

A Tribute

to the Honorary Members of the Sierra Peaks Section: Norman Clyde, Glen Dawson & Jules Eichorn - Part V

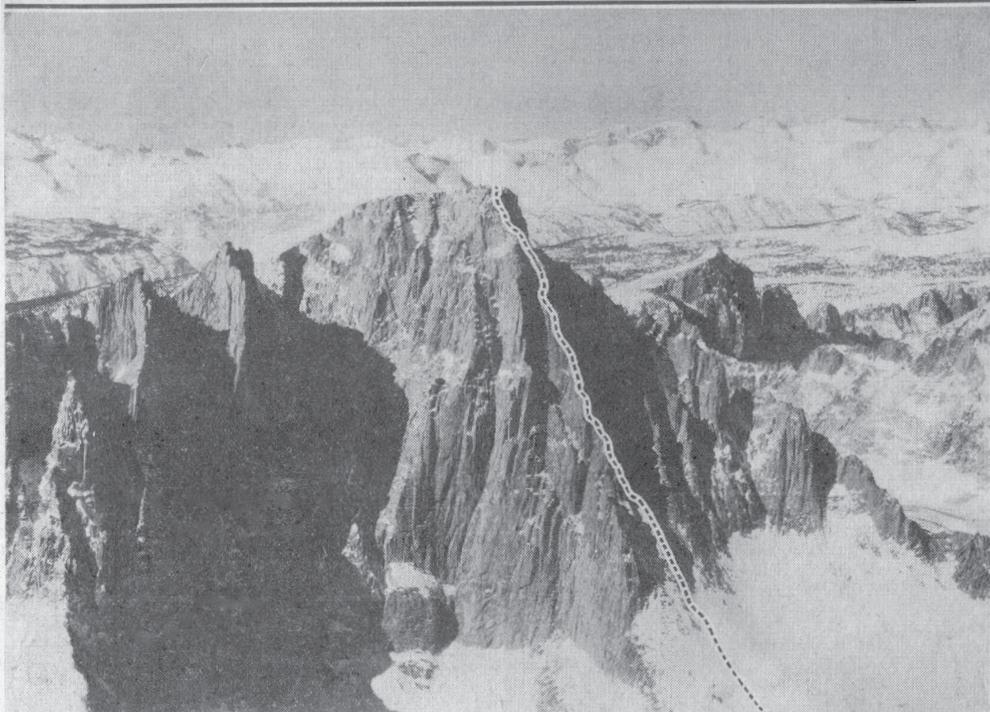


by Bill Oliver
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Atop Mt. Whitney after first ascent of the East Buttress, 9/05/37. L-R, front: Dick Jones (24), Muir Dawson (16), Glen Dawson (25); back: Bob Brinton (23), Howard Koster (25). [Glen Dawson Collection, Angeles Chapt. Archives]

SIERRA CLUB MOUNTAINEERING PARTY TRIUMPHANT

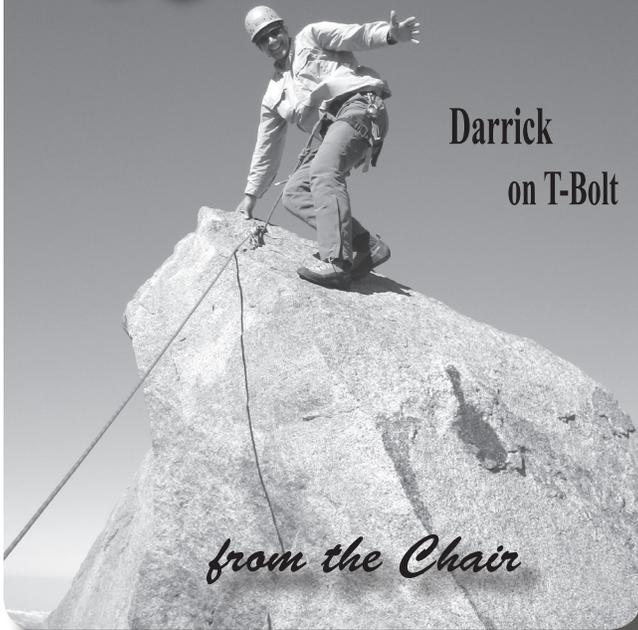


Taking the most difficult route to the top of Mt. Whitney's frosty peak rising 14,496 feet above sea level, highest point in the United States, five young Los Angeles members of the Sierra Club last week scaled rugged

slopes indicated by the dotted line. This east-face route had never been essayed before, although easier parallel ascents have been made. California National Guard aerial photo

Showing East Buttress Route on Mt. Whitney. From Los Angeles newspaper article following the first ascent. [Glen Dawson Collection, Angeles Chapt. Archives]

ECHOS



Darrick
on T-Bolt

from the Chair

a season remarkably free of significant climbing injuries; let's keep it this way in 2008 by continuing to exercise caution while in the mountains and remembering always to place safety before all else. The year also has seen an outstanding array of trips at all levels of difficulty; the commissioning of several new leaders, one of which at E; a revived Echo; and general strong showings in all aspects of the management and operation of SPS.

I would like to acknowledge a few individuals for special contributions. First, to Larry and Barbee Tidball: thank you for taking over as Outings Co-Chairs and for energetically running the outings program, without which SPS wouldn't be much. Second, to Sara Danta: thank you for your tireless efforts to produce what can only be called outstanding newsletters; you perform a vital function for SPS, and your efforts are greatly appreciated. Third, to Larry Hoak: thank you for all the outstanding work you do largely behind the scenes to keep our SPS Website current and attractive; you provide an invaluable source of information for members. Fourth, to Harry Lagenbacher: thank you for enthusiastically assuming the task of maintaining the Mountain Registers. Fifth, thank you to all the leaders who conducted trips this past year; to the individuals who conducted training/checkoff sessions; to the SPS Management Committee; and to all the faithful members who contribute to the running of the organization.

As 2007 and my term as SPS Chair both draw to a close, it's appropriate to recap some of the accomplishments of the past year. Topping my list has been

In this Echo you will find the final draft version of the Sierra Sampler list; please look it over one last time and bring suggestions for improvement to my attention. You

SPS TEES



Front: NORTH PAL

Back: FULL SPS LIST by geographic area with Mountaineer and Emblem peaks highlighted

M, L & XL in Sand & Ash

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check payable to SPS

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will also find a flyer for the next SPS Banquet; I encourage everyone to sign-up and attend this great event. Finally, in a separate mailing SPS members will soon be receiving a ballot; I urge you to vote for your choice for next years Management Committee; and on the question of including Caltech Peak on the SPS List.

