



## Sierra Nevada controversy

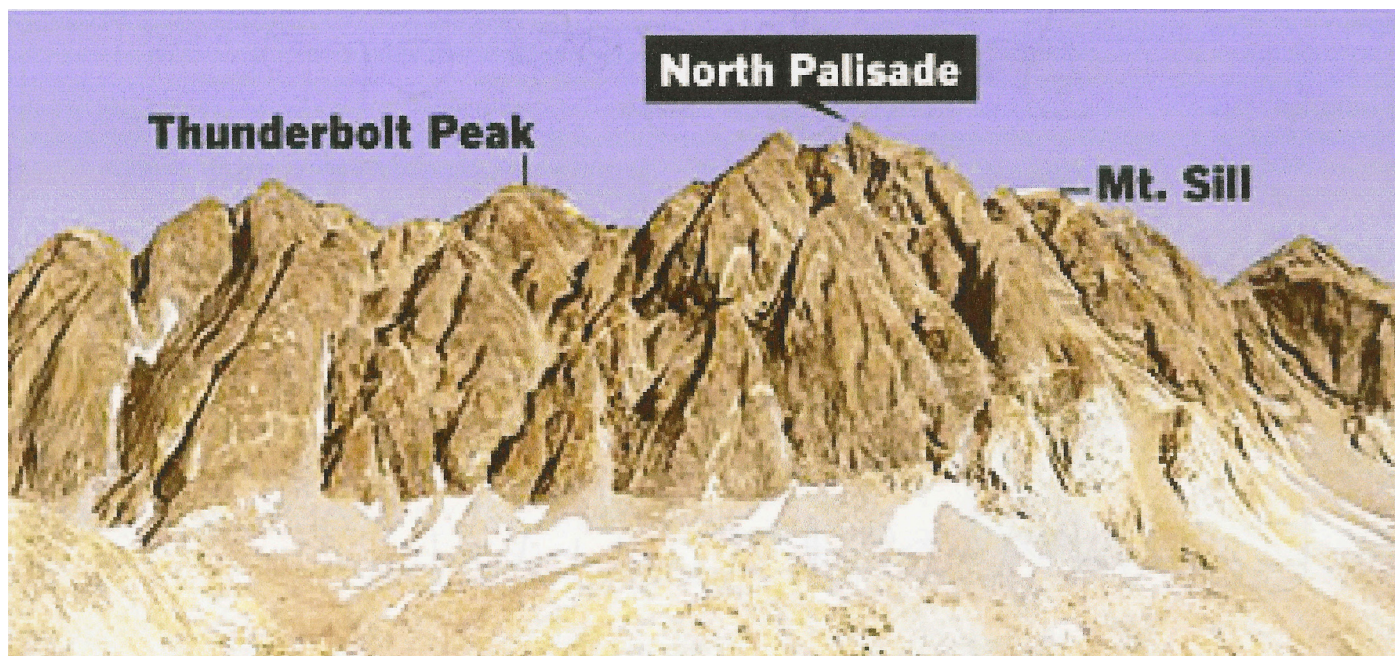
Some mountaineers are challenging a proposal to change the name of North Palisade mountain to honor the late climber David Brower. The peak is about 250 feet shorter than its neighbor Mt. Whitney, the tallest mountain in the contiguous United States.

### Selected peak heights in area

Mt. Whitney	14,494 feet
North Palisade	14,242 feet
Mt. Sill	14,153 feet
Thunderbolt Peak	14,003 feet



*On the summit of North Palisade, left to right: Tom McDonnell, Alex Amies, Doug Bell, Alexander Smirnoff, and Susan Livingston. See trip report page 21.*



*Digital image by Google Earth*

### North Palisade viewed from the southwest

Sources: USGS, ESRI, TeleAtlas, Los Angeles Times

# The Sierra ECHO

# ECHOS *from the Chair*

by Virgil Popescu

This is my final Chair's column. As expected, 2008 was full of new tasks and events. Below is a summary of the issues the SPS Management Committee addressed:

1. Leader Refresher Requirements – Thanks to OMS, SPS leaders updated their knowledge of the Club Chapter Policy using friendly options offered on web pages or by attending *The Angeles Chapter Leadership Training Seminar*. In addition, SPS leaders are encouraged to pay attention to the requirement: "...must have completed *First Aid Course* within 4 years prior to the outings".
2. The Sierra Echo Publication – The electronic version is well accepted by more than half of our membership. The others continue to receive the hard copy as usual.
3. The SPS Bylaws – Was revised in 2003 but not approved.

