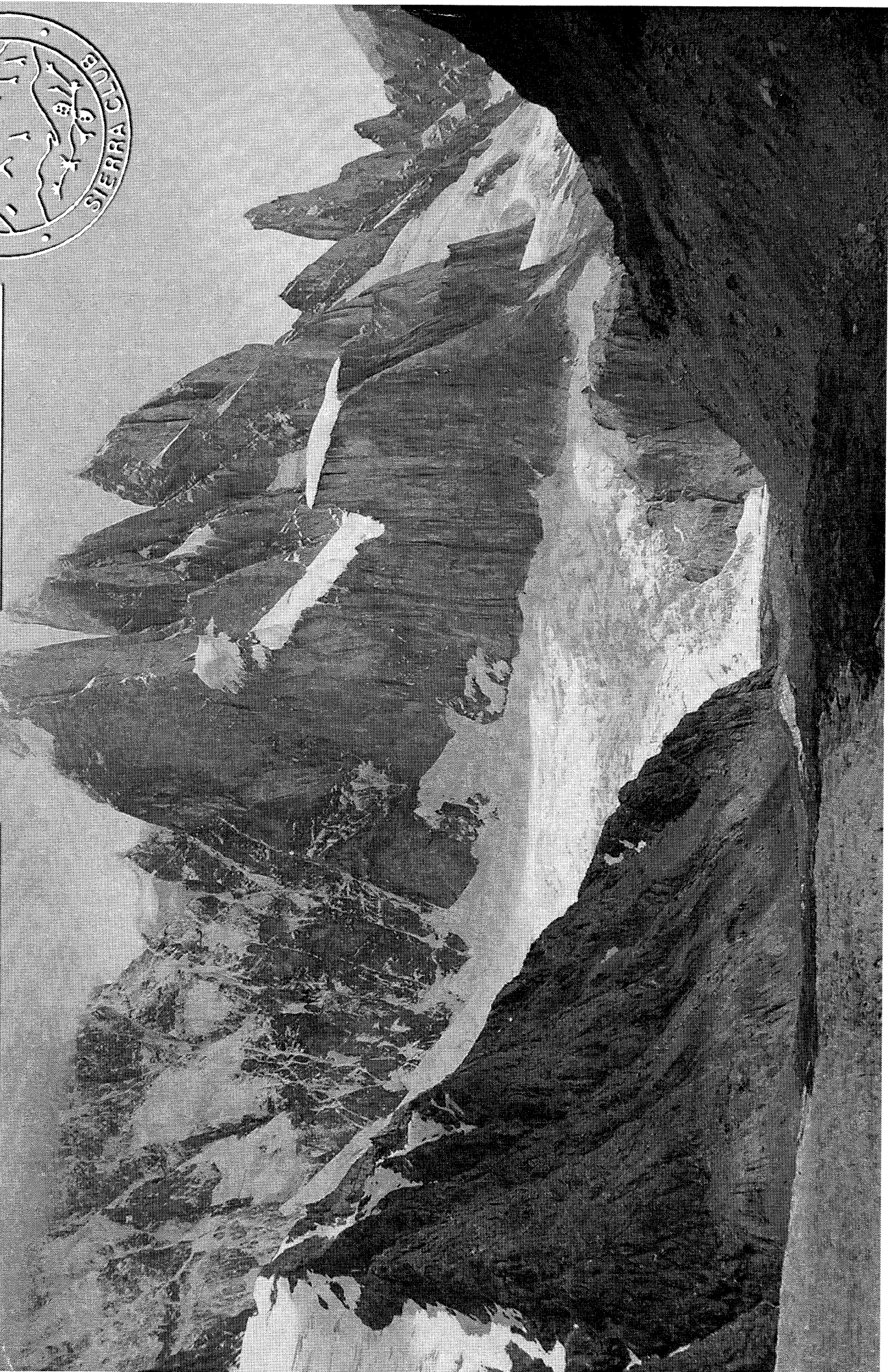


The Sierra

VOLUME 48 NUMBER 1

ECHO

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2004





North Palisade
Basin Mtn.
Mt. Thompson
Mt. Haeckel
Pt. Powell
Mt. Wallace
Four Gables

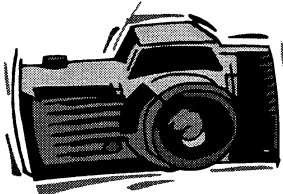
Peak List
See Stories inside
this issue

SPS PROGRAMS

SPS meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month - May through November & in January. A joint climbing sections meeting will be held in February. Meetings are held at 7:30pm, 3435 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. Downstairs from the Angeles Chapter Headquarters - Lower Plaza Conference Room. Free and secure parking.
March 2004 - No Meeting
April 2004 - No Meeting
May 12, Wed: Steve Smith will give a slide show of his trip to Europe showing climbs of Mt. Blanc, the Matterhorn and Mt. Rosa.
June 9, Wed: Kent Schwitkis will discuss

Front Cover

3102 m Cerro (Tower Mountain) in Parque Nacional Los Glaciares in Patagonian Argentina towers 7000 feet above the foreground glacier in this photograph taken by Barbara Sholle from Laguna Torre near Campamento Bridwell. To the right are Torre Egger and Cerro Standhardt.



Torre
tain)

Range of Light Echo Cover Contest

*The 2004
August/September
Echo will feature one
spectacular color photo
from an SPS Member*

*Show off your talents as a
photographer.*

*Photos for consideration to
be submitted by July 12, 2004
to Barbee Tidball*

*Judging to be by the SPS
Management Committee. Winner
will be featured on the Echo
cover in color.*

*Photos to be judged for 1st
color, 2nd composition
and 3rd subject.*

*Submit your best photo
(limit 2 submissions per
photographer) in 5x7 or 8 x 10
print format. If taking digital
photos the photos submitted
must be available at high reso-
lutions for printing on the
cover.*



MARCH

E/M: Mar 14 Sun LTC, SPS, DPS Stoney Point Rock Workshop/Checkoff. Checkoffs for M & E rock must be pre-arranged. Restricted trip. Send \$15.00 deposit (refunded when you show) Ldr: Ron Hudson Asst: Patty Rambert

MR: Mar 14 Sun Mt Baldy (10,064') Snow Climb: SPS/WTC Restricted Ldr: Don Croley. Co-Ldr: Will McWhinney.

Mar 20 Sat Deadline for Leadership Training Seminar. Last day for enrollment in April 3 seminar. Registrar: ltregistrar@angeles.sierraclub.org

APRIL

TI: Apr 2-4 Fri-Sun SMS, SPS Mt Mary Austin. Ski/climb one of the few Sierra peaks named after a lady. Basecamp in Bighorn Sheep territory, Little Onion Valley. Exper. in backcountry skiing/snowshoeing and climbing required. Ldr: Reiner Stenzel Asst: Jim Crouch

M: Apr 3-4 Sat-Sun Sierra Peaks San Gorgonio Mtn (11,499'): Backpack and snow climb to So. CA's highest peak. Restricted, ice ax and crampon exper. Send SASE or email Ldr: Beth Epstein Co-Ldr: Asher Waxman

Apr 3 Sat Leadership Training Seminar

I/M: Apr 17-18 Sat-Sun LTC, WTC Indian Cove Navigation. Navigation Noodles to satisfy Basic (I/M) level nav.requirements. Sat for practice. Sun for checkout. To receive homework assignment, send SASE to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Bob Bradshaw

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. For all trips remember to send a SASE, Sierra Club #, experience and conditioning resume (if you are not known to the leaders), H & W phone #s, e-mail address optional, and rideshare information.

All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the Liability Waiver before you choose to participate on an outing, please go to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/>, or contact the Outings Department at (415) 977-5528 for a printed version.

M/ER: Apr 24-25 Sat - Sun , LTC, SPS, DPS Sierra Snow Checkoff Demonstrate your skills to receive M or E snow checkoff or to sharpen skills. E-mail Ldr: Tom McDonnell Co-Ldr. Randall Danta

TI: Apr 28-May 2 Wed-Sun SMS, SPS Tioga Pass - Yosemite High Country- E-mail experience to Ldr: Jonathan Meagher Asst. Ldrs: Randy Lamm, Reiner Stenzel, etc TBA.

MAY

M: May 1-2 Sat-Sun SPS, WTC Diamond Pk (13,127'): Snow climb using ice ax and crampons. Sat backpack up Baxter Pass trail near Independence; 4000' gain, 6 mi to camp. Sun climb Diamond, 2000' gain, and pack out. Black Mtn (13,291') may also be ascended if time allows. Restricted to SC members. Send 2 SASE or 1 SASE and email, to Ldr: Ron Hudson Co-Ldr: Patty Rambert

TI: May 1-2 Sat-Sun, Dunderberg Peak (12,374'): SMS/SPS, Sat climb, 2874' gain, and ski this prominent peak above Virginia Lakes. Advance skiing skills required along with metal edged skis with climbing skins, avy beacon, and shovel. Car camp Sat nite. Conditions will determine Sun's tour. E-mail SASE w/ backcountry ski experience to Ldr: MARK GOEBEL. Asst. RANDY LAMM

MAY continued

DPS BANQUET - May 5TH Location: The Reef Restaurant, Long Beach. Happy hour 6:00, dinner 7:00, followed by awards, raffle, and program. Program: Northern Heights by Gerry Roach, world-class climber and mountaineer, speaking on his climbs of the 10 highest North American summits. See the Angeles Chapter schedule for ticket ordering information.

MR: May 8-9 Sat-Sun Bloody Mountain (12,552'): Sat backpack approx 2 miles, 1,000', depending on snow conditions to camp. Share happy hour. Sun climb peak via prominent north couloir. Restricted trip, ice ax and crampon exper. Send SASE and email to Ldr: Anne Marie Richardson Asst: Asher Waxman

MR: May 8-9 Sat-Sun, Black Mtn. (13,289') & Diamond Peak (13,126'): WTC/SPS, Sat bkpk to camp below Baxter Pass (7 mi, 5000'). Sun climb Black by cl 3 snow north slope then traverse to Diamond (6 mi rt 3500') and pack out. Ice axe, crampon, helmet and recent 3rd cl snow exper. required. Send SASE and e-mail with climbing resume and \$5 permit fee to Ldr: SCOTT LEAVITT. Asst. NILE SORENSON

M/E: May 15-16 Sat - Sun , LTC, SPS, DPS Sierra Snow Checkoff For M & E candidates. Send 2 SASE or 1 SASE and e-mail, H&W phones. Ldr: Nile Sorenson. Co-Ldrs. Doug Mantle, Duane McRuer

M: May 22-23 Sat-Sun SPS, WTC Dome Lands Ramble - Rockhouse Peak (8383'), Taylor Dome (8774') Bkpk loop from Big Meadow to climb two rocky pks in the Dome Lands. Sat set up car shuttle at Big Meadow, hike to camp at Little Manter Meadow, 5.5 mi, 500' gain. Set camp, climb Rockhouse, 6.5 mi and 1640' rt, brushy xc, cl 3. Celeb.happy hour. Sun pack out, 5 mi, 1200' gain, with op. xc climb of Taylor Dome adding 2.8 mi, 700'. Comfort scrambling on cl 3 rock. Send SASE or email to Ldr: Beth Epstein Co-Ldr. Kim Gimenez

M: May 22-23 Sat-Sun Stanford #2 (12,838') and Morgan #2 (13,002'): Restricted trip, ice axe and crampon exper. Easy backpack: 6 mi, 600' gain then snow climb to Morgan, 3200' gain. Sun. climb Stanford 2800' gain and long glissade back to camp prior to packing out. . Send SASE and \$5 permit fee to Ldr: Larry Tidball. Co-Ldr: Barbee Tidball

I: May 23 Sun , LTC, WTC Grinnell Ridge Navigation Navigation Noodle in San Bernardino National Forest for either checkout or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or (E) level navigation requirements. To receive homework assignment, send SASE to Ldr: Harry Freimanis Asst. Bob Bradshaw

TI: May 28-31 Fri-Mon, Mineral King Base Camp: SMS/SPS, Ski from Silver City to base camp near Mineral King unless road is open to MK. Then do day tours to nearby peaks and passes. Experience in backcountry skiing and climbing required. Bring metal edged skis with climbing skins, ski crampons, avy beacon, shovel, and snow camping gear. Snowshoes also ok. E-mail exper.to Ldr: REINER STENZEL. Asst. RANDY LAMM

