESS CHANGES**

Franklin J. Meyers  
10681 Baton Rouge Ave Northridge, CA  
91326 (818) 366-5575

Penelope May  
PO Box 2421 Idyllwild, CA 92549-2421  
(909) 659-5343

Eric Beck  
1557 Lazy A Drive Bishop, CA 93514

Graham H. Breakwell  
320 Pennsylvania #21 San Francisco, CA  
94107

Robert M. Kanne  
4825 Via Del Corral Yorba Linda, CA  
92887-1817

Mary Gygax Motheral  
Rayne Motheral  
1675 Wilson Ave Upland, CA 91784-1773  
(909) 931-1303  
rayne3@jps.net

Note that minor address changes such as email address and phone numbers will appear only in the updated roster.

## ***We Get Letters - SPS Banquet in January??***

Do you ever wonder if you are going to make it to our December SPS Banquet with all that pre-Christmas rush of extra errands, office parties and end of the year deadlines? Not to mention the heavy traffic in December with people getting their Christmas shopping done before Christmas Day.

As we know many more people live in our smoggy city than 10 years ago. Barbee Tidball, our Banquet Chair since 1993 (except for 1996 when I was the Banquet Chair), has been keeping track of the attendance. It was a solid 140 plus, except for the last 2 years. There has been a significant drop in attendance. In 1999 with a

fantastic rock climbing slide show by world known Greg Epperson, it was in the 100 range. About the same number came in 1998.

A way to get around the Christmas madness would be to schedule the Banquet the second Wednesday of January. With everyone back from their Christmas vacations and the rush and business of the Christmas season over, we might get a lot more people to the banquet. I think we would. Please let Barbee (562/424-1556 or lbtidball@earthlink.net ) know what you think or write your response for publication in The Echo. You can also reach me at my new email address patriciakline@aol.com.

Patty Kline

# Jules M. Eichorn

1912 – 2000

A Final Tribute  
to a Honorary Member of the SPS

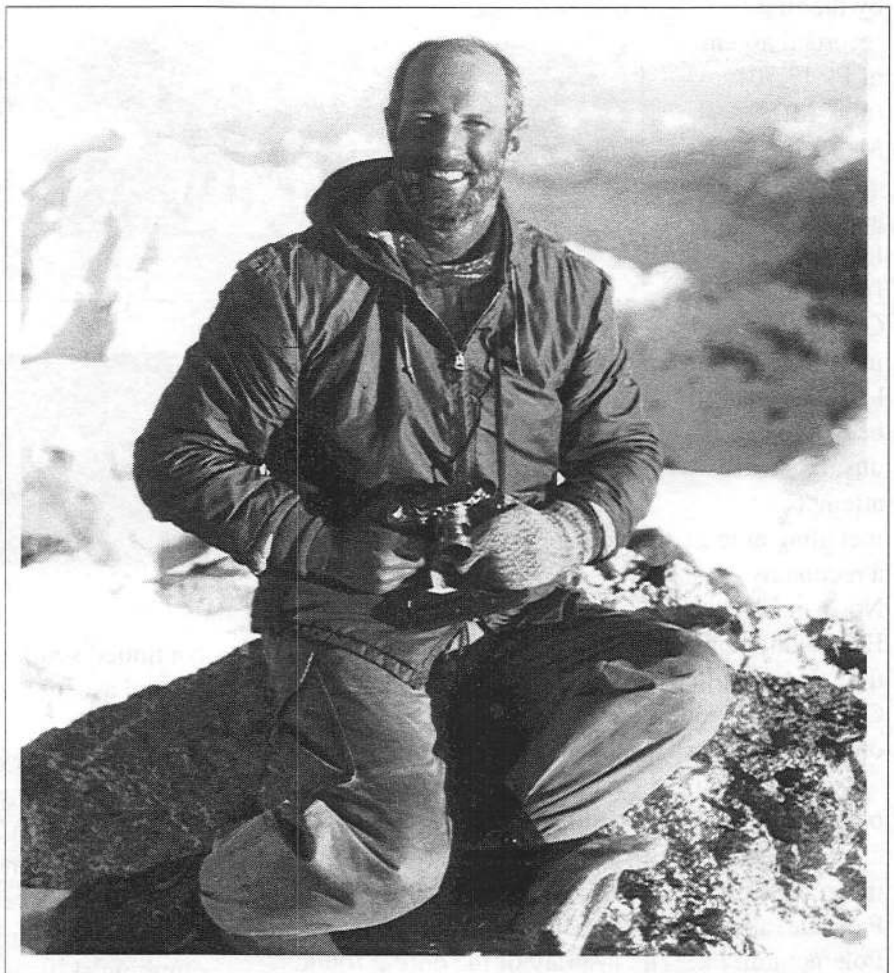
Written By Bill Oliver

Sierra Peaks Section bylaws allow for honorary membership. This honor was extended first to Norman Clyde, who accepted at the Angeles Chapter banquet of 19 October 1960. It has since been extended only twice more: to Jules Eichorn and Glen Dawson at the SPS banquet of 13 December 1989. Glen was the featured speaker at this exceptional event – combining his sharp memory and dry wit with a broad array of early local and Sierra High Trip mountaineering photos. Jules, of course, was co-featured. However, a brief illness at the time precluded him from traveling south. In lieu of this, he did manage on very short notice to send a video with some of his recollections.

As the person responsible for the banquet program, and SPS chair at the time, the opportunity developed for me to meet, and quickly become befriended by, these two legendary climbers. [I remember being surprised that they were both still living.] Over the course of a few years I was Jules' houseguest in Redwood City several times, and he mine in L.A. I am one lucky dude. In tribute to our three honorary members, I penned what so far is a two-part series on early Sierra Club mountaineering, which appeared in the SPS Echoes of 12/89 and 4/92. [Part III remains quite late!]

The Sierra Club Bulletin (SCB), now Sierra magazine, was arguably the premier American mountaineering journal in the period between the world wars, especially while under the editorship of Francis Farquhar. It was the primary source for my research on the annual Club High Trips. These four-week, mid-summer outings generally rotated among large expanses of the Sierra Nevada. They brought together about 200 high trippers - and a fairly large pack train! Beginning in 1901, with John Muir's attendance, they were organized by Bill Colby and always provided some mountain climbing options – sometimes projecting large numbers onto the summits, e.g., 175 on Whitney on the 1916 outing. As time went on, the mountaineering got gnarlier! Let us now pick up the thread of this bygone era - near the end of the High Trip of 1929, when Jules Eichorn and Glen Dawson, both then 17, first connected.

In the hardest climb of the trip, on July 26 Bill



Jules Eichorn - 1961, Mt. McKinley

Horsfall, John Nixon and Glen made the second ascent of Clyde Minaret, first topped by Norman Clyde the prior year. In a 1982 Sierra Club interview, Jules recollected this event. "I just thought that was the most terrific thing! I climbed Ritter that particular day, and when we got back to the campfire, we all talked about it. ... I got to know Glen, and we made arrangements to climb together the following year."

### 1930

1930: Arrangements? [Focusing only on the harder climbs.] Well, for starters, often accompanied by John Olmsted (just a little older), they topped, in order, Mt. Abbot, Bear Creek Spire, Mt. Darwin and The Hermit, followed by the first recorded ascent of Pk 13,701 (now Mt. Mendel). Then on July 23<sup>rd</sup> they approached a fearsome peak first climbed by Charles Michael in 1913. There had subsequently been a few unsuccessful attempts – including at least a recon by Norman Clyde.

Employing both a rope and skillful route-finding, they finally pulled off the second ascent of Devil's Crag. Glen would later write: "Three boys not yet of age were very happy."

