



VOLUME 54 | NUMBER 1 | JAN-MAR 2010

**We have
another
list finisher!**



photo by | Steve Eckert

(see article page 18)

**Daryn Dodge nearing the top
of Disappointment Peak**



photo by | Steve Eckert

Dodge stands atop Banner Peak

The Sierra ECO740



by **Kathy Rich**

Fall is upon us and except for a few hardy souls, most of us are off doing other pursuits until Springtime again reaches the Sierra. However, please don't stop thinking about the SPS - use this 'down' time to plan trips for next season. So far, we only have 4 trips scheduled for Spring and we need more! Submit your trip ideas for Spring and Summer to the Outings Leaders, Barbee and Larry Tidball by mid-February in order for them to be published in the next Echo. Once trips have been given the appropriate approvals, they can also be posted directly onto the SPS website at any time. This includes Provisional trips.

We'd like to congratulate the first SPS members to be awarded the new Geographical Emblem: Dan Richter and Shane Smith. This emblem is awarded to a member of the Section who has climbed two peaks from each of the 24 geographical areas identified in the Peaks List, and who applies to the Secretary in writing listing the peaks and the dates climbed. In addition, Bob Suzuki, who recently rejoined SPS, has been awarded list completion status (Koip Peak, in Sept, 2006). Bob, who

hails from the Bay Area was an SPS member years ago, but then began to climb more with the Peak Climbing Section (PCS), all the while leading trips and climbing peaks. Congratulations, Bob!

Several Management Committees have proposed changes to our Bylaws over the last several years. After much discussion, review and debate, the 2008 SPS Management Committee revived this endeavor by finalizing and voting to approve these changes last year. The revised Bylaws were presented to the Angeles Chapter Executive Committee for approval, which was granted on July 7, 2009. The 2009 Management Committee has voted to accept the changes as previously approved and to finally present the draft Bylaws to you, the membership, for a chance to vote in favor of or against (a redline version of these changes starts on page 37 of this edition of the Echo). Special thanks to Virgil Popescu (2008 SPS Chair), the Bylaws Committee and the entire 2008 SPS MC for all of their hard work in moving forward this undertaking to finalize the changes.

A ballot will be mailed out in December to allow the membership to vote on the revised SPS Bylaws. This mailing will also include the candidates for next year's SPS Management Committee. Please try to vote!

The first major event for 2010 will be the SPS Banquet, which will take place on Saturday, January 30th at Taix Restaurant. Paul Garry, an avid SPS climber who's also an Assistant Group Leader in WTC, will be the featured speaker. Over the past few years, Paul has gotten the travel bug and has climbed major peaks in Argentina, Ecuador, Mexico and Russia. Paul will tell us about his climb last year of Cho Oyu, the 6th highest peak in the world at 26,906'.

Many thanks to our hardworking Management Committee for 2009: Henry Arnebold, Greg Mason, Alexander Smirnoff and Doug Owens. In addition I'd like to give a special acknowledgement and thanks to a number of others who donate their time to complete essential tasks for the Section: Sara Danta (Echo editor), Barbee and Larry Tidball (Outings), Larry Hoak (Webmaster), Dan Richter (Archives), Patty Kline (Programs), and Beth Epstein (Mailer).

Best wishes for the holidays,
Kathy

SIERRA PEAKS SECTION

Management Committee

Meeting Minutes

Held Monday, August 10th, 2009, at the home of Kathy Rich

Call to order: 7:10pm.

Members present - Kathy Rich, Henry Arnebold, Greg Mason, Alexander Smirnoff, Doug Owens.
Guests - Dan Richter, Sara Danta.

