

The Sierra

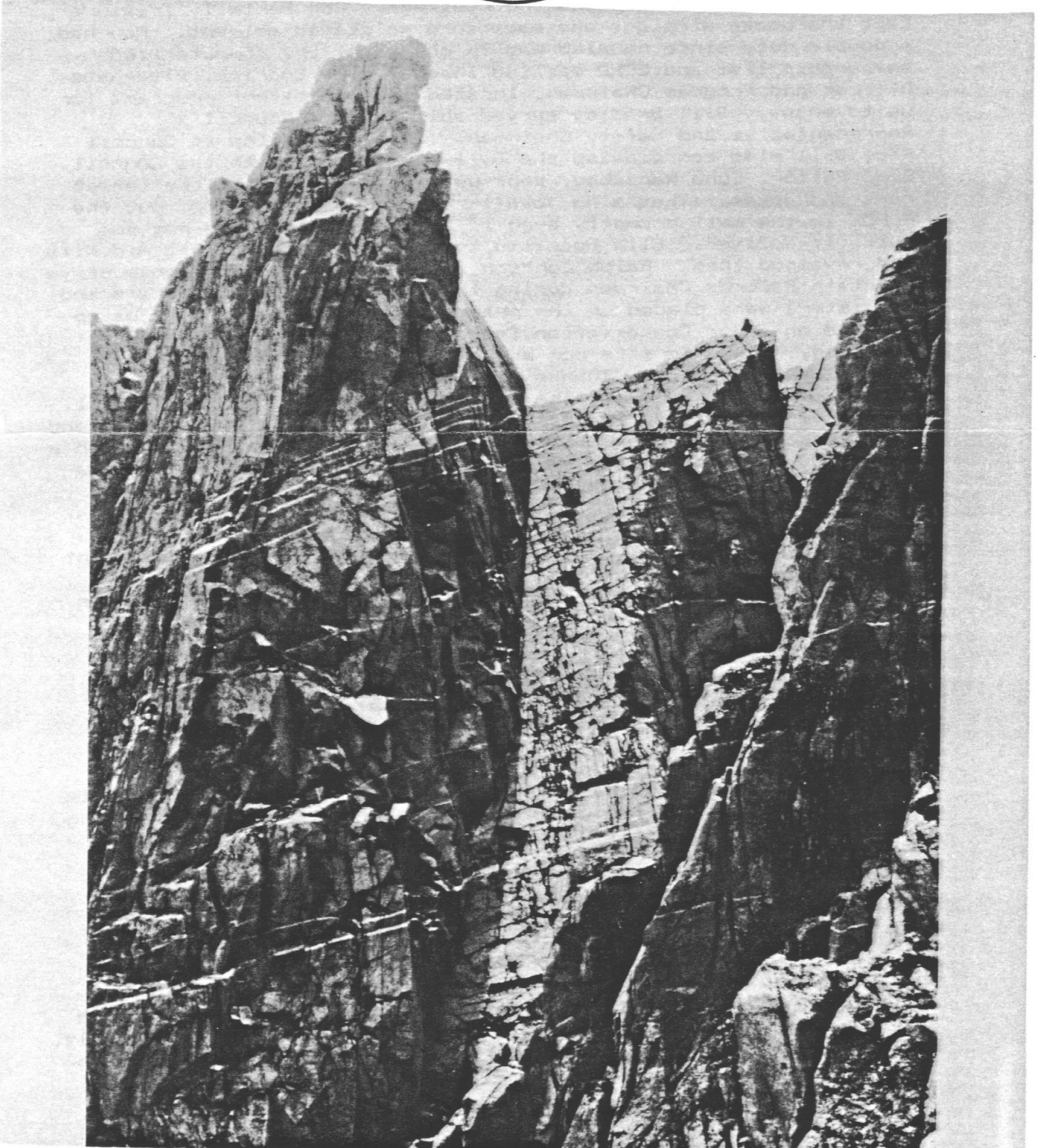


ECHO

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FROM THE CHAIR

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1982

The tenure of the 1982 Management Committee is ending and my term as Chair is over. Therefore it is time to thank all of the members of the Management Committee who have so industriously carried out their duties this year. Jim Murphy, the Vice-Chairman and Schedule Chairman, rounded up a good batch of trips for the schedule. Nancy Gordon, Secretary, did a fine job of keeping track of the membership and the meetings. Ron Bartell, Treasurer, kept the books straight and made sure we stayed solvent. Ron had a double duty since he also was in charge of the computerized membership list and ECHO mailing labels. Bob Emerick, Alternate Officer and Program Chairman, located some excellent programs for us to enjoy. Bill Bradley served ably as both Council Representative and Safety Chairman. In his position as Council Rep, Bill also coordinated the Bylaws revisions with the Council. ECHO Editor, Cuno Ranschau, kept us all up to date on the latest news and jokes. (That's no joke!) Sherry Harsh, Mailer, put the ECHOS in the mail promptly even if the post office was not so quick to deliver. Ella Hoselton took charge of the First Aid Kits and revamped them. Ralph Johnson and then Ron Hudson, consecutive Mountain Records Chairmen during the year, saw that registers and cannisters were placed on the peaks. Anna Lou Pinson kept us up to date on major Conservation issues. Mary Sue Miller, Banquet Chairman, worked to make our annual SPS get-together an exceptional occasion. Thanks also go to Doug Mantle and Duane McRuer for helping to get the Bylaws into shape. Of course, all of the dedicated trip leaders are what really make SPS succeed and they certainly deserve a lot of credit. Being the Chair of such a vigorous organization has been an honor, and it truly has been a pleasure to serve with all of these enthusiastic and devoted mountaineers.