Wrapping up the trip in the Palisades Basin, our trio also climbed Middle Palisade. The next day, not satisfied with only an ascent of Mt. Sill, they proceeded west in the first traverse to North Palisade, also summiting enroute what is now Polemonium Pk. The last day of the outing found them atop Winchell and Agassiz. Writing of this

High Trip in the SCB, Will Colby noted: "Some youthful enthusiasts, including Glen Dawson, Jules Eichorn and John Olmsted, swarmed over everything that looked formidable in the way of a mountain peak."

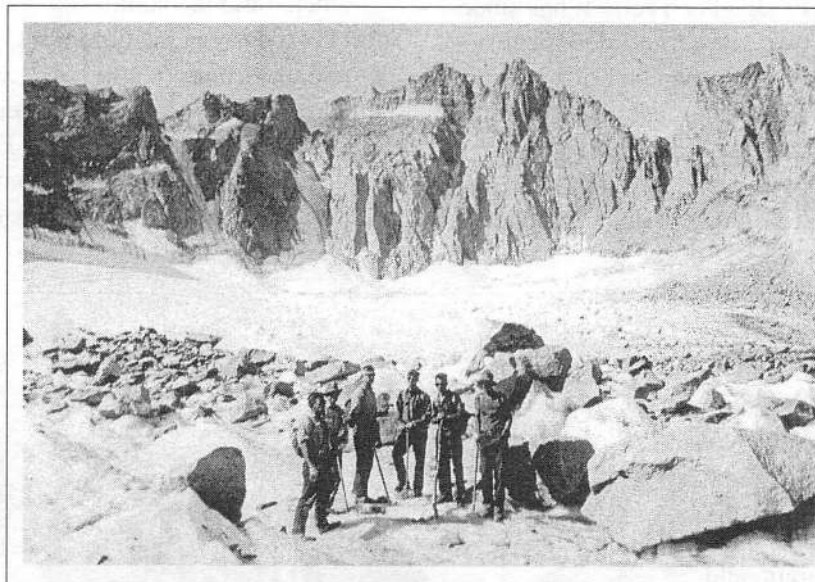
### 1931

If 1930 was a good year for formidable swarming by these lads, the 1931 High Trip would prove to be a spectacular year. Frances Farquhar had recently learned proper rope climbing techniques from Robert Underhill. The latter, a philosophy lecturer at Harvard, had mastered these

skills in the Swiss Alps and was applying them with great daring in the Tetons of Wyoming. On July 12<sup>th</sup> Farquhar led a small school of climbers up the north face of Unicorn Peak. He referred to this as: "The first properly roped climb made in the Sierra, so far as can be ascertained." Then, completing the first traverse of the Unicorn high points, Jules and Glen

continued south to Cockscomb Peak, making its second ascent.

After achieving first ascents in northern Yosemite on Finger Peaks, on Matterhorn by the NW face and on The Dragtooth, the boys were back to Tuolumne for a climb of Cathedral Peak on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Before descending the mountain, they had the opportunity to employ their new roped climbing skills with the first ascent of the prominent pinnacle west of the summit – later



North Palisade - Robert Underhill, Glen Dawson, Jules Eichorn and others. (right to left).  
Photo by Norman Clyde

named **Eichorn Pinnacle!**

Relocating to the Garnet Lake region, our duo was joined by fellow teenager Walter Brem. July 31<sup>st</sup> turned into a 14-hour day for them as they topped the three highest Minarets. They began with a climb of Michael Minaret (#2), traversed over to Third Minaret (#3) – a first ascent – and then continued along the gnarly ridge to Clyde Minaret (#1). “Third” would later be named **Eichorn Minaret**. [Dawson Minaret would first be climbed in 1933 – by Glen, Jules and Dick Jones.]

As previously arranged by Farquhar, Robert Underhill caught up with the High Trip at Garnet Lake, fresh from new triumphs in the Tetons. He immediately organized a climbing school that practiced on the steep slopes of Ritter and Banner.

### **Thunderbolt**

Following the conclusion of this productive High Trip, Farquhar, Underhill and six others relocated up the North Fork of Big Pine Creek to pursue postgraduate studies. Along the way they picked up Norman Clyde – the first meeting between Jules and the solitary Sierra legend! Regarding his first impressions of Norman, in 1971 Jules penned the following account in his prologue to “Norman Clyde of the Sierra Nevada”:

I first saw Clyde standing in the sun in front of Glacier Lodge, a jut-jawed, blue-eyed, ruddy complexioned, animated block of granite, something resembling a soldier – mainly, I think, because of his campaign hat, which never (as I learned) left his head. My impression was that here was a man who had made up his mind what he had to do and would never swerve from his objectives. But, I asked myself, “How could a man with a build like Norman’s be such a good mountain climber?” I was soon to find out.

On August 9<sup>th</sup> all nine climbed North Palisade from the U Notch – and then moved on to its next highest subpeak (now Starlight) – second ascent (after Clyde), first traverse. Two days later Underhill, Clyde, Dawson and Eichorn, a team that soon would make history, did a new route on Temple Crag’s north face, in spite of stormy weather! On August 13, these four plus Farquhar, Bestor Robinson and Lewis Clark set out to attempt a peak that Norman had been targeting for some time – the unclimbed “Northwest Peak of North

Palisade.” The following narrative is based upon a recollection made by Jules to this author some 58 years after the event:

“The weather had been unsettled for several days. At the start of the climb bad weather was off over Middle Pal and didn’t look very threatening to us. We watched it but it didn’t seem to be doing anything. The roped climb up the couloir [later named for Underhill] had been slow with seven climbers. At the summit, I may have climbed the monolith first or it may have been Glen. Anything I could climb, Dawson could too. We climbed it free, which the others weren’t agile enough to do.

“Within five minutes, it seemed, the storm moved north and suddenly enveloped the whole peak. Norman, being much more aware and experienced, didn’t think it would happen so soon. There were sparks coming off my fingers and off the ice ax. I had never experienced this before, and Norman felt strongly that we should get off the damn thing immediately. I was the last man down. It seemed that there was an unbelievable force of electrical energy around the area. I was about 25 yards from the pinnacle when suddenly there was a tremendous explosion right in my face. The electric blast immobilized me for a moment – I felt paralyzed. Then almost as quickly, I got back my faculties and strength. It was a very uncomfortable feeling, to say the least. I felt very lucky I wasn’t directly struck by the lightning.”

The Northwest Peak is still there, of course – but they promptly renamed it **Thunderbolt Pk.**

### **The East Face**

Shifting southward once again, our gnarly cohort was down to five to face their ultimate challenge – the “pretty sheer” east face of Mt. Whitney. Both Clyde and Underhill wrote accounts of this daring climb. Quoting only from the latter in what follows (SCB- 1932):

“At Farquhar’s invitation and under his expert arrangement of program, I was enjoying a first climbing season in the High Sierra. The unclimbed east face of Mt. Whitney had been in both our minds from the start. True, whenever the subject came up for express discussion

Farquhar was wont to observe with a chuckle that the face was pretty much of a precipice; but this seemed to diminish in nowise his estimate of the value of paying it a visit, and I eventually became highly stimulated by his view that sleek verticality was merely the normal terrain for rock climbing activities. Clyde, when he joined the party, gave a guarded confirmation of the topographic point, by judging from his more intimate acquaintance with the mountain, that the face was "pretty sheer." However, he showed himself completely indulgent to the enterprise, and gave us the immense benefit of his practical knowledge, without which we should have lost much time in coming to grips with our problem. The other members of the group – Jules Eichorn, of San Francisco, and Glen Dawson, of Los Angeles, young natural-born rock climbers of the first water – had never seen the mountain; but neither had they seen any up and down the Sierra that they could not climb, and they were all enthusiastic."

