

# The Sierra



# ECHO

VOLUME 31

MAR - APR

1987

NO. 2



CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

I love to away from the "roaring town,"  
Far from its stress and strife  
To another world, a simpler world  
To the hills and a simpler life.

To follow the trail 'long a canyon stream,  
To make camp in a ferny dell,  
To search out the meadow the mule deer love  
Or the glade where the blue-jays dwell.

I love the light of the glowing camp-fire  
As seen flickering through the trees,  
The call of the owl or the coyotes howl  
As they float in on the breeze.

It's good to know of the wonderful life  
That springs from the lowly sod,  
Where amid scenes of a master artistry  
You're living close to God.

-- Will Thrall in "Trails Magazine"

The SPS and the Sierra Club lost a wonderful friend and a great leader with the death of Art Blauvelt on February, 21 1987. Art joined the Sierra Club in April 1977 and the SPS in July of 1979. He loved both the peaks of the Sierra and the desert and was welcome on any trip he chose to join. Art was a devoted BMTC instructor and leader helping others to enjoy the mountains. He earned his SPS emblem in 1983 (Art was a triple emblem holder), he became an "E" rated leader and he was awarded the Angeles Chapter Leadership Service Award in 1986. He served as Chairman of the Angeles Chapter Council and also the DPS. Aside from climbing, Art's joys included bird watching, with a life list of 463 birds, punning and Gilbert and Sullivan. He died after a lengthy illness but attended his last outing on Joe McCosker's and Duane McRuer's start of the Pacific Crest Trail in October of 1986. We'll miss you Art.

\* \* \* \* \*

One of the little know efforts that takes place in the SPS is Gerry Holleman's setting up and maintaining the Section's membership and current status list. I hadn't seen a printout until taking office and I am amazed at the information it contains. Things like name, address, active or inactive status, phone, Sierra Club number, date of membership, emblem, senior emblem, list finishing, mountaineer's list status, and dates and positions of committee service. THANKS Gerry!

In looking through the report for February '87 I found lots of tid-bits of information. Things like there are 234 active and 102 inactive SPS members for a total of 336. There are 70 female and 266 male members. We have 176 emblem holders (32 females) and 155 leaders in our membership; 67-"E", 66-"M", 12-"I", and 6-"O" leaders. No wonder we have such a strong outings program and have been blessed with so many safe trips! There are 5 of the original SPS founders still members; Miles Brubacher, Izzy Lieberman, Barbara Lilley, Chuck Miller and Frank Sanborn. Barbara Stott, now retired from China Lake and living in Chester CA (near Mount Lassen), also joined in 1955. Numerous other old timers still are members including 4 from '56, 5 from '57, 1 each from '58, '61 & '62, 2 from '63, 4 from '64, 6 from '65, 1 from '66, 8 from '67, 9 from '68 & 4 from '69.

On a lighter note--An Ogden Nash poem appropriate for spring snow climbs:

I've never seen an abominable snowman  
I'm hoping not to see one  
I'm also hoping, if I do  
That it will be a wee one.



VOLUME 30-2 PEAK INDEX (1987)

Clark	Huascaran Sur	North	Piute	Starr-King
Conness	McAdie	Olancha	Red	Tehipite Dome
Crag	Merced	Pettit	Spanish	Tower
Grey	Merced	Pico Oeste	Spanish Needle	Volunteer

PHOTO CREDIT: Tom Ross contributed this aerial view photo of beautiful Mt. Sill in late afternoon shadows. Thanks, Tom.

NEW SPRING SCHEDULE SIERRA PEAK SECTION TRIPS

- Apr 11-12 Sat-Sun  
M: SPS INTRO TRIP: SPANISH NEEDLE (7840'+), ROCKHOUSE PK (8383'): Dayhike two attractive peaks in the Southern Sierra. Sat do Spanish Needle (9 mi rt, 2500' gain), Sat night carcamp, Sun do Rockhouse (8 mi, 2000'). BMTC graduates welcome. Send two large sase with experience, carpool & phone info to Leader: BRUCE KNUDTSON. Asst: MARK GUNION.
- May 9-10 Sat-Sun  
M: SPS INTRO TRIP: MOSES MTN (9331'), N MAGGIE MTN (10,235'): Two delightful peaks in the Western Sierra. Moses on Sat (7 mi rt, 3000' gain), Maggie on Sun (8 mi rt, 3700'). BMTC graduates welcome. Send two large sase with experience/carpool/phone info to Leader: BRUCE KNUDTSON. Asst: MARK GUNION.
- May 23-25 Sat-Mon  
M: MIDDLE PALISADE (14,012'): Gain an SPS Mountaineer's peak in the Palisades region. Sat hike to basecamp at Finger Lk (4 mi, 3500' gain), Sun do peak (4 mi rt, 4000' gain), Mon hike out. Snow and 3rd class rock skills required; qualified BMTC graduates welcome. Send two large sase with experience/carpool/phone info to Leader: BRUCE KNUDTSON. Asst: MARK GUNION.
- May 23-25 Sat-Mon  
E: NORTH PALISADE (14,242'): Sat backpack from near Glacier Lodge to above Sam Mack Lake (9 mi, 4800'). Sun rise early and climb Emblem Peak via U Notch. Out Mon. Strong rock and snow skills required. Crampons & hardhats reqd. Send qualifications and recent condition- ing, H & W phones, carpool info and 2 large sases to Leader: BILL OLIVER. Asst: BOB HARTUNIAN.
- Jun 6-7 Sat-Sun  
M: SPS INTRO TRIP: MT LANGLEY (14,025'), CIRQUE PK (12,900'): Climb the highest peak in the Southern Sierra. Sat hike to basecamp and do Cirque (5 mi, 3500' gain), Sun do Langley (6 mi rt, 3000' gain) and hike out. BMTC graduates welcome. Send two large sase with experience/carpool/phone info to Leader: BRUCE KNUDTSON. Asst: LEN PARKER.
- Jun 6-7 Sat-Sun  
M: SPS INTRO TRIP: BIRCH MTN (13,665'): A peak climb designed for BMTC students and those interested in a moderate weekend of climbing. Participants must be in good condition and prepared for snow climbing with an ice axe. Send a large sase and car pooling data to Leader: LARRY HOAK. Asst: FRED CAMPHAUSEN.
- Jun 13-14 Sat-Sun Sierra Peaks-MTC  
M: AGASSIZ (13,893'), GOODE (13,085'): Sat backpack to camp at Bishop Lake (4 mi, 1360' gain). Sat afternoon optional climb of Goode (4 mi, 1900' gain). Sun climb Agassiz (5 mi, 2700' gain). Ice axe, crampons, BMTC, and good conditioning req. Send sase with resume of climbing experience and conditioning, carpool info and phones to Leader: LYNNE PEDERSON. Asst: JOE WANKUM.
- Jun 20-21 Sat-Sun  
M: MT WINCHELL (13,788'): Exciting climb in the Palisades region. Sat 4000' gain to Sam Mack Mdw. Sun 2700' gain to summit. Ice axe and crampons reqd. Send SASE with experience, conditioning, and carpool infor to Leader: ED ROSS. Asst: TOM PATTERSON.
- Jun 23-28 Tues-Sun  
M: FRENCH CANYON: Six days in the area south of Pine Cr Pass will afford time for fishing and peak bagging. We'll consider climbs of Merriam, Royce, Four Gables, Julius Caesar and Pilot Knob as you desire. Leaders: NORM ROHN & RET MOORE.
- Jul 3-5 Fri-Sun  
M: Mt IZAAC WALTON (12,099'), RECESS PEAK (12,836'): Enter John Muir Wilderness from Lake Edison. Group size limited. Send sase with background to Leader: STEVE THAW. Asst: JIM MURPHY.
- Jul 3-5 Fri-Sun  
I: SPS INTRO TRIP: DANA (13,053'), GIBBS (12,784'), KOIP (12,979'): What better way to spend the fourth than high atop these Yosemite Peaks. Nicely paced backpack geared to first-time SPS climbers. 4500' gain, 22 mi rt for weekend. Plenty of time to enjoy the alpine scenery. Send sase to Wynne. Leaders: WYNNE BENTI, RANDY DANTA.