Congratulations go to the elected officers of the 1983 Management Committee who are: Chairman - Jim Murphy; Vice-Chairman (Schedule) - Nancy Gordon; Secretary - Kevin Sullivan; Treasurer - Maris Valkass; Alternate Officer (Programs) - Dave Dykeman.

Discussion is still taking place regarding a List Finisher pin. The new Management Committee would like some input from the membership on this. If you favor such a pin, suggestions regarding the shape and design of it would be welcome.

Speaking of list finishing, Doug Mantle deserves special recognition because he became the first SPS'er to accomplish this for the second time. Doug put forth a supreme effort of climbing peaks to finish the list once again on Cloud's Rest. This achievement was celebrated in the rain on September 25 with champagne and Haagen-Dazs ice cream cake. The next day, North Lake Dam broke to help commemorate the event!

Pat Lollman

COVER PHOTO: Here is a fine climb rarely experienced by SPSers--- Palisade Crest. Ron Bartell's photo vividly shows the Slab, which goes as exposed class 3 and the summit which also goes very nicely. (Last issues photo was by Owen Malloy). Thanks to all who send us good photos for the cover.

June 18-20, 1982 Needham, Lippencott and Eisen

Doug Mantle
Bob Hicks

This trip was advertised as "fairly tough" in the schedule. Eighteen people signed up, but seven smelled trouble and didn't make it to the trailhead.

The ranger reported that the marmots at Mineral King have developed a taste for the rubber hoses in automobiles. This information caused a delay in the departure while cars were shuffled to a theoretically safer parking lot.

The plan was to go over Sawtooth pass on the first day with the main party proceeding over the pass northeast of Cyclamen lake to Little Five Lakes and camp, while those who wanted Needham would drop their packs by the south end of Columbine lake and follow later. On the second day Lippencott and Eisen were to be tackled, leaving only an easy walk out on the third day. There's many a slip twixt the lip and the cup.