[Perhaps Underhill meant "seen" the east face up close. Jules had summited Whitney from the west on his first High Trip in 1927.] Regarding ages, Jules and Glen were then both 19, Underhill 42, Farquhar 43, and Clyde 46.

Their camp up the North Fork of Lone Pine Creek was sited at what Underhill described as "the most beautiful campground I had yet seen in the Sierra" – which they promptly named "Clyde Meadow." Setting off at 7:00 on August 16<sup>th</sup>, Clyde led them first up to Iceberg Lake. Continually scanning the east face, Underhill was not encouraged by what was unfolding:

"It continued to look, I must confess, downright unclimbable. We had rather grown into the feeling, in the Palisades, that every Sierra mountain wall could be climbed, if only one tackled it properly; but at the present juncture I personally found myself becoming shaken in this conviction and wondering whether we weren't at last up against the so-called exception that proves the rule."

A little later they reached the lake:

"On the shore of this lake, just under the peak, we gathered for a final intensive bit of observation. Suddenly I saw what seemed a just possible route,

and simultaneously Dawson and Eichorn exclaimed to the same effect. It turned out that we all had exactly the same thing in mind. Through the field glasses we now examined it in detail as well as we could, noting that much of it seemed possible, but that there were several very critical places. Rating our chances of success about fifty-fifty, we were eager to go ahead with the attempt." Not wanting to hold them up, Farquhar elected to meet them on top, via the Mountaineer's Route.

They departed the lake at 9:30 and roped up at 10:00, commencing the climb behind what became the Second Tower – the route now used at the start of the climb of the East Buttress. The now-common Tower Traverse (also known as the **Eichorn Traverse**) was pioneered three years later by Jules with Marjory Bridge, the first woman to ascend the East Face. Partnering were Jules with Clyde and Glen with Underhill. [Using site terminology invented a little later:] Following this traverse, it was up the Washboard, then over a small ridge and down to the Shaky Leg Crack, which Jules and Glen were eager to attempt. Reining them back, the older two spied a possible leftward route – the Fresh Air Traverse. Not much later they ascended the Grand Staircase. At 12:45, only three and a quarter hours from the lake, they were shaking hands with Farquhar on the summit! Not yet sated, Jules and Glen promptly went on to summit Mt. Muir.

"The route we had followed was exactly that which we had mapped out originally while standing by the little lake. Much of the fascination of our climb lay, in fact, in seeing the sections which we had marked out for ourselves as critical successively opening up to permit us a way. ... I believe a good climbing party that knew the route could ascend from the lake to the summit in something like half the time we required upon this first occasion. The beauty of the climb in general lies chiefly in its unexpected possibility, up the apparent precipice, and in the intimate contact it affords with the features that lend Mt. Whitney its real impressiveness."

Neither Clyde nor Underhill mentions the use of pitons in their accounts. Eichorn's recollection is that no pitons were used. Dawson thinks one may have been used at the Fresh Air Traverse, which Underhill led. With this exception, the teenagers led their partners throughout the climb.

Let us conclude with Norman's final observation:

"After an evening spent consuming enormous quantities of food and lounging about the campfire, we retired to our sleeping bags under nearby foxtail pines, solemn and silent beneath a sky spangled with countless stars overarching the mountains that loomed darkly around the basin. On the following morning we made up our packs and proceeded down the canyon, pleased at having added another outstanding climb to the many already discovered in the Sierra Nevada."

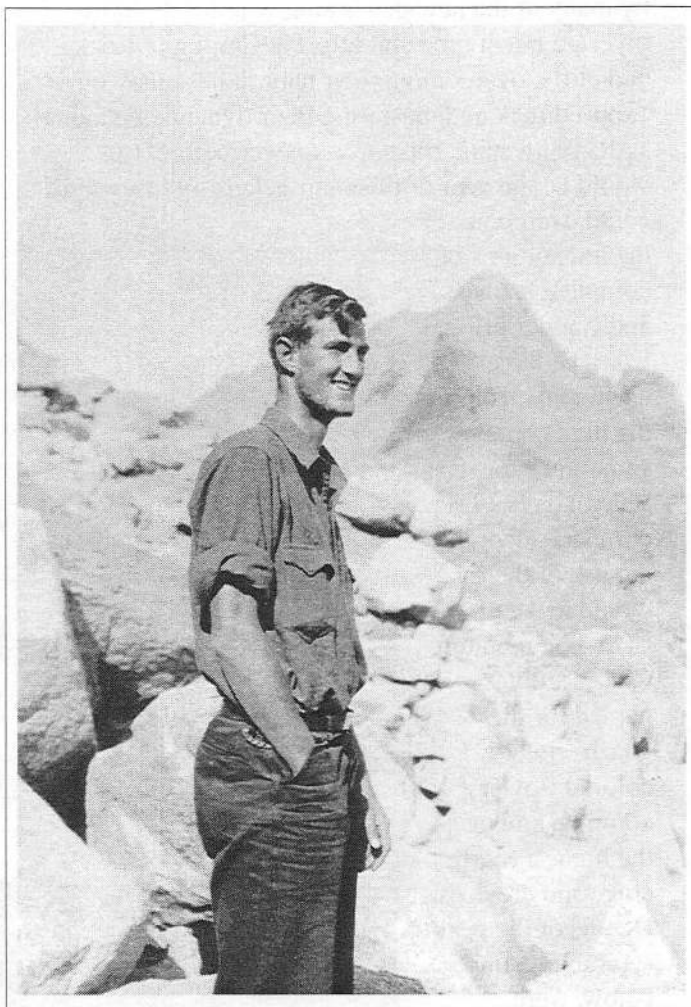
### 1932

The 1932 High Trip would reunite Jules, Glen and Norman – the latter along for the first time as a paid assistant. Earlier that spring Jules got inducted into Dick Leonard's new Cragmont Climbing Club (CCC) operating in the Berkeley hills. Dick had actually wanted to introduce a rock climbing section in the Club, but the Board would not sanction it – "it might be dangerous."

The Jules/Glen reunion got off to a promising start. On the initial meeting day of the four-week outing in Sequoia, the boys were climbing on Moro Rock. Concluding this effort, the two were home-free – almost. As they descended a smooth granite slab, Jules suddenly went airborne as he slipped on some lichen. Half a century later, in his 1982 SC interview, he recalled this episode: "It taught all of us the lesson, particularly me, that you never untie your rope until you're finished with the climb. We untied the rope one rope-length from our cars, and because Dawson had bigger feet and was light, he got across. I had smaller feet and was heavier - I didn't get across. In any case, I had dislocated my elbow and sprained my foot and hurt my knee, and scratched myself up pretty bad, and took most of the skin off the ends of my fingers.

"About three days later, a Sierra Club packer was going in with the mail, and I decided I could ride a horse in with him. Well, riding a horse with a sprained ankle and one hand, when you have never ridden in your life, for more or less a twenty-mile ride – I'm certain I was never so uncomfortable before or since in my life. My knee cleared up and everything came out just fine. In a couple of weeks I was climbing with one arm and it didn't seem to bother me."

Jules went on to join parties climbing Junction, Milestone and Table. Along with Glen and Clyde, they also put up a new route on Mt. Russell – ascending by the south face, west chute, and descending by the southwest face, west arete. In the trip's final climbs, the trio led Red Kaweah, and our duo topped Black Kaweah by the more



rarely climbed SW ridge – not bad for a climber with one arm in a sling.