I: May 29-31 Sat-Mon SPS, WTC Kern Peak (11,510): Join us Memorial Day weekend for a fun backpack in Golden Trout Wilderness. Sat hike 9 miles 1600 ft. gain to camp at Redrock Meadows. Sun. climb peak 8 miles 3000 ft. gain rt. Then move camp to Jordan Hot Springs another 4 miles mostly downhill. Mon enjoy hot springs and return to cars, 5 miles 2500 ft. gain. Send e-mail or SASE to Ldrs: Mirna & Greg Roach

JUNE

MR: June 4-6 Fri-Sun, Mt. Powell, Mt Thompson: Backpack from Lake Sabrina to Baboon Lakes area. Climb Powell via 30 degree snow chute, then schlep over to Thompson. Curse sloppy snow on return. Pack out Sunday. Send SASE, e-mail, climbing resume, and \$5 permit fee to Ldr: GREG VERNON, Asst: R.J. SECOR

M: June 5-6 Sat-Sun, Smith Mountain (9533'), Jackass Peak (9280'), Crag Peak (9480'): WTC/SPS, We'll range through the meadows and forests of the Kern Plateau and enjoy great mountaintop views. Sat backpack 5 mi, 1200' to Albanita Meadow and climb Smith and Jackass. Potluck Sat night. Sun hike xc 5 mi, gain 900' to Crag and out. Send e-mail or sase to Ldr: RON CAMPBELL. Asst: PATTY RAMBERT

I: Jun 5-6 Sat-Sun Olancha Peak (12,123'): Moderately strenuous climb of SPS Emblem peak at the source of Crystal Geyser water in the Southern Sierra. SPS intro trip geared to new SPS climbers and strong WTC students. Qualified K-9s welcome with permission. Sat hike 8 mi, 3900' gain from Sage Flat to base camp off PCT at approx 9700'. Sun climb class 2 Olancha, 7 mi rt and 2400' gain, then out. Total gain for weekend 6300' in 23 mi rt. Sat eve community happy hour. Send 2 SASE to Ldr: Patty Kline Asst: Hal Browder

C: Jun 11-13 Wilderness First Aid Course COURSE FULL! Next course TBA Oct/Nov Ldr: Steve Schuster

JUNE continued

MR: June 12 – 13 Sat-Sun, Mount Keith (13,977'): WTC/SPS, Sat backpack from Shepherd Pass Trail Head to the Pot Hole (10,827) 4500' gain, 7 miles. Enjoy Happy Hour. Sun climb to Junction Pass and climb the South Face Class 2 or the Southwest Ridge Cl 3 depending on conditions to the summit of Mt. Keith 3100' gain with Ice Axe and Crampons. Return to camp & pack out. Send SASE or e-mail, mail \$5 check for permit fee to Ldr: JOHN CHESLICK. Asst: PATTY RAMBERT

MR: Jun 14-15 Mon-Tue, Mt Morgan (13,748'), Mt Mills (13,451'): WTC/SPS, Mon backpack 4 mi, 1000' gain from Rock Creek trailhead, camp in Little Lakes Valley, climb Mt Morgan (4 mi, 2500' gain). Tue climb Mills (4 mi, 2500' gain) and pack out. Expect snow climb using ice ax and crampons. Restricted trip. Send 2 SASE or 1 SASE and \$5 for permit fee to Ldr: RON HUDSON Co-Ldr: PATTY RAMBERT

MR: Jun 16-18 Wed-Fri, Striped Mtn (13,179'), Goodale Mtn (12,772'): WTC/SPS, Wed backpack up Taboose Pass trail (N of Independence); 6000' gain, 7 mi to camp. Climb the two peaks Thu (2500' gain). Pack out Fri. Goodale has cl 3 summit block. Expect snow climb - ice ax and crampons. Restricted trip. Send climbing resume, 2 SASE or 1 SASE and email, \$5 for permit fee to Ldr: RON HUDSON. Co-Ldr: PATTY RAMBERT

MR: Jun 19-20 Sat-Sun, Mt. Conness (12,590): WTC/SPS, Fantastic snow climb in Northern Yosemite. Sat: Hike from Saddlebag Lake to camp (5 mile/ 1000'). Sun: Climb Conness via Glacier Route and East Ridge. Return to camp and pack out. 3 cl snow and rock exp., ice axe, crampons, and helmet required. Send SASE, e-mail, climbing resume and \$5 permit fee to Ldr: SCOTT LEAVITT. Asst: RANDALL DANTA

I: Jun 19-21 Sat- Mon Kern Peak (11,510'): SPS introductory trip in southern Sierra geared to prospective SPSers and WTC students. Mod. pace. Sat backpack 9 mi, 1500' gain to camp at Redrock Meadow at 8600'. Sun climb class 2 Kern Peak in 8 mi, 3000' gain rt, all x-country. Legendary happy hours Sat and Sun evenings. Mon backpack out 9 mi, 800' gain with ups and downs. Send SASE to Ldr: Patty Kline Asst: Kent Schwitkis Naturalist: Sherry Ross.

M: Jun 24-27 Thurs-Sun Eisen (12,160'), Lippincott (12,265') and perhaps more: Join list seekers in grueling backpack from Mineral King. Class 3, ice ax, crampons. Send SASE to Ldrs: Doug Mantle, Tom Bowman, Tina Bowman.

M: Jun 25-27 Fri-Sun SPS, WTC Mt Ritter (13,157') Snow Climb: Strenuous 5000' gain, 17 miles rt. Fri pack into Lake Ediza. Sat climb peak via the southwest glacier route. Sun pack out. Restricted trip, ice axe & crampon. Group size limited. Call leaders. Ldr: Don Croley Co-Ldr: Tom McDonnell

I: Jun 26-27 Sat-Sun, Florence Peak (12,432') & Vandever Mtn (11,947'): WTC/SPS, Introductory outing for SPS prospects, WTC students, or equivalent. Meet Saturday in Mineral King. Backpack from Farewell trailhead to Franklin Lake, 5 miles & 2700' gain. Climb Florence Peak, 5 miles RT & 1900' gain. Sunday break camp, retrace route 2 miles and stash packs. Climb Vandever Mtn, 6 miles RT & 2600' gain. Pack out remaining 3 miles. Send 2 SASE or 1 SASE plus e-mail, with recent experience, \$5 permit fee to Ldr: MIKE DILLENBACK, Co-Ldr: NEAL ROBBINS

M: Jun 26-27 Sat-Sun Mt Darwin (13,831'): Climb the emblem of the Evolution region. Sat backpack from North Lake above Bishop to camp over Lamarck Col, short, steep, possible snow in 5.5 miles, 3700' gain. Sun climb glacier and west ridge to exposed cl 3 summit, 4 mi, 2800'rt, then pack out, 500' gain additional. Restricted trip, crampon, ice ax and roped climbing exper. Send SASE to Ldr: Beth Epstein Co-Ldr: Kim Gimenez

JULY

ER: Jul 1 - 4 Thu-Sun, Disappointment Pk (13,917'), Middle Palisade (14,012'): WTC/SPS, Thu hike in along South Fork of Big Pine Creek past Willow Lake and Brainard Lake to camp above Finger Lake 7 mi, 3400' gain. Fri climb Middle Palisade via glacier & strenuous class 3 NE face, 1 mi, 2850' gain. Sat ascend steep snow chute of Southfork Pass and traverse Balcony Pk to climb Disappointment 2 mi, 2750' gain. Mon pack out to trailhead. Restricted trip, cl 3, crampon & ice axe exper. Send SASE or ESASE to Ldr: TOM MCDONNELL. Co-Ldr: NILE SORENSON

MR: Jul 2-6 Fri-Tue, Matterhorn Peak (12,279'), Whorl Mountain (12,033'), Twin Peaks (12,323'), Virginia (12,001'): Friday backpack 6 miles, 4000' up Horse Creek to camp. Saturday climb Matterhorn followed by happy hour for double emblem celebration. Sunday class 3 Whorl, Mon Twin and Virginia, Tue out. Send sase or email with class 3 experience to Ldr: BARBARA SHOLLE. Asst: DON SPARKS

M: July 9-11 Fri-Sun Tower Peak (11,758'): Long drive, fast-paced/long backpack for this 3rd cl. climb in No. Yosemite. Send climbing credentials w/SASE to Ldrs: DOUG MANTLE, PATTY RAMBERT

JULY continued

I: Jul 10-11 Sat-Sun, Bloody Mtn (12,552'), Mt Morrison (12,277'): Climb these cl 2 beauties near Convict Lake at a moderate pace. 4WD will get us closer to Bloody, possibly decreasing the 16 mi., 5200' effort for the NE ridge route. All paved hwy driving for class 2 Morrison; 7 mi, 4700' gain. Email or SASE to Ldr: GEORGE WYSUP Co-Ldrs: PAT ARREDONDO, GARY SCHENK

I: Jul 17-19 Sat-Mon, Mt. Stanford (North), (12,838'): Intro trip in eastern Sierra geared to prospective SPSers and WTC students. Relaxed, casual and enjoyable. Sat backpack 6 mi and 1,400' of gain to western most Hilton Lake at 10,353'. Sun climb cl 2 Stanford in 5 mi rt and 2,500' of gain, all x-country. Legendary community happy hours Sat and Sun evenings. Send SASE, \$5 permit fee per person, to Ldr: PATTY KLINE Asst. RICH GNAGY

MR: Jul 24-27 Sat-Tue, Mt Clark (11,522'), Gray Pk (11,573'), Red Pk (11,699'), Merced Pk (11,726'): Join us for strenuous 4 day backpack and climb of 4 cl 2-3 peaks in Yosemite. Sat, hike to base of Mt Clark (10 mi, 3,500' gain) from Mono Meadows trailhead. Clark involves an exposed move, must be comfortable on rock. Over the next 3 days climb the peaks and pack out. Send SASE and a \$5 check payable to John for the permit. Ldr: JOHN CHESLICK. Asst: PATTY RAMBERT

M: Jul 30 - Aug 1 Fri-Sun, Mt Ansel Adams, Electra: SPS/SMS, Climb two remote, beautiful, and not frequently visited peaks in Yosemite N.P. Exploratory trip to consider A. A. for the SPS List. Approach from south with basecamp at Sadler Lke. 30mi, 6000' rt. Good conditioning and cl 3 rock exper. required. Send SASE, e-mail Ldrs: REINER STENZEL, MARK GOEBEL.

M: Jul 31-Aug 1 Sat-Sun, Moses Mtn (9,320'), North Maggie Mtn (10,234'): WTC/SPS, Join us for a fun backpack Western side of the Southern Sierra. Sat backpack 3 miles 1500' gain to camp and climb Moses Mtn. (add. 4 miles RT 2,000' gain to peak. Easy cl 3). Sun climb North Maggie Mtn. 5 miles RT 2500' gain, plus 3 miles back to cars. Preference given to WTC students. E-mail, SASE, and \$5 permit fee to Ldr: GREG ROACH. Asst. PATTY RAMBERT

MR: Jul 31 - Aug. 1 Sat-Sun, Dragon Peak (12,955') and Mount Gould (13,005'): WTC/SPS, Sat. Backpack ~2 miles to camp north of Golden Trout Lake then climb Gould. Sun. climb Dragon via South Ridge (exposed summit block) and pack out. Helmet and 3rd class climbing exper. required. Send SASE or e-mail and \$5 permit fee to Ldr: HELEN QIAN. Asst: WILL MCWHINNEY

AUGUST

I: Aug 6-8 Fri-Sun, Amelia Earhart (11,982') and Donohue (12,023'): SPS/SMS, Climb two fine peaks out of Lyell Cyn. Good conditioning required. Send e-mail with climbing experience to Ldr: LESLIE HOFHERR. Asst. ERIC SIERING

I: Aug 7-8 Sat-Sun, Cirque Peak (12,900'): Introductory trip in eastern Sierra geared to prospective SPSers and WTC students. Moderate and enjoyable pace. Sat backpack from Horseshoe Meadows at 10,000' to Long Lake at 11,160' (5 mi, 1200' gain). Sat evening legendary community happy hour. Sun climb class 1 Cirque Peak (5 mi rt, 1800' gain) and pack out from camp. Send SASE with \$5.00 permit fee to Ldr: PATTY KLINE. Asst. KEITH MARTIN

MR: Aug 7-8 Sat-Sun, Mt Sill (14,153'): WTC/SPS, Restricted trip, 3rd class rock and snow (ice axe and crampons) experience. Sat, from Glacier Lodge trailhead, backpack up to camp near Palisade Glacier. Sun ascend Mt. Sill via the North Couloir and pack out. Send 2 sase or email describing experience, qualifications, conditioning, references, Ldr: MARIA ROA. Assts: BETH EPSTEIN and ASHER WAXMAN.