The slog through snow over Sawtooth pass was uneventful. In a misguided effort to show how tough I was, I signed out and went over the top of Sawtooth to join the small group in the saddle between Sawtooth and Needham. By the time of this meeting I had returned to my senses, so I headed for the dropped packs and several hours of sleep in a rainstorm. Mantle, Hicks and newcomer Tina Stough (who has soloed eight Emblem peaks) got Needham after considerable effort. Around 6 PM the sky finally cleared, and the campsight of the main group appeared unexpectedly out of the mist at the north end of Columbine lake, a whiteout having thwarted their efforts to get around Cyclamen lake.

The next morning Dick Akawie pointed out that in Alaska one might chose to continue in the face of the present conditions, but this was Mineral King and there was an alternative and thus led five other people back to the real world. Another person chose to do some exploring on his one.

This left Mantle, Hicks, Tina and myself. As the weather was temporarily clear, things went smoothly in spite of the deep snow. At Little Five lakes we dropped our packs and continued on to the col Southwest of peaklet 11830 near Lippincott. Things got fairly interesting while we traversed to the col between 11830 and Lippencott, because the slope where we crossed some snow patches was quite steep and the weather had taken a turn for the worse. Fortunately, everyone had brought crampons. I always turn back at the slightest hint that anything might come down from above, I found it quite exciting to continue for the summit, ignoring the accumulating obstacles. By the time we got to the col between 11830 and Lippincott, the weather was bad enough - thunder, lightning and hail - that I assumed that we would sit it out and turn back when it cleared. Such was not to be. After a few minutes of waiting Mantle yelled into the teeth of the storm "I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore," and we were off for the summit, the weather suprisingly (for me) causing no difficulty at all. On the summit we decided that Eisen would have to wait till the next day, an unexpected decision that I found quite delightful, having become convinced that the people I was traveling with didn't stop for anything, including nightfall. As it was, we made it back to camp by 6 PM and were totally exhausted. Just before reaching camp yodels were exchanged across the basin with professional guide Fred Camphausen who was leading a client up Kaweah.

I had lost my sunglasses on the first day but hadn't paid much attention since the appearances of the sun had been so rare. Thus I awoke around midnight with my eyes swelling shut and suffering the most excruciating pain. Hicks thoughtfully loaned me his glasses the next morning, rigging up something with his hat for himself. All I wanted was a bed in a dark room, so I passed on doing Eisen. At Black Rock Pass Tina and Hicks also decided to go out, Eisen falling only to Mantle's unstopable foot. Thus a trip that had started with eighteen signed up ended with only one person getting all three of the advertised peaks. Just below Glacier Pass, we came across Mary Gyax and Norm Rohn coming in. The snow on the pass had been sculpted to a profile which appeared to me to be just shy of a cornice. Shortly after leaving the parking lot a small water hose in Tina's car blew out, the victim of age or ... only the marmot knows ...

John McCully

THOMPSON, POWELL, ETC.

JUNE 26-28

C. RANSCHAU/G. MAUK

In spite of the fact that this trip was led two weeks earlier, we had no problems getting takers, and after the usual juggling of additions and subtractions, we wound up with nine-- the intent was ten. We did a late start as our only objective was to get to Baboon lake on day one.

Day two and we were off with an early start with the sky as blue as the sky. There was plenty of snow and very hard in the early hours and all one of us had crampons (not me) and I had to do some nasty step kicking to get to the ridge. One belayed down climb, more nasty snow, some rock work and we were on top of T. at 9:30. After the view we descended to well below the crest and up a snow chute to Powell-- snow was softening. Now I didn't remember which was the summit but I lucked out and chose the east peak to be it. Lunch on top.

Glissading and soft snow stomping took us to camp where Gene and three others went out and were at the cars at 5:20.

Five of us stayed over another day. Next a.m. the sky was 'onionous' but we decided to try it anyway. Over the ridge and into the basin above Moonlight lake, past Echo L and then four up Haeckel-- fine climb. The sky was in a holding pattern--holding lots of clouds. Then down and up Wallace. Lunch, glissades, snow punching, grunt over the ridge to camp, and out at 7:30. And the best part, I didn't have to drive home.