Later yet in 1932 Francis Farquhar, a SC Board member for eight years, succeeded to its presidency. Concurrent with this Lewis Clark became chair of the San Francisco Bay Chapter. Both were members of the Cragmont Climbing Club. Almost immediately these personnel changes led to the sanctioning of the Club's first activity section – the Rock Climbing Section. It was chartered under the auspices of the Committee on Rock Climbing, which consisted of Jules Eichorn, Lewis Clark, Kenneth May, Marjory Bridge and Dick Leonard,

chair. One of Leonard's first actions was to disband the CCC!

### 1933

The eagerly awaited High Trip of '33 would encompass a large loop in northeast Kings Canyon – entering at North Lake and exiting at South Lake. It would entail a sustained high level of rock climbing by many of the new generation who had by now invested much time and effort at Cragmont Rock and cliffs, overcoming their natural hesitancy on exposed rock and mastering their dynamic belaying skills (with static ropes). As never before, this would be the year of the knapsackers – those who could overcome the temptations of complete laziness and wander off from the large encampments into the high country, sometimes for several days. The climbers adept in the use of the rope would make up “The Polemonium Club,” aptly named for the gnarly violet-colored flower common among the highest Sierra crags and crevices. Details of the peak scrambling, quoted below, were penned by Glen for the '34 SCB “Mountaineering Notes.”

Among major peaks, first to fall was Mt. Humphreys, led on two days by Clyde. Arriving for the outing a week behind schedule, Jules and Marjory Bridge also summited this prominent peak – a new route involving a traverse from a pinnacle on the southeast ridge. Darwin and Haeckel also fell in short order.

Midway on the long sharp ridge tenuously connecting Mts. Wallace and Powell, overlooking Echo Lake to the north, two granite spires jut

proudly skyward. This new challenge attracted a strong party on July 22<sup>nd</sup> headed by Clyde, Eichorn and Ted Waller. They and four others climbed the north spire, and then these three succeeded on the more difficult southern one. First ascents and unnamed, the appellation **Clyde Spires** was fittingly bestowed on the pair.

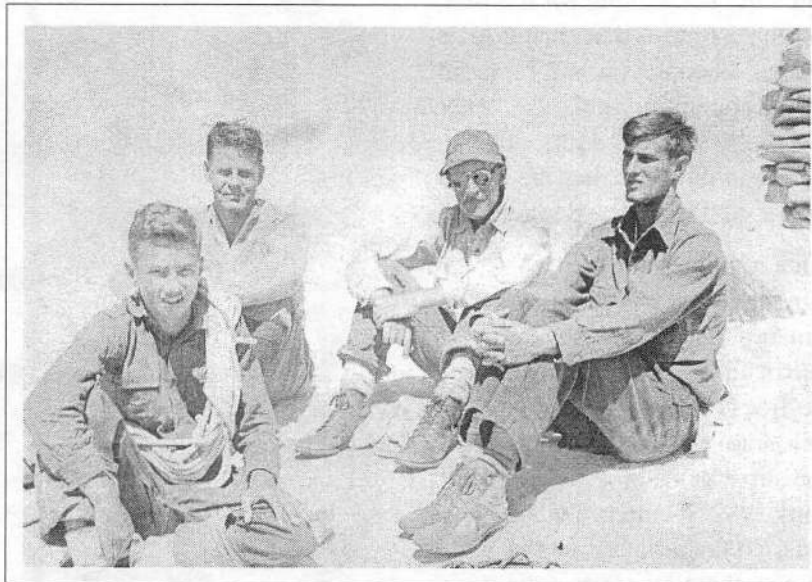
### Devil's Crags - Again

After a three-year absence, Jules and Glen were back now looking up at Devil's Crags. Five teams of three each, on three routes, were organized. Jules' team pioneered the northwest arete. “The arete has several difficult pitches, but is an ideal

route for a large party. This Sierra Club party of fifteen, all on top within a short time, constitutes the third ascent of the Devil's Crags.”

The next day Glen, Jules and Ted Waller successfully topped the next two Crags from the east. At this moment the weather, which had been favorable the whole trip, took a decidedly

different course. Glen Dawson: “With storm clouds rapidly gathering, we went down west in the chimney between Crag #2 and #3. As it began to sprinkle we traversed to the chimney between the main peak and Crag #2. Here we took refuge under a chockstone, expecting that the shower would be over, as usual, in a few minutes. We joked and talked as water began to drip in our shelter. The rain came harder than ever. Suddenly, with a great rushing sound, the chimney became filled with a torrent. Dirty water, gravel, and even large rocks came down in a series of waterfalls. We leaped out



Mt. Whitney - Glen Dawson, Frances Faquhar,  
Robert Underhill, and Jules Eichorn  
Photo by Norman Clyde



from under the chockstone, Jules to one side, Ted and I to the other. In a few moments the water had increased from a trickle which we could catch in our cups to a torrent of alarming proportions. Jules had gone out onto a narrow ledge, where he was soon drenched by water, and, what was more serious, was exposed to falling rocks. The roar of the water, the lightning and thunder, and the crashing of avalanches were stupendous, but not very pleasant to us at the time. Soaked with rain and spray, we were so cold that we shook all over every few minutes. We could see snowfields below us blotted out by slowly moving rockslides, and we could see gullies being dug ten feet deep.

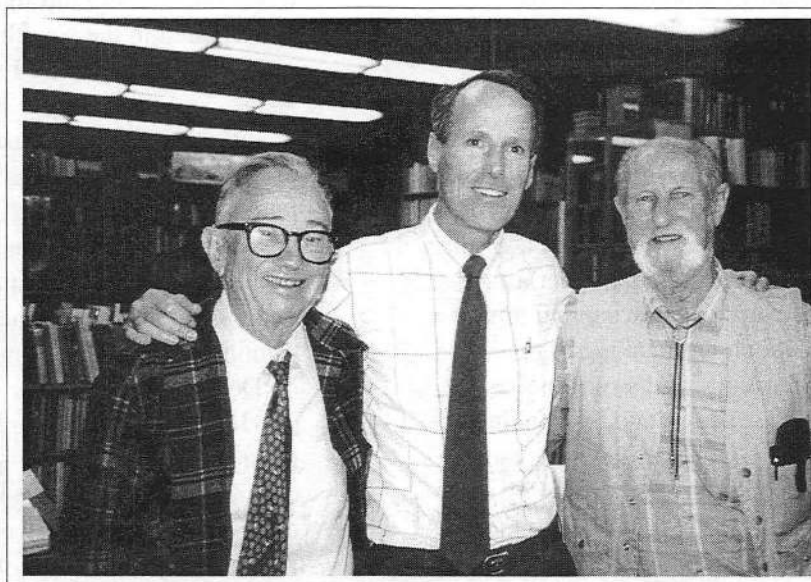
Individual rocks came down, breaking into pieces on every side. The Devil's Crags seemed to be coming apart.

"For an hour Jules was forced to stay in an extremely precarious position on a narrow ledge, exposed to falling rocks and threatened with being swept off by the increasing force of the water. At last the storm abated, and Ted was able to pass a rope to Jules and assist him across to our side of the chimney. Slowly we made our way down a few hundred feet of difficult wet rock. It was dusk before we got to timber and a chance to dry out. We tried to get to the Sierra Club camp at Palisade Creek that night, but our exhaustion was too much even for the promise of food." Recalling this event to me in 1989, Jules remarked that, while stuck on the ledge, the hip pockets of his jeans had filled with sand and gravel.

