

The Sierra



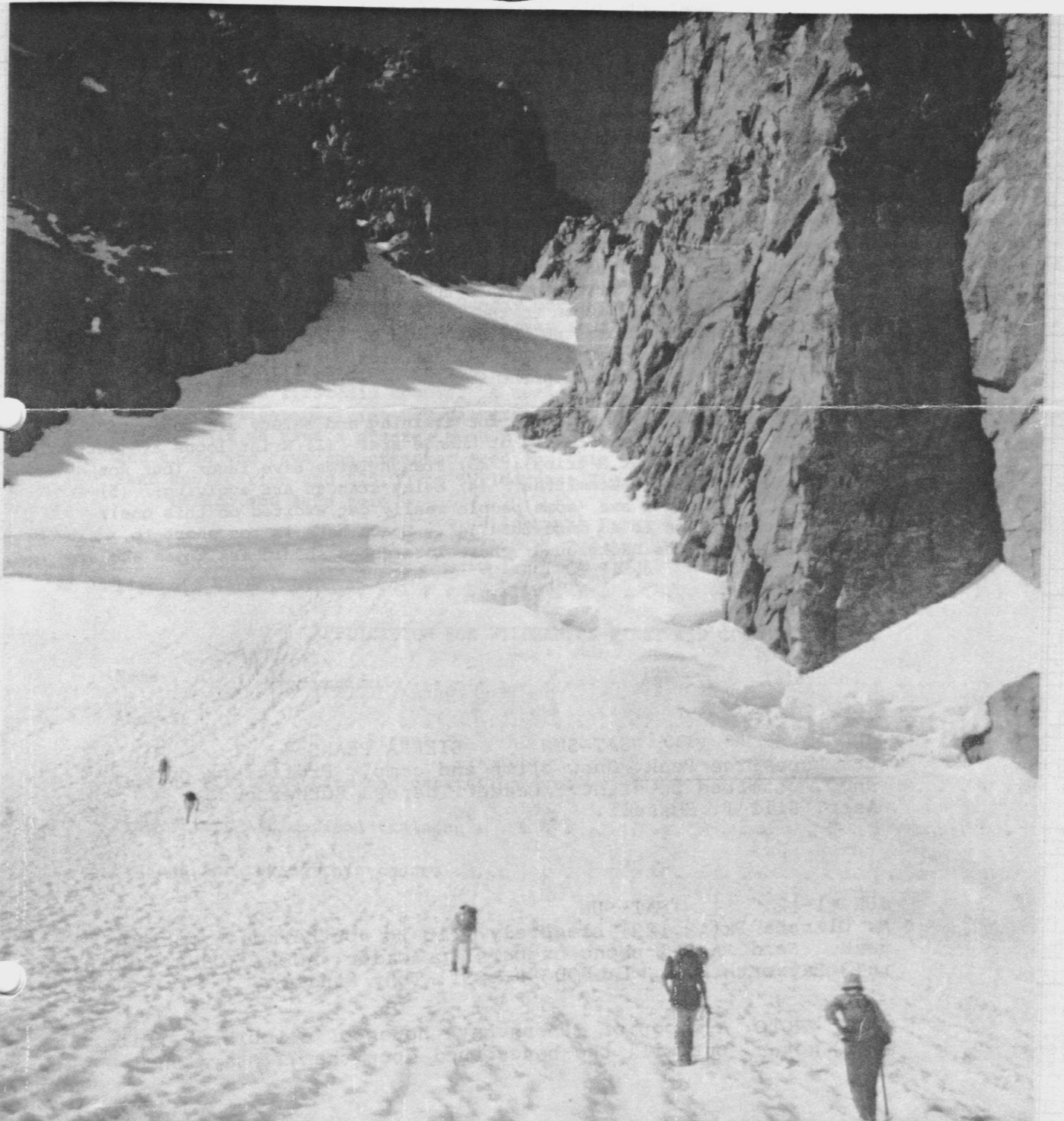
ECHO

VOLUME 27

MAR - APR

1983

NO. 2




CHAIRMAN'S VIEW
SPS MARCH - APRIL

By the time you receive this edition of the ECHO the summer schedule will be set. At this writing the trips are under review; the number of trips for the 1983 Summer Schedule appears to slightly exceed last year's record - both years about 50 trips. The large number of trips is, again, ample evidence that the Section is continuing to pursue its main area of interest, hiking in the Sierra Nevada Range.

Other matters of interest is the general conduct of the Angeles Chapter. The Sierra Peaks Section has responded to an appeal for funds and contributed \$100.00 to the Chapter.