The M/C decided to keep the Bylaws as simple as possible and transfer the details to the SPS, M/C Policy and Procedures. Larry Hoak the Bylaws chair, competent and efficient, finalized the draft of SPS Bylaws and M/C Policy and Procedures. Thanks Larry. The draft has been reviewed, corrected and approved by M/C. I have now submitted above-mentioned draft to the Chapter Bylaws Committee chaired by Mr. David Czamanske.

4. Renaming North Palisade after David Brower a former Sierra Club director and accomplished climber. Recent articles in the Nov. / Dec. *Sierra Magazine* "A Craggy Presence" and *The Los Angeles Times* "Admires of environmentalist seek a monument 14,242 feet high", ignited new oppositions. I made a full page detailed presentation of this case in a draft letter to Mr.

Carl Pope - the SC director, which was approved by our M/C and our prominent Sierra Peaks

personalities. See letter next page.

5. SPS Election – It is time to elect a New Board for 2009. In addition of her Alps climbing in France, Patty Kline managed to prepare a list of new candidates, mostly young and energetic ready to take over our SPS Management. The Election Committee chair Dan Richter, helped by our Echo editor Sara Danta, prepared the ballot.
6. Banquet – Will be held at Taix Restaurant on January 31, 2008. Andy Fried has accepted our invitation to be the speaker at the banquet and will give a program on Peru. Thanks to Gary Schenk and Henry Arnebold.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge our 2008 Management. Special thanks to our Vice Chair Kathy Rich for her many contributions, including arranging our meetings. Her proposition of Geographical Emblem was fully supported by our management. I urge you to vote for it. Also high appreciation to: Darrick Danta, (Membership Secretary), Henry Arnebolt (The Life Treasures), and Dave Endres (as the Alternate).

Special acknowledgment for who volunteer and take care of important tasks spending large amounts of their valuable time: Sara Danta, Larry Hoak, The Echo and Website editors. Thanks for your outstanding tireless effort in providing invaluable information to our members. Thank you to Larry and Barbie Tidball, the Outing Co-Chairs, for running our outing programs with or without our help. Not to forget Doug Mantle (safety), Dan Richter (archives). Harry Langenbacher (Mtn Register), and Beth Epstein (mailer).

Best Wishes and Happy New Years in 2009!

Sincerely Yours,

Virgil Popescu, Chair, Sierra Peaks Section



November 25, 2008

Dear Mr. Pope,

On March 6, 2008 our Sierra Peaks Section, Management Committee, voted unanimously against the proposal to rename North Palisade in honor of David Brower. Alternatively a motion was made and approved to support naming an unnamed Sierra Peak after David. This decision was published in the Sierra Echo. Naively, we assumed that our position received proper attention and consideration; but this provides not to be the case. Recently an article in the Nov/Dec. Sierra Magazine "A Craggy Presence" sparked a new front of opposition. The author David Ferris states: "Mountains have been named for John Muir and Ansel Adams. Isn't it time for Mt. David Brower?" The statement is misleading. The peaks honored after Muir and Adams DID NOT PREVIOUSLY HAVE NAMES. In contrast, the North Palisade is the flagship of our Sierra Mountaineering peaks, named some 100 years ago. It is widely recognized throughout North America, and elsewhere. It's geographical name is mirrored on the largest glacier of the High Sierra, Palisade Glacier.

Former Sierra Club director David Brower possessed a strong and complex personality. David was a champion of our environmental movement, and thus deserves a High Sierra peak named for him. He, David was an accomplished climber with many first ascents on unnamed peaks; perhaps one of them may honor his name. Prominent Sierra Peaks Section personalities R.J. Secor author of the classic peck guide "The High Sierra: Peaks, Passes, and Trails", Doug Mantle, Tina Bowman, Ron Hudson, Bill Oliver, Barbara Lilley, Gordon MacLeod, Rayne and Mary Motheral, and others, have each voiced strong opposition to renaming North Palisade; but all agree that he be honored with a Sierra peak. Specific suggestions include:

1. Peak 4138m (13,572) south of the Thumb (4071m, 13,388') appears to be the most suitable (Suggested by Doug Mantle).
2. Peak 4200m (13,776) 0.8 miles southeast of Mt. Stanford, first ascended by David Brower on June 3, 1934.
3. The unnamed peak in the Mammoth Lakes area (informally called Mt. Mendenhall by R.J. Secor) first ascent by David Brower on July 17, 1934.
4. David Brower, Hervey Voge and Norman Clyde first ascent Devils Craggs #3-11. These could be named Brower's Craggs (Suggested Bill Oliver).
5. Mt. Whitney 3<sup>rd</sup> Needle which is over 14,000 feet.