The knapsackers next swept over Split Mtn and then Middle Pal. Jules and Glen had topped the latter during the '30 High Trip. They hatched a

bold plot. Peak 13,956 (now 13,920+), less than a half-mile northwest of Middle Pal, had first been climbed by Norman Clyde from the glacier side on June 9, 1930. Only ten days later he summited a second time – from the southwest. Jules and Glen now were keen to explore a daunting new route to Middle Pal. They first achieved the third ascent of Peak 13,956. "From this peak they followed the ridge toward the main peak of Middle Palisade, turning several minor pinnacles enroute, but climbing the big black gendarme about midway, on which they found no previous ascent. They continued up the ridge southwesterly to the main peak and descended by the usual route." The

gendarme is now called Bivouac Peak, and it is thought by some that the boys stayed the night there. I recently questioned Glen about this. His written response: "We were always prepared for a bivouac, and we made some unplanned camps at timberline with a fire, but never stayed out overnight on a peak."



Glen Dawson, Bill Oliver (author)  
and Jules Eichorn  
May 1990 photo at Dawson's Book Store

Norman was to climb Peak 13,956 many times, as it was one of his favorites. He is still there – his ashes scattered by Jules Eichorn from its hallowed summit – **Norman Clyde Peak**.

Relocating to Dusy Basin, many in the Polemonium Club claimed Mt. Sill and North Pal. Norman also led the second ascent of Thunderbolt. The High Trip ended on schedule at South Lake on Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. Over the weekend everyone scrambled back to their mundane other lives – Jules to San Francisco and Glen to Los Angeles. Not

quite everyone, however. Norman Clyde's life was in the mountains! Also still in the high Sierra was one (Walter) Pete Starr, alone and close to finishing up his guide to the new John Muir Trail - camped near Lake Ediza, below Mt. Ritter and very close to the Minarets....

In fact, tragically, young Pete Starr already lay lifeless on a Michael Minaret ledge before the High Trip ended. A rendezvous with his father on August 7<sup>th</sup> was missed, but it was not until the 14<sup>th</sup> that a general alarm was issued. The search for Walter Starr, Jr. would unexpectedly reunite Jules, Glen, Norman and many others in a desperate, daring and, ultimately, disappointing combing of all the Minarets and the Ritter area. But this is another story.

On the 1933 High Trip, Ethel Boulware was the chronicler for the Sierra Club Bulletin. Of this outing she wrote much – and she wrote this: “If any old-timer has entertained pessimistic doubts of the continued existence of the Sierra Club, let him count the number of young people signing up for the outings, let him watch them taking eager instruction in rock climbing, and swarming, as never before up difficult peaks, and his conclusions may be radically changed. Yesterday, with the undue familiarity of youth, it was ‘North Pal’ that drew them; today, without a rest, it was another, equally fascinating. With a pocketful of ascents to their credit at the end of the summer, with their unbounded energy and enthusiasm, the presence of these youngsters on the outings indicates a cheerful and healthy outlook for the growth of the Club.”

2000

In declining health, Jules Eichorn passed away at home on 15 February 2000.

Final Comment from Glen Dawson – March 20, 2000:

Jules took piano lessons from Ansel Adams, and Ansel took him on the 1927 High Trip. We were both fifteen-years-old at the time and each did some climbing with others. But it was not really until 1930 that we were climbing together most of the time in summers: 1930 through '34. We both participated in the search for Walter Starr in 1933. In 1935 and '36 I was in Europe and Asia.

We saw each other on only a few occasions after 1934, but kept in occasional touch by mail and phone. We were linked together by being part of the first ascent party of the East Face of Whitney. We shared the experience of two mountain storms: one on Thunderbolt Peak and one with Ted Waller on Devil's Crags.

Jules was taller than I am, expert in music, and expert in camp cookery. We considered ourselves co-leaders, usually climbing with one or two others but sometimes just the two of us. Jules was always a gentleman, kind and considerate. He climbed with the same verve as he played the piano.

---

## “Night-time is the right time.....” for picking up Inyo permits.

<http://www.r5.fs.us/inyo/whatsnew.htm>

“Picking up permits: all permits, except the main Mt. Whitney trail, will receive a confirmation letter and you will be able to pick up the actual permit at any of the following locations: Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center in Lee Vining, Mammoth Lakes Visitor Center, White Mtn Ranger Station in Bishop, and the Mt. Whitney Ranger Station in Lone Pine. We will be posting the summer hours for the ranger stations on our website later this Spring.”

“In the confirmation letter there will also be an explanation for making arrangements to have your reserved permit available in the night boxes at one of the Inyo's ranger stations.” **Note: you must make arrangements. Do not assume they will put the permits out at night/ they will not.**

## In Memory of Michael Wells Lorr

February 23, 1999, late morning: I was on the 405 freeway in heavy rain and heard a report of a fatal crash on Highway 118 near Moorpark. That evening, I got one of those calls I never like getting - the accident victim was my good friend and frequent hiking companion, Mike Lorr.

Many Sierra Club members knew Mike as an ardent mountaineer - one who had climbed McKinley and who had finished the Sierra Peaks List. I can still remember how delighted he was that Saturday in September '95 when he ascended Alta Peak to complete the list. Those who attended will recall that Mike's co-leader was our late friend Dave Dykeman who also died tragically.

Mike earned a doctorate at the University of Iowa in 1972 and worked as a psychologist for the Ventura County Behavioral Health Department in Simi Valley. He cared about his patients - many of whom might otherwise be abandoned. Several, with obvious sadness, stood up at Mike's memorial service and stated their appreciation of Dr. Lorr's care.

I enjoyed my outings with Mike - puns and all. I'm perfectly comfortable hiking. Climbing and danger, however, are another matter. Trouble is, some of the peaks I've "needed" involved one or the other. One slightly rainy and windy day two years ago, Mike, my wife and I were off to Hines peak. Mike knew we wouldn't have started if he told us what lay ahead. So he just let us walk 8.5 miles and 4,500 ft up the trail and then suddenly announced: "Oh yes, we've got a small segment to cross that's

kind of interesting. You're both capable so it will be easy." Somehow, despite the lack of handholds, we crossed the slippery knife edge. His psychological magic worked!

I also watched him use the same magic with his wife, Teresa, to get her to places she might otherwise never have visited. Both Mike and Teresa served as gracious hosts for their friends whom they invited to their home for pleasant get togethers. Mike had a passion for the blues and would play selections for us from his collection of 6,000 recordings.

Mike's love of the mountains started at an early age and was nurtured by family outings. Over the years, he made many very long solo trips. He was one of the few individuals who I had true confidence in. He sensed the mountains and seemed to know where to go and what would go. Coming back downhill was an experience that revealed Mike's true nature. The further down we would get, the slower he would go - he simply didn't want to leave the mountains.

Born on Leap year day 1944, Mike only had 13 birthdays - just a big kid.

Teresa will honor Mike's wishes and scatter his ashes in the Sierra later this season. Mike is also survived by his Mother Joan who lives in Takoma Park, Maryland and hikes with the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, and by his younger sister Nancy who lives in New York.

Written by David Michels, Encino, CA



### **A poetic tribute to Mike Lorr by Kate Rogoski**

Mike's presence was strong.

Like a mountain,  
like the blues

He was a big man.

Mounds of black and gray hair,  
and blue eyes  
that would cut through small talk,  
near-lies and cheap gossip.

His voice was clear and loud

He used it often

To teach to learn

To make puns to tell jokes,

To make us laugh so he could laugh

(continued on page 26)

## Uncommon Routes on Easy Peaks

by Matthias Selke

On a rainy winter day, reading topographic maps and planning SPS trips for the summer months can be almost as enjoyable as climbing the peaks during the climbing season. I enjoy studying areas in the Sierra that I have not visited previously first on the map, and then on foot. Often, one wonders about unusual approaches to peaks - exploring is one of the many fun parts of mountaineering. Below are the descriptions of two climbs of peaks in Areas 1 and 2 that did not follow the "established" SPS routes. Both hikes were very enjoyable, and are highly recommended.