I've often wondered why there wasn't an adequate process to recycle down-filled sleeping bags and clothing. The technology may not yet be ascertained but all of us have accumulated some piece of mountaineering gear that we no longer use, whether filled with down or just a day pack that has seen better days. Chuck Steen has the solution; he will gladly take almost anything and pass it on to the inner-city outdoors group that he is active in. Chuck informs us that we would be surprised at how appreciative the kids are at some really old discards. Please keep Chuck in mind when you review your equipment for the upcoming season.

The Chapter committees responsible for training and safety are suggesting changes in snow practices. Areas of change are: (1) Wrist loops are out; (2) Crampons are in (for M trips); (3) French Terms have favor (but not with the SPS Management Committee; (4) Belay stances are evolving; (5) How do you grip an ice axe (some people really get excited on this one); (6) An M rated slope is no more than 34'. Space here is too short to illuminate you on the background; those interested should ask those who are involved.

Jim Murphy 

JUN 4-5 SAT-SUN SIERRA PEAKS
E: Lone Pine Peak: Snow climb and camp. Proficient on snow. Limited to eight. Leader: Theresa Rutherford.
Asst: Bill T. Russell.

JUN 11-12 SAT-SUN
M: Olancho Pk(12,123) Liesurely trip to southernmost emblem peak. Send SASE & phone numbers to leader: ANDRE KORUBT-WEBERG, 1643 Hayworth Ave., LA 90035. ASST: Tony Mindlin.

COVER PHOTO: A troop of SPSers have hopes of climbing N. Pal. via the U notch, but will the bergshrund stop them?? Stay tuned-----!

WILDERNESS ADVANCED FIRST AID REFRESHER

HARWOOD LODGE, SNOWCREST

20-22 May 1983

This course emphasises first aid problems likely to be encountered in the wilderness. It is conducted under the auspices of the American Red Cross, and an Advanced First Aid certificate renewal will be presented upon the successful completion of the course. The problems associated with long term care and transport of the sick and injured, and the special problems of high altitude, cold, heat, dehydration, and exhaustion are studied. Some practice working on "victims" and a practical field exercise are included in the course. Participants must review their CPR and demonstrate their skill on a Recording Annie mannikin.

The instructors have had experience in mountain rescue, Sierra Club, Scouting, expedition work, and other group leadership activities and have personally encountered all of the problems likely to occur. Guest lecturers will present material in which they have special expertise.

Harwood Lodge, owned by the Sierra Club, is located high in the San Gabriel Mountains several miles above Baldy Village. It has sleeping facilities for over 50 people, however, many individuals prefer to spread their sleeping bags outside. Participants will need to bring warm clothing, sleeping bags, personal toiletry items, flashlights, and practice bandage and splinting materials. Clothing should be informal and washable. Registration fees cover lodge fees and dinner Saturday night, breakfasts Saturday and Sunday mornings. BRING LUNCH FOR TWO DAYS. No alcoholic beverages, radios, or pets allowed in the lodge; battery-operated tape recorders are welcome. The course will start promptly at 7:30 pm Friday night.

Anyone interested may attend this course, however, preferably one should have had a previous first aid course. A current Advanced First Aid card must be shown for recertification. (no CPR certification) Fifty participants are the maximum number. If we have a greater number than this interested, those who preregister and those who have the greatest need for this training will be given priority. Send application and \$25.00 to "Wilderness First Aid" as soon as possible.

Detach and send to:

Wilderness First Aid
1690 N. 2nd Ave.
Upland, CA 91786

Tear off here

APPLICATION FOR WILDERNESS FIRST AID COURSE

Name Age . . . Telephone
Address
Street City Zip
Current First Aid Card and expiration date
Prior First Aid/medical training
Reasons for taking this course
.

EVEREST FILM TO SCREEN

"Everest: The North Wall", a short feature length professional film with Lou Whittaker, narrated by Robert Redford, will be presented by Big Lou in person on April 29, 7:00pm, at Saxon Auditorium, Pasadena City College, Colorado Bl., and Hill.

The film describes the recent tragic climb of Everests north side, from the chinese side. Whittaker will be on hand before and after the film with comments about the climb. Tickets are available by mail prior to the show. Send check or money order for \$4.00 along with a s.a.s.e. to Bannister, 1562 No. Los Robles, Pasadena 91104. Cut off date April 15. After that, tickets will be sold at the box office for \$5.00

TOM FROST PRESENTS CLIMBING SHOW

Tom Frost, well known climber who pioneered many Big Routes in the USA will present a slide-show lecture May 13, 7PM at Pasadena City College "Forum", NE corner of the campus at Colorado and Hill.

Frost, a professional photographer, founded Great Pacific Iron Works with Yvon Chouinard. More recently, he designed much of Lowe's gear. His program will feature highlights of: The Nose, 2nd ascent; Salathe Wall, 1st ascent; N.A. Wall, 1st ascent; 1st on Lotus Flower Tower; Annapurna S.F.; Ama Dablam, etc.