Two dayers: Gene Mauk, John McCulley, Pete Yamagata (Sac.), Dave Vander-shaf (Sac.).

Three dayers: Cuno R., Ron Webber, Doris McClure, Jim Roberts, Eric Abbot.

Perfect trip--everybody got everything they came for--unless someone forgot to speak up!!!

JULY 3-5

MARIE LAKE

CUNO RANSCHAU/DON SPARKS

Don, Bob, & I took off a day early. I wanted to minimize the number of times those winding roads had to be traversed. We did Three Sisters on the 2nd and were introduced to the beginning of mosquito season.

Six of us showed up at 8:30 just in time to catch the first water taxi (\$8.00 r.t.). The long back pack over Selden pass took so much time & energy that noone wanted to climb anything (by the way, two non-participants were coming back from climbing Seven Gables). We were lucky to find a high and dry rock to call home for two days in a sea of snow.

Next a.m. clouds socked in the sky and persisted on accompanying us to S.G. and also to Gemini. Snow gradually, imperceptibly, turned our steps to mush and slowed our way back to camp.

Monday it was four off to do Hooper and Senger (Difo routes on the Hooper summit block were fun). This day we beat the warm sun and soft snow and were back at Selden Pass for lunch. Then to the lake taxi in plenty of time for the last ride, which is at 5:00.

The eclipsing moon was a fascinating diversion for the long road home.

Participants: Pat & Gerry Holleman, Claude Wezeman, Bob Kanne, and two non-participants---who also got Hooper but missed two peaks.

SIS_BOOM_BAH!!!-- What an exploding sheep sounds like.

Mallory, Le Conte, Corcoran

July 10-12, 1982

Hudson/Blauvelt

Nine climbers started from Whitney Portal Sat to make camp at Upper Meysan Lake. We spent the afternoon lounging and resting at a beautiful ^{spot} overlooking the still mostly frozen lake. A 5:30 AM start enabled us to take advantage of the hard snow with crampons on. The long climb up the snow chute ended on a rocky plateau sloping up to Mallory's summit. The only incidents were some problems with the fit of rental crampons and a 500 foot uncontrolled glissade by the leader's camera. Thanks, Ernie, for your gallant rescue (the camera still worked fine)! Mallory's summit was gained by all at 9 AM. A walk across the high plateau put us at the base of Le Conte; its 400 foot high rocky wall looming above. A route near the east arete did not look good, so we proceeded from the SW shoulder down 300 feet and around a corner to a gully that would end at the summit ridge. A few hundred feet up, however, was a 15 foot high obstacle. Possibly 3 routes were available up the wet cliff, but 2 were icy and the other was class 4. Bruce Knudtsen and I climbed it free, and Bruce belayed the others. The rest of the gully to the top was class 2-3; we arrived at the summit about noon. All 9 were successful. When we climbed back down to the belay spot the group split, and Ron Hudson, Debby Main, Bob Emerick, and Ernie Templemeier proceeded up out of the chute along a rocky ledge to go after Corcoran. The remaining 5 had decided that two peaks were enough, and Art Blauvelt, Kathy Price, Bruce Knudtsen, Emmanuel Molina, and Wilson Harvey continued back to camp.

The route to Corcoran was interesting. From Le Conte's summit, Corcoran appears somewhere along a ridge of a half dozen or so pinnacles and rock piles. At least one point is higher than Corcoran, but is not considered part of it, being close to Le Conte. We proceeded to Corcoran via the ledge, then climbed down 500 feet in the next gully, then another ledge, notch, ledge across to a major gully, across a couple more gullies with some ice and snow and one 15' high 4th class spot. Then up. I attempted a couple ledges that led nowhere, also. At 3:30 the four of us were on the summit. The weather was perfect - t-shirt and shorts conditions.

The return was more direct; we discovered we could go directly from the notch to the north up about 50 feet to a keyhole and then down to the large gully we encountered before, avoiding the 4th class spot. Some ducks helped guide the way. We took advantage of some great glissading above Meysan Lake, and 4 tired and hungry climbers arrived back at camp at 7:45 PM.