## STREAM CROSSINGS

The Sierra snows are starting to melt and it's time again to bring to the attention of mountaineers that this brings on one of the greatest hazards of spring and early summer hiking---stream crossings. Snow-melt fed streams are full, cold and dangerous. They account annually for a high fatality rate.

The white water is spectacular and to the inexperienced nothing about the lovely warm day, the clear trails and the log bridge appears forbidding. The log, however, is apt to be wet and slippery and the water conceals loose rocks and uncertain footing, made even more so by cold-numbered feet. The shock of falling into near-freezing water is apt very quickly to make one incapable of helping himself. Let's avoid it.

Recognizing the dangers of fast and icy water, knowledgeable hikers will avail themselves of the techniques designed to minimize these dangers. First, plan to cross swollen streams early in the day. Water flows tend to increase as a warm day melts the snow fields. Next, if no bridge is available, cross at a wide place, where the water will be shallower and less swift. Snow bridges are hazardous at best, particularly as the warming water melts them from below and they become deceptively thin. Falling through one can send the hiker under overhanging snowbanks.

A safety rope may be as important, and as confidence-building, in stream crossings as in rock climbing. A single fixed rope, placed by a leader who is belayed across, and a few carabiners can get a large party across a stream swiftly and safely. Since no significant dynamic loading is involved, a rope can be light. Five sixteenths or even quarter inch goldline is adequate. A more secure system involving several ropes is described in Echo 29-3.

When wading in a cold stream with a rocky bottom, wear your boots. Take your socks off and carry them across. On the other side, drain the boots, dry your feet and sock up. A second set of wool socks can be helpful here. Plastic bags tied over boots sometimes work in shallow water, but they're not very sturdy. Backpackers should always unfasten their waist straps before wading to enable shedding of the pack in event of a fall. The drag force of swift water on a backpack could well be an unfortunate hiker's undoing.

Use a stout pole or staff when wading. A six or eight foot pole, often found or cut on the spot, sturdy enough not to bend or break will provide three point stability on a slippery log or in a fast current. Place the pole firmly on the bottom three to six feet upstream of your stream-crossing path and move only one of your three points at a time.

As in so much mountaineering, the hazards are real, the consequences dire, but the precautions simple.

Norm Rohn  
SPS Safety Chairman

## SPS POLICY RE LEADERS FOR TRIPS

1. There must be two certified leaders, each with the required Angeles Chapter rating, for every outing. Under certain circumstances, however, the leader may be a provisionally rated leader.
2. Both leaders must be capable of leading the proposed trip, i.e. each must have experience commensurate with the nature of the trip.
3. At least one of the leaders must be a member of the SPS.

1987 SUMMER SCHEDULE

\* SPS INTRO TRIP

(+ New Spring Trips)