1. Chair's report – Kathy reported that we have gained 8 new members. SPS currently has 147 active, 16 Echo only, 15 gratis (including American Alpine club), 47 inactive = total 225 members.
2. Echo Report – Sara Danta reported that she was having technical problems with emailing the new issue to Echo Subscribers. Greg Mason said he would help set up a new email distribution system.
3. Treasurer's Report – Henry Arnebold submitted the 2nd Quarter report. Henry said he received a request for reimbursement of expenses relating to the 50th Anniversary DVD. The MC approved \$300 dollars, contingent on SPS obtaining full rights to the DVD.
4. Mountain Records Report – Dan Richter reported he received a box of historic registers from San Jose State University and that he will submit the registers to the SPS archives collection at UCLA with MC approval, which was granted.
5. New Business
 - Membership Drive – Henry Arnebold asked whether RJ Secor could be considered for Honorary Member status. This was not approved. Instead however, it was decided to award RJ a life subscription of the Echo for past service.
 - Electronic Echo – It was reported that Mel McGuiness at Sierra Club's National office said adding a password protected members-

only section was OK with National. Henry Arnebold will ask Larry Hoak to consider adding such a section to our website.

- California Mountaineering Group – Kathy talked about the CMG on Yahoo groups, which also includes an online monthly Journal of Mountaineering.
 - SPS Mountaineers List - Kathy suggested reactivating the Mountaineers List. Dan Richter explained that the Mountaineers List was originally created when the Sierra Club was trying to get insurance coverage reinstated. Doug Owens added that it is not currently used to assess applicant's qualifications for an outing as climbing resumes are used. Kathy said it would be a nice way to acknowledge our current members actively involved in mountaineering. The item was tabled.
6. Old Business
 - 2010 Banquet: Sat Jan 30th – Paul Garry will give a presentation on his climb of Cho Oyu.
 - Materials for the SPS Website – Kathy suggested adding photos of new SPS members.
 - LTC Advanced Mountaineering Course – Dan Richter reported that 20 students have confirmed that they will be in attendance, 7 students are on the waiting list, 2 students have signed up for the 2010 course and he has several assistants lined up.
 - SPS Bylaws Revision - Kathy will contact Virgil for information.
 7. Adjournment: 9:20pm

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

Patty Kline, 20362 Callon Drive,

Topanga, Ca 90290 & make

check payable to SPS

CST 2087766-40

The Sierra Peaks Section maintains a website at <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sps>.

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. 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.

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>.

SPS Treasurer's Report 3rd Quarter 9/30/2009

Checking Account

Income

Echo-----135.00
Peak List----- ---1.00
Patches & Pins-----17.00
 \$153.00

Expenditures

Printing-----538.25
Postage-----445.10
Banquet Deposit-----200.00
50th Banquet DVD's----300.00
 \$1,483.35

Balance on 6/30/2009-----4,159.32
Income-----153.00
 \$4,312.32
Expenditures------1,483.35
 \$2,828.97

Savings Account

Balance on 6/30/2009-----4,966.42
July interest-----2.11
August interest-----2.11
September interest-----2.04
 \$4,972.68

MEETING INFORMATION

The SPS Management Committee will hold meetings every quarter at a location to be determined. Please contact SPS Chair Kathy Rich at kathrynrich@gmail.com for meeting times, date and place.

REGARDING E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION OF THE ECHO

Please contact this email address (newsletter@sierrapeaks.org) for any issues with hardcopy or email version distribution.

SIERRA CLUB / ANGELES CHAPTER

WILDERNESS TRAVEL COURSE

Learn New Skills
Make New Friends
Experience New Adventures

offered in 4 SoCal locations

**REGISTRATION FOR 2010
OPENS SEPTEMBER 15**

10 CLASSES . 10 WEEKS . 4 OUTINGS

- WILDERNESS SAFETY
- MOUNTAIN TRAVEL
- DESERT TRAVEL
- BACKPACKING
- NAVIGATION
- CONDITIONING
- NUTRITION / MEALS
- ROCK SCRAMBLING
- SNOW CAMPING

Next course begins in
January, 2010

For information and registration go to
www.wildernesstravelcourse.org
or call **(310) 967-2029**
CST #2087766

20 years
SIERRA CLUB
WTC

Submitted by Marlen Mertz,
WTC PR Coordinator

Wilderness Travel Course (WTC)

Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter

For over 20 years, this very popular Sierra Club course has been teaching basic wilderness travel skills including mountain, desert and snow hiking/camping. The Wilderness Travel Course (WTC) includes navigation instruction using topographical maps and compass, 3rd class rock scrambling techniques, how to choose equipment, backpacking food and nutrition, snow travel, wilderness safety and lots more. The course includes ten evening classes, two full day and two weekend outings. Following the ten sessions and four outings, WTC instructors offer course participants a choice of dozens of backpack experience trips in the Sierra Nevada and local mountains. Registration opens September 15, 2009.