The participants proceeded back to the cars at various times Sun afternoon and Mon morning. A great climb. Thanks to Greg Vernon for his describing the Corcoran route to me.

Ron Hudson

TYNDALL/ MILESTONE/MIDWAY/TABLE/GENEVRA/JORDAN/THUNDER
JULY 24-30, 1982. GEORGE TOBY & MEL LEES.

SAT 7-24: G. Toby, M. Lees, W. Kabler, C. Stein, & N. Rohn left the Shepard Pass roadhead at 0700. There are 4 stream crossings of Symmes creek on this trail. Crossings #2 & #3 can be avoided by staying on the North side on a small use trail and some talus. There was a lot of snow at the pass. A young fellow named Glen joined us on the way. We made camp at the pass in threatening weather.

SUN; Toby, Lees, & Glen climbed Tyndall in a on again- off again white out. We never saw the summit until we were on it, and climbed every high point on the way until we found it. Then the clouds broke up for a superb view of Williamson. Glen thanked us for the SPS leadership and headed back down to his car. He probably would not have tried Tyndall solo in a white out. We hiked down Tyndall Creek, past lake 11,440 and, in the rain, to a fine camp at a small lake on the Kern River, where we were joined by John Dye.

MON: All 6 headed up the Milestone Trail. There is a big log crossing of the Kern at the South end of the lake. Milestone basin is just superb. Ropers Route #1 for Milestone went very well. From the bowl we climbed the talus slope alongside the summit tower to a notch. Dropped down a bit on the West side and left around the corner and up the easy class 3 West ridge to the summit. A fine climb. Two decided to head back, so four of us traversed the snow field to an obvious break in the East ridge of Midway and up talus and snow to the summit. Class 2. An afternoon thunderstorm took over and we got mucho wet going back to camp on the Kern. We were greeted by a real live Ranger, named Scott William. He checked our permit and stayed the nite. He carried a very fine two way radio(Motorola) and was a most interesting person.

TUES: John Dye had sore feet and decided to head out on his own. Stein and Lees stayed in camp with assorted miseries. Toby, Kabler, & Rohn headed up Milestone Creek and on to the bowl Southeast of Table Mtn. As you approach, this route is impressive. Ropers Route #3 goes just fine. The object is to get up on the left end (SE end) of the brown ledge. We left the snow directly below it at the base of the mountain and traversed back and forth on several ledges. The trick is when to leave one ledge and climb up to the next. Ledges are class 3 to 4. Once on the brown ledge it is a snap. Easy scramble to the summit plateau, with a keyhole to crawl thru enroute. Lots of snow on the plateau. Returned to camp in another thundershower.

WED: We broke camp and headed North on a poor trail to a fine camp at Lake 11,100 about 2 miles SW of Lake South America. We climbed Genevra by the Southeast class 2 slopes and descended by the West slope and on to Jordan. We climbed straight up the South slope on scree and rock to the notch next to the North summit. We dropped about 20 feet and worked our way left around the corner and traversed class 3 rock to the South summit block. Here we were greeted by the ("delicate 5 foot leap") over to the class 4 summit block. Actually it is only 3 feet and was done very nicely with a belay. Four made the summit, and rappelled down. A very satisfying experience. The ever present thunderclaps hastened our efforts but did not cut loose this time. Returned to camp dry.