M* APR 11-12	SPANISH NEEDLE, ROCKHOUSE PEAK	BRUCE KNUDTSON, MARK GUNION
M* MAY 9-10	MOSES MTN, NORTH MAGGIE MTN	BRUCE KNUDTSON, MARK GUNION
M MAY 23-25	MIDDLE PALISADE	BRUCE KNUDTSON, MARK GUNION
E MAY 23-25	NORTH PALISADE	BILL OLIVER, BOB HARTUNIAN
M* JUN 6-7	MT LANGLEY, CIRAQUE PEAK	BRUCE KNUDTSON, LEH PARKER
M* JUN 6-7	BIACH MTN	LARRY HOAK, FRED CAMPHAUSEN
M JUN 13-14	MT AGASSIZ, MT GOODE	LYNNE PEDERSEN, JOE WANKUM
M JUN 20-21	MT WINCHELL	ED ROSS, TOM PATTERSON
M JUN 23-28	MERRIAM, ROYCE, 4 GABLES, J CAESAR, PILOT K	NORM ROHN, RET MOORE
M JUL 3-5	MT IZAAC WALTON, RECESS PEAK	STEVE THAW, JIM MURPHY
I* JUL 3-5	MT DANA, MT GIBBS, KOIP PEAK	WYNNE BENTI,
M JUL 7-12	GOAT, KID, STATE, MARION	MARY GYGAX, NORM ROHN
M JUL 9-12	THE HERMIT, MT GOODARD	BILL T RUSSEL, DUANE MCRUER
M JUL 10-17	NORTHERN PEAKS	VI GRASSO, GENE MAUK
M JUL 11-19	LION AK, TRIP DIV, BLK KAW, RED KAW, KAW	BRUCE KNUDTSON, LARRY COBB
I* JUL 11-12	OLANCHA PEAK	WYNNE BENTI, RON JONES
M JUL 11-12	MT THOMPSON, MT POWELL	DALE VAN DALSEN, LOU BRECHEEN
I JUL 18-19	MT NUAH	DAVE DYKEMAN, ROY MAGNUSON
M JUL 18-19	MT JOHNSON, MT GOODE	LARRY TIDBALL, VIRGIL SHIELDS
E JUL 24-26	THE THUMB, DISAPPOINTMENT PK, MIDDLE PAL	RON HUDSON, MARIS VALKASS
M JUL 25-29	MT GOODARD, MT HENRY	LARRY HOAK, DAVID VANDERUOET
M JUL 25-26	BEAR CREEK SPIRE, MT DADE	AL CONRAD, HAROLD MCFADDEN
M JUL 25-26	MT GILBERT, MT JOHNSON	BOB ROGERS, BEN PREYER
I* JUL 25-26	CIRAQUE PEAK	BOB KANNE, JON SHELTON
E JUL 31-AUG 3	MT WHITNEY	NORM ROHN, AJ SECOR
E JUL 31-AUG 2	MT DARWIN, MT MENDEL, MT GOETHE	HAROLD MCFADDEN, GRAHAM BREAKWELL
M JUL 31-AUG 2	MT BREWER, SOUTH GUARD, WEST VIDETTE	MARIS VALKASS, IGOR MAMEDALIN
I* AUG 1-2	HALF DOME, CLOUDS REST	WYNNE BENTI, RANDY DANTA
M* AUG 1-2	KEARSARGE PEAK, AQUILA PEAK	BOB WRIGHT, SHERRY HARSH
E AUG 7-11	MT JORDAN, THUNDER MTN, MT GENEVRA	HAROLD MCFADDEN, MARY GYGAX
E AUG 8-9	DEERHORN MTN, WEST VIDETTE	DOUG MANTLE, RANDY DANTA
I AUG 8-9	RED SLATE MTN, RED & WHITE MTN	JAY TITUS, RET MOORE
M* AUG 8-9	ROYCE PEAK, MERRIAM PEAK	RON YOUNG, EIVOR NILSSON
M AUG 8-16	EMALD, HENRY, MCGEE, REIN, SCYLA, FINGR, TUNNA	GEORGE TOBY, MEL LEES
E AUG 11-15	CARDNL, SPLIT, PRATER, BOLTON BR, RUSK, +	AJ SECOR, NORM ROHN
M AUG 14-16	MT BREWER, SOUTH GUARD, NORTH GUARD	RICH GNAGY, BRUCE GUBERSKY
E AUG 14-16	MT CLARENCE KING, FIN DOME	RON JONES, MARIS VALKASS
E AUG 14-16	PALISADE CREST	BILL T RUSSELL, BOB HICKS
I AUG 14-17	OBSERVATION PEAK	GEORGE HUBBARD, PATTY KLINE
M AUG 15-23	BLK KAW, PKT GRD, KAN PT, LION, E S, TRIP DIV	DAVE DYKEMAN, NANCY GORDON
M AUG 15-16	MT HAECKEL, MT WALLACE	ED ROSS, BILL KAHL
M AUG 19-23	WHALEBACK, PICKET GUARD PK, KEARN POINT	GENE MAUK, AL CONRAD
E AUG 21-23	MT HUMPHREYS	LARRY TIDBALL, VIRGIL SHIELDS
M AUG 22-23	MT HUNTINGTON	J & N KEATING, FLETCHER, WHISMAN
M AUG 23-29	GEMMI, 7 GAB, RECESS, GABB, HILG, HOOPA, SENGRA	NORM ROHN, MARY GYGAX
M* AUG 29-30	MT LAMARCK, MT EMERSON	DOM BOARD, PHIL MARQUEZ
M AUG 29-SEP 7	JUNCTN, ERICSSON, TABLE, MILESTONE, TYNDALL	BRUCE KNUDTSON, MARC SPIGELMAN
M* AUG 29-30	KOIP PEAK, UNLISTED PEAKS	HEKO COLEVINS, GORDON MACLEOD
M SEP 4-7	SPLIT MTN, CARDINAL, GOODALE, STRIPED	DAVE DYKEMAN, NANCY GORDAN
M SEP 4-7	FINGER PEAK, TUNEMAH PEAK	GENE MAUK, JIM MURPHY
I SEP 5-7	MT WYNNE, MT PINCHOT	WYNNE BENTI, RANDY DANTA
E SEP 5-7	MT HUMPHREYS	BILL OLIVER, RON JONES
M SEP 5-7	TEHIPITE DOME, SPANISH MTN	GEORGE TOBY, AL CONRAD
M SEP 12-16	MT CLARK, MERCED PK, RED PK, GARY PK	LARRY HOAK, FRED CAMPHAUSEN
M SEP 12-13	MT RITTER, MT BANNER	DAVE DYKEMAN, DOM BOARD
M SEP 18-22	GUYOT, JD, PIK, CHAMB, NEWCMB, HITCH, NUIA, WHT	DALE VAN DALSEN, LOU BRECHEEN
I* SEP 19-20	KOIP PEAK	STEVE THAW, JIM MURPHY
M SEP 19-20	MT ABBOT, BEAR CREEK SPIRE	IGOR MAMEDALIN, MARIS VALKASS
M SEP 19-20	VANDEVER MTN, FLORENCE PEAK	GEORGE TOBY, DON BEVERAGE
M SEP 19-20	UNIVERSITY PEAK	MARK GOEBEL, KATHY CRANDALL
M SEP 24-27	MATTERHORN PK, WHORL MTN, TUN PK, VIRGINIA	AL CONRAD, BRUCE GUBERSKY
M SEP 25-27	THE HERMIT, MT MCGEE, MT GOETHE	RANDY DANTA, DOUG MANTLE
M SEP 25-27	MT TOM, BASIN MTN, FOUR GABLES	HAROLD MCFADDEN, GEORGE TOBY
M* SEP 26-27	KENNEDY MTN, MT HARRINGTON	DAVE DYKEMAN, NANCY GORDON
I SEP 26-27	MT GOETHE	GERRY DUNIE, SCOT JAMISON
M OCT 1-4	YOUNG, HALE, RUSSEL, CARIL, TUNNA, BRNAD, WHTNY	DALE VAN DALSEN, BILL GRAY
M OCT 3-4	MT MALLORY, MT LECONTE	RON HUDSON, MARIS VALKASS
I* OCT 3-4	SIRETTA PK, TAYLOR DOME	SUZANNE SWEDO, GERRY DUNIE
I* OCT 10-11	NORTH PEAK, MT WARREN	JIM MURPHY, NANCY GORDON

LEADER ADDRESSES (NOT IN SCHEDULE)

Ross, Ed  
929 Nolden St., #4  
Los Angeles, CA 90042  
H (213) 255-3148  
W (818) 409-8051

Rohn, Norm  
2033 N. Lathan  
Camarillo, CA 93010  
(805) 482-4180

Pedersen, Lynne  
4701 W. 131st St., Apt. B  
Hawthorne, CA 90250-5108  
H (213) 679-3131  
W (213) 297-8267

Murphy, Jim  
10091 Burnet Ave.  
Mission Hills, Ca 91345  
(818) 892-2083

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

### NEW MEMBERS

Richard Fewell  
1145 Calvert St., #29  
N. Hollywood, CA 91606  
H (818) 789-7149  
W (818) 884-8878

Robert G. Langsdorf  
8580 Avenida Mirola  
La Jolla, CA 92037  
(619) 459-1726

Lorraine Masline  
Robert Masline  
7506 Dunfield Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90045  
648-2863