It has been a distinct pleasure and honor to serve this year as SPS Chair. In true Sierra Club fashion I have tried to leave the organization in better shape than I found it, which has only been possible through the help of individuals too numerous to mention. However, I would like to make special acknowledgement of two people who continue to make my experience in the mountains and in the Sierra Club greatly more enjoyable. First is my brother, Randall, who has dragged my sorry behind up more than one peak; congratulations again on your list finish! Then to Tina Bowman, who promptly answers all my questions no matter how silly and who continues to offer support and encouragement as I try to navigate the leadership maze.

Here's wishing you all a fabulous 2008! Darrick.

Onward & Upward!

Alex Amies
Secretary
SPS



List Finisher

Randall Danta SPS list finisher #65, completed on 9/15/07

Newly Recorded SPS Emblem

Paul Garry has completed his 10th SPS Emblem on Mt Clarence King on 9/10/07

Write On!!



We have been receiving exceptional material for Echo submissions. Bill Oliver's Tribute has been a joy to read as we follow the saga of these honorary members and climbing legends, his final part VI to appear in next issue. Many other fine articles and photos are being submitted. This issue we feature trip reports on snow and rock, a Sierra Challenge romp, an account on climbing the seven islands, and several other fine adventures. Also, check out an interesting photo submitted by Alex Amies on page 11. Keep these contributions coming!!

Please note two errors from last Echo edition, volume 51 number 4:

A line was inadvertently left out of Barbara Lilley's comments on the Cal Tech issue on page 9 of that issue. See page 4, this issue for the correction.

On page 13 of last Echo issue, the photo by Tom Ross indicates that the peak is Mt. Darwin, when in fact it is of Mt. Abbot.

Another note: Because of a recording error, Brian Smith was originally recorded as List Finisher #65, but in fact, he is List Finisher #64. Hence, Randall Danta is #65.

sd

Don't miss the 2008 SPS Banquet

The event will be held Sunday, February 3 at Les Freres Taix Restaurant. The speaker for the evening will be our own Darrick Danta, professor of geography, who will present "Mapping the Sierra". See flyer this issue for details.

THE CAL TECH PEAK ISSUE

With regard to CalTech Peak, I'm in favor.

Bob Beach

Ballots will be mailed for the 2008 Management Committee election & Cal Tech Peak Issue, around Dec 17 to all active members

Barbara Lilly's corrected version from last issue. The underlined text reflects the changes.

WHAT--Caltech Peak is being proposed as an addition to the SPS List again, for the THIRD time? (It was defeated the first time in 1979.) In the 1997 election, it lost by NINETEEN votes. The reasons why it should be defeated in 2007 are the same as in 1997. (Ref: Sierra Echos, Nov.-Dec. 1997, Jan.-Feb. 1998, Mar.-Apr. 1998) "Sentimental reasons" are not among the criteria that make a peak worthy enough to be added to the SPS List!)

And it appears to be another "railroad job" as well. The peak was scheduled and led in haste. The trip did not appear in the Angeles Chapter schedule, only in the Echo with a brief notice. It is not clear whether a majority of the SPS membership was actually aware of this trip.

Barbara Lilley

In Memory of Ruby Johnson Jenkins

Ruby Johnson Jenkins, the author of nationally acclaimed hiking books, and a dedicated evangelist to nature's cathedral, died Sunday, Oct 28th at her home in Kernville from complications of liver cancer. She was 82. She lovingly carried on the work Jim Jenkins originated in authoring the Wilderness Press guidebooks Vols. 1 & 2 "Self-Propelled in the Southern Sierra." Jim lived in Northridge in the early years and was an SPSer. He was a summer ranger in Sequoia National Forest in 1979 when killed in a traffic accident along the Ridge Route. His mother, Ruby, then did the work that resulted in "Exploring the Southern Sierra: West Side" and "Exploring the Southern Sierra: East Side." If you have the latter, see the tribute John Robinson wrote in memory of Jim (p. VI). Mt. Jenkins on the crest south of Owens Peak was named for Jim. Both Jim and Ruby Jenkins wanted readers to share their joy in exploring the Southern Sierra, and the guidebooks are regarded as the best source for accurate information about this area.

Submitted by Jerry Keating

Memorial Hike, Dinner for Duane McRuer

by Joe Young

On October 14, 2007, a memorial hike to Mt. Baldy in honor of Duane McRuer was held. This outing was coordinated by Doug Mantle and Mary McMannes.

Approximately 60 people hiked with Doug Mantle from Manker Flats, while scores of others hiked via the ski lift and by other routes. Duane's widow hiked to the Notch while Lara, Duane's daughter, hiked to the ski hut. The hike started at about 8:30 AM and the first arrived on the summit in just under three hours. Over the next hour or so many more join the hikers on the summit.

After the hike most of the group reconvened at Harwood lodge for a dinner and a sharing of memories

about Duane. Comments were heard from long time hiking companions and also from those who knew and worked with Duane professionally. We were regaled with stories about hiking incidents with a recounting of good natured "manipulation" over the years.

The entire framework of outing leadership practiced by the Sierra Club would not be what it is today without Duane McRuer. He personally developed and articulated most of the concepts we take for granted today in the areas of leadership and safety. This is a legacy of which Duane and all of us can be proud.

We also heard from Betty McRuer, Lara McRuer, and from Steve Harsey who is Betty's son.



Steve Harsey, Betty McRuer & Lara McRuer



Bill T. Russell and Duane



Duane McRuer Memorial Climb

by Mary McMannes

Thanks to the many leaders and hikers who participated in the Duane McRuer Memorial Climb of Mt. Baldy on Oct. 14, 2007. Doug Mantle, Tina and Tom Bowman, thanks for heading the sixty plus climbers up the Ski Hut Trail. Mike Manchester and Ed Lubin, you were great to bring up the trail end making sure everybody got to the summit in time for lunch. Rich Gnagy and Frank Dobos were instrumental in getting hikers up the ski lift and the Devil's Backbone Trail. And following the road to the Notch

was aptly led by Bob Hicks, Brian Prinzmetal, and Betty McRuer. All roads led to Baldy that day, and Mac's kind and gentle spirit surely smiled down on us. Back at Harwood and the big potluck party, our over-seer Richard and his co-hostess were patient with all of us, and we are grateful they stayed three hours longer than their usual schedule. Drinks, food, and stories flowed liberally at our mountaineers' celebration of Duane's life. Thanks to Betty McRuer, Lara McRuer, Steve and Rosemary Harsey and Armando who invited us for a great day on Baldy and Harwood Lodge.