The Heart of the Matter

*I like trees because they seem
more resigned to the way
they have to live than
other things do.* WILLA CATHER

*No one can
make you feel inferior
without your consent.*
ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

*The ringing of a telephone is
always louder in an empty house.*
JOYCE CAROL OATES

THUR: All five set out cross country to get Thunder. We went past a beautiful and unusual shaped lake we called "bat wing" and climbed up the beautiful valley and past waterfalls to lake 12,280 which is still mostly frozen. The bowl was full of snow. We climbed up the Southeast talus slopes to a prominent notch to the right of the South summit of Thunder. We crossed thru the notch, then descended about 20' and hung a left around the corner to put us directly below the North side of the South Summit. Here a rock bridge (airy bridge) crosses the gap to the middle summit like a log over a stream. Then traverse the middle summit block along relatively easy but very exposed ledges to the North summit block. We climbed the nose of the summit block, using a now permanent chockstone a previous SPS trip had placed into a small chimney. Three climbers made the summit of Thunder. This was the best climb of the trip. The SPS list rates Thunder as class 3. With the extreme exposure and a couple of tough moves on the traverse from the notch over to the North peak summit block it is closer to class 4. A very satisfying climb.

FRI: We broke camp and backpacked all the way out to the cars, arriving about 1800. Our route was North to pick up the Lake South America Trail then South to Tyndall Creek and back over Shepard Pass and down to the cars. That 500 ft, or more, gain on the way out to get from Shepard Canyon to Symmes Canyon is a real drag. This was an outstanding trip with 7 action packed days and no let up. Lots of snow, lots of thunderstorms, lots of mosquitoes, and lots of fun. Got 7 peaks in 5 climbing days, not too shabby. Many thanks to Walt Kabler and Norm Rohn for their help in route finding. It was a pleasure climbing with them.

GEORGE TOBY

WALLACE (13,377) & HAECKEL (13,425)
June 12-13, 1982 GEORGE TOBY & DAVE DYKEMAN

SAT; Jun 12, Fifteen hikers took off at 0830 in bright sunshine on the Lake Sabrina Trail for an "easy hike" to basecamp at moonlight Lake. The Leaders were plotting what to do after lunch. Mother Nature took care of the situation with SNOW, SNOW, and MORE SNOW. After Blue Lake the route became trailless and all snow. Map and compass time. The soft snow was exhausting work. It took 8 hours to get to moonlight Lake. Last time thru on the trail it took 4 hours. The lake was 90% frozen with some open water at the North end and just enough open ground and rocky area for basecamp. Lots of vino and goodies magically appeared for a rousing "happy hour" and we soon forgot the drag in.

SUN: It was snow all the way and crisp enough for crampons. We followed the drainage up to frozen Echo Lake, then West over a saddle and into a large bowl to climb Wallace by the easy North slope. There is one class 3 mantle move to get on the summit block. We dropped down to about 100 ft below the Wallace/Haeckel ridge and contoured the steep snow over to Haeckel. Care had to be taken to avoid the deep holes lurking near the rocks. On the second try we managed to get off the snow onto the rocks and climbed a natural route up the Southeast ridge of Haeckel. Easy class 3 (more like 2½). Two nice peaks.

The backpack out was uneventful until we left Dingleberry Lake. Here the summer trail zig zags through heavily forested, rough country with no visible land marks. With no trail the trick is to find the right canyon to get back to Blue Lake. At that point all canyons looked alike. With some super compass work (and spotting our footsteps of the day before emerging from the canyon), we hit it right on the nose. However it was still slow going and people were getting tired. We got to the cars just before dark. Some trips are remembered for the peak climbs, this one will be for the snow and the backpack.

GEORGE TOBY

SPS trips are reported to be rigorous, strenuous and quickly weed out the infirm. SPS climbers wake early, eat tasteless foods, and push hard to base camp as the sun rises... but this trip was slightly different.

We started with a friendly, slow breakfast at Glacier Lodge. The feet hit the trail about 10:00 A.M., crossed two streams with rope rail supports and made the Finger Lake Camp at 2:30 P.M. After tents were erected and sleeping bags fluffed up, I was unprepared for the "pre-climb conditioning session" initiated by Ron Jones and his friends. First came the potent screwdrivers, followed by cans of cold beer, then rounds of Irish Cream, and a Chenin Blanc finish. Don Weiss prepared and served fresh avocado dip with salsa and tortilla chips. Someone brought out smoked eel, sardines in mustard, two cheeses and crackers, etc. The camp looked like a Fairfax Avenue deli. It was Fantastic!!!