Enroll early to assure a place as each year the course has a waiting list. See the Wilderness Travel Course website for more information. Classes are located in West Los Angeles, South Bay, San Gabriel Valley, and Orange County www.wildernesstravelcourse.org

The course schedule is as follows:

West Los Angeles: Jan 6-March 10 (Weds 7:30)
Orange Country: Jan 12-March 16 (Tues 7:30)
Long Beach-South Bay: Jan 20-March 23 (Weds 7:30)
San Gabriel Valley: Jan 26-March 30 (Tues 7:30)

Ten Tuesdays or Wednesdays (depending on location) plus four field trips;

Contact: WTC Hotline: **(310) 967-2029**

Cost: \$270 (Sierra Club Members), \$275 (Non-Members) After Dec 15 (slightly higher)

Registration Required? Yes

Submitted by Bill Oliver

At age 97 Glen Dawson was presented with an honorary doctorate by Azusa Pacific University. Here is the actual wording of the presentation by Jon Wallace, President of APU, as taken from the APU web site. It was a truly memorable experience to attend and witness this event.--Bob & Maureen Cates

Last Friday (September 18, 2009) was an historic day for APU. I was honored to present the highest recognition our university can bestow on someone—an honorary doctorate. I wish you were all there to witness the event! Glen Dawson is a generous and amazing man, with a wealth of experience and knowledge that he has shared with us over the years.

Below is the speech I made to a gathering of many of Glen's family and friends, as well as a few from the university community.

Robert Kirsch, the longtime book review editor of the Los Angeles Times, once wrote, "History is too important to be left to the Ph.Ds. The right to be called historian should be earned by one's works rather than by one's certification." Today we have evidence of that truth in the life of Glen Dawson.

Glen, a graduate of Los Angeles High School and UCLA, is a longtime Pasadena resident. He is an internationally recognized antiquarian book dealer, a foremost authority on books and printing, and a leader among the world's bibliophiles. Modest and unassuming, Glen has served the great collectors and great libraries of California with distinction. He has been the catalyst for launching more library and historical programs and publications than we have time to list. For example, he published 370 books that carry the imprint of Dawson's Book Shop, which is considerably more than any bookseller we know of in our nation's history. By his works, therefore, he exemplifies the best of what it means to be

a disseminator of historical knowledge—and the right to be called "historian."

Among those 370 books, Glen published a fifty-volume Early California Travels Series and a fifty-volume Baja California Travels Series, in addition to a Los Angeles Miscellany series and a Famous California Trials series. Indeed, his publications are among some of our most important and finest printed books on Los Angeles, the Southland, and California. In one decade alone, 1963 to 1972, Glen published an astounding total of 123 books—averaging one a month, and nineteen in the year 1972! All of this productivity came after his father, Ernest Dawson, had early advised him against publishing.

Dawson's Book Shop publications bear the stamp of Glen's personal guidance and careful reading and checking as editor and publisher: W.W. Robinson's Maps of Los Angeles, Neal Harlow's Maps of the Pueblo Lands of Los Angeles, Robinson and Lawrence Clark Powell's The Malibu, Harris Newmark's Sixty Years in Southern California, Lloyd Currey and Dennis Kruska's Bibliography of Yosemite, Jane Easton's Marbling: A History and a Bibliography, and leaf books on the Nuremberg Chronicle of 1493, Aitken Bible and King James Bible are but a handful of examples that could be mentioned.