John Orange  
5927 Creekside Ave., #19  
Orange, CA 92669  
H (714) 771-5959  
W (714) 535-1818

### NEW MEMBERS (CONT)

David Petzold  
711 Machado Dr., #8  
Venice, CA 90291  
H 392-8193  
W 485-3600

Jack Wickel  
1009 5th St.  
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254  
H 378-5550  
W 648-8319

### NEW ECHO SUBSCRIBERS

Tom Armbruster  
148 Lemon Grove  
Irvine, CA 92720

William Clark  
314 N. Orange Grove #103  
Los Angeles, CA 90036  
939-7814

### NEW ECHO SUBSCRIBERS (CONT)

Tim Duffy  
762 Esplanada Way  
Stanford, CA 94305  
(415) 857-0906

Mark Feber  
20922 Keeler Rd.  
Topanga, CA 90290

Ken Feder  
1566 S. Cardiff  
Los Angeles, CA 90035

Jeanne Mantell  
3536 Centinela Ave., #3  
Los Angeles, CA 90066

Eddy Nunez  
1901 Hollyvista Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90027

### NEW ECHO SUBSCRIBERS (CONT)

Richard A. Seaman  
1880 Century Park E.,  
Suite 1100  
Los Angeles, CA 90067  
552-7868

### ADDRESS CHANGE

Gordon McLeod  
P.O. Box 1980  
Simi Valley, CA 93062  
(805) 527-7703

### "CLASSIFIED AD"

**FREE:** Going to McKinley? Used white nylon rope, 3/8", 120' (the best for non-technical glacier travel--IT DOESN'T FREEZE!) Also overboots/foam bunny boots (use over regular boots size 6-7); ski basket for ice ax.

**FOR SALE:** New goldline (nylon) rope, 5/16" X 120' (2nd best for glacier travel); \$50; Sticht belay plate, \$5.00; rescue/hauling pulley, \$5.00; ice screw, \$2.00; Wilderness Experience Alpinist internal frame pack, used once, \$80.00; used polyester fill nylon jacket w/hood, size small, \$30.00.

If interested, write to: Barbara Lilley, P.O. Box 128, Simi Valley, CA 93062. (Phone is 805-527-7703 but retirees are not often home!)

### BOOTS NEED RESOLING?

Would like to recommend Mazzola Bros. on Vanowen Blvd. just east of Tampa in Reseda. Good work at reasonable prices. It is also recommended that even new boot soles be secured with screws around the toe area at least to prevent separation at the wrong time! 5/8", #6 brass screws seem to be the most satisfactory.

(B.Lilley)

### PRIVATE TRIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

**APRIL 24-26:** MT. WILLIAMSON VIA GEORGE CREEK. Experienced winter mtneers. Contact S. Bailey. (714) 750-2394.

SIERRA HIGH ROUTE - PARTNERS WANTED FOR CLASSIC MULTI-WEEK CROSSCOUNTRY RAMBLE. EXPLORE SOME OF THE MOST REMOTE AND SCENIC AREAS OF THE SIERRA, AND BAG A FEW PEAKS ON THIS JULY EXPEDITION. WRITE: FRANK AVELLA 3246 S. MAIN #48E SANTA ANA 92707.

### \*\*\*\*\* FINAL ECHO RENEWAL NOTICE!

This is the last ECHO you will receive if you haven't renewed your subscription for 1987. To renew send a check for \$6 with the renewal form from the Sep-Oct '86 ECHO to the Treasurer: Vi Grasso, 1173-1/2 Amherst, Los Angeles, CA 90049.

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## IRS ACTION THREATENS CONSERVATION LOBBYING

The IRS proposed to issue new regulations regarding the use of tax deductible funds for public interest lobbying. If these rules are finally adopted, it will severely curtail conservation activities. Please write our senators and your congressman urging them to request that the IRS withdraw its new regulations under the Tax Reform Act of 1976.

Bill T. Russell  
Conservation Chairman

## BEAR CANISTERS

Last summer while talking to Lo, the Ranger at Bearpaw Meadow, I learned about the bear-proof canisters that Sequoia National Park will loan at no charge to people going into the back country. They are made from 1/8" ABS plastic, 8 1/2" diam, 11 1/4" long, and weigh 3 lbs 4 oz. They are smooth and have a recessed lid which can be opened with a coin. There is no way a bear can use a tooth or a claw to get into them and after bear-testing them, the Rangers are convinced they are smash-proof.

I borrowed one and strapped it to the top of my pack. As near as I can recall, it held about 3 to 4 days worth of food. The canister appears to be a good idea if one expects to camp above tall trees and yet still in bear country. (Last September, Larry Machleder, Dan Mihaljevich and I saw bears above Tamarack Lake.)

Sequoia Nat'l Park has about 20 of these canisters. I was told Yosemite Nat'l Park has some of a different design.

Rob Roy McDonald

It has now been seven months since the accident and for all practical purposes, I am recovered. For the past several weeks I've been walking without a crutch. I do have a limp, which bothers me and makes me feel quite vulnerable. The doctor says I may have it for the rest of my life because the left leg is 3/4" shorter than the right one. My arm and hand are very functional, even if not quite 100% so. The plastic surgeon may operate soon to ease the tightness in one area of scar tissue in the arm.

The orthopedist plans to take the rod out of my leg at the end of the year unless it bothers me. He has finally okayed all physical activities. I have been swimming, walking on level ground, and doing exercises to strengthen my arm and leg. Now I can begin hiking in the Santa Monicas. Of course, I still plan to be back in the Sierras this summer to climb, at least, the six peaks I need for my Senior Emblem.

My 27 days in the hospital cost \$36,500, the Forest Service charged me \$1600 for overtime and hazardous duty compensation for the rangers, and the ambulance from Ash Mountain to Visalia to Los Angeles cost \$1400. My insurance company has already paid \$53,500 while I have paid less than \$800. I went back to work in February to be laid off because there was no job available for me. I am not yet worried about the job situation; something will turn up. The long recovery period gave me time to think about things, especially priorities.

I hope my experience makes others realize how risky climbing is and that no one will climb without adequate insurance and no one will climb alone. Not that I ever want to give up climbing, but now I better understand the risks involved.

Mt. McAdie: May 17/18, 1986

Dave Dykeman and Nancy Gordon

This was a joint SPS/MTC trip, and was offered as an experience trip for recent BMTC graduates. As such, it proved very popular. There was a total of 26 participants ranging from several for whom it was a first climb in the Sierras to Lloyd Brown who finished the list on McAdie last September in a white-out. Two separate groups did McAdie: Nancy and I led fifteen tigers who dropped their packs and went for it on Saturday. Jay Titus and I led a group including six who did not yet have McAdie on Sunday as a group of tigers led by Nancy & Lloyd did Muir and Whitney. Larry Hoak did Irvine Saturday, and a few others did it Sunday.