A \$300 down-bag from Wilderness-X will be offered as door prize. Tickets are available by mail prior to the show. Send check or money order for \$5.00 along with a s.a.s.e. to Bannister, 1562 No. Los Robles, Pasadena 91104.

SPS SEEKS CANDIDATES FOR GERMANY TRIP

Persons between ages 20-24 interested in participating in the Youth Exchange Program the Club's Mountaineering Comm. developed with the German Alpine Club should contact R. J. Secor. The exchange program resumes this summer.

It's our turn to send 4 - 6 young mountaineers to Germany. They will be hosted in Munich by the Oberland chapter there, and taken on climbs and hut-to-hut tours by young members of that section. Last summer, six young Germans visited here and were guided in the Sierra by Ron Hudson, Greg Vernon, Tom Jeter, R. J. and leaders from Loma Prieta Chapter.

SIERRA CLUB MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE

The Sierra Club Mountaineering Committee is an enigma to many members within the Club. Originally set to provide a forum for climbing group/sections within the Club, it has developed into the only national advocate of mountaineering within the Club. It is literally the only remaining voice the Clubs mountaineering community has to make its presence felt at the national Council and Board of Directors level. With the recent rapid growth of membership of the Sierra Club, a number of major Club leaders have tended to downgrade the climbing sections, believing the latter are a tiny minority among a huge membership supposedly totally devoted only to political and environmental issues. Therefore, the national mountaineering committee has had to reassert the "mountain" heritage of the Club in order to keep those activities from being "written off".

Membership on the Sierra Club Mountaineering Committee is open to any person that has served as an officer of a climbing or skiing section/group. Since the current Committee chair (Norman Kingsley) resides in the Angeles Chapter area, meetings are held at Ang-Chap headquarters. Next meeting: April 30, 0930. Current officers of the SPS, SMS, STC, RCS are urged to attend.

from norman kingsley

For Sierra Echo

From Kathy Crandall

American Alpine Club

The charter of the American Alpine Club encourages: "The cultivation of mountain craft, the promotion of good fellowship among climbers, the encouragement of mountain climbing and exploration, and the dissemination of knowledge concerning mountains and mountaineering...Founded in 1902, the AAC is the only nationally organized club devoted exclusively to the sport of climbing and mountaineering.

The AAC serves as a liaison between the Park Service, the Forest Service, and private landowners and the climbing community. It was instrumental in such successful efforts as transforming Stoney Point into a city park and in the formal establishment of Camp 4 as a climbers camp in Yosemite National Park. The AAC operates the Teton Climbers Ranch within the Grand Teton National Park and houses a collection of 7550 volumes of mountaineering literature at AAC headquarters in New York, with branch libraries in Denver and Seattle.

The club assists in the planning of expeditions and facilitates (often makes possible) the procurement of official permission from foreign governments; in some cases it provides direct financial support and sponsorship of certain expeditions. It provides modest financial grants to young climbers each year and financially assists high alpine research. All mountaineers who have been actively involved in the sport for three years or more are eligible to join. WE encourage you to consider supporting the AAC with your membership in a time when the lands where we ply our sport are under such attack. Because the AAC speaks only for climbers, its voice is clear and strong. Current members of the SPS and AAC, who might be requested to recommend people for AAC membership follow (a recommendation of two members is required for membership approval): Free Camphausen, Paul Cooley, Kathy Crandall, Diana Dee, John Delmonte, Sam Fink, Andy Fried, Mark Goebel, Ron Jones, Charles Knapp, Mel Lees, Barbara Lilley, Duane Mc Ruer, Sy & Ellen Ossofsky, John Ripley, Bill T Russell, R J Secor, Andy Smatko, Dale Van Dalsem,