more comments on

THE SIERRA SAMPLER: Draft II

Patty Kline suggests the following changes to the most recent Sierra Sampler Draft II

Crag Peak	No	Goodale Mountain	Yes	Mount Morgan (N)	No
Angora Mountain	No	Spanish Mountain	Yes	Bloody Mountain	Yes
Mount Muir	Yes	Three Sisters	Yes	Iron Mountain	No
Mount Young	Yes	Disappointment Pk	No	Mount Maclure	Yes
Mount Hale	Yes	Black Giant	Yes	Koip Peak	Yes
Mount Carillon	Yes	Mount Gayley	No	Excelsior Mtn	Yes
Mount Tyndall	No	Mount Goode	Yes	Twin Peaks	No
Mount Silliman	Yes	Mount Henry	No	Tower Peak	Yes
Milestone Mountain	Yes	Mount Emerson	No	Leavitt Peak	Yes
Midway Mountain	No	Four Gables	Yes	Mount Tallac	Yes
Mount Keith	No	Mount Morgan (S)	Yes	Granite Chief	Yes
Kersarge Peak	Yes	Mount Stanford (N)	Yes	Mount Elwell	Yes

I like your sampler list although I haven't done many of the peaks (I'm only up to 63 on the list). I had hoped it would include Lamont Peak as it is an easy intro peak (and I've done it). So far as the legality of instituting it is concerned, I say let's go - if it isn't prohibited.

Bob Beach

Comments on the Sierra Sampler Concept

I have been reflecting on Darrick Danta's "Sierra Sampler" list. Having tried to put together peak lists for another section, I can appreciate the work Darrick has done on this project. But I think that it should be called "Darrick's Select List" or "Darrick's weekender segment of the SPS" List. It really isn't a sampler. Because it requires that specific peaks be climbed doesn't it therefore becomes a select list and not a sampler?

I only have 21% of the total SPS list to go (I bagged 193 so far) to complete the whole list. If Darrick's list really was a list of easy peaks that he suggests, I should have nearly knocked it off. But a study of Darrick's list reveals that I still have 19% of his peaks to do to complete his "sample". So I wonder if his list will help get out and climb or will it just focus people on a subset of our entire list?

We already have an SPS emblem that requires a person bag 100 SPS peaks. Though it also requires a certain number of these be area peaks, emblem peaks and mountaineer's summits, it still can be done in just 100 peaks. There are a number of other sections that have awards for bagging 100 peaks including the HPS, the San Diego Peaks List, and certain prominences lists. (And if the DPS adds another peak or two it can be just another 100 peaks list instead of being special.) Do we really need another list of 100 peaks?

I think that Darrick's suggestion of a "Sierra Sampler" sounds like an excellent idea. But why not make it a true sampler? Rather than 100 peaks let's set the sample size at 50 peaks. And let's encourage it to be a true sample by allowing the peak bagger to decide which peaks. But let's also force it into sampling a good cross section of our list by requiring that a person climb ONE peak from each of the 24 areas of our list. The areas for other 26 peaks would be totally up to the climber. Thus we wouldn't be concentrating people on any particular set of peaks but we would be introducing more people to our list.

Some might say that we have an emblem that only requires 25 peaks to be climbed. But because 10 of those have to be from a specific list of 15 peaks it is often hard to obtain this emblem within the first 25 peaks a climber bags. I think that I had only bagged 7 emblem peaks when I climbed my 50th peak. I have some friends who have completed both the HPS and DPS lists, who are still trying to bag their 10th emblem summit. But they have climbed a number of other SPS summits. So a 50-peak sampler may be just the thing we need to encourage people to get out and bag a fifth of our list.

The simple requirements would read:

Sampler Award: Climb 50 peaks on the Peaks List, including 1 or more peaks from each of the 24 geographical areas and be a member of the SPS for at least six months.

This way we won't have to battle out exactly which peaks to place on a new list. And we could keep our other 4 awards unchanged. That could save us a lot of time and help us get out and attract more new members.

Finally, thanks again to Darrick for getting us to think about this issue.

Rob Langsdorf

The Sierra Sampler: Final Draft

by Darrick Danta

The Sierra Sampler is a subset of the SPS List comprised of 100 peaks that are relatively safe and enjoyable to climb, easily reached, and include peaks from all parts of the Sierra. The intension of the Sierra Sampler is to provide a goal for individuals who may not complete the full SPS List or to mark a milestone along the way toward completing Emblem Status or full List completion.

What follows is the third Sierra Sampler version, reflecting comments and suggestions from several SPS members, most notably Tina Bowman, Ron Hudson, Daryn Dodge, Randall Danta, and Patty Kline. I have tried to include as many suggestions as possible while balancing the criteria, but of course this represents a compromise. As in the previous Draft, peaks included in the Sierra Sampler are in **bold**; peaks on the existing SPS List not included in the Sampler are indicated in ~~strike through~~. The number of selected peaks for each Section is indicated after the Section name.

This will be the final draft before implementation. Please look it over and make suggestions for improvement.

1. SOUTHERN SIERRA-5

Pilot Knob (S)
Owens Peak
Spanish Needle
Lamont Peak
Sawtooth Peak (S)
Rockhouse Peak
Taylor Dome
Sirretta Peak
Crag Peak
Smith Mountain

2. MINERAL KING AND KERN RIVER-4

Kern Peak
Angora Mountain
Coyote Peaks
North Maggie Mountain
Moses Mountain
Homers Nose
Vandever Mountain
Florence Peak
Sawtooth Peak (N)
Needham Mountain

3. OLANCHA TO LANGLEY & WEST-4

**** OLANCHA PEAK**
Cartago Peak
Muah Mountain
Cirque Peak
Mount Langley
Mount Guyot
Joe Devel Peak
Mount Pickering
Mount Chamberlin
Mount Newcomb
Mount Hitchcock

4. CORCORAN TO WHITNEY-5

Mount Corcoran
*Mount LeConte
Mount Mallory
Mount Irvine
*Mount McAdie
Mount Muir
****MOUNT WHITNEY**
Thor Peak
Lone Pine Peak

5. WHITNEY TO WILLIAMSON-4

Mount Young
Mount Hale
*Mount Russell
Mount Carillon
Tannabara Peak
Mount Barnard
Trojan Peak
Mount Tyndall
****MT WILLIAMSON**