The transition from Arc Pass to the notch south of McAdie is always a bit breath-taking, and this was no exception. The general reaction was that it was great: enough exposure to be a thrill, but within the capabilities of the group. A group this large poses some problems, but it was a very enjoyable and rewarding trip.

Dave D.



Date: June 7-9, 1986

We met, 13 strong, at the Spanish Lake jeep road south of Rancheria Creek. Going in this way saved time because it avoided crossing Rancheria and Statum Creeks. We followed the road till it was lost in snow at about 8300 feet and then dead reckoned onto Rogers Ridge. At that point 7 of our 13 signed out to go directly to Spanish Mtn, an easy traverse from there. This was done because they didn't need Tehipite and intended only a day hike. The group of 7 included my assistant, Dave Dykeman so Larry Machleder graciously agreed to fill in as assistant.

The remaining 6 hiked to Spanish Lake and made camp, after which we climbed Spanish Mtn via Twin Lakes. We reached the summit around 2 P.M. and returned to camp for an afternoon of leisure.

Two others signed out on Sunday morning due to sickness and fatigue respectively. The remaining four consisted of myself, Larry Machleder, John Lutz and Wilson Harvey. At 6 A.M. Sunday we left for Tehipite Dome. The trip to Tehipite was uneventful except for the crossing of Crown Creek, an 80 ft wide torrent. This was achieved via a semi submerged log about 100 yards north of the trail. The log was made safe due to a large number of branches and the fact that it retained its bark. Larry Machleder identified this crossing and was the first across. The crossing was the key to the trip because we otherwise would have had to expend several hours going far up stream to locate another one. We reached the summit of Tehipite Dome at 12:50 P.M. and returned to camp at about 7:45 P.M. The exposure on the third class move on Tehipite can be largely avoided by going directly up the initial small slab rather than to the right. The large slab is very secure regardless of its looks. We returned to civilization the next morning by contouring north of Rogers Ridge and intersecting the Spanish Lake jeep trail at about 8200 feet. We were out in about 3 1/2 hours and had lunch in Shaver Lake.

The approach route was good though I recommend camping at Crown Valley Station instead of Spanish Lake. This would better ensure a successful climb of Tehipite Dome. With the exception of the jeep road and the trail through Crown Valley all navigation was via dead reckoning due to dense forest and snow cover.

Thanks are in order to Larry Machleder for his sterling assistance, to John Lutz for his steadiness and strength and to Wilson Harvey, an unfailing source of positive attitude and good humor throughout the trip. It was a great trip.

Don Borad

A relatively simple camping trip and day hike in the Southern Sierra in June 1986, nearly turned into a serious problem and served to remind us that we risk serious consequences if we become careless or complacent when visiting the wilderness. Tom Cardina and I had opted to hike in the southern part of Sequoia near Kennedy Meadows because of the heavy snow pack up north and we found sunny, mild weather. It would later play an important role in the events that took place. Our hike to climb Crag began where the road from Black Rock Ranger Station deadends near Jackass Peak. We began our hike to Crag at about 9 a.m. with the expectation that we'd be back to the car in mid-afternoon. Our hike to the peak followed the trail through Albanida Meadows and several other meadows indicated on the topo map. We arrived at what we thought was the approach to the base of the peak, but at this point we became separated. It was the last time I would see Tom for some 20 hours. I started up the side of what I thought was Crag through heavy brush. I expected that Tom had decided to climb the peak from the other side and that we would meet on top. I made the summit in about 45 minutes and yelled loudly to let Tom know I was on top. There was no response, so I decided to have some lunch. My day pack contained some fresh fruit, some cheese and a bottle of water. Since Tom had not arrived by the time I had finished lunch, I took a few pictures and began my descent down the same way I came up. At the bottom of the mountain I called for and looked for any sign of Tom. Later I learned that he had waited for me for 45 minutes and decided I had returned to the car. It was now approximately 1:30 p.m. and in order to save time I decided on a short cut and some cross country hiking in the direction of Jackass Peak. The problem was that every time I would enter the trees I would lose sight of my landmark. Hearing the scary sound of a rattlesnake while walking through a rocky area didn't help either. The heat, the brush and the hiking up and down through rough terrain began to take its toll and I began to tire. I finally came to trail that I guessed began at Fish Camp and ended at Albanida Meadows. I had a topo map, but no compass. I also guessed that I was quite a long ways south on the trail. It was approximately 3 p.m. Although I could have gone down the trail to Fish Camp, I knew Tom would be waiting for me at the car so I decided to push on. I arrived at Albanida Meadows about 5 p.m. and asked directions for the trail to Smith Meadows from a young couple who were camped near the meadow. I went into the woods and picked up the motorbike trail leading down the canyon. By now I was exhausted, but confident that I was on the right trail to where the car was parked. I soon made a critical mistake, caused by exhaustion or inattention that would cause me much grief. Although I didn't notice it, I passed a trail junction with the left branch leading to Smith Meadows and the roadhead while the right branch went to Broder Meadows. I took the right branch. When I reached the middle of the meadow I came to a trail leading to the north. Since I thought I was in Smith Meadows, I guessed that if I took the trail it would lead me to the roadhead. After 30 minutes of hiking I realized something was wrong and that I had to re-trace my route. It was now about 7 p.m. and I was feeling a little desperate and helpless. It was also getting colder and I put on my only extra clothing, a polypropylene sweater. I then decided to continue east on the trail that had brought me to Broder Meadows and see where it would take me. It took me to a sign that said Golden Trout Wilderness and I decided that wasn't where I wanted to be. I was completely disoriented. It was now growing dark and I sat down to try and figure what to do next. I ate part of a heat-spoiled banana and drank the last of my water. I had no flashlight or matches. I was wearing long pants, a T-shirt, a sweater and a hat. In order to stay warm and avoid mosquito bites I decided to

(Continued next page)

## Crag Peak (continued)

keep moving and perhaps find something that looked familiar. Fortunately there was a full moon on June 21. In the meantime, Tom had reported my disappearance to the Ranger Station and had shuttled back and forth between the roadhead and Fish Camp. The night was long and unpleasant, lowlighted by many encounters with brush and dead trees and a wet wade in the South Fork of the Kern River. During the night I passed through a fisherman's camp and this would eventually be the source of my rescue. The coldest time of the night was just before sunrise when I began to shiver almost out of control. I stuffed a piece of ensolite under my sweater to try and gain some warmth and it seemed to help. When the sun finally came up I took off my wet shoes and sox and tried to dry them off. I then made my way back to the camp of the fishermen where I told them of my problem and asked if they had a CB radio so I could let the Ranger Station know I was okay. They didn't have one, but they offered me breakfast and a ride to find a CB. I settled for a welcome cup of hot chocolate. Jimmy Connors (not the tennis player), to whom I will always be grateful, drove me in his 4-wheeler in an unsuccessful search for a workable CB, then to the roadhead where Tom had left a message and finally to the Elack Rock Ranger Station. I identified myself as the missing hiker and they canceled the request for Search and Rescue from the Kernville Sheriff Station. A kind ranger drove me to Fish Camp where Tom was very glad to see me safe and okay. The lessons learned: even though you're trained and experienced don't become lax and complacent when entering the wilderness; always carry the basic necessities, particularly a flashlight, matches, food and warm clothing; don't try to take shortcuts in unfamiliar country, especially when you're alone; if you become lost, sit down before you exhaust yourself and analyze your situation in order to determine what to do and in what direction to hike; finally, if you can avoid it, don't become separated and try to hike alone in unfamiliar wilderness. I was lucky and got away with many mistakes. You can bet I won't repeat them again.