June 26-27

POLEMONIUM PEAK

James Murphy
Fred Camphausen

Nine people accumulated at the end of the road of the North Fork of Big Pine Creek for a leisurely walk in to Sam Mack Lake. The snow level this year becomes wall to wall between 10-11,000 feet and we camped on ledges above frozen Sam Mack. The weather was clear and our objective for the next day was in view throughout most of the afternoon. The usual early morning start on Sunday was only answered by four out of the nine as a wide variety of explanations were provided by the dilettantes who wished to lounge around the Sierras rather than face the rigors of the U-notch. Over solid snow and with clear weather, we went to the bergschrund of the U-notch and noted a party of seven was proceeding up ahead. The ascent up the U-notch was its usual difficult self, although steps left by the previous climbers and the moderately soft snow allowed for safe passage to the top without any belaying or other safety precautions. The very top of the U-notch was completely covered with snow as was the gully on the west side as far as I could see. The standard route, going straight up from the U-notch was iced in with hard clear ice. There is a ledge that leads off to the right which we followed and encountered more hard clear ice on plausible appearing ascent routes that would appear to join the standard route up. These routes being denied, we ascended to our right with some rock moves and eventually attained a ridge which I would describe as the West ridge. I explored this ridge to a point where it appeared to be a sheer wall from a point about 30 feet from the summit. Since this looked formidable and time was running short, the ascent was aborted and we began our return to the U-notch. While descending, the party in front of us shouted at us from the other side to go down the U-notch to aid one of their party, however, we had some rope travel to do before we could help anybody. During the ensuing time period, we learned that one of their members had fallen off North Palisade. One of their party got to the U-notch before we did and descended and others of their party then began arriving at the U-notch as we snacked and prepared for our own descent. We then learned that the member of their party was a possible fatality. We descended the U-notch, face first, and upon arriving at the bergschrund were able to confirm that the person of the other party in question had in fact fallen from the summit area of North Palisade and was observed laying motionless on the glacier below. This fatality was confirmed; his route of descent being the high snow field on North Palisade to the Clyde couloir with enough speed to clear its bergschrund and travel a couple hundred more additional feet. The hike out was uneventful other than darkness befell our group long before our arriving at the cars.

The weekend provided a lot of hiking and climbing but nature saw to it to foil our attaining the summit. All look forward to better luck next time.

CAN YOU 'HOMONIZE' THESE HOMONYMNS?

- ex. If four couples went to a restaurant, how many dined? Eight ate.
- 1) What would we do if we found bad plants spoiling our lawn? _____
 - 2) What is a reddish-purple vegetable that is all worn out? _____
 - 3) What do you say in the evening to a soldier in shining armor? _____
 - 4) Who is married to Uncle Beetle? _____
 - 5) What are groups of sailors on an ocean pleasure trip? _____
 - 6) What is a group of musicians that isn't allowed to play? _____
 - 7) What is a weird street of shops that sell incredible things? _____
 - 8) If they are not here, where are they? _____
 - 9) What is a great accomplishment using the ends of your legs? _____
 - 10) What do you call a bucket that has seen a ghost? _____
 - 11) What coins can detect odors? _____
 - 12) If a devil is completely sinful, what is an angel? _____
- Answers elsewhere.

A full quota of 15 met at this pleasant and easy to reach roadhead for one of those early season 5000 ft backpacks that everyone thoroughly enjoys. Apparently the participants were anxious to begin a new hiking season, because all but the leaders were ready to go ahead of the appointed 7 am starting hour. Snowshoes were discussed but only Duane McRuer and R.J. Secor were sensible enough to carry extra weight. R.J. took skis. Cold cloudy weather on Sunday saved the rest of us.

The hike to Black and Diamond follows the excellent Baxter Pass Trail. The first half hour we were on sagebrush-covered foothills that were alive with spring wild flowers. After an easy stream crossing the trail ascended more steeply on the south side of the Oak Creek drainage. In a little over two hours this strong group had forged up to the 8500 ft level where we began to encounter snow complete with bear tracks. The ready made steps were used to good advantage at one point. At about 9200 ft the snow became continuous and all evidence of bears disappeared. Smart bears. The late season snow was slow going especially, in the avalanche runs that had been triggered a few weeks earlier by rain on fresh snow.

We established camp on a small ridge near a stream junction at 10,800 ft. where running water was available. That afternoon we enjoyed chips and salsa carried in by Mary Sue Miller and Barbara Reber. Wilson Harvey shared tequila sunrises as the group settled down for a night of roaring winds that started in the late afternoon.

Sunday morning the peaks were in the clouds, it was snowing lightly and the wind was still blowing. Having nothing better to do, 12 of us set out anyway. While we climbed the snow got heavier at times and the clouds came and went, but the wind died down completely. All climbers cramponed to the summit of Diamond in about 2 hours.

We then cramponed back down the icy snow into the cirque between Black and Diamond where half the group split off for Black and the other half headed back to camp. The remaining climbers traversed at about 11,800, climbed a steep chute and contoured around a shoulder to enter the drainage that comes down from the peak of Black. About half way up Jim Murphy dropped out with an injured foot and headed back while the rest of us cramponed up steep, hard, wind-blown snow to the summit.

It was still snowing lightly when we broke camp at 1:15 and started down to the roadhead. The hike out was quick. No new bear tracks, but there were crystal clear views of the Owens Valley as the clouds finally lifted. Other members of the hike were Bill Bradley, Dan Mihalavich, Larry Machleder, Al Benson, Hirsh Kolp, Bob Emerick, Roland Pesante and Pat Holleman. --- Gerry

1) We'd weed 2) Beat beets, 3) Nlcht-nlcht knlcht, 4) Aunt ant
 5) Cruise crews, 6) Banned band, 7) Bizarre bazaar, 8) They're there,
 9) Feet feat, 10) Pale pall, 11) Cents sense scents, 12) Wholly holy.