ER: Aug 19-22 Thur - Sun, Clarence King (12,905'), optional other peaks Mt Cotter (12,721') and Rixford (12,887'): Backpack 2700' elev gain and 4 miles over Kearsarge Pass, then down to Bullfrog Lake, on to the John Muir Trail and over Glen Pass to Sixty Lakes Basin 1200' elev gain and 8+ miles to camp. Pick up Mt Rixford Cl. 2 on trip into camp Thurs from Glen Pass 912' elev gain. Fri. climb Mt Cotter Cl. 2 and Sat. Mt Clarence King, Cl 5.4. Restricted trip. Rock climbing experience a must. Sun pack out. Send SASE to Ldr: LARRY TIDBALL. Co-Ldrs: TOM & TINA BOWMAN

I: Aug 20-22 Fri-Sun, Pilot Knob North (12,245'): Wilderness Adventures/SPS, Intro Trip suitable for WTC students. Start Fri morning for moderately fast-paced 3-day backpack & climb in John Muir Wilderness and Kings Canyon National Park High Country. Fri backpack from North Lake 7 mi, 2300' gain over Piute Pass to Lower Desolation Lake. Enjoy beautiful lakes and vistas as we climb up over the pass.. Sat 'bag' Pilot Knob North, 8 mi xc, 1400' gain/loss with fabulous views of Humphreys Basin and the Kings Canyon High Country.. Sun backpack out to North Lake, then return to LA. While not for beginners, this trip is suitable for people who already have some other xc trips under their boots. Send check for \$10 permit fee (payable to Wilderness Adventures), 2 SASE (or 1 SASE & email), to Ldr: KEITH MARTIN. Asst: MARK MITCHELL

AUGUST continued

M: Aug 20-23 Fri-Mon McAdie(13799'), Mallory(13845'), Irvine(13780'): SPS/WTC, Backpack to Meysan Lakes (4 mi, 4100'), day hikes to McAdie (cl 3, 4 mi, 3700') and M&I (3 mi, 3000'). Climb of McAdie limited to qualified individuals - comfort on 3rd cl rock reqd. Send 2 business SASE (better yet esase) to Ldr: BARRY HOLCHIN. Co-Ldr: JOE WANKUM

I: August 21-22 Sat-Sun Mt. Agassiz (13,891'): SPS/WTC, Sat. backpack 4 miles, 1400' gain from South Lake. Explore, Relax, (fish?) before happy hour. (Bear cans reqd.) Sun hike to Bishop Pass and then XC to peak for outstanding views; then pack out. 8 miles, 3000' gain. Moderate pace, this is a good intro to Sierra peak climbs. \$5 permit fee. Send 2 SASE or email to Scott. Co-Leaders Dan Bovee and Scott Nelson

MR: Aug 21-23 Sat-Mon, Middle Palisade (14,012'): WTC/SPS, Sat backpack 6 mi, 3000' gain to Finger Lake & group happy hr. Sun climb Mountaineers list peak via glacier & strenuous class 3 NE face, 3250' gain. Enjoy spectacular views & return to camp. Mon pack out. Restricted with class 3, crampon & ice axe experience. Send SASE, resume w/experience \$5 permit fee to Ldr: ANNE MARIE RICHARDSON, Asst: PATRICK MCKUSKY

I: Aug 21-23 Sat-Mon, Mt. Conness (12,590'): Introductory trip in Yosemite geared to prospective SPSers and WTC students. Moderate, relaxed and enjoyable pace. Sat. backpack from Tuolumne Meadows at 8600' to Young Lakes (6 mi, 1900' gain). Sun climb class 2 Mt. Conness (6 mi, 2600' gain) at the northeast boundary of Yosemite. Legendary community happy hours Sat and Sun evenings. Mon backpack out (6 mi, 1900' loss). Send SASE, \$5.00 permit fee per person, to Ldr: PATTY KLINE. Asst: RICK JALI

I: Aug 27-29 Fri-Sun, Lone Pine Peak (12,943'), Thor Peak (12306'): Palos Verdes South Bay Group/SPS, Combo Backpack and Car-camp. Intro trip suitable for WTC students. Start Fri morning for mod. paced 2-day backpack & climb of Lone Pine Peak via Lower Meysan Lake. Fri backpack from Whitney Portal to Lower Meysan Lake 2.5 miles with 2300 feet of gain. Sat 'bag' Lone Pine Peak 2 mi xc 2900 gain and hike out. Unimproved car camp in Alabama Hills area. Sun day hike Thor via east ridge (some bush-wacking) then return to LA. Send check for \$5 permit fee (payable to Leader), 2 SASE (or 1 SASE & email) to Ldr: KEITH MARTIN. Asst: PATTY RAMBERT.

I: Aug 28-29 Sat-Sun, Mt. Lamarck (13,417'): WTC/SPS, Introductory outing for SPS prospects, WTC students, or equivalent. Meet Saturday at North Lake. Backpack 4 miles with 2000' gain to camp overnight at Upper Lamarck Lake. Happy hour Sat. night. Sun. xc climb Mt Lamarck (5 miles rt, 2500' gain). Return to camp, break camp and hike out. WTC or equivalent required. Send check for \$6 permit fee, email or 2 sase, to Ldr: MIKE DILLENBACK, Co-Ldr. JOE WANKUM

SEPTEMBER

M: Sep 4-6 Sat-Mon, Mt. Tyndall (14,018'): WTC/SPS, Climb in autumn up a 14'ner. Strenuous 8 mi. 4000' gain to Anvil Camp on Sat. Sun. climb Tyndall via North Rib and back to camp (6mi. round trip, 4000' gain). Mon. hike out. Recent 3rd class rock exp. required. Send SASE and email address and \$5 permit fee to Ldr: SCOTT LEAVITT. Asst: PATRICK MCKUSKY

I: Sep 10-12 Fri-Sun, Mt Hoffman (10,850'), Tuolumne Peak (10,845'): Leisurely paced, xc ascents of two prominent unlisted, cl 2 peaks northwest of Tenaya Lake in Yosemite NP. Meet Fri pm for group happy hour or Sat am in NP campground. Sat caravan to trail head for ascent of Tuolumne, 2000' gain, 7 mi rt; Sun caravan to trail head for Hoffman, 2500' gain, 4.5 mi rt. Send 2 SASE to Asst Ldr: JERRY KEATING. Ldrs: BARBARA LILLEY & GORDON MACLEOD

M: Sep 10-12 Fri-Sun Carl Heller (13,225'), Tunnabora (13,563'), Carillon (13,550'): SPS/SMS, Ascend north fork of Lone Pine Creek over Russell-Carillon col to camp at Lake Tulainyo. Sat climb Carl Heller and Tunnabora. Sun out via Carillon. Send email (or SASE) w/ H&W phone, email, recent experience and conditioning to Ldr: ERIK SIERING. Asst: REINER STENZEL.

I: Sep 11-12 Sat-Sun, Florence Pk (12,432'). WTC/SPS, Sat backpack 5 miles 2800' gain to Franklin Lake and climb Florence (additional 4 miles rt, 2600' gain). Sun lounge lakeside and leisurely pack out. Send email (or SASE) to Ldr: MARIA ROA. Asst: HELEN QIAN.

I: Sep 11-12 Sat-Sun, Silver Pk (11,878'): WTC/SPS, Sat backpack from near Lk Thomas Edison to camp at Big Margaret Lk (10 mi, 3400' gain), then climb cl 2 Silver mostly xc, 2.5 mi rt, 1900' gain. Out Sun (1500' gain). Send e-mail or SASE to Ldrs: TINA AND TOM BOWMAN

SEPTEMBER *continued*

I: Sep 11-12 Sat-Sun Basin Mtn (13,18 1'): WTC/SPS/HPS, Intro trip, moderately paced. Saturday backpack to Horton Lake, 4 mi, 2600' gain, then happy hour. Sunday climb Basin by NW slope, 2.5 mi, 3200' gain. Return to camp and pack out. Send SASE and check for \$5 permit fee to Ldr: GARY SCHENK. Asst: PATTY RAMBERT

I: Sep 11-13 Sat-Mon, Mt. Julius Caesar (13,200'): WTC/SPS, Introductory trip in eastern Sierra geared to prospective SPSers and WTC students. Moderate and enjoyable pace. Sat backpack above Honeymoon Lake, camping at 10,600 (7 mi and 3200' gain). Sun climb class 2 Julius Caesar (9 mi rt., 2600' gain with xc.) Legendary community happy hours Sat and Sun evenings. Send SASE, \$5 permit fee per person, to Ldr: PATTY KLINE. Asst. JOE WANKUM

I: Sep 17-19 Fri-Sun, Yosemite NP/Koip Peak (12,962'): Wilderness Adventures/SPS Intro Trip suitable for WTC students. Start Fri mod. fast-paced 3-day backpack & climb in Yosemite's High Country. Fri backpack 6 mi, 1800' gain over Parker Pass to lakes south of Pass. Explore old shepherders cabin and abandoned mining camp near Bloody Canyon on the way. Sat 'bag' Koip Peak, 6 mi xc, 2000' gain/loss with fabulous views of Tuolumne Meadows, Cathedral Range and Minarets to the South.. Sun backpack out to Tuolumne Meadows. Suitable for people w/ some other xc exper. Send check for \$10 permit fee (payable to Wilderness Adventures), 2 SASE (or 1 SASE & email) to Ldr: KEITH MARTIN. Asst: BETH POWIS

I: Sep 18-19 Sat-Sun, Mount Tom (13,562'): WTC/SPS, Gourmet Backpack! Join us for a weekend of high-altitude decadence. Sat backpack 4 mi, 2200' to Horton Lake for an elegant dinner. Sun work off those calories with 7 mi rt, 3700' climb of Tom. Send SASE with e-mail and your most outrageous culinary ideas to Ldr: RON CAMPBELL. Asst: GEORGETTE RIECK

I: Sep 18-19 Sat-Sun, North Maggie Mtn (10,234'): WTC/SPS, Join us for a short but moderate backpack trip to North Maggie Mountain. Sat backpack from Hidden Falls in Sequoia National Forest to camp, 2 miles, 900' gain. Climb peak Sat noon or Sun morning through much xc and much brush, 3400' gain, 2 miles. Spare time can be spent exploring Tule River for Golden Trout. Send SASE or email, if recent student - WTC leader's name to Ldr: ED MORENTE. Asst: TOM MCDONNELL

**Remember to mail in your
ECHO subscription for
2004.**

MR: Sep 18-26 Sat-Sun, Mt Guyot (12,300'), Joe Devel Pk (13,327'), Mt Pickering (13,474'), Mt Chamberlin (13,169'), Mt Newcomb (13,422'), Mt Whitney (14,491'), Mt. Muir (14,012'), Mt Young (13,176'), Mt Hale (13,494') and possible other peaks with time for fishing in the area. Week long backpack lots of miles and lots of elevation gain, But also a beautiful area with lots of peaks. Participants must be comfortable with cross-country travel and 3rd class rock, fishing poles optional. Send SASE to Ldr: LARRY TIDBALL. Co-Ldr: BARBEE TIDBALL

MR: Sep 24-26 Fri-Sun, Tower Peak (11775'): Climb this Northern Sierra Mountaineer's Peak. Strenuous trip, restricted to SC members. Fri. backpack to camp at Tower Lake (12mi.). Sat. climb peak and pack out part way for short hike out on Sun. Sand SASE with \$5.00 permit fee. Ldrs: HENRY A. ARNEBOLD and STEVE THAW

O: Sep 24-26 Fri-Sun, Yosemite Volunteer in Parks Program: Palos Verdes-South Bay Group/Orange County Sierra Singles/SPS, Saturday work under direction of Park Rangers on preparation of a burn area to help protect Yosemite Park from the devastating wild fires which have been plaguing the western forest lands. Potluck Bar B Que on Saturday night. Sunday do your own thing or join leaders on hike. Stay in reserved Yellow Pines Campgrounds and get free Park entry pass, bring your own tent, sleeping bag and car camping equipment. Send 2 SASE to Ldr: KEITH MARTIN, Asst: JOYCE WHITE

I: Sep 24-26 Fri-Sun, Pilot Knob # 2 (12,245'): WTC/SPS, Fri. backpack 6 miles, 2000' gain from North Lake to Muriel Lake. Sat. 7 miles, 2100' to Pilot Knob. Happy hours both nights. Sun. break camp and pack out to trailhead. Send check for \$6 permit fee (made out to leader), email or 2 SASE to Ldr. MIKE DILLENBACK. Asst. K. C. REID

I: Sep 26 Sun Grinnell Ridge Navigation: LTC/WTC Navigation Noodle in San Bernardino National Forest for either checkout or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. To receive homework assignment, send sase with navigation experience/training, rideshare info, H&W phones, to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Bob Bradshaw

OCTOBER

M: Oct 1-4 Fri-Mon, North Guard(13,327') and Francis Farquhar(12,893'): SMS/SPS, Enjoy High Sierra in the Fall. Friday backpack (6 miles, 5500' up) to Sphinx Lakes for base camp. Climb Saturday and Sunday. North Guard (rt) is 8 mi/4kft; Farquhar (rt) is 4mi/2kft. Monday, pack out. Send SASE or email (preferred) to leader with class 3 experience. Ldr: JIM CROUCH. Asst: REINER STENZEL

I: Oct 2 Sat Mt Lowe (5603') Beginning Navigation Clinic: LTC/WTC 5 mi, 500' gain. Spend the day one on one with an instructor, learning/practicing map and compass. Beginners to rusty old timers welcome. Not a checkoff. Many expert leaders will attend; many "I" rated leaders started here in the past. Recent no-shows require a \$25 deposit, refunded at trailhead. Send large sase early with check made out to Sierra Club, H&W phones to Ldr: DIANE DUNBAR. CO-LDR: RICHARD BOARDMAN

Oct 2 Sat Deadline for Leadership Training Seminar: Last day to register for Oct 16th LTC seminar. See ad back pages of Angeles Chpt. sced.