OLANCHA

7-8 June 1986

Jamison/Dunie

The big snow season made this trip a complex hike to plan. There was so much snow showing on Olancha Pass on the week-end prior to Memorial Day that we discussed ice axes and crampons for this southern Sierra climb. Then, when it was so hot the week-end following the holiday, we decided that the snow was not only gone, but the water might be absent also, so 3 quarts were required for the climb to the pass.

The group of 15 hikers left the Sage Flat TH at 6:30, and, led by Gerry Dunie, made it into a camp above Bell Camp off the PCT by noon. The meadows just over the pass were lush and beautiful. but alive with mosquitos, so it was a real backslapping trip. There was water on the hike up, but it won't last very long, as the snow is nearly all gone.

The peak climb was led by Scot Jamison, starting at 6:15 Sunday, and the group left the PCT for a long traverse at the first available bend in the trail. We regrouped just above treeline, and scrambled up to the cairn, microwave relays and helipad by 9:00. All 15 climbers were there to see Patty Cline receive her SPS patch. The view to the north was forever, with no clouds anywhere and the day was perfect. We were in camp at 11:30 and to the cars by 3:30.

(Continued next page)

## Olancha (continued)

The trail was in excellent condition, and we found it easiest to reach by going south from the "hiker parking" lot to a small use trail, then west up the hill to the main trail. The parking lot seemed new and the trailhead itself wasn't real evident. We discussed this peak and decided that late May and early June are the best times to climb it, since water becomes a problem early and the heat and bugs and the later cattle drives up the pass drain a lot of the fun from the trip. Scot J.

## SCHEDULED SPS TRIP--Submitted by Jerry Keating

TAYLOR DOME, CANNEL PT., LOOKOUT MTN., SCHAEFFER MTN., June 7-8, 1986  
Jerry Keating/Walt Whisman

A late spring favored an early June trip to the Kern Plateau as a few snow patches remained on the highest ridges and the meadows were at their best green. Sixteen persons participated in all or part of this trip.

Taylor (Miranda) Dome (8774') was climbed by all 12 persons who met Saturday morning at the southernmost Manter trail (34E37) on the easterly fringe of Big Meadow. We hiked 100 yards southward along the road, then followed Trail 34E15 toward the peak, gaining the final elevation on trailless slopes. While eight persons opted to drive directly to the evening's rendezvous at Horse Meadow Campground, four others joined the leaders in climbing the HPS' Cannel Pt. (8314'), whose summit commands a spectacular view of Lake Isabella. The starting point was at 6800' on Forest Road 24S51 near Little Cannell Meadow, which is immediately east of the peak and which joins the route coming in from near Cannell Meadow Guard Station about a half-mile north of the summit.

With Gordon MacLeod, Roy Magnuson, Neko Colevins and Bob Tomlinson having joined the group and three hikers having departed, 13 persons motored Sunday morning over 9,200-foot Sherman Pass, turned off the paved roadway onto 22S41 and proceeded northward about five miles on a good graded surface to West Meadow. From the meadow, 11 climbed the south ridge of Lookout Mtn. (9722') in less than an hour and then continued northward along the ridge for a shorter time to Schaeffer Mtn. (9292').

(The oldest entry in the Lookout register was March 22, 1959, when an SPS backpack led by Chuck Miller and Frank Sanborn penetrated the then nearly roadless area. Among the 22 participants on the trip, the deteriorating sheet revealed the names of Chuck, Frank, Bill Sanders, John Robinson, Tom Amneus, Barbara Lilley, Graham Stephenson, Burl Parkinson, Lee Owing, John Wedberg, Glen Warner, Nancy Keating, Lothar Kolbig, Bud Bingham, Mary Ann Eide (Miller), Bea Wheelock, Monroe Levy, Francis Foley and possibly Bob Sheller and Parker Severson--a veritable Who's Who of the early-day SPS. In reporting on the trip in the May-June 1959 Sierra Echo, Chuck pointed out: "The trip had an 'old home week' atmosphere since seven of the 15 charter members of the SPS were along. It was also noted that all of the former chairmen and the present chairman were there.")

A different route of return avoided the climb back over Lookout and allowed the group to view Corral Meadow before reaching the cars.

I was inspired to try to climb Spanish Needle from the west via a recent addition to the Pacific Crest Trail after reading Tina Stough's note in the Lamont register saying that she had climbed it that way in the spring of 1985.

- There are several benefits to climbing Spanish Needle from the PCT:
- A high center vehicle is not required to get to the trail head.
  - The PCT, a well constructed and well maintained trail, permits very comfortable hiking.
  - With an early start a second peak, Sawtooth#1 or Lamont, can also be climbed on the same day. Tina, a strong hiker, wrote that she left the trail and went cross-country to bag Lamont, but that seems an awfully strenuous way to climb Lamont.
  - There is very little brush to whack through as on the traditional western approach which is cross-country from Lamont Meadow.

Hiking begins at the junction of the Pacific Crest Trail and Chimney Peak Recreation Area Road. The Chimney Peak Road begins on Highway 178 approximately 18 miles west of the junction of Highways 14 and 178. Proceed north on Chimney Peak Road past the Lamont Peak trailhead (about 7 miles) and past the turnoff to Rockhouse Basin to the PCT junction which is 12.3 miles from Highway 178 by my odometer. Even though there is a sign the junction is easy to miss. The entrance to the BLM Chimney Creek Recreation Site is 2/10 of a mile past the PCT junction. If you reach that entrance turn around and go back.

After hiking for about two miles you reach a stream crossing (moist when it rains) which is a good place to leave the trail to climb Sawtooth #1. Sawtooth can also be climbed without difficulty from a saddle a bit farther along where the southwest ridge of Sawtooth meets the trail. After hiking another four miles and gaining about 1100 feet you will reach a broad saddle from which you can see east to Sand Canyon and Rodecker Flat and west to Lamont Meadow. From this saddle you will also see two needles on your right. One is to the south and the other to the southeast. The one to the south is the nearest and is 7750 on the Lamont topo. There is a register in a Bandaid can on the summit of this class 3 peak that has been signed by several SPS members.