### **North Maggie Mtn. via Maggie Lakes and the Summit Trail (July 3, 1999)**

North Maggie Mtn. is usually climbed together with Moses Mtn from the Tule River Valley, i.e. from the west. Most climbers do not seem to be particularly fond of the 3,000 ft. climb of N. Maggie from the Tule River its been described as a rather nasty bushwhack. Having dayhiked Moses Mtn. several years ago, and being curious about the east side of N. Maggie Mtn., I decided to climb N. Maggie from the east. The Maggie Lakes due east of the peak look nice on the topo map, and, as it turned out, they are even prettier in reality. Studying the topo maps of the area revealed that the easiest approach to reach the Maggie Lakes is via the Summit Trail from the vicinity of Quaking Aspen. To reach the trailhead, one turns onto the paved spur road that leads north from Quaking Aspen. (Quaking Aspen is reached on Highway 190 from Porterville.) The spur road is paved at first, and later becomes a decent dirt road no problem for any 2-wheel passenger car. The Summit Trail Trailhead is reached after driving approximately 9 miles from Highway 190. (There are signs most of the way directing you to the correct trailhead. To avoid the many other trailheads and spur roads branching off along the way, its best to bring a topo map.) The 9-mile hike to Maggie Lakes from this remote trailhead is very pleasant the trail is in good shape, and passes many meadows, and streams. After about 2.5 miles, upon reaching the crest of the ridge separating the Tule River Valley to the west from the Little Kern River Valley to the east, there are

some wonderful views of the Southern Terminus of the Great Western Divide. The trail continues near the crest, passing, among others, Jacobsen Meadow, Mowery Meadow, and Alpine Meadow. There is little elevation gain or loss, and the walking is very pleasant. After about 8 miles, one reaches a saddle on a ridge that extends east from Maggie Mtn.; a short steep decent follows (400 ft loss), whereupon one reaches a junction. After turning left onto the Maggie Lakes Trail, one quickly climbs up the last mile to the two Maggie Lakes. Both Lakes have ample campsites; the upper lake is a bit larger. Even though I passed the Lakes during the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend, there was only one party at the lower lake, and nobody at the upper lake. The actual summit of North Maggie cannot be seen from the upper Lake; it is east-northeast of the lake. (The ridge that can be seen due east of the lake is the long ridge connecting North Maggie Mtn. with Maggie Mtn.) After a bit of easy hiking northeastward through the open forest (no brush), the peak can be seen; it is best to reach the summit ridge at the first small saddle south of the summit. The ascent is class 1-2, and virtually brush-free. Its only about a mile from the Lake, with about 1,000 ft gain. This is a very enjoyable hike that explores an area one would not visit if one followed the "established" route up the peak. Climbers who "need" Moses Mtn. could drive on to Balch Park after doing N. Maggie, and do Moses as a dayhike as well. Despite the length (20 miles), this hike can be done in a day, as there is only about 4,000 ft total gain, and almost all of the hike is on a good trail. This would also be a nice backpack, with many good campsites at the Maggie Lakes. My own round-trip stats: Solo hike, 11 hours, including 1 hour break on the summit, and another 45 min break at the upper lake.

### **Crag Peak from the East A Good Early Season Climb (March 31, 1996, and May 27, 1998)**

Crag Peak is normally climbed from the west via a cross-country route from Albanita Meadow. A few years ago, a report in the Echo mentioned that during an attempt on Crag Peak some 30 or 40 years ago, a participant nearly drowned in the Kern River.

Thus it appears that the peak had also been climbed from the east "in the old days". However, there do not appear any reports of recent climbs from this direction. I have climbed Crag Peak twice from the east in recent years, once in late March 1996 (with CMC member Miklos Peterfy) and once in May 1998 (with Miklos, his wife Krisztina, and two graduate students from UCLA). If the correct route is followed, this is an excellent climb that can be done almost any time of the year. The road to the Kennedy Meadows Campground is open year-round, and the Kern River crossing (see above) is no longer a problem, as a sturdy bridge across the river has been constructed when the PCT was built in the area. One approaches the peak from the PCT out of the Kennedy Meadows Campground. Since this area is east of the Kern Plateau, the area receives little snow. Even in late March 1996 (a 120 % of normal water year), there was no snow until just below the summit of the peak. From the Kennedy Meadows Campground, the PCT leads north, on the east side of the Kern River, until it crosses it on the aforementioned bridge at the two-mile point. The PCT continues through a forest to Clover Meadow. This "meadow" is usually dry, and most of the forest nearby has never recovered from a fire that occurred many years ago. Crag Pk. is due

east and 2,000 ft above the meadow. The key to the climb is not to leave the PCT too early, as this would lead into much nasty brush, but to continue until one has passed through about 2/3 of the meadow. The best place to turn east is north of a very small hill that extends into the meadow from the south. After hiking cross-country through the meadow for a quarter mile or so, one has to negotiate a brushy steep slope several 100 ft high. It looks worse than it is, and most of the brush can easily be avoided. After a short time, one reaches a flat area above the dry slope. There is a pleasant pine and fir forest here. One continues to go east and straight up. Angling too much to the right or left leads into manzanita bushes near the crest. It is most pleasant if one hits the snow near the crest. The crest is followed a quarter mile or so northward to the summit block, which is climbed from the east, just south of the actual high point (easy class 3). The short knife-edge on the north ridge described by Jenkins in his guide to the Southern Sierra (East Side) is harder, i.e. much more exposed. This climb is recommended as a great early season climb. One can do the whole trip in a day from L.A. (as I have done twice) by leaving at 6:30 am or so; it is only a 2.5 - 3 hour drive to the Kennedy Meadows Campground from L.A. Round trip stats: 14 miles, 3,500 ft gain.

---

## Mt Humphreys & An Emblem

by Barbee Tidball

Looking Back over pictures from last Autumn I can still feel the exhilaration I felt on our October trip to Mt. Humphreys. We started out the trip surrounded by fabulous autumn color at the North Lake trailhead. The aspen were at their height of color, golden and shimmering in the cool breeze against a blue sky. Our first day's hike was at an easy pace. We started early afternoon on Thursday and hiked up to Piute Lake where we set camp for the first night in the pine trees northwest of the lake. The first night our group included Joe White, Sue Holloway, Larry and myself. That night we were treated to moonlight shining across the lake.

The next day we continued up to Humphreys' basin. Barb and Dave Sholle were hiking up to join us so we carefully looked for a campsite near Marmot Lake that might be seen as they hiked into the basin later in the day. Humphreys basin could

be called desolate. The area exemplifies the high Sierra, rocks and low vegetation dotted with lakes. Dramatic views are possible in most directions, but it is also just as easy to pass by without seeing a lake or campsite as you hike up and over numerous rock ridges and valleys.

To our delight Barb and Dave were spotted just before happy hour having pushed over the pass and into camp quickly that day. The push however was also to their disadvantage, as they both developed altitude headaches. Barb and Dave were to pay the price that night for not sleeping high the night before and their headaches forced them to hike back out the next day instead of going for the peak - leaving behind a celebration bottle of wine, just in case we made the summit.

Up early for the summit. We started out

about 6am towards the Southwest slope passing the upper basin lake to the slopes of the mountain. The route is fairly direct over the talus and scree with even the hint of a trail in places. Joe and Larry led a strong climb with Sue and then myself coming steadily along behind them up to the notch northwest of the summit. There to our surprise we found lots of snow! The early autumn storms had filled the gully with deep snow turning an easy 3<sup>rd</sup> class climb into an ice-snow climb. Larry and Joe led up as far as they could and I climbed out in the snow to make a route off the icy rocks part of the way. The snow climb went well, but it was cold in the shaded gully. Once we reached the point described by RJ as "A vertical wall is encountered after 200 feet. A short class 4 pitch leads to the crest of the arete on the west side..." Larry found an old piton with a ring to anchor to at the base of the very snow covered wall section where we belayed each other up the sunny west side.