M: Oct 9-10 Sat-Sun M: Moses Mtn. (9331'), North Maggie Mtn. (10'): SPS/Palos Verdes South Bay Group/Natural Sciences/WTC, Join us on this late season backpack to the Mineral King area. BP 3 mi, 1000' gain to camp, then climb N. Maggie. Sun, climb Moses and out. Take time to learn from our naturalist about the fauna and flora. Send email (preferable – bholchin@cox.net) or sase to Ldr: BARRY HOLCHIN. Co-Ldr: KENT SCHWITKIS. Naturalist: Sherry Ross

Oct 16 Sat Leadership Training Seminar

I/M: Oct 24 Sun LTC, WTC Sheep Pass, Joshua Tree National Park Navigation. Navigation Noodles to satisfy Basic (I/M) level nav.requirements. Sat for practice. Sun for checkout. To receive homework assignment, send SASE to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Bob Bradshaw

C: Oct 29-31 Fri - Sun Wilderness First Aid Course (WFAC): LTC, Harwood Lodge, WTC Runs from 8 am Fri to 5:30 pm Sun. Fee includes lodging and meals. CPR within previous 2 years required. Fee \$165 with SC#/\$175 non-member (full refund through Sept 24). For application send e-mail or sase to Ldr: STEVE SCHUSTER

NOVEMBER

I/M: Nov 13-14 Sat-Sun LTC, WTC Indian Cove, Joshua Tree National Park Navigation. Navigation Noodles to satisfy Basic (I/M) level nav.requirements. Sat for practice. Sun for checkout. To receive homework assignment, send SASE to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Bob Bradshaw

DECEMBER

I/M/E: Dec 5 Sun LTC, WTC Warren Point, Joshua Tree National Park Navigation. Navigation Noodles to satisfy Basic (I/M) level nav.requirements. Sat for practice. Sun for checkout. To receive homework assignment, send SASE to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Bob Bradshaw

SPS Membership News

Welcome - New Members:

Darrick Danta
9741 Reseda Blvd. # 46
Northridge, CA 91324
h (818) 349-6019
w (818) 677-3522

John Zelezny
2012 Everglade Ave.
Clovis, CA 93611
(559) 323-9961

Returning Member:

Thomas E. Sakowych
2020 E. Grand Ave. Apt. C
Escandido, CA 92027
(760) 746-9671

Happy Reading - New Echo Subscribers:

Dirk M. Summers
473 Ellita Ave. Apt. # 6
Oakland, CA 94610-4844

Kriston Mahaffey
304 ½ Colorado Place
Long Beach, CA 90814
(562) 433-1598

Echo Subscription Information

The Echo subscription for the current year is due by March 31st. It is \$15.00 per year or \$25.00 for sustaining members which includes 1st class postage. The subscription year is from January thru December, not from the date you paid your subscription. Any new subscribers after October 1st is credited for the subsequent year.

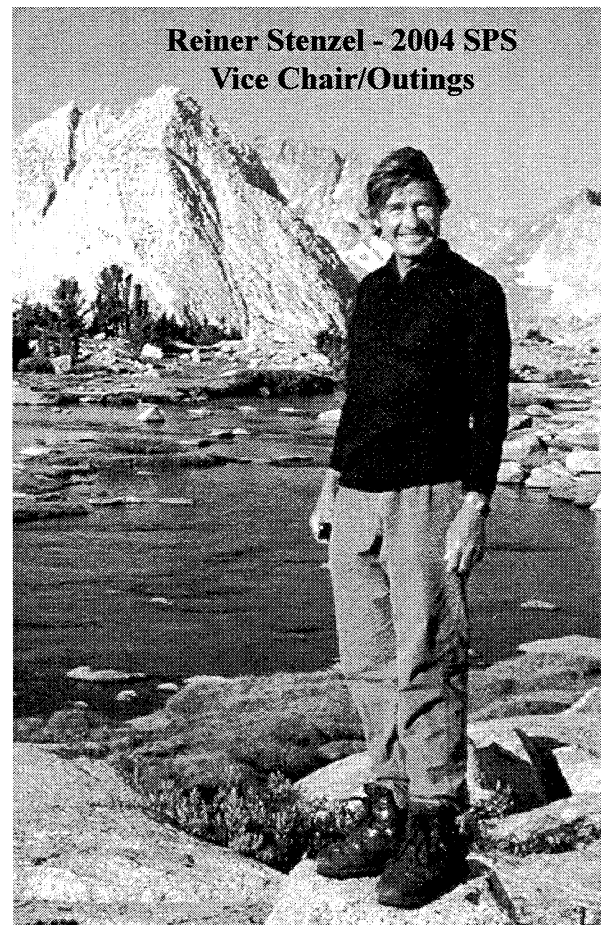
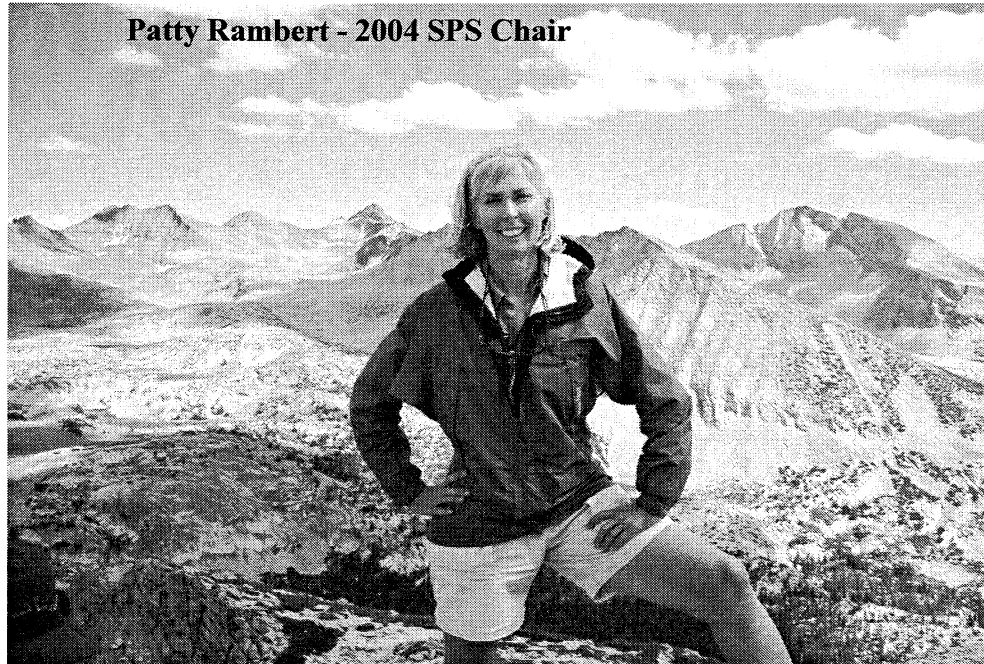
Echoes from the Chair

The year started out with a tragic loss of our friend and fellow climber Ali Aminian. For me, I remember the fun and exciting climbs I did with Ali last summer. I was able

to join the SPS group of 6 (Tom McDonnell, Nile Sorenson, Ron Norton, Tony Pond, Ali Aminian and myself) on a strenuous and successful climb of the U-Notch on North Palisade (an SPS Emblem Peak). Ali was very strong and enjoyable to have on the trip. Two weeks later Ali was leading a CMC (California Mountaineering Club) trip to Banner Peak and Mount Ritter, another SPS Emblem Peak trip that I joined. With wonderful snow conditions, Ali was really enjoying the climb and descent. Ali and Susan Livingston kept the pace and did their usual powering in the mountains. We hiked in, climbed both peaks, and hiked out in two days! I think of his family often. If you would drop them a line and let them know how Ali came into your lives, they would be comforted.

The Schedule of Trips for late spring, summer and early fall looks great! There are many opportunities for everyone. So sign up soon and get your spot. At least 42 trips, (over half) are co-sponsored with WTC (Wilderness Training Committee) and more co-sponsored with SMS, WA, HPS, PVS and OCSS. Great opportunities to meet new climbing friends and encourage them to join us in the SPS. If you are not already leading a trip, think of submitting one to Reiner Stenzel to be published in the next Echo. Don't forget to do trip reports. They are always fun to read and help in planning our future outings.

If you are thinking of becoming a leader, attend the Leadership Training Seminar on Saturday, April 3. Contact Steve Botan. Deadline for receipt of application and payment is March 20. If you have already taken the seminar but do not have the latest LRB (Leader's Reference Book – Fifteenth Edition – Feb. 2002), order one so you have the latest



requirements for getting your rating. Contact Steve Botan and send a \$15 check made out to the Sierra Club with a note for LRB.

Joe Wankum (Past Chair) challenged the 2003 Management Committee to reverse the trend in lagging list accomplishments. I believe we did that. We had more emblem recipients in 2003 than we have had in the past 3 years. So if you have reached any milestones, submit your paper work to Gary Schenk and let's see the numbers increase for 2004. Hope to see some more list finishers in the next couple of years.

I would like to thank Kurt Wedberg for a wonderful presentation at our banquet in January. How wonderful to grow up in a climbing family and make childhood dreams come true. It was nice to have his dad, John Wedberg, there also.

We need a Banquet Chair for the banquet January 2005. It is an opportunity to use your talents and put on an event the SPS won't forget! Let us know your thoughts on changing to a Saturday night (would avoid the traffic). Do you have any suggestions for an establishment and location?

Send me your ideas to add to the lists below in future columns.

Favorite piece of gear – Ultralight – Hydrolite Stuff Sacks by Outdoor Research

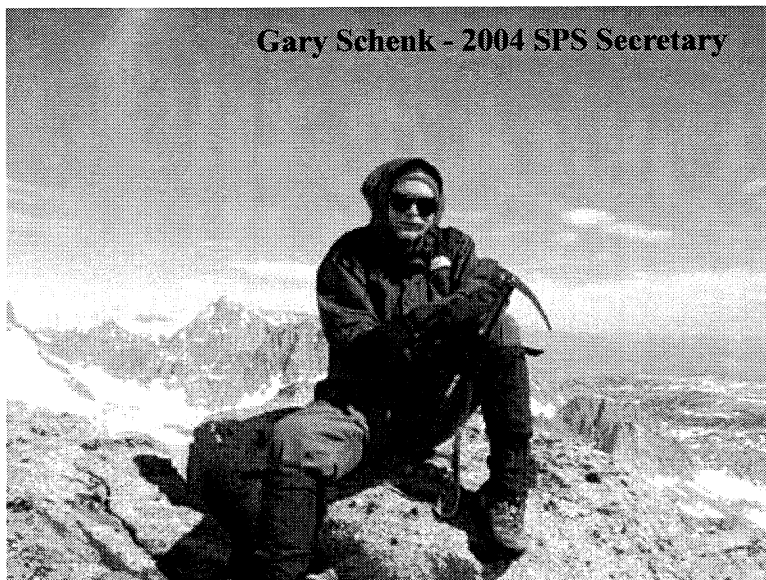
Personal Goal for 2004 – Work towards and achieve my Senior Emblem

Peak Wish List – Mount Lyell, Mount Humphreys

Let's all go climbing! Patty

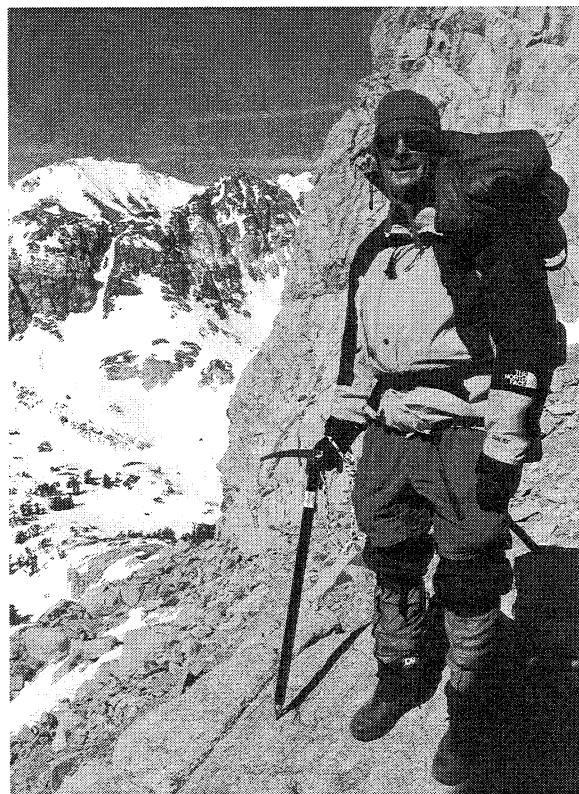


Henry Arnebold - 2004 SPS Treasurer
(left. shown with John Dodds on a recent trip to Yosemite)



Gary Schenk - 2004 SPS Secretary

Mike Dillenback - 2004 SPS 5th Officer



IN MEMORY of - Ali Aminian

January 28, 1952 -Tehran, Iran to January 11, 2004 - Mt. Baldy, California

Winter started this year with a number of tragedies on Mt. Baldy. We were all saddened to learn that Ali Aminian fell to his death on Mt. Baldy, January 11, 2004.