Spanish Needle is the farthest of the two needles and is southeast of the saddle. It is right by the number "3950" at the edge of the Lamont topo. Leave the trail at the saddle and contour across to the peak. You will probably have to drop below the level of the saddle and then climb back up to the ridge. I got onto the ridge, scrambled over one false summit, then down into a notch from where it was a class 3 climb to the register.

Owens Peak can also be climbed by way of the nine-mile section of the PCT that begins at Walker Pass summit on Hwy 178. This section of the PCT passes Morris Peak and Mt Jenkins (previously North Morris) and ends at the saddle just south of Owens Peak.

Area 22 cleanout: July 4-9 1986

Clark Range: July 10-13, 1986

Dave Dykeman and Nancy Gordon

July 4th in Bridgeport is an ALL-AMERICAN event .... flags, banners, bunting, and a cannon salute at sunrise. If you haven't done so, try it sometime. But apply early. Accommodations are booked months in advance. Our schedule called for Tower, Piute, Volunteer, Pettit, Conness and North in six days; then climbs of Clark, Grey, Red and Merced (plus a private climb of Starr King) in another four days. Somehow, we did it.

An intrepid ten consisting of: Vic Henny and Sue Wyman, Richard Fewell, Richard Fritzen, Don Weiss, Larry Tidball, Martha Flores, Kathy Frice and the leaders was off to a somewhat shaky start from Twin Lakes when we found en-route our trail to Buckeye Creek is abandoned. Never mind that it's on the Matterhorn Peak, Toiyabe Forrest and Wilderness Press's Yosemite maps; it ain't on the ground. Going by Peeler lake and through Kerrick Meadow added about six miles. We passed through, it seemed to us, miles of avalanche debris: tree piled on tree, their branches entangled. Avalanche debris is a prominent remnant of the very heavy late February, 1986 snow storm. It looked as if trails would be blocked for years. We paused at the north end of Kerrick Meadow to stash supplies we wouldn't need for a few days. We camped at 9,200 ft on the north fork of Buckeye Creek. Friday's output: about 3,400 ft & 19 miles.

On Saturday, July 5, we went for TOWER PK: over a pass, off the trail at about 9,200 ft and contoured south-west. It was easy cross-country, but had steep snow near the summit ridge. On return, we stayed about 200 ft higher. The result was a route over gentle snow slopes...gentle, but FULL OF SUN CUPS. Sun cups are an added legacy of that heavy Feb. storm. We'd planned to hike to Seavy Pass Saturday, but time ran out. We spent a second night at the same camp. Saturday's effort: about 13 miles and 4,200 feet.

PIUTE was Sunday's goal. Under way early, we moved to Seavy Pass. Stopping en route to retrieve our supplies, we marched through Kerrick Meadow which presented less water problems than anticipated. Seven went from Seavy Pass for Piute. Our route generally ran the ridge to the summit. Our (easier) return dropped down a prominent grassy chute on the ridge's south side, then cross-country to the trail, and to camp. A nearly unanimous reaction on looking at Tower from Piute was: "WOW! WE WERE THERE? ON THAT? YESTERDAY?!" Sunday: about 18 mi and 4,000ft.

Bagging VOLUNTEER and PETTIT made Monday another long day. Our stream crossings were complicated by run-off. Depending on which crossings are "major" we did between 16 and 24 major crossings. Along with moisture remaining from the winter's heavy snow came MOSQUITOS. I do not recall ever before being pestered by mosquitos on a peak. They were so bad on top Volunteer that we shortened our stay. Inspection of Volunteer from the trail shows an easy up route. From the summit of Volunteer, we followed the ridge to Pettit, rounded the prominent knob to the east, dropped into the snow bowl west of the ridge where it meets the summit mass, and picked a chute that was not too clogged with snow banks for an easy climb. Our return was a contour directly to the trail and a march back to camp. Monday's effort: about 21 mi. and 6,200 ft.

Tue, Jul 8 was a real layback. We were at Twin Lakes trailhead about 2:30, in plenty of time to shower and relax before a good dinner at the Mexican-American restaurant (s.e. corner, 395 & road to Twin Lakes) in Bridgeport. This was followed by homemade blueberry or apple pie at the Tioga Lodge. Tuesday was about 14 miles and 1,000 ft. of gain.

Wednesday, only Don Weiss remained with us as Vic and Sue checked out due to Sue's bad blisters. We said goodby and wished them well on their up-coming year-long stay in Germany. That a.m. Dale Van Dalsam and Ruth Armentrout joined us to climb CONNESS and NORTH. Our route was below Saddlebag Lake, up into a notch south-east of Conness, and to the summit. We returned to the same notch, down an easy snow chute, across the bowl between the peaks, up North, back into the bowl and to Saddlebag Lake. We returned to Tioga Lodge for dinner. There R.J. was awaiting us. It turns out he'd been in a conversation with the proprietor who remembered us from the night before. Nancy, first through was greeted by R.J: "Get both peaks?" Nancy: "Of course!" Glances were exchanged. It seems the proprietor had said both peaks couldn't be done in one day under those conditions. We stayed to enjoy a home-style meal. We left Dale and Ruth and drove 80+ miles to Mono Meadows trail on Glacier Pt. Road. Wednesday's effort: about 14 miles and 4,200 feet.

Thursday, July 10, the Clark Range cleanout began. Don Weiss, the sole survivor of the July 4 part, continued to climb every peak with us. Dave Petzold, RJ Secor, Jon Lutz, Barbara Reber and Don and Ursula Slager joined us: 9 participants in all. We hiked to the trail junction just west of the Starr King ridge. Several members officially left the Sierra Club sponsored trip there to climb Starr King. I discovered the clip holding rock shoes on my pack had failed, and there were no shoes! RJ and Don went back to look for them. No luck. Meanwhile, the STARR KING climbers went to bag that peak. We took a long way to the Saddle South of the summit knob, and RJ was there ahead of us. Trying to lead-climb in running shoes proved futile. Whereupon, RJ produced a home-grown pair of climbing shoes: old running shoes with racing-slick (tired) rubber replacing the original soles. Their traction was so great it made me forget I was on steep rock slab! Ursula, Nancy, RJ and both Daves did the summit. From S.K. we continued to the notorious, misplaced (on the topo) stream by point 7,232. There we began to X-country to Grayling Lake. We'd spent too long getting S.K., so camped about 1 mi. off the trail. The day's effort: about 12 miles and 3,500 feet.

MERCED & RED were Fridays peaks. Continuing to Grayling Lake, we dropped our packs and headed for them. Our route contoured slightly up, picked up the trail below Lower Ottoway Lake, left the trail as it passed Upper Ottoway, up MERCED PK., back to trail at Merced Pass's base, up to the pass, over RED and X-country back to camp. A long day for all nine of us. Friday's output: about 14 miles and 4,200 feet.