6. KAWEAHS AND WEST-5

Alta Peak
Mount Silliman
Mount Eisen
Lippincott Mountain
Eagle Scout Peak
Mount Stewart
Lion Rock
****MOUNT KAWEAH**
Red Kaweah
*Black Kaweah
Picket Guard Peak
Kern Point

7. GREAT WESTERN DIVIDE-2

*Triple Divide Peak
Glacier Ridge
Whaleback
*Milestone Mountain
Midway Mountain
*Table Mountain
*Thunder Mountain
South Guard
**** MOUNT BREWER**
North Guard

8. KINGS KERN DIVIDE-2

Mount Jordan
Mount Genevra
***Mount Ericsson**
Mount Stanford (S)
*Deerhorn Mountain
*East Vidette
West Vidette
*Junction Peak
Mount Keith
Mount Bradley
Center Peak

**9. KEARSARGE
PASS VICINITY-6**

*University Peak
Independence Peak
Kearsarge Peak
Mount Gould
Mount Rixford
Mount Bago
*Mount Gardiner
Mount Cotter
**MT CLARENCE KING
Dragon Peak
Black Mountain
Diamond Peak

**13. MT GODDARD
VICINITY-2**

Observation Peak
Giraud Peak
*Devils Crag #1
Wheel Mountain
*Mount McDuffie
Black Giant
*Charybdis
Seylla
**MOUNT GODDARD
Mount Reinstein
Finger Peak
Funemah Peak

**17. BEAR CREEK
SPIRE AREA-3**

Merriam Peak
Royce Peak
Mount Julius Caesar
Mount Hilgard
Recess Peak
Mount Gabb
*Bear Creek Spire
Mount Dade
**MOUNT ABBOT
Mount Mills
Mount Morgan (S)

**21. MT LYELL AND
NORTH-4**

*Cathedral Peak
Vogelsang Peak
Mount Florence
Mount Maclure
**MOUNT LYELL
Koip Peak
Mount Gibbs
Mount Dana

**10. BAXTER PASS
TO TABOOSE PASS-3**

Mount Baxter
Colosseum Mountain
Mount Perkins
Mount Wynne
Mount Pinchot
Pyramid Peak (S)
*Arrow Peak
Striped Mountain
Goodale Mountain
Cardinal Mountain

**14. NORTH
PALIADES-3**

Temple Crag
Mount Gayley
*Mount Sill
**NORTH PALISADE
*Thunderbolt Peak
Mount Winchell
Mount Agassiz
Mount Goode
Cloudripper
Mount Johnson
Mount Gilbert

**18. MONO CREEK
TO MAMMOTH-5**

Silver Peak
Mount Izaak Walton
Red and White Mountain
*Red Slate Mountain
Mount Stanford (N)
Mount Morgan (N)
Mount Baldwin
*Mount Morrison
Bloody Mountain

**22. TIOGA PASS TO
BOND PASS-6**

Mount Warren
Mount Conness
North Peak
Excelsior Mountain
Dunderberg Peak
Virginia Peak
Twin Peaks
*Whorl Mountain
**MATTERHORN PK
Pettit Peak
Volunteer Peak
Piute Mountain
*Tower Peak

**11. WESTERN MID-
SIERRA-5**

*Mount Ruskin
Marion Peak
State Peak
Goat Mountain
Kennedy Mountain
Mount Harrington
*Tehipite Dome
Spanish Mountain
Three Sisters

**15. EVOLUTION
AREA-3**

Mount Thompson
Point Powell
Mount Wallace
Mount Haeckel
Mount Fiske
Mount Huxley
**MOUNT DARWIN
Mount Mendel
Mount Lamarck
*The Hermit
Mount McGee
Emerald Peak
Mount Henry

**19. RITTER RANGE
AND VICINITY-3**

Iron Mountain
*Clyde Minaret
**MOUNT RITTER
Banner Peak
Mount Davis
Rodgers Peak
Electra Peak
Foerster Peak
San Joaquin Mountain

**23. BOND PASS TO
LAKE TAHOE-7**

Black Hawk Mountain
Leavitt Peak
Stanislaus Peak
Disaster Peak
Highland Peak
Mokelumne Peak
Round Top
Freel Peak
Pyramid Peak (N)
Dicks Peak
Mount Tallac

**12. SOUTH
PALI SADES-4**

**SPLIT MOUNTAIN
Mount Tinemaha
Mount Prater
Mount Bolton Brown
Birch Mountain
The Thumb
Disappointment Peak
*Middle Palisade
*Norman Clyde Peak
Palisade Crest

**16. HUMPHREYS
BASIN AND WEST-4**

Mount Goethe
Mount Emerson
**M-T HUMPHREYS
Basin Mountain
Four Gables
Mount Tom
Pilot Knob (N)
Gemini
*Seven Gables
Mount Senger
Mount Hooper

**20. CLARK RANGE
AND VICINITY-4**

Merced Peak
Red Peak
Gray Peak
*Mount Clark
*Mount Starr King
Half Dome
Clouds Rest

**24. NORTHERN
SIERRA-7**

Granite Chief
Tinker Knob
Castle Peak
Mount Rose
Mount Lola
English Mountain
Sierra Buttes
Mount Elwell
Adams Peak

Management Committee Meeting Minutes and Other Business

**Approved Meeting Minutes SPS Management Committee
Wednesday, November 14, 2007, 7:30 p.m.
Angeles Chapter Headquarter Office**

1. Call to Order: at 7:35. Present: Henry Arnebold, Bob Beach, Darrick Danta, Stephanie Gylden, Gary Schenk. Absent: Alex Amies.

2. Announcements (Darrick): This is the last meeting for 2007; the Chair thanked all Board and Committee Members, the Webmaster, and Echo Editor for their hard work. This has been a good year: the outings program is strong under the leadership of Barbee and Larry Tidball; several new leaders are working up the ranks, including an "E" rating attained by Alex; Sara is doing an excellent job as Editor; Larry Hoak works diligently at improving the SPS Website; Harry Langenbacher has revitalized the position of Mountain Records; and membership is holding strong. Our main accomplishments this year have been to support the outings program, advance the question of adding Caltech Peak to the SPS List, working on a Sierra Sampler List, and getting the Echo on a standard production schedule.

3. Treasurers Report (Henry Arnebold): The third quarter treasurers report was distributed previously via email to Committee members. Accounts are holding level. New signature cards for our accounts will need to be made soon.

4. Webmaster Report: Request from Larry Hoak for various material was made previously via email to Committee

members.