It was from the anchor point we first spotted 2 dogs and then a climber coming up the gully from McGee Creek. The climber to our surprise turned and continued up the snow gully and quickly joined us on the West side, climbing on through us to the summit. We belayed each other up the next 4<sup>th</sup> class

pitch with Joe and Larry leading most of the climb or handling the rope. It is great to have climbing partners that are so strong and talented.

By now I am thrilled with the views and warm again now that we were out in the sun. The summit was almost in our grasp and with it my SPS Emblem would be earned. The scramble from the top of the second pitch to the summit is an easy one – as long as you don't mind crossing exposed step/bridge like section – which I do mind. One more belay for my security and then we were on the last scramble to the summit.

During the second 4<sup>th</sup> class pitch and up to the summit we also watched the climber's dogs working their way up to the summit. The dogs were incredible. They climbed past the old piton, over the icy, snowy wall and up to the west side ledges. We began to fear they would come on up to the summit.

On the top we all signed in, met the dog's owner, who writes for the Inyo Register, took pictures, ate summit cookies and enjoyed the view...till fear that the dogs would try to climb higher sent us all down. The reporter had decided that a belay down would be safer and quicker and we were happy to have him join our rope team for



Humohreys' Basin October 1999

the 4<sup>th</sup> class sections. I was first down to the ledge where two very exuberant dogs met me. When their owner joined me on the ledge a few minutes later I saw one more example of the talents of the dogs, as dogs and owner rapidly hopped off the west side towards the snowy gully and swiftly climbed down the rocks to the notch. I have never seen more talented "climbing" dogs, and their owner was pretty good too.

Not being as talented as the dogs we belayed

down and in the gully till we could use my earlier snow route to the notch. From there it is good hike back to Marmot Lake. Once again Larry and Joe headed out faster with Sue and I enjoying the scenery behind them. That night's happy hour included the celebration bottle of wine Barb & Dave left me – and I earned the toast to my Sierra Emblem peak.

## MT GOULD TO MT RIXFORD TRAVERSE

A nice day hike to make two less  
interesting peaks MORE interesting

Mt Gould, (13,005 ft) is easily reached in a sand and scree slog from Kearsarge Pass. The route from the pass is hardly anything to write home about. It is primarily class 1 with a class 3 move (it is hard to call it class 3) near the summit. The view from Mt. Gould is spectacular looking toward the south with University Peak and the rugged Kearsarge Pinnacles nearby. Williamson, Tyndall, Junction, the Videttes and Deerhorn are further on the horizon southward. To the north lies the Rae Lakes Basin, and Clarence King a little northwesterly.

Mt Rixford, (12,887 ft) is a gentle class 2 climb on a broad south facing slope. The views are similar.

Both peaks can be climbed in a single day by traversing between the peaks with some neat class 2 scrambling on a "not so narrow knife edge" running the ridge connecting the two. The trick is to do Rixford first. This avoids the sand and scree slogs on both peaks.

Get an early start from Onion Valley and go up to Kearsarge Pass. Descend the western side of the pass toward Charlotte Lake. Leave the trail and go cross country in a westerly direction at about 3,500 m or around 11,500 ft. This is a gently sloping area with easy cross country travel. Stay level and don't lose any altitude. The southern slopes of Mt. Rixford are easily seen from here descending down

to Bullfrog Lake. Gain this slope bypassing a small valley that leads to a saddle immediately east of Mt. Rixford. Don't be tempted to go northward up this nice looking valley; it ends in a giant scree slog. Ascend Rixford on the south facing talus slope. It is easy going to the summit.

From the summit of Rixford a small saddle immediately eastward is visible. Descend down an easterly facing scree slope just south of the Rixford summit block. Do not go too much lower than the level of the saddle. From this elevation do a steady slow ascent toward Mt. Gould. One can almost see a game trail just below the south side of the ridge that runs between the two peaks. Occasionally crest the ridge with class 2 scrambling and look downward at the steep drop offs into the lakes just west of Dragon Peak. One will soon gain the flat sandy area just north west of Mt. Gould. This is an easy walk up to Gould and avoids the steeper sandy slog from Kearsarge Pass.

From the summit of Gould, one can descend the sand and scree slope to the Kearsarge Pass trail east of the pass and be back to the cars in the afternoon.

This makes a great day, two good peaks with beautiful views, and only descending scree and sand rather than climbing in it.

Nile Sorenson

Following is a letter to the editor from Club President Chuck McGrady in response to a 3/15 Wall Street Journal article on the Club and the John Muir Sierrans faction.

---

President Chuck McGrady's reply sent to WSJ  
March 15, 2000

Dear editor,

Trust the Wall Street Journal to confuse the hubbub of democracy with the cannonades of civil war. The Journal's description of the internal climate of the Club utterly misrepresents the reality.

For over a century the Sierra Club has been on the cutting edge of environmental advocacy. We have a long history of visionary leadership. Sierra Club ideas that once seemed "extreme"—like the need to solve the problem of acid rain and protect the California desert—are now broadly accepted.

And as the environmental challenges facing our nation have evolved, so have the Club's positions and approaches. In 1892 we didn't have to worry about global warming or chlorinated pesticides. Now we do.

What has not changed is the way the Sierra Club evolves. Our positions evolve democratically, by debate and dialogue among our 600,000 member households. Do those 600,000 households agree on every aspect of strategy and tactics? Of course not—and it's silly of the Journal to pretend that they should. The fact that we have differences and that we argue passionately among ourselves does not mean the Sierra Club is coming apart at the seams or that we're being hijacked by a small group of members. For us, vigorous debate is business as usual inside our truly democratic organization.

It's also silly of the Journal to present our current policy approaches as "radical." Look at the examples cited. The Club favors eliminating the fiscally wasteful



and environmentally destructive commercial logging program on our National Forests. Radical position? Recent polls show that two-thirds of the American people agree with this position. And legislation to end the logging program is sponsored by that well-known radical, Iowa Republican Congressman Jim Leach.

Then there's Glen Canyon Dam. We think it should be removed, because, among other problems, the Dam wastes through evaporation and seepage 10% of the flow of the desperately water short Colorado basin. The biggest single water development project we could carry out in the Western states today would be to tear down the dam and restore Glen Canyon. A radical proposition? Well David Brower is actually not the most prominent figure who came to regret his support for the dam. Arizona Senator Barry Goldwater, an even more famous figure, called his vote for the dam the worst of his career. (Of course, Goldwater did say that extremism in the pursuit of virtue is no vice, but I doubt this is the kind of radicalism the Journal was referring to.)

The vote on the Club's board to favor tearing down the dam was not an acrimonious or divided one, but a unanimous vote after a very brief debate.

And only two weeks before the Journal opined that tearing down a dam was a radical position, the Governor of Oregon, John Kitzhaber came out in favor of breaching not one, but four major dams on the Snake River. If this is radicalism, it is a remarkably main stream sort of radicalism.

The truth is that the Sierra Club has 63 chapters and more than 400 local groups. At any time in the last century, some of those chapters and groups were tranquil, and some were engaged in heated battles over strategy or tactics. What all sides in these debates share is a commitment to protecting American's environment for our families and our future—a profound awareness of our connection to nature—a personal commitment to taking responsibility for that connection—and an optimistic belief that through democratic, grass-roots organizing we can protect the air, the water, and the wildlife that are our heritage.