He has done all of this with an active and transparent Christian witness that remains gracious and generous. A longtime member of Lake Avenue Congregational Church in

Pasadena and a participant with a group of men from his church known as the “Encouragers,” Glen has quietly supported missionary and related church efforts while also quietly helping fledgling collectors and libraries build their collections, and new booksellers start their businesses.

At Azusa Pacific University, we stand alongside the others who are grateful to Glen Dawson for his assistance. He shared with us his expertise on rare books and fine printing at the very start of our special collections endeavor. He was available during our trial-and-error period to mentor us and help shape the direction and content of the collection, valued today at over three million dollars. He was present at the creation. It bears his imprint.

But there is more to Glen Dawson that deserves mentioning. At age sixteen he climbed the Matterhorn, and from the late 1920s through the 1940s he was one of a handful of our nation’s premier mountain climbers. He was the first to scale the east face of Mount Whitney, the first to climb one of the Minarets, now named after him, and he has climbed all the 14,000 foot peaks in California—and many impressive peaks elsewhere. He did all of this without the advanced equipment of today’s climbers. He summed up his climbing adventures with these words: “We were not concerned with insurance or liability. We knew there were risks involved but felt they were our risks.” Glen also was an accomplished skier who served in the Alpine Division of the United States Army in Italy during World War II.

Glen also worked briefly for the FBI, an interesting adventure that befell him when Steven Bloomberg, the notorious book thief of a couple of decades ago, was caught and the loot of his thievery spread out in a giant warehouse. It was Glen Dawson that the FBI called to come

and help sort out the stolen property and find the rightful owners. This was recognition of his stature and trust in the book world. Glen proudly wore his FBI cap afterwards.

One cannot describe Glen Dawson without mentioning miniature books. Ninety-two titles carry Dawson’s Book Shop imprint, starting with the first one in 1949, the printing of a miniature on Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address for a Lincoln collector, and ending in 1994 with Glen’s bibliography of miniature books written or edited by Monsignor Francis J. Weber. Weber, a major author and collector in the field himself, refers to Glen as the “doyen of miniature books,” pointing out the 195 miniature book lists, four catalogues, eight articles in the Miniature Book Society Newsletter, and five miniatures that Glen produced while lecturing widely on the subject. Glen’s wife Mary Helen and daughters Karen and Susan participated in the enterprise, as did brother Muir—all helping to make Los Angeles an important gateway to the miniature book world.

In conclusion, Glen has generated respect, loyalty, and lasting friendship by his honesty and hospitality. His influence on readers and collectors of books is as great as that of any bookseller in the state. It is no accident that Dawson’s Book Shop, the oldest bookshop in Los Angeles, became the gathering place and forum for readers, authors, printers, collectors, and librarians. Glen’s sixty-one years as a partner with Muir helped to change the cultural landscape of Los Angeles in terms of the printed book.

Therefore, by the power vested in me by the State of California and by the Board of Trustees of Azusa Pacific University, I hereby confer upon Glen Dawson, the degree Doctor of Humane Letters. Congratulations!

CLASSIFIEDS

NEW

The DVD of edited interviews, which was shown at the SPS 50th anniversary banquet, is available for sale for \$10, which includes shipping and handling. The DVD is about an hour long, and contains interviews with 36 SPS climbers, including five founding members, and also contains several historical photographs. All proceeds from the sale go to the SPS. If you would like a copy, send a check for \$10 payable to the SPS to: David Sholle. Contact Dave if you have any questions. A set of several DVD's containing the full interviews (much material had to be cut out to fit into the banquet DVD) became available for \$20. If you would like to have the Banquet DVD and the full set of interview DVD's, the combination is available for \$25.

NEW

FOR SALE

Summit Magazine 1955-1989. Nearly a complete set, missing only 19 issues. 1955-1958 are bound in 3 hardcover volumes, + 231 individual issues, all in fine condition. Stories, pictures, fun old ads.

A few issues (18) of Off Belay. 1976-1981. 1979 & 1980 are complete.
\$50 for the lot.