Ali Aminian was an experienced climber. As a member of the California Mountaineering Club (CMC) and the Sierra Peaks Section (SPS) Ali made numerous trips in the Sierra, north to Mt. Shasta, and in his native country of Iran. Ali liked winter climbing. One friend commented that Ali had done more winter climbs than most. It is ironic that winter conditions would ultimately lead to Ali's death.

Born in Iran, Ali attended college and fulfilled his military service duties in Iran before immigrating to the United States where he attended USC for an advanced degree. Ali, met and married Roberta in the United States. They have 3 children, their daughter and eldest, Jilla and two sons, Bidjan and Keyon.

A memorial service was held on January 20, 2004 in Thousand Oaks with the interment in Camarillo. The service was a tribute to Ali as a father, friend, co-worker and climber and was attended by over 235 family and friends, including many members of the climbing community. Henry Arnebold and Bob Rockwell were pall-bearers at the funeral.

As a member of the CMC, Ali served as president and treasurer. Ali was always welcome on our trips and was a good climber. He could be relied upon to make decisions and not to second-guess group decisions. Henry Arnebold remembers Ali as a good climbing partner who was always concerned about the rest of the group. Ali, as a climbing leader made sure that everyone was comfortable with the climb and didn't hesitate to abort a climb if conditions were not safe.



Ali was a caring person. He organized collections of mountaineering gear to send to less fortunate climbers in Iran. He was active with the establishment and success of his local Muslim community center. And he was a friend, who made the memorial climb to Norman Clyde with Steve Thaw and Henry Arnebold to honor Ursula Slager.

He was also goal oriented – Henry remembers Ali driving it seemed 90 miles per-hour on a trip to Mt. Shasta – yes they got the peak! But I also remember our turning back on Disappointment, disappointed by un-climbable ice on our route. Ali had the goals to complete the SPS list and hoped to achieve his Senior Emblem, Master Emblem and List finish.

Ali Aminian will be missed in the CMC and SPS.

Story prepared by Barbee Tidball

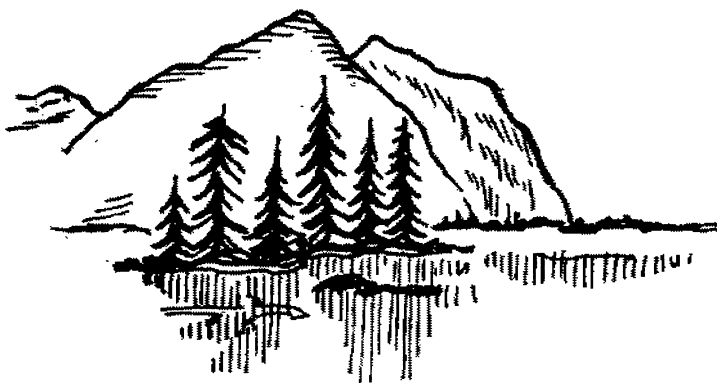
Henry Arnebold with Roberta Aminian while Roberta told gatherers at Griffith Park on February 28, 2004 about Ali and how he loved to go climbing.



Ali Amimian, photo from Scot Sullivan & Elena Sherman

“To those who have struggled with them, the mountains reveal beauties that they will not disclose to those who make no effort. That is the reward the mountains give to effort.

And it is because they have so much to give and give it so lavishly to those who will wrestle with them that men love the mountains and go back to them again and again. The mountains reserve their choice gifts for those who stand upon their summits.”



Sir Francis Younghusband

“The forces of mountains are sublime and far-reaching;
the ability to ride on the clouds is permeated by the mountains;
and the ability to follow the wind is inevitably liberated by the mountains.”

Dogen, *The Mountains and Rivers Sutra*

SPS and the National Sierra Club 2004 SIERRA CLUB NATIONAL ELECTION

As SPS members we often do not get involved with National Sierra Club issues, trusting elected member's conservation instincts, and preferring to concentrate our energies on climbing in and preservation of the Sierra. In past years The Echo has occasionally published information specific to the National candidates as related to their Wilderness activities, Sierra Club Outings and our favorite place the Sierra. However this year the National election is very controversial and where it is important that The Echo encourage you to vote, we are also prohibited from publishing information that mentions the candidates.

<http://www.sierraclub.org/bod/2004election>

Following is a statement approved for publication about the up-coming election and I strongly encourage you to log onto the web site. The site includes answers from the candidates on questions that will be of interest to SPS members. For SPS members who have not used this information in the past here are some of the questions that have been asked and answered:

- Please provide the specific elected and appointed positions you've held in the Sierra Club.
- Preservation of wild lands and waters has been a fundamental tenet of Sierra Club policy and action since the Club's inception. Please state what level of priority you will place on wilderness preservation as a Sierra Club director.
- What should be the Sierra Club's top three conservation priorities? What should be the Board of Director's role in setting the Club's conservation priorities?
- What do you see as the role of the Club's outings program and what priority would you give the outing program as a director?

For SPS members who do not have access to the web, please either go to your local library or send Barbee Tidball a SASE (with 78 cents postage) and a hard copy of the information will be mailed to you.

REMEMBER TO MAIL OR E-MAIL YOUR BALLOTS EARLY

Voting deadline:

Wednesday April 21, 2004, 12 noon Eastern Daylight Time.

VOTE

SIERRA CLUB ELECTIONS

Board Election 2004

The annual election for the Club's Board of Directors is now underway. In March, you will receive in the mail your national Sierra Club ballot. This will include information on the candidates for the Board of Directors.

The Sierra Club is a democratically structured organization at all levels that requires the regular flow of views on policy and priorities from its grassroots membership in order to function well. Yearly participation in elections at all Club levels is a major membership obligation. Your Board of Directors is required to stand for election by the membership. This Board sets Club policy and budgets at the national level and works closely with the staff to run the Club. Voting for candidates who express your views on how the Club should grow and change is both a privilege and responsibility of membership.

Members frequently state that they don't know the candidates and find it difficult to vote without learning more. You can learn more by asking questions of your group and chapter leadership and other experienced members you know. Visit the Club's election website – <http://www.sierraclub.org/bod/2004election> – which this year will include candidate responses to questions posted by various Club entities.

You should use your own judgment by taking several minutes to read the ballot statement of each candidate, make your choices, and then cast your votes. You will find our ballot is quite straightforward and easy to mark. You can even cast your vote electronically!

[*Note: The election pamphlet will not appear on this site until the first week in March, and the questions and answers from the candidates will appear at about the same time.]

Sierra Peaks Section

Meeting Minutes

January, 17, 2004

On Wednesday, January 14, at The Castaway in Burbank, 64 members and their guests attended the Sierra Peaks Section Annual Banquet.

After a social hour, Chair Joe Wankum opened the program on a solemn note. Henry Arnebold passed on to the membership the news of the recovery of the body of SPS member Ali Aminian earlier in the day. A moment of silence was held.

Joe then recounted some of the achievements of the year. One highlight being the list finish of Return F. Moore after 64 years of climbing in the Range of Light. Duane McRuer shared some stories of Ret over the years.

Next was recognition of the 2003 Management Committee: Chair Joe Wankum, Vice Chair and Outings Chair Beth Epstein, Treasurer Henry Arnebold, Secretary Gary Schenk and Fifth Officer Patty Rambert. Then came the introduction of the

2004 Management Committee: Chair Patty Rambert, Vice Chair and Outings Chair Reiner Stenzel, Treasurer Henry Arnebold, Secretary Gary Schenk, and Fifth Officer Mike Dillenback.

Also recognized was the valuable service given the section by Program Chair Patty Kline, Echo editors Barbee Tidball and Barbara Sholle, Safety Co-Chairs Duane McRuer and Doug Mantle, Mountain Records Chair Tina Bowman, Archivist Dan Richter, Webmaster Charles Knapke and Past Chair Erik Siering.

The raffle was held by Maria Roa and Anne Marie Richardson. The winners were Jim Murphy, Gerry Holleman, Gordon MacLeod, John Wedberg, Gary Bowen, Scott Sullivan, Deanne Holleman, Mary Jane McMaster, Kurt Wedberg, Larry Hoak, and Josie Stacy.

After dinner Kurt Wedberg of Sierra Mountaineering International presented a fine show of mountaineering over the years in the Sierra Nevada, the Cascades and the Himalaya, culminating in his climb of Mt. Everest.

Basin Mountain (13,181')

September 27, 2003

By: Greg Gerlach

I drove up to Bishop Friday afternoon and spent the night at the Big Tree Campground located along Bishop Creek.

The next morning I motored up Buttermilk Road about 6.7 miles to the Horton Creek Trailhead. I stayed on the main road, turned right at the sign and parked just before the locked gate. The last mile or so along the road requires a high clearance vehicle to navigate up through the deep ruts and rocks.

I left the car and started hiking at 7:15 a.m. The first 4 miles of the trail are along an old mining road, and the 2,000' of elevation gain to Horton Lake took me about 2 hours. Once at the lake I made my way through the forest and across the outlet stream. From the stream I continued around the south side of the

lake across a boulder field, then followed the main inlet stream southward up the valley to the second of two small lakes. From the upper lake I headed east and a little south up towards the northeast ridge of Basin. I made a right turn just below the ridge, staying about 50-100' below the ridge all the way to the summit. I arrived on top at 12:45 p.m., and the climbing was class 1 except for a class 2 area between the two small lakes and the summit area.

The summit had good views of Mt. Humphreys towards the south and Mt. Tom towards the north, and the weather was around 65 degrees with no wind.

From the summit, I followed my ascent route back to Horton Lake. Since I did not care for the boulder field on the way up, I headed around the western side of Horton Lake to the trail. As it turned out this was a poor decision because of the dense vegetation. Nonetheless, I made good time on the hike out, arriving back at my car at 3:30 p.m.

Trip statistics: 12 miles and about 5,400 feet of elevation gain.

Movie Review of "Touching the Void"

Some of you may have read Joe Simpson's book, "Touching the Void", which is an incredible story of life and death decisions and human suffering concerning Joe's and Simon Yates' climb of Siula Grande in Peru in 1985. If you have not read the book, I will not give too much away, so that you may fully enjoy the recent film of the book, done in a semi-documentary style. It includes interviews with Joe, Simon and others, along with staged re-construction footage of the events shot in Peru and the Alps. The staged

footage is well done, with attention to detail usually not found in a general release film about mountaineering. The editing of the staged



footage along with the studio comments of Joe and Simon will keep you enthralled, even if you have read the book. I found the film very emotionally moving and honest. It is a film to which you can take friends or a spouse, and even if they know nothing about mountaineering, they will be able to enjoy the film and will find it thrilling and uplifting.

Dave Sholle

Mt. Thompson, Pt. Powell, Mt Haeckel, & Mt. Wallace

—A convenient class 3 route to get all 4 in two days.