5. Echo Report: Sara Danta set a December 1 deadline for receipt of material for the Winter Echo.

6. Business Items

a. SPS Election: Patty Kline is still soliciting candidates to run for the Management Committee.

b. Caltech Peak: The question of adding Caltech Peak to the SPS List will be added to the Ballot mailed separately to Active SPS Members in mid December.

c. SPS Banquet: A flier has been prepared and approved for inclusion on the Website and as an insert in the next Echo.

d. Sampler list: A revised version will appear in the next Echo for final comment before being voted on by the Management Committee for implementation.

7. Other Business: The next Management Committee will need to examine the following issues: possible de-listing of Pilot Knob (S); SPS membership categories (in particular sustaining vs. regular) and dues amount; and look for a new meeting site.

8. Adjournment: 9:00.

SPS Treasurer's Report 3rd Quarter 9/30/2007

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Income

Echo-----310.00

Balance on 6/30/2007 -----3,148.78

Income-----310.00

3,458.78

Expenditures------388.15

\$3,070.63

Expenditures

Postage-----379.50

Mail Seals------8.65

\$388.15

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance on 6/30/2007-----4,917.00

July Interest-----2.09

August Interest-----2.09

September Interest------2.02

\$4,923.20

INTERESTING PHOTO



Photo by Alex Amies

ROCKFALL ON UNIVERSITY PEAK

Caused by a few large rocks coming down, this occurred in the chute where the south and east ridges join. Sep 15, 2007



Leadership Training Committee Schedule of Activities

Leadership Training Program Seminar 2008

Apr 12 O/I/M/E Location - TBD



Wilderness First Aid

www.wildernessfirstaidcourse.org

Navigation Practices and Checkouts

2007

Dec 9	I/M/E P,C Warren Point, Joshua Tree	Harry Freimanis
Dec 15	Basic GPS Class, Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Harry Freimanis

2008

Jan 15	I/M/E P,C Warren Point, Joshua Tree	Harry Freimanis
Apr 19-20	I/M P,C Indian Cove, Joshua Tree	Harry Freimanis
Apr TBD	Basic GPS Class, Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Harry Freimanis
May TBD	Beginning Navigation Clinic Mt. Lowe	Diane Dunbar
May 18	I/M/E P,C Grinnell Ridge	Harry Freimanis
Sep 29	I/M/E P,C Grinnell Ridge	Harry Freimanis
Oct 19	I/M P,C Indian Cove, Joshua Tree	Robert Myers
Oct TBD	Beginning Navigation Clinic Mt. Lowe	Diane Dunbar
Nov 15-16	I/M Indian Cove, Joshua Tree	Harry Freimanis
Dec TBD	Basic GPS Class	Harry Freimanis
Dec TBD	Beginning Navigation Clinic Mt Lowe	Diane Dunbar
Dec 14	I/M/E P,C Warren Point	Harry Freimanis

Rock Practices and Checkouts

Various Dates M/E P Vertical Adventures Ron Hudson - Chair
(This is not a Sierra Club activity, but can prepare candidates for rock checkoffs.)
www.vertical.adventures.com

Snow Practices and Checkouts

2008

Jan 28	M/E P, LTC Baldy Snow Practice	Nile Sorenson, Tina Bowman
Feb 09	M/E P, LTC Baldy Snow Practice	Nile Sorenson, Tom McDonnell
May 17-18	M/E P, LTC Sierra Snow Practice/Check off	Nile Sorenson, Doug Mantle

Environmental Awareness

Look at the Chapter's Schedule of Activities for outings sponsored by the Natural Science Section, such as the Hundred Peaks Section. Check also the LTC web site—see below—and http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/transfers/ltc_creditsinfo_0607_11.doc

The LTC website has a calendar of events & info about training not offered by the Sierra Club:
angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/

Outings

Dec 9 | Sun **LTC, WTC, HPS**
I/M/E: Warren Point: NP: Navigation noodles at Joshua Tree NP for either checkout or practice to satisfy the Basic (I/M) or advanced (E) level navigation requirements. To receive homework assignment, send navigation experience/training, any WTC, rideshare info, H&W phones, prefer by Email to Ldr: HARRY FREIMANIS. Asst: ROBERT MYERS

Dec 15 | Sat **LTC, WTC, HPS**
Basic GPS Class, Eaton Cyn Nature Center, contact PHIL WHEELER for details.

Jan 13 | Sun **LTC, WTC, HPS**
I/M/E Warren Point: NP: Navigation noodles at Joshua Tree NP for either checkout or practice to satisfy the Basic (I/M) or advanced (E) level navigation requirements. To receive homework assignment, send navigation experience/training, any WTC, rideshare info, H&W phones, prefer by Email to Ldr: HARRY FREIMANIS. Asst: ROBERT MYERS

Apr 12 | Sat **LTC**
Leadership Training Seminar: Become a qualified Sierra Club leader. For info, contact leader. Next seminar: Oct 2008. Ldr: STEVE BOTAN

April 12-13 | Sat-Sun **SPS, WTC**
I: Rockhouse Peak (8,360') Sirretta Peak (9,977)
Come climb these two peaks situated in the Southern Sierra with us. We will climb them via class 1 routes on 2 day hikes. On Saturday climb Rockhouse Peak via the north slope. On Sunday climb Sirretta. Experience with class 2 travel and good fitness required. Send email with conditioning, experience. Leader: ALEX AMIES, Asst: GREG MASON.

Apr 19-20 | Sat-Sun **LTC, WTC, HPS**
I/M: Indian Cove Navigation: Navigation noodles at Joshua Tree NP for either checkout or practice to satisfy the Basic (I/M) level navigation

requirements. To receive homework assignment, send navigation experience/training, any WTC, rideshare info, H&W phones, prefer by Email to Ldr: HARRY FREIMANIS. Asst: ROBERT MYERS

Apr | TBD **LTC, WTC, HPS**
Basic GPS Class, Eaton Cyn Nature Center, contact PHIL WHEELER for details.

May 3-5 | Fri-Mon **SPS**
Rescheduled to May 10-12
MR: Mt. Williamson (14,370) Snow climb of California's second highest peak via Bairs Creek. Day 1 hike from TH (6,200') up Bairs Ck 2.5 mi to camp in snow at 10,200' (4,000' gain). Day 2 climb Williamson via cl 2 southeast ridge on snow with ice axe/crampons, 4 mi round trip, 4,200' gain. Day 3 hike out 2.5 mi. Total stats: 9 miles, 8,200'. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Send SASE / email with recent conditioning, experience on snow, SC#, completed Medical Form and \$5 permit fee to Ldr: DARRICK DANTA, Asst: TINA BOWMAN.