In conclusion, we urge that North Palisade be retained as the special historical and geographical icon of the climbing community that it is. We therefore insist that it NOT be renamed "Brower Palisade"; alternatively, we suggest that an important unnamed peak first climbed by David Brower serve to honor his legacy in the Sierra Club and in California.

Sincerely Yours,  
Virgil Popescu, Chair, Sierra Peaks Section

# SPS Annual Banquet

**The Sierra Peaks Section Annual Banquet will be held on Saturday, January 31, 2009 at Taix French Restaurant in Los Angeles. The tickets are only \$35.00 per person. A flyer will be mailed to all members on December 15th, in time to make your reservation(s). The program will include a slide show by Andy Fried on his Peru expedition to the Cordillera Blanca. Remember to mark your calendar and come enjoy a great time!**

## New Members and Accomplishments!

**Scott Sullivan - List Finisher!!!**

**Peter Lara - New Member**

**Sandy Sperling - New Member**

**Paul Maurin - New Member**

**Mark Goebel - Master Emblem**

**Jim Scott - Senior Emblem**



**Darrick Danta  
Secretary  
Sierra Peaks Section**

## FROM THE EDITOR

The Sierra Echo is a quarterly publication of the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter. For more information, see the back of this newsletter. All questions, copy and photo submissions should be directed to **Sara Danta, Editor, The Sierra Echo**, preferably via email at [s\\_wyrens@yahoo.com](mailto:s_wyrens@yahoo.com). Mailing address is 9741 Reseda Blvd., Unit 46, Northridge, CA 91324. The Echo will also be available as a PDF download at the SPS website and via a link to all SPS members opting for this method.

**Last day for submission  
for next Echo: 02/23/09.**

**Late submissions will  
roll over into the following  
issue.**

# Management Committee

## Meeting Minutes

### SIERRA PEAKS SECTION

Approved Management Committee Meeting Minutes  
Held Thursday August 21, 2008  
at the home of Dan Richter

#### Call to order: 7:00 pm.

Members present: Henry Arnebold, Dave Endres, Virgil Popescu, Kathy Rich.

Guest: Dan Richter.

#### Announcements:

- 1) Banquet: to be held at Taix Restaurant on Jan 31st (so as not to conflict with HPS dinner, which will be held the previous Saturday). Possible speakers are Andy Fried (on Peru) or Chris Shan (on K2). Henry offered to be MC and collect \$\$\$. Gary Schenk will organize speaker, fee ~\$300-500. Tickets will be \$35. We have guaranteed the restaurant 50 attendees.
- 2) Register Books: Harry Langenbacher proposed ordering 50 register books with SPS logo on the cover. This had already been approved by M/C (via email). Harry had not yet received the bill, but payment was approved.
- 3) SPS Outing Policies and Procedures: Leaders need to refresh leadership training every four years (eg. by taking OLT 101 (basic leader training). The deadline was July 1, 2008.

#### Committee Reports:

- 1) Chair's Report: Larry Hoak will convene a committee to look at the Bylaws, with the goal of making them as simple as possible. The electronic version of the Bylaws with additions deletions indicated with bold and strike-through needs to be obtained.
- 2) Outings Report: New trip submissions had been previously approved via email.
- 3) Treasurer's Report: Henry Arnebold reported that at the end of the first quarter of 2008 funds on hand were: ~\$3000 in checking; and \$4,935 in savings.
- 4) Webmaster Report: Larry Hoak (via email) renewed his call for new material to go on the website.

5) The Sierra Echo Report: The electronic version has been well received. Sara Danta (via email) will include ballot in next issue (November deadline).

6) Geographical Emblem: Kathy Rich has proposed a new Emblem comprised of climbing 50 SPS Peaks total, 2 from each of the 24 geographic regions. The Committee has approved of the concept, which appeared in last Echo for general comment. One comment (positive) was received.

#### New Business:

- 1) Dan Richter announced that items from the collection of Frank Sanborn, founder of SPS (including photos/slides, newsletters and articles in the So Sierran from the 60's) had been donated to permanent archives at UCLA. These could be used for a slide show sometime in the future as well as for the Echo and the SPS website.
- 2) Election Committee: Extra nominations are needed for the SPS M/C. Nominations should go to Patty Kline by Nov 1st. Ballot could be emailed to all active members as a PDF or go in the next issue of the Echo. It was agreed that Dan Richter should chair the counting of election votes.
- 3) Chapter Award: It was suggested to nominate Barbee Tidball for a Chapter Award. Due date?
- 4) Next Echo: Suggested that we ask Sara Danta if we can combine ballots for M/C nominations, Geographical Emblem and Bylaws changes in the next Echo (deadline November 23rd).
- 5) Joint SPS, HPS, DPS meeting: Proposed for January, 2009. Include WTC as well? The idea was suggested to include a representative from WTC on the SPS M/C.