Oct 3-4, 2003

By Nile Sorenson

Mt. Haeckel and Mt. Wallace are typically climbed as a pair, as are Thompson and Powell. Climbing the latter two late in the season can mean running into hard ice in the north facing chutes. A common approach for Haeckel and Wallace is from the Echo Lake drainage. This is a different drainage than the common approach for Thompson and Powell. Some parties have camped at Blue lake, doing one pair of peaks the first day and then doing the second pair the next day. This requires lots of travel back and forth in two almost parallel drainages.

An alternate route to Powell, described by Secor, from the Echo Lake area goes up a class 3 chute heading up from the Powell glacier. This chute is very steep, quite loose, and almost always icy later in the season. Last October, I discovered a route across the ridges dividing the two drainages that I could not find documented. If done late in the year after the snows are gone and the ice has receded, this route avoids the problem approaching Powell across the Powell glacier, so no ice axe or crampons are needed. It does, however, require packing very light and fast since you are moving your one night camping gear with sleeping bag, stove etc. over the ridge.

From Sabrina Lake, hike easy trails up to the drainage just below the outlet from Echo Lake. At 11,200 ft. is a very pretty area with lots of streams and camping spots—a good place to camp. With an early start from the cars, this camp can easily be made by mid morning. Drop your gear, and climb Wallace and Haeckel approaching from the east above Echo Lake. There is a class 4 route up the east face of Wallace. It appears on the map that this route would save some distance. DON'T do it. This class 4 route is VERY loose with rotten rock. It will not save you any significant time over going around the north side of Wallace and climbing the class 2

talus between Haeckel and Wallace. Once on top of Wallace, traverse over to Haeckel, (some low class 3). Then go back to camp. With good time management, one should be into camp for a relaxed late afternoon and nice dinner.

Get an alpine start the next morning packing up all your stuff since you won't be coming back this way. Head South-southeast up the slabs toward UTM 550123. The rocky slabs are easy climbing. Do not be tempted to get out in the moraine to the east. It looks easy on the map, but it is a talus nightmare. Stay in the west area of the lateral moraine coming off the Powell glacier until you are directly west of a prominent saddle, UTM 557118 on the ridgeline off to the east. It has a defined chute leading up to it. Now cross the moraine and head east toward this prominent chute and saddle. The moraine is large talus and somewhat tedious but it will go faster than you think. When you reach the base of the chute, ascend good class 2 rock to the saddle. It is an easy climb.

Upon reaching the sandy saddle, one can see the Thompson-Powell glacier and the col between the two peaks. Descend east down the chute for only about 20 yards, then start traversing south. Don't be tempted to descend the chute directly down to the east—you will have big trouble and end up on cliffs. As you traverse south-gradually descending, you will encounter a nice class 3 crack system which leads diagonally down to the Thompson Powell glacier and drops you out on the flat part of the glacier below the northeast chute of Point Powell.

From here you can go up the chute to the col between Thompson and Powell or chose to take the class 3 northeast chute direct to plateau. This latter will most likely have ice in it so you may decide to go up over the col. After crossing the col, drop most of your gear so you can now climb Point Powell and Thompson without carrying your sleeping bag, etc. On the south side of the col there is a nice ledge system that heads south west that leads you to the gully leading up to the Powell plateau. Thompson is just to the east.

Once you bag them both go back over the col and head for the ledges west of Sunset Lake. Follow the regular route descriptions down to Baboon Lakes and then out to the trailhead.

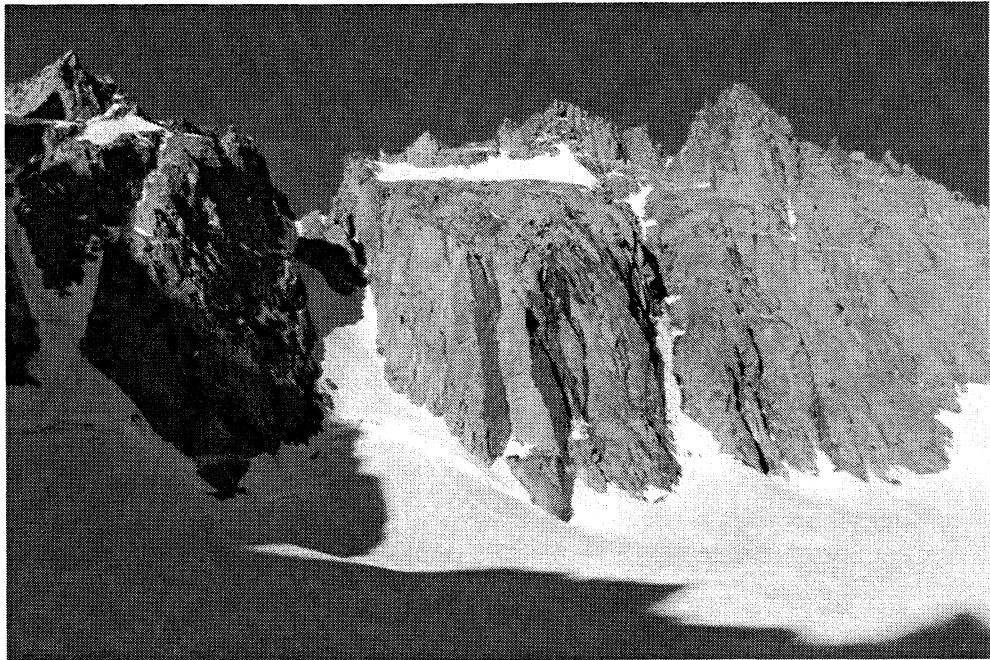
Four good peaks and two good days with lots of beautiful country, and a bit of exploring in places where no one goes—that is what the Sierra is all about.

NORTH PALISADE, 14,240 FT.

June 20-22, 2003

by Nile Sorenson with photos by Ron Norton

Our objective was the 4th highest peak in California, the magnificent North Palisade. Our team of 6, Tony Pond, Patty Rambert, Ali Aminian, Ron Norton and I followed as Tom McDonnell led the way up the North Fork of Big Pine Creek on Friday morning. Reaching third lake, we were faced with a decision. Do we cross the outlet of third lake and go straight up the snow slope toward Gayley



Camp or continue on the trail through Sam Mack Meadow and then on up the moraine toward our camp area. The cross-country route from third lake is very direct, but steep with no trail requiring some talus negotiation with full packs. We chose the trail through Sam Mack. We had a nice lunch break near Sam Mack Meadow and continued on into snow patches on the moraine high above the meadow. By early afternoon we found a nice camp area at the toe of the moraine just under the looming Mt. Gayley. The Palisades were before us with five, 14 thousand foot peaks (Mt. Sill, Polemonium, North Pal, Starlight, and Thunderbolt) delivering a spectacular, giant ridgeline as we looked from the east to the west—not to mention Temple Crag and Winchell as bookends.

Our intended route was the “U” notch. We could see the large bergschrund from camp that we would need to cross. While anyone with any sense lounged around camp Friday afternoon, I couldn’t control the ants in my pants and decided to hike across the glacier and inspect the bergschrund. It was in very bad condition. There was a high upper wall with very irregular and rotten ice. Crossing this would be a challenge. Reporting this to Tom, we

decided to start a little earlier the next morning.

Saturday morning we started off with headlamps. It was daylight by the time we reached the upper portion of the glacier. We poked around for about 15 minutes inspecting the bergschrund along the entire base of the U notch couloir. There was really only one area to cross. It would be an ugly pitch. Tom led the pitch on belay by crawling up an ice ramp under a roof of ice. Clearing the roof he finally could stand up and get his ice axe in. Further up he set a belay so everyone else could cross the bergschrund. It took an hour to move the 5 of us across. The remaining climb up to the notch was uneventful without ropes. The chute was in the worst condition I have ever seen it. Not very much snow and very icy. We made good progress, however.

At the top of the notch, we had some lunch and flaked out the ropes. We were going to climb the classic Clyde Chimney—two pitches of 5th class climbing. The first pitch a 5.1 and the second a 5.4. Tom led both pitches in his climbing boots!! We had two ropes and used one on each pitch. This maximized the time since we could belay climbers up both pitches individually. A telephoric (*I’ll never*



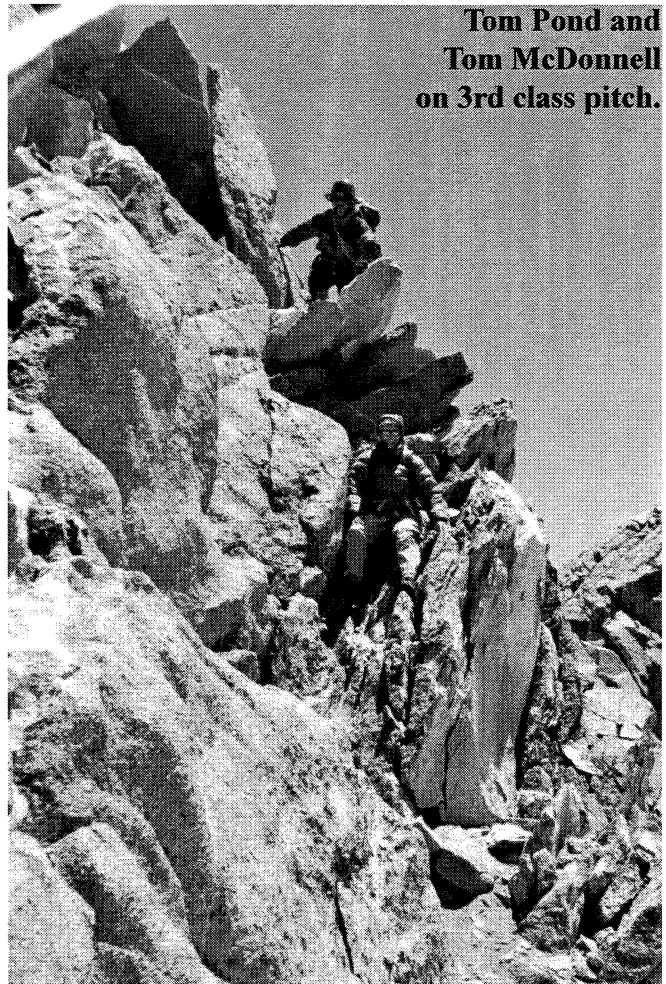
Tom McDonnell leading the snow climb up the couloir

know how to spell that one) method of moving each climber was used which eliminated throwing the rope back down in the wind. This went smoothly. We left the ropes at the top of the chimney and scrambled for about a half hour over the backside to the summit. Ron scouted several approaches to the summit block that we finally found after an awkward move over a large boulder. A fine view! While standing on the summit, we heard voices directly below and discovered our friend Doug Mantle and Damien just below us ascending the starlight buttress. We joined parties in the descent.

This union of groups gave us a total of 4 ropes. This became a great advantage going down the U-notch couloir. The afternoon was waning and the snow was hard and icy. Tom worked with Damien setting up belay anchors. With 4 ropes we set up 3- full length- 60-meter single rope rappels one after another. Doug and I brought up the rear by tying the fourth rope into each successive single rope for a full-length double rope rappel. Then we pulled the rope through and retrieved each. We then would shuttle the pulled single rope down the string of descending climbers below where Tom and Damien would set it up for another full-length rappel. This leapfrog technique worked quite well. We rappelled nearly the entire U notch and through the bergschrund without incident. By the time we were all down on the glacier, it was quite cold and everyone was hungry. We made camp in time for a nice dinner before dark. We had conquered a nasty bergschrund, ascended the U-notch when it was in

bad shape, and Tom had led the classic Clyde Chimney. A successful day and wonderful climb! Sunday morning, we arose at leisure and descended the trail to the cars. Tom did a remarkable lead of a classic climb in getting a group of 6 climbers to the summit on this route. Thanks to Ron Norton for kicking a lot of steps. It also helped that Patty, Tony and Ali were so experienced with all the rope work.

Moving a group down the U notch on belay really works much better with at least 3 ropes and 4 is better.



Tom Pond and Tom McDonnell on 3rd class pitch.

Four Gables - And a new SPS Leader

by Gary Schenk

A three year journey was about to take its final course. At last, the day of the final "I" provisional was here. Erik Siering had graciously agreed to evaluate and assist on the trip. Four Gables had passed muster with all concerned and here we were at the Horton Lake Trailhead bright and early Saturday Sept. 20.

Billed as a intro tip we had attracted two newcomers to SPS, Val Saubhayana and Lilly Fukui as well as veterans Kathy Brown and Bill Siegal. It was a cruel joke we played on Val and Lilly, however. While originally meant to be a trip for novice SPSers, the trip destination had changed due

surprise also awaited us.