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

May 17-18 | Sat -Sun **LTC, SPS, DPS**
M/E: Sierra Snow Checkoff/Practice: For M & E candidates wanting to check off leadership ratings or others who wish to practice new techniques. Restricted to SC mbrs with some prior basic training with the ice axe. Send SC#, climbing resume, email, H&W phones to Ldr: NILE SORENSON Co-lr: DOUG MANTLE.

May 18 | Sun **LTC, WTC, HPS**
I/M/E: Grinnell Ridge Navigation: 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 navigation experience/training, rideshare info, H&W phones, prefer by Email to Ldr: HARRY FREIMANIS. Asst: ROBERT MYERS

May 24-26 | Sat-Mon **SPS**
MR Mt Thompson (13,494) Point Powell (13,364)
Sat backpack at moderate pace from Lake Sabrina over trail and snow to Donkey Lake (approx. 6 mi, 2000' gain). Sun climb peaks Thompson (3.2 mi, 3000' gain) first and then Pt Powell (1.2 mi, 700' gain) via Thompson-Powell Col. Ice axe, helmet and crampons are required. Mon pack out. Restricted to Sierra club members. Completed medical form required. \$5 permit fee at trailhead. Send SC# and experience/conditioning resume via sase or email (preferred) to Leader: GREG MASON, Assist: ASHER WAXMAN

June 7-8 | Sat- Sun **SPS**
MR: Emerson: (13,204') Intro to SPS M-rated trips w/ ice axe & crampons. Sat hike 2 mi from North Lake (9360') backpacking to just past Loch Leven Lake at 10,743' Set-up camp. Afternoon ice axe practice to refresh skills. Sun up early, climb peak 2461' gain on snow and 3rd cl rock. Hike out to cars after peak climb. Send SASE w/ conditioning, climbing experience, H, cell & W phones, ride share info, SC#, completed Medical Form and \$5 permit fee to Ldr: BARBEE TIDBALL, Asst: JOHN CHESLICK AND LARRY TIDBALL.

June 14-15 | Sat- Sun **SPS**
MR: Merriam Peak (13,103) Royce Peak (13,280')
Sat backpack Pine Creek trailhead to Honeymoon Lk approx. 4 mi 3300' gain. Sun hike across Sierra Crest to climb both peaks, cl 2, 3700' total elev gain from camp with snow (ice axe and crampons). Return to camp, pack-up and hike out. Send SASE recent conditioning H, cell & W phones, ride share info, SC#, completed Medical Form and \$5 permit fee to Ldr: BARBEE TIDBALL, Asst: TINA BOWMAN.

June 14-16 | Sat- Mon **SPS**
I: Kern Peak: (11,510') SPS Introductory trip in

the southern Sierra geared to prospective SPSers and WTC students. Moderate and enjoyable pace. Enjoy studying flora and fauna with naturalist Sherry Ross. Saturday backpack 9 mi, 1500' gain to camp at Redrock Meadows at 8600'. Sunday climb class 2 Kern Peak 8 mi rt, 3000' gain rt with considerable x-country. Legendary community happy hours Sat and Sun evenings. Monday backpack out 9 mi, 1800' gain (roadhead higher than camp). Send SASE recent conditioning H, cell & W phones, ride share info to Ldr: PATTY KLINE, Asst: SHERRY ROSS.

June 21-22 Sat-Sun **SPS**
ER: North Palisade (14,242') Polemonium Peak (14,080'): Climb these two rugged 14,000' peaks situated in the Palisades area of the Eastern Sierras with us via the U-Notch. This will be a strenuous backpack and class 4 / 5th snow and rock climb. Saturday pack in from the Glacier Lodge trailhead to camp. Sunday climb the U-Notch to North Pal, make the traverse, attempt Polemonium, and descend the same way. Sunday pack out. Restricted to Sierra Club members with strong fitness and experience on class 4 / 5th snow and rock. Send email with conditioning, experience, SC#. Medical form required. \$5 permit fee required at trailhead. Leader: ALEX AMIES, Co-leader: TOM MCDONNELL.

Sept 28 | Sun **LTC, WTC, HPS**
I/M/E: Grinnell Ridge Navigation: 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 navigation experience/training, rideshare info, H&W phones, prefer by Email to Ldr: HARRY FREIMANIS. Asst: ROBERT MYERS.

Oct 19 | Sun **LTC, WTC, HPS**
I/M: Indian Cove Navigation: Navigation noodles at Joshua Tree NP for either checkout or practice to satisfy the Basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. To receive homework assignment, send navigation experience/training, any WTC, rideshare info, H&W phones, prefer by Email to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Phil Wheeler.

Oct | TBD **LTC, WTC, HPS**
I: Mt Lowe (5603') Beginning Navigation Clinic:

On Independence Peak Randall Danta

Congratulations!



... celebrates with brother Darrick and long time friend Doug Mantle

Note the town of Independence in the lower left

by **Mary McMannes**

On a perfect September morning, Randall Danta (known in a previous life as Randy) and Alice Danta plus an impressive cast of thousands (or so it seemed) gathered together in Onion Valley to fill their packs with champagne and goodies following Randall, Doug Mantle, Darrick Danta, Dave Endres, Tina Bowman and other notables up up up Independence Peak where Randall would reach his crowning achievement (well..uh..there was the

Everest climb) in finishing the SPS List of 247 peaks. It was a lovely day for climbing, and many crowded on the summit to toast our hero. The necessary historical photos were taken, and then everyone scurried earthward for the party of parties which Alice had planned for months culminating in the Winnedumah Hotel.

Once again, champagne and various beverages flowed in the living room of the Winneduma, and as Moses parted the Red Sea, Randall brought forth the Jeroboam of wine lifting it high into the air with lusty sinews.

September 15, 2007

On the summit . . .

At the trailhead . . .