**Adjournment: 9:00 p.m.**

## SPS Treasurer's Report 3rd Quarter 9/30/2008

### Checking Account

#### Income

Echo-----	185.00
Merchandise-----	90.00
	\$275.00
Balance on 6/30/2008-----	3,227.23
Income-----	275.00
	3,502.23
Expenditures-----	693.03
	\$2,809.20

### Expenditures

Echo Printing-----	493.03
Banquet Reservation-----	200.00
	\$693.03

### Savings Account

Balance on 6/30/2008-----	4,941.68
July Interest-----	2.10
August Interest-----	2.09
September Interest-----	2.03
	\$4947.90

### MEETING INFORMATION

The SPS Management Committee will hold meetings every other month at a location to be determined. Please contact SPS Chair Virgil Popescu at (818) 951-3251 for meeting times, date and place.

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING ELECTRONIC ECHO

Anyone receiving this edition of the Echo via email and wishing to receive future editions on hard copy or vica-versa, contact editor at [s\\_wyrens@yahoo.com](mailto:s_wyrens@yahoo.com) or 818-349-6019.

## SPS List Serve

**You can find the information you need as a subscriber by checking out our listserv support site. Go to this address to enroll for the SPS E-mail list service: <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sps/listserver.htm>.**

# more comments on **GEOGRAPHICAL EMBLEM PROPOSAL**

Being someone who loves climbing Sierra Peaks, but who started all the peak bagging frenzy very late in life, I'm well aware that climbing the entire list is well out of my reach. Even though I plug along and may (or not) ever reach my SPS Emblem, it is good to have a goal and something to aspire to. I am very much in favor of a geographical emblem, and feel that it's something that I can attain. I believe it would be a good emblem to attract and hook newcomers who might otherwise feel that the SPS list is unattainable to them. It's been discussed by quite a few of my peakbagger friends and is something that I think a lot of people would be interested in.

That's my "two cents" worth of comments.

Winnette Butler

## SPS TEES



Front: **NORTH PAL**

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

**M, L & XL in Sand & Ash**

**\$12 + \$3.50 shipping**

**(\$4 shipping when ordering 2 or more shirts). Send your order to Datty Kline, 20362 Callon Drive,**

**Topanga, Ca 90290 & make**

**check payable to SPS**

**CST 2087766-40**



# Leadership Training Committee 2009 Schedule of Activities

## Leadership Training Program Seminar

Apr 4, 2009

Spring LTC Seminar

Steve Botan



**Wilderness First Aid** <http://wildernessfirstaidcourse.org>

Jun 12-14

Wilderness First Aid Course, Harwood Lodge

S. Schuster

## Navigation Practices and Checkouts

Jan 11	I/M/E P,C Warren Point
Apr 5	O Eaton Canyon Nature Center
Apr 18-19	I/M P,C Indian Cove, Joshua Tree
Apr TBD	Beginning Navigation Clinic Mt. Lowe
May 9-10	Noodle in the Mojave National Preserve
Jun 7	I/M/E P,C Grinnell Ridge Navigation

Robert Myers
Harry Freimanis
Harry Freimanis
Diane Dunbar
Harry Freimanis
Harry Freimanis

## Rock Practices and Checkouts

Various Dates M/E P Vertical Adventures  
(This is not a Sierra Club activity, but can prepare candidates for rock checkoffs.)  
<http://www.verticaladventures.com/>

## Snow Practices and Checkouts

Jan 31	I/M/E P Local Baldy Snow Practice
Feb 14	I/M/E P Local Baldy Snow Practice

Nile Sorenson/Tina Bowman
Nile Sorenson/Doug Mantle

Snow travel, avalanche, and related training - Kurt Wedberg's Sierra Mountaineering International (This is not a Sierra Club activity, but can prepare candidates for snow checkoffs.) <http://sierramountaineering.com>

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



# photo gallery

## Iron Mountain taken June 30th 1963

Submitted by Dan Richter (SPS archivist)  
is photo 395 from the Frank Sanborn  
Collection.



*Tina Bowman smashes pumpkins to the horror of musician husband Tom, as she tries to create a new band called "Smashing Pumpkins" - it's already taken! Friends Terri and Doug look on. (Mary Austin's house, Nov. 1st, 2008) Submitted by Mary Mac*