Jon Inskip (818) 790-5461 or inskeepsjs@yahoo.com

NEW

FOR SALE

SMC hinged adjustable 12 pt. Medium crampons. Beck harness straps (many), and crampon protectors. Owner wore size 81/2 Raichle books. Premana Italian ice ax with protector and spike covers. Owner was 5.9". Previously owned by Ron Young. Make an offer. Proceeds go to climbing sections, general fund.

Email: marymuir@earthlink.net

NEW

The American Alpine Club Library is pleased to announce, in association with Top of the World Books, the offering for sale of duplicate books already owned by the Library. This is a wonderful opportunity for your members to acquire interesting books from around the world. Proceeds from the sale of these books will directly benefit the Library. Images and descriptions of items for sale may be viewed here.

If you would like to make a purchase, or have any questions about an item, please contact Greg Glade at Top of the World Books, (see email address below).

Many thanks for your continued support of The American Alpine Club! Gary Landeck, AAC Library Director

Greg Glade, Top of the World Books (greg@topworldbooks.com)



Leadership Training Committee 2010 Schedule of Activities

Leadership Training Program Seminar

April 10 Spring LTC Seminar

Steve Botan

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

May 21-23

Oct 29-31



Steve Schuster

Steve Schuster

Navigation Practices and Checkouts

Dec 5	Mt. Lowe Beginning Navigation Clinic	Diane Dunbar
Dec 13	I/M/E Warren Pt Navigation Checkoff/Practice	Robert Myers
Jan 9-10	I/M/E Warren Pt Navigation Checkoff/Practice	Robert Myers
Apr 17-18	I/M Indian Cove Navigation Checkoff/Practice	Robert Myers
Apr 24-25	I Places We've Save Nav Noodle Mojave Preserve	Robert Myers
May 8	I Beginning Navigation Clinic Workshop	Diane Dunbar
Jun 5-6	I/M/E Grinnell Ridge Navigation Checkoff/Practice	Robert Myers
Aug 1	I/M/E Mt Pinos Navigation Checkoff/Practice	Robert Myers

Rock Practices and Checkouts

Apr 11 M/E Stoney Point Rock Workshop/Checkoff Ron Hudson

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 30	M/E Local Baldy Snow Practice	Nile Sorenson
Feb 13	M/E Local Baldy Snow Practice	Nile Sorenson
Apr 24-25	M/E Sierra Snow Checkoff/Practice	Nile Sorenson
May 22-23	M/E Sierra Snow Checkoff/Practice	Tina Bowman

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

Mar 26-28 O Desert Ecology Workshop Sharon Moore
Explore important waterways on the borders of Mojave and Colorado Desert during spring wildflower season. Observe birds and other wildlife, flora, and human impact on the desert.

Look at the Chapter's Schedule of Activities for outings sponsored by the Natural Science website has a calendar of events & info about training not offered by the Sierra Club:

<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/>

In Memory of Three SPS Leaders and Peak Baggers

1952

2009

Richard Whitcomb

Died due to complications (pneumonia) from a motorcycle accident.

“I’ll always remember Richard for his eternal smile, hugs and encouragement. He was a great friend and I’ll miss him a great deal.”

Linda Mc Dermott

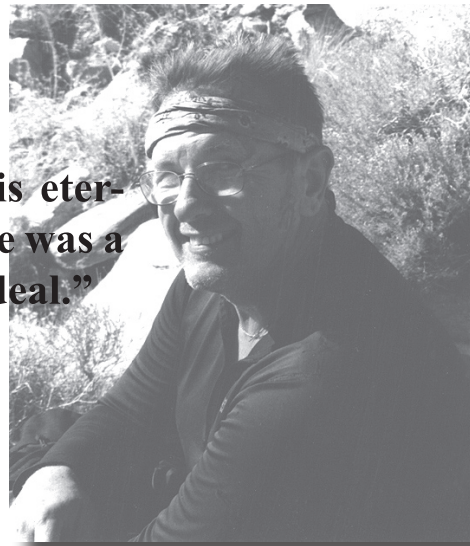


Photo provided by Bob Sumner and taken by Linda McDermott



*Joe McCosker, March 1967.
Photographer: Dick Worsfold
Credit: Dick Worsfold Collection*