We left the trailhead at the appointed time and a moderate pace had us at the cabins at Horton Lake in three hours. We then skirted the west end of Horton Lake and followed the drainage SSW on good use trail. We soon came upon a wall 200 feet high, beyond which lay Upper Horton Lake. The outlet had carved a notch in the top of the wall and a steep talus slope spilled from the notch. We stayed to the right as much as possible and our newcomers performed quite well on difficult terrain. Immediately upon exiting the notch we were at Upper Horton.

Good campsites were found on a terrace just to the west of the outlet. Five and a half hours after leaving the trailhead we were established at our camp. Upper Horton is a beautiful lake, just below timberline, and one of the most pleasant spots in the Sierra. After dinner and Happy Hour, we agreed upon a 6:30 AM start time and called it a night.

Sunday morning our first problem was to find a route to the small lake to the southeast. We skirted the north side of Upper Horton and took the first chute we



to the navigation requirements for provisional trips, and some bonehead, otherwise known as your humble correspondent, forgot to delete the "SPS Intro Trip" part from the rewritten schedule write-up.

Our plan for the weekend was to attempt a less traveled route from Upper Horton Lake. I had "scouted" the route a month earlier on John Cheslick and Patty Rambert's trip to Four Gables from Desolation Lake. From the summit the intended route looked easy enough. However such long range "scouting" cannot be recommended! Indeed, an east trending ridge running perpendicular to the Sierra Crest masked a crucial part of the route. Another

came upon. Five hundred feet of loose scree later we were at the unnamed lake, where we saw our next surprise. We were horrified to find another chute with another six hundred feet of scree before us. This had been masked from view from the summit on the earlier trip, and what had been expected to be an easy walk in the park was now revealed to be otherwise.

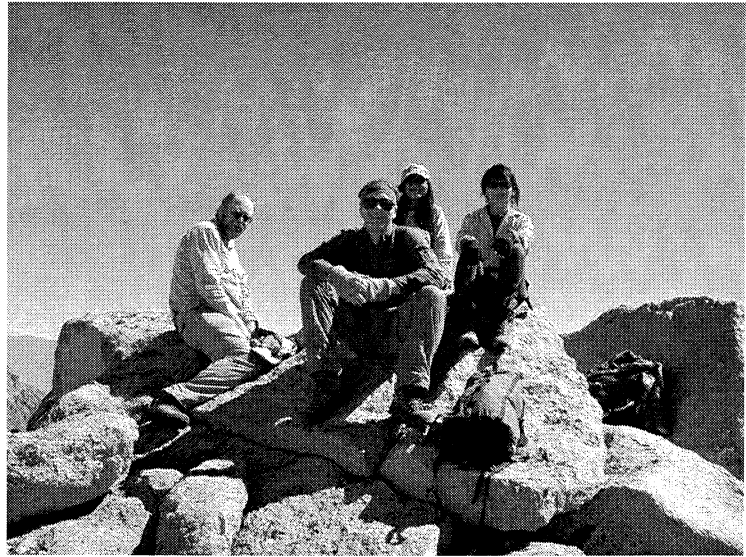
It was here that Kathy made the rather intelligent decision to become sick from the altitude and head back to camp. Indeed, looking at that chute made me nauseous, also.

Val and Lilly were confronted for the second time with terrain with which they were unfamiliar.

There is no whine in these two troopers, however, and we made slow progress up the chute. Erik's experience as a leader really showed on this stretch, and his efforts were well appreciated by all. After much straining, slipping and gnashing of teeth, we made the easier terrain leading to the Sierra Crest.

We dropped down from the crest and easily walked to the summit. It had taken us five hours, two hours longer than planned, and we spent only fifteen minutes at the peak.

Our trip was less than halfway done, however, as we had to return to the trailhead that day. The result was a Death March in the finest SPS tradition. Thirteen and a half hours after heading off for the summit, we made it back to the trailhead. We were dusty and weary, but well rewarded for our exertions.



Gary Schenk, Erik Siering, Val Saubhayana and Lilly Fukui on the summit of Four Gables

Book Review:

“No Place Distant: Roads and Motorized Recreation on America’s Public Lands”

(Island Press, 2002, ISBN 1-55963-845-1)

Island Press recently published the first comprehensive treatment of roads and motorized recreation on America’s public lands. The book, “No Place Distant: Roads and Motorized Recreation on America’s Public Lands,” has drawn praise from conservationists, biologists, agency officials, legal and policy experts, and others.

Written by Roads Scholar David Havlick, with a foreword by former U.S. Forest Service Chief Michael Dombeck, No Place Distant combines a personal voice with exhaustive research to create a resource that is both engaging and broad-ranging, while also providing a number of useful case studies and references.

Havlick establishes a fundamental thesis — that America’s national forests, national parks, wildlife refuges, and other public lands suffer from an abundance of roads in poor condition, exacerbated by growing motorized recreational use of snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles. Significantly, Havlick manages to present a realistic, inspiring case for road removal and regulations for motorized use that recognizes the human players involved, the complexity of the debate, and the underlying questions of values that dictate many management decisions.

As Joseph Sax, author of *Mountains Without Handrails*, notes “This is a wonderful book, full of information and full of good ideas. Havlick brings a fresh perspective to the public lands His carefully collected facts set an agenda that will have to be reckoned with.”

Conservation biologist Reed Noss comments, “Havlick’s well-written book does a splendid job of illuminating the many challenges that roads and motorized recreation pose to our society.”

No Place Distant is available directly from Island Press at <http://www.islandpress.org>, from Amazon.com, or from local booksellers in both hardcover (ISBN 1-55963-844-3) and paperback (ISBN 1-55963-845-1).

Book review from the CONS-CNRCC-DESERT-FORUM, March 2003

Chile, Argentina, and Easter Island

January 2004

By Barbara Sholle

Dave and I started our sabbatical by spending a month in South America. The first 17 days were spent with a group from Andes Adventures (the same outfitter we used in 2001 for the Inca Trail, jungle, and Cordillera Blanca in Peru).

Our first stop was Punta Arenas in southern Chile where we saw a colony of penguins in nearby Otway Sound. We then did the "W" circuit in Torres Del Paine National Park.

The trekking was not difficult but the wind was fierce! We stayed in huts every night and were extremely well fed.

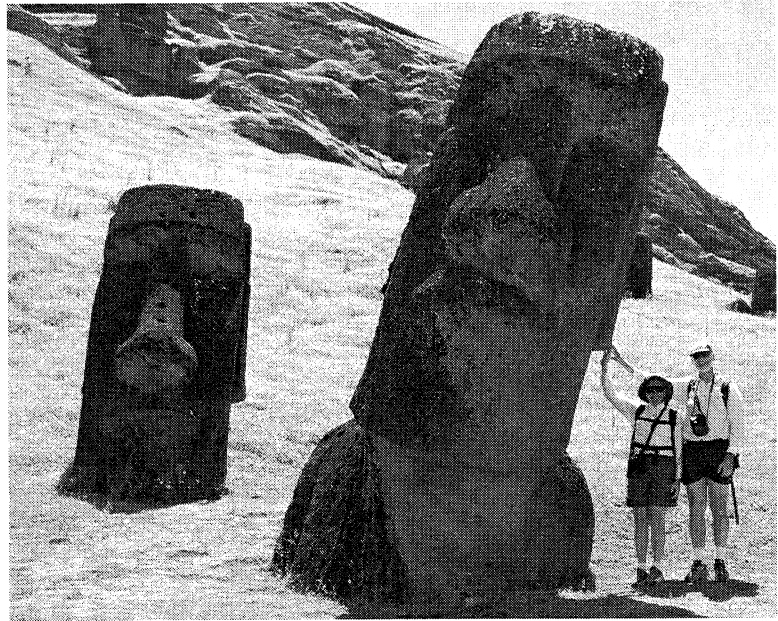
Our next stop was El Calafate (Argentina), home of the Perito Moreno Glacier (one of the few advancing glaciers), followed by El Chalten, where we trekked to outstanding views of Fitzroy and Cerro Torre.

Generally these peaks are obscured by clouds, but we had a clear view. Both of these peaks are extremely difficult to climb and very well-known among serious mountaineers.

Our next location was Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world and jumping off point for Antarctica. The museum there, formerly a prison, is definitely worth a visit. Conditions there were extremely harsh—and we were visiting in the summer!

We trekked in Tierra Del Fuego National Park which has numerous climbing possibilities and then took a boat trip in the Beagle Channel where we were treated to seals performing as if they were at Sea World.

Next was the capital of Argentina, Buenos Aires where we did a walking tour of the city by day and a tango show by night. At this point, the group trip concluded and we were on our own in many places relying on my steadily improving Spanish.



Easter Island - Barb & Dave



Perito Moreno Glacier, Argentina

First stop was Iguazu Falls, on the border with Brazil. These Falls are much more spectacular than Niagara Falls and much larger. We were able to take a boat that went under the falls. I thought I'd test my Gore-tex jacket but I didn't get the cuff tight enough and got drenched through the sleeve.

After Iguazu, we flew to Bariloche, part of the Lake District where we visited a ski resort (with gale force winds). We also went to see one of the few black glaciers in existence.

Next we did the lake crossing—2 boats and 2 buses to get back to Chile and spent the night in Puerto Varas.

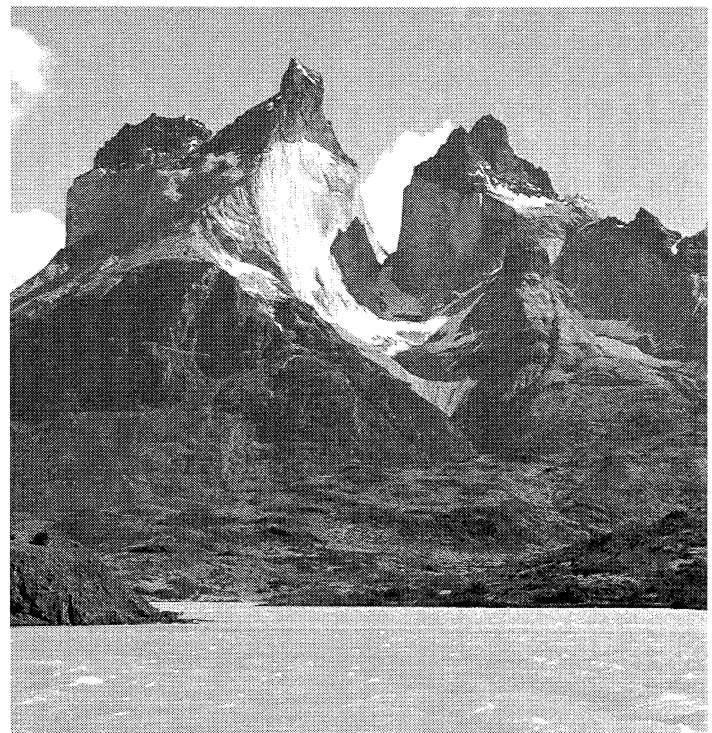
Following the crossing, we spent 2 nights at the Alerce Mountain Lodge in a forest of alerce trees similar to redwoods, where, surprisingly, we were the only guests. The lodge is very posh, very isolated, and has the steepest and wettest trails that we had ever hiked.

After a day in Santiago, our last stop was Easter Island, the most isolated inhabited island in the world. The statues were totally awesome and definitely worth the trip. It takes 5 ½ hours from Santiago.

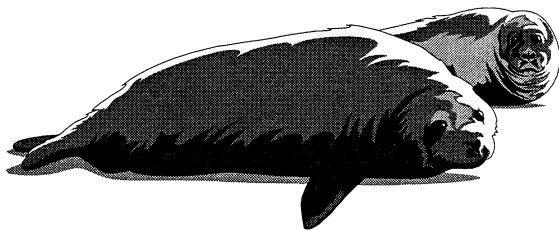
After Easter Island, we flew back to Santiago for our flight to LAX and the task of opening a month's worth of mail.



Views of Fitzroy - Barb & Dave



Cuernos Del Paine



Ski Season gear available.

Dynastar 4 X 4 Big, AT (Rondenae) set up

Dynastar 4 X 4 Big: 188cm long, 112/80/102 mm.

Fritschi Diamir binding including ski brakes.

Scarpa Denali AT (rondenae) ski boot size 11.