CLARENCE KING, COTTER, BAGO

JUL 22-25, 1982

JAY TITUS, RET MOORE

The permit was for 10 people and was filled several weeks before departure. Then the cancellations started coming in during the last week. When the permit was picked up in Lone Pine a note was left for the ranger that our group only consisted of 5 people. The next morning another had sent regrets. Consequently 4 climbers, including the two leaders, Joe Wankum and John Dye, left Onion Valley at 7:00 am for Sixty Lakes Basin by way of North Dragon Pass, Dragon Lake, and Rae Lakes where camp was made about 5:00 pm. North Dragon Pass, as described in the Climbers Guide, goes quite easily.

Camp was departed at 7:00 am the following morning for the classic-shaped Clarence King by way of the standard south ridge route. When the hole under the overhanging block was reached no one in the group was small enough to negotiate it. So the jamcrack and squeeze chimney to the left were utilized to reach the summit block which was surmounted to reach the register. A couple of short raps from the higher rocks and a long slog, partly in a drizzle, got everyone back to camp by about 4:30 pm.

The third day was another long one. It started with another 7:00 am departure, this time for Cotter. Cotter can be climbed class 2 by way of the southwest slope, except for a little class 3 on the summit rocks. However, we did the class 3 south ridge which made it somewhat more interesting. Back at camp by noon, we departed again at 1:00 pm with full packs for Charlotte Lake via Glen Pass. Camp was made that evening at the Kearsarge Pass trail junction above Charlotte Lake. John Dye signed out and continued on south to meet another group coming over Shepherd Pass.

The following day, after enjoying the surprisingly excellent views from Bago, the three remaining members of the group packed out over Kearsarge Pass and reached the cars in Onion Valley in the early afternoon to complete a very successful trip.

Thanks to Ret for being willing to climb Clarence King for the second time.

Cirque Peak-Cottonwood Lakes

July 24-25, 1982

Leaders: Jerry Blackwill, Eivor Nilsson

This was a joint trip with the Backpacking Section and there were more backpackers than peak-baggers. Only 5 people, including the leaders climbed the peak.

The most difficult part of this trip was to obtain a wilderness permit. Having been unable to get one in advance, the leaders arrived at the Lone Pine Ranger Station at 5:15 a.m. Saturday, to be first in line when they opened at 6 a.m. By that time there were approximately 40 people in line. After being refused a permit for 12 people we were finally, with some help, able to get two permits for 6 each.

We arrived at Cottonwood Lakes around noon and planned to climb Cirque peak that after-noon. By the time we were ready to go for the peak it started to rain. The peak-climb was postponed til Sunday and we spent six hours in our tents while it was hailing and raining. It cleared up that evening and we had fairly nice weather on Sunday, except for clouds on the peak.

Eivor

AUG. 7-8, 1982

MT. RUSSELL, MT. CARILLON

JAY TITUS, DAVE HEANEY

Of the original ten people on this trip, six cancelled. After going thru a stanby list of eight, the permit for ten was refilled. This included two who were scheduled to lead a trip on the Whitney Mountaineers route the following weekend and wanted to scout the route.

Saturday morning at Whitney Portal dawned very wet and soggy. Departure was delayed from 6:30 am to 10:00 am at which time the rain had stopped and the clouds had started to lift but the sky was still a very ugly grey. At this point Chris Yager, who had driven down from Stockton, decided to return home and not continue on the trip. Therefore, nine climbers started up the trail and received only a few sprinkles until we arrived at our camp site at Clyde Meadow. Just as we arrived there the rain started coming down again causing frantic efforts to locate tent sites and get tents erected. Needles to say, soon after all tents were up the rain stopped again. The of the day was spent under heavy, dark storm clouds but four of the group still bagged Thor that afternoon. That evening Walt Ford and Janet Harvey signed out since they were going on to Iceberg Lake to scout the Mountaineers route the next day.

Sunday was as beautiful as the previous day had been miserable. As sever climbers departed camp at 6:30 am, there wasn't a cloud in sight. After replenishing water bottles from a snow bank at the saddle, the group started up the east arete of Russell. Some in the group were a little uneasy with the exposure so belays were used in a couple places. Otherwise the climb went smoothly as we stayed just below the top of the arete on the north side except for a couple obvious places where we were forced to the top. All seven climbers made the summit and signed the register.

Returning to the saddle, a quick trip was made to the summit of Carillon followed by a dash back to camp. Gear was packed up and an uneventfull hike back to the cars ensued. Those in the group in addition to those already named and the leaders were William Harris, Vic Henney, Monica Kezar, Don Weis, and Michael Wilder.