Fortified with all this good life, we woke at 5:00 A.M., Sunday, ran up the glacier and climbed the mountain. Everyone wore glass slippers to encourage careful footing and helmets in case the mountain should attack. We ascended the straight chute right from the bottom and made the top by 10:00 A.M. Again, cold toasts from cans were passed around the summit blocks. Because the weather was clear, we saw peaks that weren't even there.

I will not bore you with the great barbeque dinner on the way home - it came as a natural event. If I ever lead another SPS trip, this group gets first chance!

McADIE, IRVINE, THOR

JULY 24-25, 1982

HUDSON/PREYER

Saturday morning nine climbers started off up the Mt. Whitney trail. When we got to Mirror Lake, we put down our backpacks to do Thor Peak. Three took a long rest while the other six went up. Lunch on top was leisurely; who did we meet up there but Carl Heller and two friends of his, who were scouting for a national trip the next week. After picking up our packs we continued to Consultation Lake. A bad sign haunted us--clouds increasing from the day before and getting darker. By 6pm it was real rain and wind. The evening amounted to trying to dry out after putting up the tents while it was raining, getting something hot into the stomach, and resting in a flapping tent for an early start Sunday. We left camp at 5:45 am, not feeling too optimistic about Mc Adie (cloaked in clouds) but ambitious for Irvine. The 2000' 2nd class ascent, along the ridge up from the lake was straightforward--taking three hours and successful by all nine of us. The weather obeyed our wishes; clear and the wind dying as we reached the summit. By now the clouds had shifted north, covering Whitney and creeping up Williamson and other peaks. But McAdie was clear. Down at Arc Pass at 10:30, the word on McAdie was go for it! It is only 800 feet vertical, via a rocky slope, to the summit from the pass. However, steep snow and wet rocks below the notch between the S and N (true) summits necessitated a belay. A slip could result in a very quick descent to the peak's base, 1500' below. Four in the group were discouraged by the estimated 7pm arrival back to the cars and proceeded down. Running out 100' of rope with a couple of chocks for protection made the slippery traverse safe. From the notch, the five of us followed a ducked route up and around to the west, and then onto the summit. The descent, with belay again, was accompanied by some spectacular weather--such a change compared to baking in the blasting sun a few days before (on another trip). There was lightning, thunder, hail, rainbows, and rain. The static electricity made my scalp itch (one time before it felt like bees were in my hair). I could stop the effect by raising my arm in the air. Not a place to linger! After descending to camp, we hurriedly packed up our tents and wet gear for a soaked and late (7:30) return to the cars. A worthwhile trip up a good mountaineers' peak!

--Ron Hudson

ECHOS FROM THE PAST

Ron Jones

Five Years Ago in the SPS

The 1977 21st SPS banquet was held at the Cockatoo Inn. 130 were in attendance and heard Chris Jones, author of Climbing in North America. Outgoing Chairman Bill T. Russell introduced the new chair for '78, George Toby. Additional Management Committee members were Ron Jones, VCh; Mary Omberg, Tr; Gene Mauk, Secy; Bob Hicks, Alt. Mt. Shinn was turned down for a list addition. New members this period included Kathy Crandall, Steve Langley, John McCully, Bob Thompson & Dan Warner. Emblems were earned by Jack Koshear and Greg Vernon and Senior Emblems by Dick Akawie, Barbara Reber and Ron Bartell.

Ten Years Ago

The 1972 SPS banquet program was "Climb of Mt. St. Elias" presented by Barbara Lilley and Bill Feldman. Outgoing Chairman Horace Ory introduced the new Management Committee: Paul Lipsohn, Ch; Art DeGoede, VCh; Ron Jones, Tr; Diana Dee, Secy; Al Fowler, Alt. New members at the end of '72 included Sue Banker, Jim Erb, Walt Kabler, John McDermott, Dave Vandervoet, Jeff Bedoian & Bob Cates. New emblem holders included Bill T. Russell, Joe Young, Frank McDaniel & Bill Feldman. Dennis Lantz led a SPS rock practice at Joshua Tree in November.