1917

2009

Joe McCosker

In memory of Joe McCosker

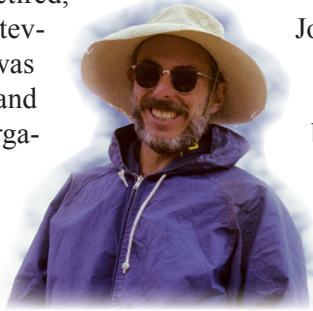
It was sad news to hikers and climbers to learn of Joe McCosker’s passing in September after a lingering illness prior to his 92nd birthday. Joe and Betty were the zany and incredibly witty couple known to the SPS, DPS, and HPS, particularly during Joe’s most active climbing eras of the 1970s and 1980s. Joe had been a past DPS chairman, an E rated leader, and had finished both the HPS and DPS Lists plus bagged mighty Kilimanjaro, mountains in Mexico and Europe, and trekked the base camp at Everest. There wasn’t a peak that Joe didn’t like, and every summer would find him and his children or fellow climbers bagging Sierra peaks and working on the SPS List. When Joe was up on the summits, Betty could be found at the trailheads capturing in her oil paintings the beauty of our peaks, old mining shacks, and even lost hikers.

Not only did Joe continue climbing and leading Sierra Club trips, after he moved to San Diego and retired, he followed his life long dream of doing whatever he could in promoting world peace. He was a pacifist for peace, an activist for change, and joined and supported those peace seeking orga-

nizations that shared his passion for a world without war.

Joe's great smile, deep sense of honesty and integrity, and his wonderful sense of humor will be missed by all of us where we were blessed in sharing wilderness days with this kind and gentle man. A celebration of Joe's life was held at his home in early October.

*Joe McCosker on Cross Mountain 1972
Photo by Bob Cates, Bob & Maureen
Cates Collection*



Mary McMannes

1934

2009

Ron Young

A Fond Farewell to Ron Young

The climbing sections of SPS, DPS, and HPS bid a fond farewell to an all around good guy, Ron Young. It was hard to believe that a 74 year old fellow who seemed to never age and looked so young (maybe it was his name or the fact he never bared his skin) would not be around doing his constant conditioning hikes on Mt. Baldy or attending our annual banquets which he enjoyed so much.

Ron was an M rated leader and finished both the HPS and DPS lists plus leading peak climbs for those sections. He also led some easier Sierra peaks with friend Jackie Van Dalsem during the 1980s. There are several good stories about good ole "Ron Ron," but Edna Erspammer captured his one act of heroism in saving Edna and Renee Spargur from a harrowing, freezing and sleety day on Mt. Goddard. After a terrible summit day when a big storm blew up, they returned to a wet tent, equally wet sleeping bags, where Renee was definitely in the first stages of hypothermia. This was the one day that Ron re-

gretfully had not zipped his tent door shut. He managed to get himself and the girls wrapped into a semi damp sleeping bag, and the three cuddled all night thus saving Renee's life. During Ron's lasts two months of his terminal illness, his one bright and shining moment was seeing that story in print on p. 69 of Edna's book, "Getting High." Being recognized by his peers as a good mountaineer was Ron's raison d'etre (that fact plus painting his garage floor over and over again.) He was proud of many things that a poor homeless teenager from Great Falls, Pa., had accomplished out here in Southern California, but they were minor compared to being known as a climber, a peak bagger, and a mountaineer. I kidded him that his annual Christmas card was always the same pose on a local peak: floppy hat, long sleeved shirt and pants, with index finger in the air for success. He could be a very funny and corny guy in a low key kind of way. His one liners and quips will never be forgotten. Whenever Ron would leave any event or hike, he'd yell over his shoulder, "And don't forget to write."



Poet John Keats penned, "A thing of beauty is a joy forever." But from all your friends who knew you, Ron. "A funny, nice, unpretentious guy is a joy forever." Rest in peace, Ron Ron, and don't forget to write.

Mary McMannes