Now for a recommendation on the route up the North Fork of Lone Pine Creek to Boy Scout Lake. It is possible to stay on the right side of the stream all the way but the undergrowth makes this pretty tough going. It is also possible to start on the left side of the stream from the Whitney trail. However, we found that if the water level is such that the stream can be crossed safely, it is much easier to travel up the right side of the stream to the upper edge of a boulder field which is on the left side of the stream. At this point cross over to the left side of the stream and continue on that side to the point where the use trail crosses back again. Soon after that the route goes up on a series of ledges above the stream and continues on to Boy Scout Lake on the right side.

Thanks to Vic and Don for their assistance which enabled the climbing on Russell to go much faster than it would have otherwise. And thanks to Dave for another great assist.

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT....

The man who invented imitation spaghetti? He called it Impasta.

The prankster who hung a sheet over Venus DeMilo? He was charged with statutory drape.

The bees that went on strike? They wanted shorter flowers and more honey.

The restaurant on the moon? The food was great, but no atmosphere.

Yes, sports fans, while we here in California were thinking Whitney, North Palisade, and Devils Crags, they were thinking Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Chenin Blanc. Our friends from Germany ended up getting a bunch of all of the above together with a grand tour of California.

After they had a short stay in Los Angeles and some climbing around Shepherd Pass, I picked them up in Bishop for a trip to the Palisades and a three day stay in China Lake. Having talked with them while they were in Los Angeles, it was known that none of them were technical climbers and that they were interested in some moderate climbing and trail hiking. I chose North Palisade, Thunderbolt, and Winchell for a moderate four day trip.

I had always wanted to climb the Northwest ridge on North Pal. The Roper guide indicated the difficulty to be class 4, so it seemed to fit the bill as a moderate climb in rather spectacular scenery. It was myself and two of the Germans who attempted the climb while the other two took an extra day to hike in.

We approached the ridge via the right Underhill couloir. The snow was steep and slushy, so we exited onto the left wall and climbed $2\frac{1}{2}$ pitches to the Thunderbolt-Starlight notch (5.0). After this, mostly third class climbing led to the base of Starlight where one pitch (5.4) and another (cl.4) led to the summit; a collection of granite blocks turned on end. From here we downclimbed to the notch between Starlight and North Palisade (cl.4) and climbed a pitch on the right side of the crest to another notch (cl.4). It was here that things started to become interesting- a 200' drop with a 4' gap between us and a big ledge 30' below. By putting a sling around a horn, I got a belay down a chimney, took a little tension, and swung across to the ledge. One could call it a pendulum or a tension step across. A good belay ledge was on the other side and everyone was top-roped across. This seemed to be a good place for a Tyrolean if a large group ever did the route.

From here we traversed to the left of the ridge and climbed a chimney to the summit. This pitch contained some knee deep powder and the most difficult moves of the climb. There were several options here. One of them may have been easier. With all due respect to Roper's class 4 rating, I'd call it II,5.5,ai with the possibility of 9 roped pitches.

The Sierra weather being what it was this year, it was only fitting that hail, thunder, rain, and white-out move in as we reached the summit. We carefully downclimbed to the south, rappelled the U-Notch with water pouring into our faces, and slushed down the couloir.

Back in camp, the two other Germans were snug inside their tent and had hot tea waiting for us upon our return. Now one thing should be noted. These particular Germans were Bavarians and had some unique culinary habits as well as a colloquial language which was entertaining. They loved their tea or coffee, cream, and sugar any time of the day. A bottle of fresh brew was always thrown into their packs before departing for the peaks. Fruit salad and wine were always welcome, and cooked meals were laced with fresh garlic, parsley, peppers, and other fresh vegetables. Naturally, we had packed all of these goodies in together with dark bread from München and salami from Hungary.

We had obtained a good quantity of freeze dried food from Fred Camp-hausen (at his cost, which was about a third the price the stuff sells for in West Germany). This, laced with a medley of fresh vegetables and garlic, made for quite a nice meal.

We also had some "cup-a-noodles" which were new to them. (They about bought the store out of the things when they were in Ridgecrest.) While they thoroughly appreciated the Chardonnay, Zinfandel, and Petit Serah I had packed in, their favorite seemed to be Pink Chablis, a half gallon of which was always seen around camp. Dinner was topped-off with coffee, cream, and some Grand Mariner and Creme de Menthe from my goodies bag.

The third day saw three of us climb Thunderbolt via the standard route up the T-bolt glacier. The peak lived up to its name, with hail falling as we climbed up to the summit block. The final day saw two of us blitz Winchell and beat the hail storm only to get drenched on the way out. The Bavarians were prepared, however, with backpacking umbrellas as standard equipment. (The folks up north swear by their umbrellas - maybe it should be made a thirteenth essential.)

Going back to Ridgecrest, we stopped at the Two Sister + 1 for their Tuesday evening Mexican Buffet. After gorging on fruit salad, the chile rellenos became the popular item. Mexican food was new to them and they loved it. (They were also introduced to the Margarita and Strawberry Daquiri to complete their corruption.)