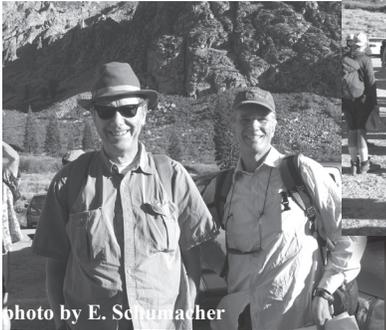


photo by E. Schumacher

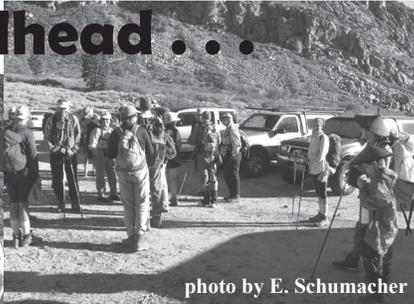


photo by E. Schumacher



The program proceeded with the inimitable and unbelievably talented Doug Mantle acting as emcee. I've long since decided that having Doug as an emcee at any celebration (including funerals) indicates that one has achieved great nobility in one's life. Randall kicked off the program with his one-man show singing, "C'est Moi," and worthy of the Richards (Harris and Burton) from the likes of Camelot. Randall sang in a booming baritone voice, "Sierra Peaks! Sierra Peaks! (see the words to "C'est Moi" page 19) People were simply dazzled at such a performance, and this spectator feels it's good enough entertainment to be repeated at the Sierra Peaks' banquet.



photo by E. Schumacher

Doug began his program, "Randall Danta, a man, a legend, a way of life..." and then more than adequately covered Ran's career professionally, mountaineeringly, and romantically--thank goodness, the romantic endeavors were down-played as Alice Bannister came along at the right time and rescued Randall from a randy bachelorhood and a string of wily women chasing him hither-thither. But we meander from the serious stuff! We've all know Randall since the late seventies, as he mentored many of us in getting our M and E ratings. I recall sitting in the back seats of cars tying bowlines on the coils and figure eights practicing those knots all the way to the Sierras and all the way back. Not only did Randall join us for many trips to the Sierras, but he journeyed off to Europe and did classic climbs as the Matterhorn (where legendary Cuno Ranschau screamed for mercy as R. led him and Erick through a blizzard), Mt. Blanc, Mt. Rosa, and all finally culminating in bagging the Prize Peak of all, Mt. Everest (with companion, Doug). Doug recounted a favorite Everest story where R. was seriously ill with bronchitis but still dragging himself for hours up to Camp III at 25,000 ft.



photo by E. Schumacher



photo by E. Schumacher

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The toast . . .



photo by E. Schumacher

Toasting Randall



Alice Danta serving up



**Hungry climbers lining up.
There's plenty for everyone.**

Let's eat . . .



photo by E. Schumacher

Betty McRuer checking out the goods

Chef la List Finish

MENU

APPETIZERS

*Olive & cheese kabobs, fresh fruit
deviled eggs, 7-layer dip/chips*

WINE

*& other beverages
a Jeroboam of Cabernet (2001), champagne,
black currant soda & sierra lager*

ENTREES

*Served with flat bread, whole wheat rolls,
roasted tomato soup and salad;
5 Indian dishes (rice, eggplant, lentils, spinach
and chick peas), pasta primavera, and Orechiette w/ broccoli*

DESSERT

*Betty's carrot cake, triple mousse cake, chocolate
moose cake, tiramisu, and Indian carrot dessert*

COGNAC & COFFEE

The roast . . .



photo by S. Danta

Randall kicking things off singing his serenade “C’est Moi” List Finish Song



photo by S. Danta

Doug Mantle our Master of Ceremony for the evening



photo by S. Danta

Dave Endres shares his climbing experiences with his long time friend



C’est Moi – List Finisher Song
by Randall Danta 9/15/07

Sierra Peaks! Sierra Peaks!
From the valleys I hear your call
Sierra Peaks! Sierra Peaks!

And to you I give my all.
I know in my soul what you expect of me
And all that and more I tried to be.

A climber of the Sierra list should be, well, durable,
Proceed when a less fanatic man would bail
Climb a peak no one wants to climb
Sign the register in record time
Then descend back to camp under heavy rain and hail

No matter the food, he ought to be unwinceable,
Freeze-dried meals should be his daily fare.
But where in the world
Is there in the world
A man so “un-culinaire”?

C’est moi! C’est moi, I’m forced to admit.
On granola bars I rely.
Top Ramen and Tuna
and peanut butter too,
I eats them all, ‘tis I.

I’ve never been stopped
by steep rock or snow;
lacking good sense I fear.
When ropes are uncoiled
Or axes drawn
Then passable looking routes appear!

C’est moi! C’est moi! With no broken bones!
With E rating to lead or assist.
And here I stand, with tattered clothes,
Worn and tired, but soaring of soul
Having finished the SPS list!



C’est Moi

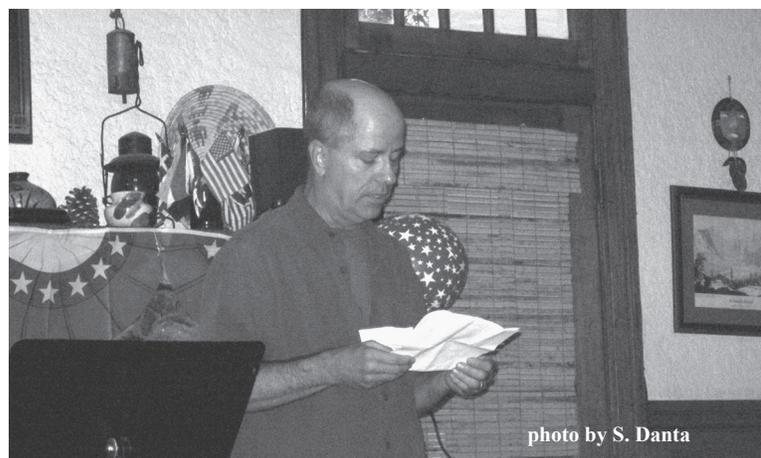


photo by S. Danta

Frat brother Bill Oxley presents an audio tape from NBC Weatherman Fritz Coleman wishing Randall the best! Bill also shares the secret of Randasll’s frat nickname. . . we’ll never tell



Off we go into the wild blue yonder
 Clacking Poles, making our noise
 Clacking Poles to make the sound of thunder
 Down the trails, give 'em a go!!!!
 Travel the world, hiking the trails down under
 Making noise with a HELL-UV-A-ROAR!
 Here we come to enjoy the peace and quiet
 Nothin' more can disturb with a TOOL IN STORE!

Off we go into the wild blue yonder
 Raising our poles high into the BLUE.
 Uptight leaders are not that fonder
 But we'll carry our poles out to wander.
 Quiet solitude and sounds of na-a-a-true
 So, off we march with OUR POLES!
 No one else can ever put asunder
 NOTHING can stop our Clickity Clackity Poles!

Noise sensitivity is more than we can bear
 FOR it is as real as bummed out knees (high high HO)
 'OIL THOSE POLES!! TIGHTEN THOSE POLES!
 OR AWAY YOU WILL GO!!!