Twenty Years Ago

Rudi's Italian Inn was the scene of the 1962 SPS banquet which officially brought to a close the Section's activities for the year. The program was given by Leigh Ortenberger who showed his slides of climbing in the Himalayas with the 1961 Hillary expedition. Miles Brubacher, Outgoing Ch, introduced the new SPS officers: Ted Maier, Ch; Barbara Lilley, VCh; Bud Bingham, Tr; Dave Evans, Secy; Tom Amneus, Alt. A joint SPS/DPS trip was led in November by Walt Wheelock & Arky Erb. Saturday 11 persons ascended Apex Pk & Sin Nombre Pk overlooking Owens Lake. The next day in the Sierra only one climber hiked the 6000 foot treadmill to Tinemaha.

On Saturday Oct. 9, 1982 I climbed Mt. San Jacinto from the Devil Slide Trail for my 588 th ascent. And that was the "DAY" ~~at~~. I completed my list. "Every date on the Calendar" including leap year and 366 different days of the year.

1. My first climb July 11, 1964
2. My fastest climb from the tram- 1hr.-24min.
3. My slowest climb, after a snow storm, with snow ~~shoes~~ shoes and sinking 10 to 12 inches and lifting about 8lbs with each step. 5hrs. 35min.
4. Calendar completion- Oct. 9, 1982
5. The various routes, The Tram, Devils slide, suicidetrail, Marion Camp, Seven Pines, *Fuller Ridge, Palm Springs and Snow Creek.

My thanks to Barbara Reber and Bill Bradley of the Sierra Club Andy Hollinger, Pat Mathis, Steve Higbee, Tom Brooks and Curtis Richardson of the Mt. San Jacinto Natural History Association and Bob Pratte, reporter for the Riverside Press Eneerprise, who climbed "San Jac" with me. Where we polished off a wheel of French cheese, a two foot salami, three French bœads and five bottles of wine.

The next day when we arrived at the ranger station in Idyllwild we had the first showing of the Mt. San Jacinto Natural History Association's film entitled, "Walk softly on the Mountain", which will be shown at the top of the Tram along with the film, "The Miracle at Palm Springs", starting sometime in November and the donations we receive will be used to build a visitors center in Long *Valley.

May The Peace of The Wilderness Be With You.

Sid "San Jac" Davis

The morning of October 9th was clear, cool, and windy at the road-head for the Devil's Slide Trail in Humber Park. Nine people were loading their packs with bottles of wine, cheese, salami and bread for the celebration at the summit.

For Sid "San Jac" Davis, this was to be his 588th ascent of Mt. San Jacinto (probably a world record), but this was not the reason for the celebration. October 9th was the only date of the year that he had not climbed this fine peak. During an 18 year period he had done San Jac from every concienvable approach. On 5 different occasions he had climbed it twice in one day. During one period he did it nine days straight.

At the summit a member of the press was present for interviews and photographs. With the desert panorama as a background, toasts were made to Sid's accomplishment by all present and Sid recited a poem he had composed which had to do with his love affair with his mountain. Sid is 66 this year and says that someday he plans to have his ashes scattered over this most beautiful of Southern California's mountains.

Bill Bradley

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SUBSCRIPTIONS are \$ 4.00 per year due by March 31. Subscribing to the ECHO is a requirement for active membership in the SPS. Send new subscriptions to the Secretary (above), include your Sierra Club membership number. Send renewals to the Treasurer (below). New applications received after October 1 are credited through the next year.

FAMILY SUBSCRIPTIONS: Only one ECHO subscription is necessary for members of a family residing at one address.

AWARDS: Emblem pins (\$ 7.50) and patches (\$ 2.00) are available from the Treasurer Maris Valkass, 1728 Van Horne Lane, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.

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