Chuck McGrady, President  
Sierra Club

## REMEMBER TO VOTE

**SIERRA CLUB  
NATIONAL ELECTION BALLOTS  
MUST BE RECEIVED APRIL 26, 2000  
OR VOTE ON THE INTERNET  
<http://elections.votation.com/sierra2k>**

### A MESSAGE FROM CONCERNED SIERRA CLUB LEADERS March 14, 2000

The election for members of the Sierra Club's national Board of Directors is underway. We are writing because we believe that it is crucial for Club leaders to get involved in this election.

For some time, the Board has been deeply divided. The divisions have gone well beyond differences of opinion regarding policies or strategies. Some Directors have engaged in bitter accusations and disrespectful treatment of volunteers and staff. The Board has had to spend far too much of its time and attention dealing with its internal divisions, and has not been able to devote enough time to the stewardship of the Club.

We believe two things are important in this election. First, the Board must be strengthened through the election of capable Club activists who understand the Club and how it works. We need Directors who will bring their personal skills to bear on restoring the atmosphere of unity, support, and mutual respect vital to the Club's success. We need Directors who will bring good judgment and experience to bear on the crucial issues of management and finance which are the Board's central responsibility. We need Directors who will adopt realistic policies and strategies to advance our conservation goals. We need Directors who are concerned with the care of the entire Club, not just the adoption of some particular policy. We need Directors who listen to and respond to the other thousands of Club leaders instead of relentlessly trying to impose their own views from the top down. Second, candidates who have taken part in hostile attacks on their fellow volunteers rather than constructive problem solving must be rejected in this election. An organization of volunteers can too easily be overwhelmed by hostile individuals. Our leaders will decide to choose involvement in another environmental organization if there is a bad atmosphere within the Club. The current levels of hostility and divisiveness are seriously weakening the Club and its ability to protect our environment.

In reviewing the list of candidates for the Board in this year's election, we find many who will provide the stewardship the Club requires. We are confident that candidates Phil Berry, Robbie Cox, Roy Hengerson, Rhea Jezer, Susan Patton, Lisa Renstrom, and Joan Willey (listed alphabetically) have the combination of stewardship skills and experience to make good Directors. Berry, Cox, and Hengerson all have previously served on the Club's Board and have proven ability: Berry and Cox have both done an excellent job as Club President and Hengerson has served well in the critical role of Treasurer. Jezer, Patton, Renstrom, and Willey all have a record of constructive leadership in their chapters and groups, and each also has national experience. Among other roles, Jezer is on the EPEC Campaign Steering Committee, Patton chairs the Regional Vice Presidents' group,

Renstrom is chair of the Major Gifts Committee, and Willey serves on the Political Committee.

We believe that all seven have the capacity to be good stewards of the Sierra Club, and recommend that voters choose from among them.

On the other hand, candidates Hanson and Dorsey, both incumbents, have too often engaged in dismaying attacks on Club leaders with whom they disagree. We believe their actions have weakened the Club and strongly recommend that they not be reelected.

The Club is fortunate to have thousands of conservation leaders at the chapter and group levels who do tough jobs and make crucial decisions on behalf of the Club every day. They are supported by an effective and dedicated staff. These volunteer leaders and staff are the backbone of the Club and of the environmental movement. They need resources and support from their national Board, not backbiting and scorn. They need Directors who work hard to keep the Club financially stable. They need Directors who insist on a positive atmosphere that honors and respects both volunteer and staff service.

This message is not an attempt to advance any of our own candidacies. None of the signers (listed alphabetically) is a candidate and none currently serves on the Board. We write because the Club needs the help of its grass-roots leadership to improve its national governance. We are asking Club leaders who receive this message to consider it carefully, to share it with colleagues and friends, and to generally spread the word about this important Board election. Thanks for listening.

Judy Anderson (CA), John Muir Award Recipient, Desert Activist  
 Barry Beasley (SC), former Chair, Atlantic Ecoregion Task Force  
 Joni Bosh (AZ), former Club Vice-President for Conservation  
 Joan Brasaemle (OH), former Chair, Ohio Chapter  
 Ken Brame (TN), Chair, Club Political Committee  
 Alan Carlton (CA), Chair, California Nevada Regional Conservation Committee  
 Doris Cellarius (AZ), member, Conservation Governance Committee  
 Joyce Coleman (OR), Conservation Chair, Oregon Chapter  
 Carlton Conley (TX), former Chair, Lone Star Chapter  
 Harry Dalton (SC), former Chair, South Carolina Chapter  
 Jim Dodson (CA), former Club Treasurer  
 Rebecca Falkenberry, former Club Director  
 Dick Fiddler (WA), former Club Vice-President for Conservation  
 Tim Frank (CA), co-chair, National Sprawl Campaign  
 Liz Frenkel (OR), former member, Club Nominating Committee  
 Becky Gillette (MS), Chair, Mississippi Chapter  
 Paul Gould (WA), Cascade Chapter Excom  
 Elden Hughes (CA), Chair, California/Nevada Desert Committee  
 Robin Ives (CA), Vice-Chair, California/Nevada Regional Conservation Committee  
 Sherm Janke (MT), former Chair, Montana Chapter  
 Sandy Jensen (FL), Treasurer, Miami Group  
 Judy Kunofsky (CA), Chair, Sustainable Planet Strategy Team  
 Mark Lawler (WA), member, Wild Planet Strategy Team  
 Jeanne Lebow (MS), Conservation Chair, Mississippi Coast Group  
 Jack Maney (FL), Chair, Florida Chapter  
 Drusha Mayhue (MT), Chair, Yellowstone Ecosystem Task Force  
 Jim Mays (NY), former Chair, Atlantic Chapter and Club Nominating Committee  
 Mike McGinn (WA), former Chair, Cascade Chapter

Don Parks (WA), Cascade Chapter Excom  
 Ed Paynter (IN), Hoosier Chapter Chair, former Council Chair  
 Ellen Pillard (NV), Chair, Toiyabe Chapter  
 Tony Ruckel (CO), former Club President  
 Steve Shepard (MS), Chair, Mississippi Coast Group  
 Marge Sill (NV), Public Lands Coordinator, Toiyabe Chapter  
 Lois Snedden (NV), former Club Vice-President for Conservation  
 Jonathan Stoke (ID), Chair, Northern Rockies Chapter  
 Rose Strickland (NV), former Chair, National Public Lands Committee  
 Dan Sullivan (CA), former Chair, Sierra Club California  
 Barbara Vincent (LA), Gulf Coast Regional Vice-President  
 Gwen Wardwell (NM), Chair, Rio Grande Chapter  
 Paul Wilson (WV), Vice-Chair, West Virginia Chapter; Chair, Wild Planet Strategy Team

(Titles are for identification and do not imply the approval of the entity mentioned.)

Note: This not a private letter and we urge recipients to share it individually with others in their Chapters or Groups who would like to see it. Election rules can be found on the Club's web page under Bylaws and Standing Rules.

---

*(Mike Lorr tribute continued)*

To let us know what was inside him.  
 To find out what is inside us.

To tell us his limits  
 To find out ours

He listened  
 and remembered what you said  
 and held you to it.

He dignified people he talked to,  
 his family  
 fellow climbers who cared about others  
 his clients,  
 people still waiting for their due portion.

He was a Conscientious Objector.  
 He worked for Civil Rights

He cared enough about people to get qualified to work in a tough system.  
 He got his Ph.D. in Psychology and joined the American Psychological Association.

If he could care about a person he associated with that person.

Otherwise, no.

He studied you quick and that was it.

Physical presence, no.  
 Memories, yes.

---

**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, 20362 Callon Dr, Topanga Cyn, CA, 90290. Make all Checks Payable to the SPS

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



SASE ML &&(2X\*) 2000  
Tina Bowman  
283 Argonne Ave  
Long Beach CA 90803-1743