We clack out poles to give what's there a scare,
 TAKING OUR CHANCES WHEREVER WE DARE.

BUT TONIGHT OUR CLACKING IS TO BOAST THIS
 DANTA ROAST.
 A TOAST WITH OUR CLACK, CLACKING TO MAKE
 THIS NIGHT THE MOST!



photo by S. Danta

The Mary McMannes Choir singing the "Pole Song" written by Alice (see left)



photo by S. Danta

Professor Danta lecturing on how the geographic centroid relates to Randall's peak bagging. . . don't ask



Brother Darrick presenting Randall with custom plaque which includes a map of the Sierra with all SPS peaks indicated

continued from page 17

Crawling inside the tent and looking like death warmed over, Gary Ball (Expedition leader) asked, “How’s it going, Randy?”

Without hesitation, Randall answered, “Great!” and really meant it. Constantly cheerful and pushing ahead has been one of our favorite Randall mantras. More stories flowed, and it was apparent even in the Great Roast of Randall (with additional speakers Dave Endres, Bill a frat brother, and brother Darrick) that his friends were sentimental about one who is not only the life of the party but simply one nice conscientious guy. A highlight of the evening was when Darrick Danta donned his professorship robe and biretta; and philosophically and statistically mapped out Randall’s program to gain the SPS List. All agreed that no one would ever sleep during a Dr. Darrick lecture!

continued next page



Alice and company singing the “Rand Man Song”, composed by Alice, to the tune of the YMCA song - see below,



Verse 1:

Rand man, there’s no mountains to climb
I said, Rand Man, independence is done.
I said, Rand Man, you have finished the List.
There’s no more peaks on the SPS - List

Danta, this here party’s for you!
Mantle, will you finish this year too?
For Doug has done this List six times
and of what list, do we like to do?

Chorus:

We got ourselves the S-P-S List (Sierra Peaks Section)
That’s right, we got the S-P-S List
If you have lot’s of time and you want to climb
you can get lost and covered in grime
because we got the S-P-S List
It’s fun to climb the S-P-S List
you can get yourself lost or a chopper rescue
but it is all apart of the glue. . .

Verse 2:

Danta, are you finished for good?
We said, Danta, what climbs will there be?
We said, Danta, are you finally free?
to do what peaks you want to do

Danta, what’s this roast all about?
It’s completing the damn/darn S-P-S List
for today is the day of getting it done
so we’re all here to have some FUN

Repeat chorus:

Climbers, we were once just liek you
We said, Tina, are there going to be three?
We said, Mantle, are you going for eight?
Who can keep these peaks and lists straight?

And what’s a Schumacher Step Across?

And Mantle are you going for nine?
Climbers, we were once very much like you
We were up and down those mountains too.

We got ourselves the S-P-S List (Sierra Peaks Section)
That’s right, we got the S-P-S List
If you have lots of time and you want to climb
you can get lost and covered in grime
because we got the S-P-S List
It’s fun to climb the S-P-S List
you can get yourself lost or a chopper rescue
but it is all a part of the clue. . .
Because its fun to climb the S-P-S List
Because its fun to climb the S-P-S List





Mom (Jean) Danta



photo by E. Schumacher

Ron Hudson and Kathy Rich



photo by E. Schumacher

Reiner Stenzel & Karen Leonard

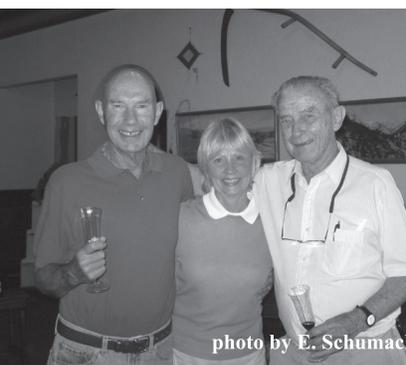


photo by E. Schumacher

Rich Gnagy, Mary Mac & Ret Moore



photo by E. Schumacher

Sara & Darrick Danta

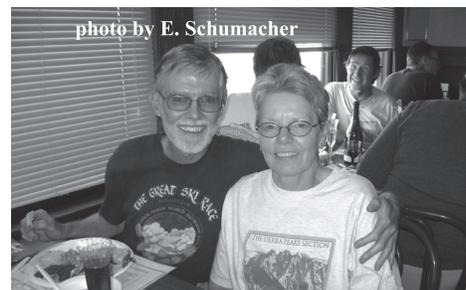


photo by E. Schumacher

Gerry and Pat Holleman

Levity spewed forth after all this serious oratory with the SPS girls and a few guys performing the Poles dance (complete with clickity clackity poles) written by Alice. Alice was running back and forth to the kitchen but managed to appear and participate in the songs -- the second one sung to the tune of "Y.M.C.A.," appropriately re-named, "The S.P.S." Erick Shumacher known for his own mountaineering exploits demonstrated how easily one could perform an "S" with one's body. A good time was had by all despite silliness and frivolities running amuck with these musical numbers.

Alice and compadres spent hours in the kitchen preparing an Indian feast which rivaled the best restaurants in both L.A. and Calcutta. Obviously, this epicurean wife had planned, shopped, and schlepped buffet pots, pans, serving dishes to the Winnedumah taking over the kitchen and performing magic. Hard hats and chef hats off to Alice whose arduous activities culinary-wise proved to be as daring and difficult as climbing the summit blocks of Clarence King and T-Bolt! Licking our chops, we chorused, "Oh, Alice, thank you!" If food is love, we were well-loved and cuddled all evening.

Later, climbers, friends, relatives meandered over to Tina and Tom Bowman's historical Mary Austin's house where more drinking and dessert-eating eventually ended the evening's festivities. As I looked around the parlor of the Bowman's abode, I realized the Best of the Best were gathered there -- SPS heroes and heroines from yesteryear and the new upcoming generation. Randall and Darrick's mother was there, and I remarked to her, "You sure had some big, strong, and courageous boys. I bet you're the proudest Mom in the Western World." And she was. And we were, too!

There aren't many Sierra Club awards left to be given to Randall, as he's won most of them. And now--he bagged the great prize being the latest SPS List Finisher. Musician, singer, violinist, inventor, superb mountaineer--this guy has it all. But most important is his indefatigable style to push on with great cheer and joviality despite blizzards, white-outs, or less than optimum conditions. Mountain memories are the best of all, and thanks Randall for forging so many with all of us. It was a great evening in Valhalla..uh, I mean the Winnedumah, which we'll never forget.