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SPS FRIEND, DICK KELTY, DIES JANUARY 12, 2004

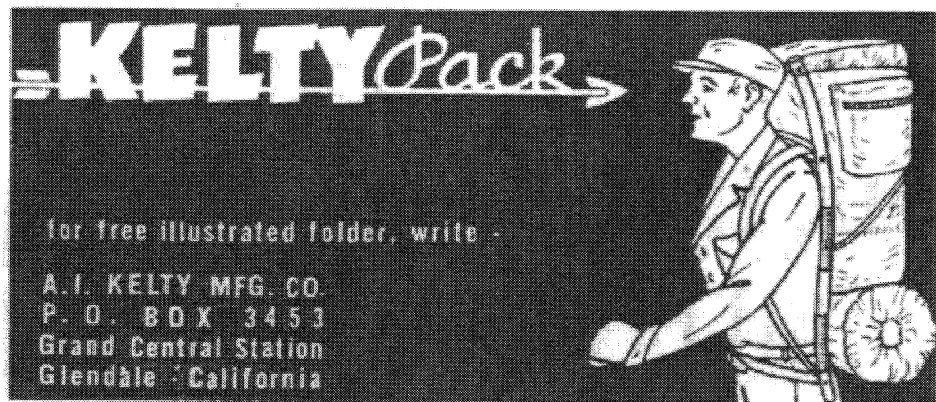
By Ron Jones

Asher "Dick" Kelty died January 12, 2004 of natural causes at his home in Glendale. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Nena and by a son, two daughters, five grand children and three great grand children. His tubular aluminum external frame backpack revolutionized backpacking in the 1950s and introduced thousands of people to comfortable backpacking. Many Sierra Peak Section mountaineers used, and continue to use Kelty packs after they became available in the mid 1950s, and gained in popularity in the 1960s and '70s, during the back packing boom of those years. The early packs were at first sold from the Kelty home in Glendale. In 1956, Kelty required more space and moved the operation from his home to a backpacking retail store in a former barber shop in Glendale. In 1962 the entire business moved to a larger shop on Victory Boulevard in Glendale. Finally, in 1972, the Boston based CML Inc, purchased Kelty Pack Co. from the Kelty family. Dick remained Kelty chairman

until 1978 when Kelty was sold by CML to American Recreation products based in Boulder, Colorado and who still own the company to this day. There was no memorial service for Dick and instead he encouraged his friends to "Go take a hike".

Dick Kelty was a tireless inventor and passionate outdoorsman. His wife Nena said that "He just loved the Sierra and went there at every opportunity". Prior to 1952 packframes were of the classic wooden Trapper Nelson variety or the heavy G.I. military rucksack with its steel frame and there were a few aluminum rucksack frames around. In 1951 Dick and his friend Clay Sherman were backpacking in the Sierra above Independence. Both were using army-surplus rucksacks which had U-shaped frames made of wood. While hiking down the trail Seaman placed the bottom supports of his pack frame in his rear pants pockets, which shifted much of the pack's weight from the shoulders to the hips. "Hey Kelty, look, I've found something!" After returning home, Dick began experimenting, making some packs in his kitchen using tubular aluminum, nylon pack sacks and with a waist band. Soon a few friends began asking for these new pack frames and the Kelty business was born in Dick's garage in Glendale. Dick and his wife Nena made 29 backpacks in 1952, 90 in 1953 and 220 in 1954. His legacy includes the first tubular aluminum pack frame, the first waist belt, the first padded shoulder straps, the first nylon pack bag the first zippered pockets, the first partitions inside the bag, the first hold-open bar and the first use of clevis pins. In 1973 he introduced the Tioga – the first full feature backpack and the same year it became the most widely distributed packframe in American outdoor shops.

Well, in 1986 SPSer George Toby wrote in the 30th Anniversary Issue of the ECHO that he believed that he had the oldest Kelty backpack in continuous service. It was a 1963 model purchased by mail order from Kelty's garage operation before he moved to his first store in Glendale. George stated that 24 years of continuous service in 6 states and three countries had taken its toll of wear and tear. He returned the pack to



Sierra Club-Angeles Chapter Archives

DICK KELTY R.I.P.: *The father of modern backpacking promoted his products in a 1958 edition of Summit magazine. He died Jan. 12 at the age of 84.*

Kelty twice on their life time warranty. Every pocket but one and every zipper had been replaced. Waistbands and shoulder straps George replaced himself. George challenged SPSers to beat this record of continuous service.

In the ECHO of May 1987, Rick Jali responded. Rick said that he and George could argue about continuous service but that he bought his Kelty pack in 1959, fitted personally by Dick Kelty in his little old garage. Rick's pack had seen service in the western states, in Mexico and Peru and Iran. Repairs had been made but the basic Kelty is still going strong with no end in sight.

In the summer of 1987 the late Walt Wheelock told me that in 1960 he went to Kelty's home with early SPS hiker Dorothy Cutler. Dorothy wanted to leave her pack for repairs. Dick Kelty looked at the pack and told Dorothy that her pack was older than any of the packs he had in his collection and he asked if she would trade hers for a brand new pack. She did. My friend and early SPSer, Steve Rogero, told me that his old Kelty was one of the first 100 made. Steve Rogero was an early day climber who had R.E.I Co-op number 3 (!), so his was likely to be one of the early packs. Current SPS member Jerry Keating has told me that he believes he bought his Kelty pack about 1957-58. Jerry was checking his old cancelled check records to see if he could prove this statement. I don't have my cancelled check but I know that I bought my Kelty out of Dick's home in 1960 or 1961. Sy Ossosky up in Bishop claims that his Kelty is also one of the first.

However, in the summer of 1987, the late Dick Beach wrote me of what might be the earliest authenticated Kelty pack and I used the story in my SPS Chairman's column, ECHO volume 31, number 5. I am sending a picture of this early Kelty pack, along with a summary of the article that Dick sent me in 1987.

Dick told me, Elwyn Beach, his late father and an Angeles Chapter member since 1930, told a story that locates 4 more packs in the early chapter of Kelty history...About 1954 when Dick Kelty was just starting to make and sell his packs, Elwyn Beach went to Kelty's home within the first month his packs were sold and bought a new Kelty pack for his wife Zoya at a cost of \$25. Then, because he couldn't afford another new pack, he bought a less expensive prototype for himself. Elwyn was so impressed by this new style of pack that he asked if any used Keltys were returned. Dick Kelty was amused by this request but took Elwyn's telephone number. Sure enough, a week later he got a phone call that two packs had been returned after only one climb of Mount Whitney. Elwyn brought his 8 year old son Dick, and Dick's brother Robert Muir to Kelty's shop and bought them the two used packs as Christmas gifts -- for a total of \$28. These early packs are not the olive-green that was around for such a long time but more of a brighter mint-like green.

Dick Beach remembered his great disappointment when he saw that his pack was used and had spots on it. Dick Kelty noticed this and knelt down with the boys, looking at them from their level and told them that someday they would be very proud to have one of his first packs. Kelty kept reassuring them that they would be as good as new. Later, Kelty told Dick Beach that these two used packs were numbers 68 and 69. But that Dick's mother Zoya had an even earlier pack and she was still using it in 1987, 33 years later.

Sources:

L.A. Times article January 15, 2004
and "Events", January 20

Kelty Pack's web home page

SPS *ECHO*'s of 1986 and '87

Backpacking the Kelty Way by Nene Kelty
and Steve Bogain, book available on eBay

Research by Jerry Keating

Photo right - Dick Beach's backpack.



LEAVE NO TRACE IN WINTER

The following article has been condensed from the Winter 2003-2004 *Tracker Newsletter*, published by the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics .

As the first snow of the season is beginning to fall in the Rockies, the Sierra, the Whites, and other parts of the country, many folks are feeling that all to familiar tug of the winter world.

With winter use on the rise annually, users and land managers alike are seeing more and more winter recreation-related impacts such as user conflict, inappropriate human waste disposal, unnecessary vegetation damage and serious impacts on already-compromised wildlife.

Luckily, for those of us who enjoy spending time outside in the winter, snow provides a great minimum impact surface. The following are a few simple things to keep in mind next time you decide to get out and enjoy the beautiful winter world:

Know before you go!

>If you're heading into the mountains, always check avalanche and weather reports. Be ready for extreme weather -winter weather can change very quickly.

>Have the right gear and know how to use it. Let someone know where you're headed and when you'll be back.

>Carry a map and compass, its easy to get disoriented when everything around you is white!

Traveling and Camping

>When traveling, stay on deep snow cover whenever possible. In winter, it's always best to travel and camp well away from avalanche paths, steep slopes, cornices and unstable snow.

>If you're choosing a campsite, look for durable surface such as rock or snow - try to avoid exposed tundra or other fragile plants.. Make sure your campsite is in a safe location, and if possible, out of view from heavily traveled routes.

Waste

> Pack it in, pack it out. It's always best to pack out everything you brought in with you. Trash or litter shouldn't be buried in the snow. Be sure to pack out all food scraps, ski wax shavings, and other litter.

> In most winter situations, solid human waste should be packed out. If packing human waste out just isn't an option, it should be buried in deep snow, well away from travel routes and at least 200 feet from water sources.

>Snow makes a great natural alternative to toilet paper-cold and refreshing! Try it! And if you do use toilet paper -pack it out.

> If you're going to be out overnight and have to clean dishes, its best to use very small amounts of biodegradable soap, if necessary. Once dishes are clean, strain dishwater into a sump hole after removing any food particles, which should be packed out.

>If you've stayed over night and built snow shelters, igloos or windbreaks, dismantle them so others won't even know you were there.

Fires

>Campfires can cause lasting impacts to the backcountry. It's generally best for winter backcountry users to carry a lightweight camp stove for cooking. If you determine that it is safe and responsible to have a fire, use only dead downed wood. All fires should be put out completely, and the cool ashes should be scattered widely.

Wildlife

>Winter is an especially vulnerable time for wildlife. Wildlife should always be observed from a distance, and should never be followed or approached.

>Be sure to properly secure your food and trash, even in winter.

Other Visitors

>It's always in good style to be considerate of others by sharing the trails, yielding to downhill and faster traffic and being courteous. When taking rest breaks, try to move off the trail to allow others to pass easily.

>Whenever possible, separate ski and snowshoe tracks. Also, avoid hiking on ski or snowshoe tracks.

Part 3 (Final) - Tracy Sulkin's observations will be presented to SPS participants over the next few Echoes.

“Outing Etiquette”

What kind of reputation do you have on Sierra Club outings?

Camp Considerations

- Always do camp chores first and rest after everything is done.
- If you're sharing someone else's stove, offer to fetch water or snow.
- If it is your stove that's being shared, set it up in advance and get it going as soon as it's needed.
- If you're sharing a tent, help the owner to set it up.
- If you have difficulty getting up early, ask someone to wake you.
- Arrange your summit pack on the night before, including sufficient water for the hike and for breakfast.
- Be ready to start on time. Don't keep others waiting.

Personal Agendas

- Advise the leader in advance if you intend to leave the trip early. If you abandon the group and take off on your own to set a speed record, you are, in effect, leaving early. Sierra Club regulations require that you sign out if you intend to hike or climb ahead of the leader. Also, if you are going too fast or too slow for the group, or if you are not following the leader's route, the leader may ask you to sign out. If the leader decides to turn the group around short of the summit, and if the weather is fine and you drove your own car, it may be appropriate to ask the leader to sign out so that you may continue on your own to bag that summit. Signing out and continuing to hike or climb after the leader has turned the group around should not be done without a thorough understanding of the consequences. Be advised that once you sign out of a Sierra Club outing, the leader(s) is/are no longer responsible for you and you will be totally on your own; at this point, the leaders are not required to wait for you or even to look for you.
- Sierra Club outings sections all have different philosophies. When signing up for an outing sponsored by a section with which you are unfamiliar, it is important to keep in mind that the trip objectives may not be in alignment with yours. It is your responsibility to communicate your objectives to the leader. S/he may agree to accommodate them or may not be able to. Much disappointment will be avoided if you leave your personal agenda at home.

Personal Responsibility

- The leader will always have the group's best interest in mind. So should you.
- Let the leader lead. Even if you are a rated leader, this is not your lead. You signed up to participate, so embrace the leader's plan or sign out.
- Be flexible.
- A healthy group dynamic is the main ingredient for an enjoyable outing. This is accomplished with the cooperation of all participants.
- If your only reason to participate on an outing is because you “need” the peak(s), make the leader aware of your intentions when you sign up.

And Finally

- A perfectly marvelous reason to sign up for an outing is for the company of new or old friends in the beautiful outdoors. If you get to the summit, it's a bonus.

by Tracy Sulkin
Outings Coordinator, Sierra Club San Antonio Ski Hut Committee
Former Chair Sierra Club Wilderness Travel Course, San Gabriel Valley

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AWARDS: Notification of accomplishments send to section Secretary: Gary Schenk, P.O. Box 1414, Huntington Beach, CA 92647-1414. To purchase awards merchandise - 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, all prices include sales tax.

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