On Wednesday, Fred Camphausen had volunteered his back yard for a barbeque, his washing machine for laundry, and his bar for general libation. I told Fred that he deserved some free publicity. Fred's address is in the schedule and you can write him for info.

On Thursday the group went to Lake Isabella, did some rock climbing at Kernville Rock, and some swimming in the Kern River. The China Lake Mountain Rescue Group had a beer and pizza party for them that night. By this time the girls were tired talking about climbing and mountains so one of them threw a tantrum while the other seduced me into lending them my truck so they could tour California for two weeks.

The itinerary included Bodie, Yosemite, Lake Tahoe, Lassen, Napa Valley, San Francisco, and finished with a drive down the coast. They spent a night in Monterey restaurant hopping and returned to Ridgecrest via Bakersfield. As a final send-off before going on a week long trip with the Loma Prieta group, we drank a half case of champagne and stuffed ourselves with Mexican food. They still had a few days in San Francisco before returning to Germany. Maybe they've become addicted to chop-suey too.

KOIP PK. & YOSEMITE GOURMET BACKPACK
AUG 21-22, 1982

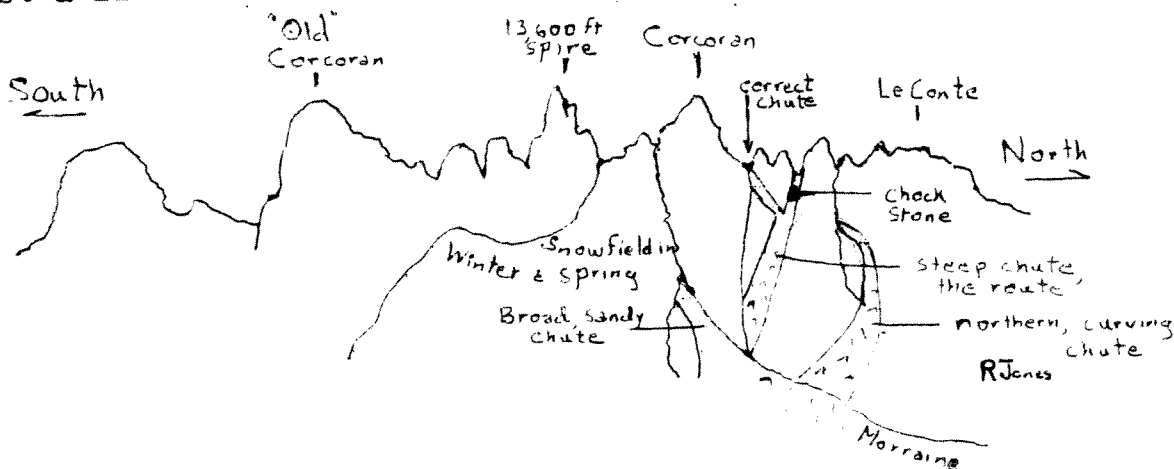
G. TOBY & D. BEVERAGE

It had been raining off and on all week in the Sierras. When we passed thru Bishop a camper told us they had a "Monsoon" rain the day before at June Lake. We were at the kiosk at Tuolumne Meadows at 6:30 am to claim our reservation and pick up the permit. The National Park Service will not issue permits by mail. 14 happy hikers left the Dana Meadows trailhead at 8:00 am loaded with lots of goodies and headed up the Parker Pass/ Mono Pass trail. The Park Service will not allow camping anywhere in the Dana Fork drainage in Yosemite. We camped in a superb spot in the trees near a small lake just 100 yds East of Mono Pass. A small creek coming out of a snow bank provided good water. This is a old mining area. There are several log cabins still in fair condition just South of the pass. Only parts of the roofs are missing. About noon with the clouds building up we headed for Koip Pk. We picked up the Parker Pass trail and climbed Koip, 12,979. As we reached the peak, 'so did the thunderstorms all around us. Thunderclaps and lightning everywhere but on our peak. What a magnificent experience. Like being in a cinerama movie. 11 made the summit. The rain did catch up with us on the way down. It conveniently stopped when we reached base camp and the festivities began. More horsd'oeuvres, food, and wine appeared than I thought possible to haul into the Sierras. The orgy continued well into the night; only stopped by exhaustion. It rained during the night and looked like it would bust loose again by noon Sunday. So we scratched the climb of Mt. Gibbs and packed out and enjoyed brunch in LeeVining. What a fun trip. Will look for some easer peaks and do it again next year.

George

On July 3, 1970 I hiked up Tuttle Creek, climbed alone to what we today know with certainty as Mt. Corcoran (finding no register but leaving a cairn) and traversed the ridge south to the "old Corcoran", descending into a southern bowl of Tuttle Creek. Twelve years later, failing by one chute to locate the correct route, and while Bill Bradley led the main group up Mt. LeConte, Larry Tidball and I climbed the "true Corcoran."

I am showing what I hope is a fail-proof sketch of the easy class 2/3 route up the Corcoran-LeConte ridge to a small saddle just north of Mt. Corcoran. Climbing time from base camp to the summit of Corcoran is 3 to 3½ hours. Larry and I descended to base camp in just a little over one hour.



View of Corcoran-Le Conte Ridge -
Looking West

Combining material from previous writeups, chiefly two by Jerry Keating in '73 and '74, I offer the following writeup for the easy climb of Mt Corcoran from Tuttle Creek.

From our camp on a wooded bench at 11,000 feet we hiked across a boulder-strewn draw to the north and then north-eastward up a series of ledges and slabs to the canyon north of camp where you see two lovely spray splashed waterfalls. This is the canyon just north of the word "Corcoran" on the Lone Pine Quadrangle. We filled our canteens at the stream crossing and hiked into the northern most of the two basins at the head of the canyon. At this point Corcoran is clearly visible as shown in my sketch above. It is the pyramid shaped peak immediately north of the odd-shaped, sheer 13,600 foot spire, also shown. When one is well into the northern basin, three chutes become visible. As shown in the sketch they are the broad sandy chute to the left, a middle chute which branches toward the top and with a huge flat slab or chockstone visible in the right branch, and a third rocky chute to the north with the upper end curving out of sight and ending at the ridge just south of LeConte. This was the chute which I chose in error and the one by which Bill Bradley led LeConte.

The center chute by way of its left branch (avoiding the chockstone) is an easy class 2 route to the ridge with no exposure or loose rock. Jerry Keating turned left out of the left branch of this chute, climbing "a low class 3 pitch featuring a small very easy chockstone," and leading to "easy (class 2) ledges on the west side of the crest." Larry and I stayed in the chute to the crest and then followed the obvious (and sometimes ducked) route on the west side of the crest south 50 yards to the prominent broad class 2 chute which leads to the

summit of Corcoran. The view of Iridescent Lake, Mt Pickering, Newcomb, Chamberlin and Joe Devel from the top was magnificent.

The third sandy chute to the left, (under a snowfield in spring) should not be selected as it leads to a point well south of Mt. Corcoran.

An enlargement in the summit cannister of the Lone Pine-Mt Whitney Quads shows the true summit of Mt Corcoran to be where the broken black county line vanishes at the western edge of the 1958 edition of the Lone Pine Quadrangle.

--Ron Jones

ATTENTION: All leaders arranging trips originating at Twin Lakes Lodge

On a recent trip to Matterhorn with Jay Suehiro, the owner of Twin Lakes Lodge complained to me about hikers causing him problems. His complaints were:

1. They come in and camp around the place, infringing on other people's campsites.
2. They disturb other campers with their late hour arrivals, flashing lights, etc.
3. They hold noisy conversations at 6 a. m. near customers who want to sleep in.
4. They park cars where parking is prohibited.

The owner said that he was so annoyed that he was seriously considering closing the hikers' parking area. (This would add a considerable number of hiking miles to any trip to the Matterhorn).

I suggest that all future trips to Twin Lakes Lodge trailhead be scheduled so that hikers camp before reaching there and meet at the hikers' parking area after 5:30 a. m., with a minimum of disturbance in parking, noise, etc. Also, that leaders notify the resort owner in advance of the planned trip so he can distinguish between SPS hikers and casual hikers or those from other organizations.

ART BLAUVELT

GARDINER-BAGO

Sept. 4-6

BLAUVELT/STEIN

This trip turned out to be an unpopular one with permit for 12 and ended up with only four, including myself, making the trip. Chuck Stein, Ron Bartell and I headed over Kearsage Pass to Charlotte Lake where Ron and I spent the afternoon watching the birds, the bees and the squirrels while Chuck climbed Bago.

Bob Emerick showed up that afternoon, having been in most of the week picking up numerous peaks.

Sunday morning we left Charlotte Lake and went down the trail about $1\frac{1}{2}$ -miles where we cut up the slope on a compass heading of 340° . We reached the top of the main south ridge and contoured around to the south summit.

After lunch, we rigged a fixed rope along the ridge, got everyone over to the north summit and then returned over almost the same path to Charlotte Lake.

On Monday, Bob, Ron and I headed on out while Chuck stopped to pick up Gould on the way. It was a nice easy, relaxed trip for all except Chuck.

I noted signs along the trail warning all hikers to boil or treat all water along the trail.

ART BLAUVELT

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT....

The Sociologist who had two pet crows? He named them Caws and Effect. The well endowed miss who wore a green sweater on March 21? They called her the Vernal Equinox.

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