CLARK and GREY: only four climbers had the need and desire to bag them Saturday. Barbara and RJ already had Clark, and did an easy-paced climb of Grey. Don & Dave P. headed for Clark with the leaders. At first, we tended to run too high where the going's a little tough. When we stayed low enough, things went well. Staying right of the summit mass brought us up a sandy ramp, a slight drop on the back of the peak on more sandy ramps and ledges brought us to a chute to the summit. Twenty-or-so feet of (some thought quite tough) third-class chimney, and we were on top. A contour over to the base of Grey, up to the ridge and a run to the summit got Grey for us. The views were not great from inside a cloud, but we felt elated that every peak on our plan had been reached without incident, and with good weather conditions. Saturday was 10 miles and 4,400 feet.

Sunday, it was a march out, and the miraculous recovery of the lost climbing shoes. Hikers found them and hung them on a trail sign. We were at the trailhead shortly after 2:00 pm, early enough for a very enjoyable dinner at Maitia, a Basque restaurant in Bakersfield, and a relatively leisurely drive home. On return, we needed R & R. When we added in Sunday's 1,200 feet and 12 miles, we came up with: 37,000 feet of gain and 147 miles hiked for this ten-day set of trips.

This July, I took part in an American Alpine Institute expedition to Nevado Pisco Oeste (18,871') and Nevado Huascaran Sur (22,205') in the Cordillera Blanca of Peru. The party consisted of myself, Al Botula (another Sierra Club climber), two climbers from San Francisco, and our guide.

We met in Lima and from there took an eight hour bus ride 240 miles north to the town of Huaraz, starting point for climbs in the Blanca. After sorting gear and provisioning, we took a microbus to Yungay and from there to the Pisco roadhead at 12,600'. We camped there for the night and were met the next morning by our arriero (burro driver) who loaded our packs and gear on microburros for the trip to basecamp. From the roadhead to basecamp at 15,000' we walked and the burros worked. Except for summit days, our schedule would be to move camp up in the morning and then relax (i.e., acclimate) in the afternoons. Next day we shouldered our packs and picked our way across the Huandoy glacier to high camp on the edge of the Pisco glacier at 16,400'.

We left high camp for the summit at 5am the next day and arrived on top 5 hours later to be greeted by a small cloud situated exactly and only on the summit. My fantasy of sunny summit pictures with breathtaking scenery in the distance and triumphant climbers in the foreground was reduced to a reality of some people standing in a heavy fog. Nonetheless, pictures were taken, candy eaten, feet stomped for warmth and a rapid descent made to high camp followed immediately by a descent to basecamp. The next morning, with our packs and gear again on microburros, we descended to the roadhead to catch a bus around to Musho and the start of our Huascaran climb.

Pisco Oeste is a very popular (judging from the piles of international trash at high camp), largely non-technical (just a little glacier travel) climb which provides an interesting way to acclimate, as well as excellent views of the Cordillera.

Our climb of Huascaran Sur began in the small village of Musho (10,000'), set right at the foot of the mountain. From our hostel we could see the twin peaks of the mountain looming 12,000 vertical feet above us. Despite our success on Pisco, I think we all held doubts about whether we'd ever stand on the summit. After a night in the village, microburros took our packs and gear (we walked) to the official (there's a small sign) basecamp at 14,000'. The peaks are within a Peruvian National Park and climbing permits, obtainable in Musho for a \$3 fee, are required but, as it turned out, never checked.

The popularity of this peak, particularly for European climbers, was attested to by the crowds that arrived at basecamp (and every other camp from then on) shortly after we did. There were 4 American teams, 2 French teams, a Mexican team, two Austrian teams, and a team from Belgium - about 35 people in all. From then on we moved up very early in the morning so as to have first pick of the limited tent sites at the higher camps.

The morning after our arrival at basecamp it snowed fairly heavily but we were still able to move up to Camp I (Moraine Camp) at 15,600' before the weather really closed in forcing us to take to the tents. It snowed the remainder of that day and until noon the following day before finally clearing in time to allow us to dry gear before dark. The next day, our fourth on the mountain, we pushed on to Camp II at 17,500'. This involved a few 3rd class rock moves with full pack at 16,000+' and then a seemingly endless trudge through the lower icefalls and over



PICO OESTE / HUASCARAN SUR (continued)

the glacier. Crevasses were abundant and many were disguised by the previous days snowfall; we moved cautiously. From Camp II, we could see above us the major technical challenge of the climb: a 50' vertical ice wall at around 18,000'. It gave us something to reflect on as we ate our freeze-dried "gag-in-a-bag" meals despite altitude ravaged appetites.

After a cold 5am start the next morning (our route was on the western side of the peak, so we got no morning sun until 10am and all our starts were cold), we moved rapidly up to and over the ice wall obstacle. Climbing a 50' vertical wall on front points with a full pack at 18,000' brought new meaning to the term 'oxygen debt'. After several minutes of intense breathing (gasping), we went on up to Camp III which is situated in the bergshund of the upper ice fall at 19,300'. Altitude began to take its toll at this point and we spent the rest of this fifth day in our bags sleeping and breathing. Next day we would make our summit bid.

It was around -10F the next morning at 3am as we prepared for our summit assault, warmth being as scarce as oxygen and light. My headlamp took this opportunity to quit so I got to climb 3 pitches of 45 degree hard snow and a 30' ice wall in the dark - I am now an expert on the braille method of high altitude climbing. Dawn finally broke just as we reached the trudge portion of the ascent at around 21,000'. The last 1200' or so to the summit is a long walk along a ridge with no technical difficulties at all. We made the summit at about 11am after 7 hours of climbing. This time my fantasy was fulfilled, it was very sunny, very clear, and the view spectacular; photos of triumphant climbers were obtained. Descent to Camp III was uneventful, with only one rappell, and took about 4 hours. The next day we descended to basecamp at 14,000' and the day after that to Musho, where a 'little' beer was consumed.

A climb of Huascaran Sur by this route presents only a few technical challenges and, with the exception of routefinding in the icefalls, can be characterized as straightforward. High altitude is the principal danger, but this can be mitigated by acclimatization on a peak like Pisco. It is a very popular peak, so an off-season (not July) attempt would be less impacted.

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SPS PROGRAMS FOR MAY AND JUNE

May 13 Meeting: "AUTUMN IN THE SWISS ALPS": Presented by CAROLYN WEST. See how any reasonably fit person can enjoy the splendor of the Alps without risk. Joint Sierra Peaks/Mugelnoos meeting. Griffith Park Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Refreshments by Mary Sue Miller.

June 10 Meeting: "A MEMORIUM TO TENZING NORGAY": PATTY KLINE will show her slides of a trek with Tenzing Norgay through blooming rhododendron-covered hills to the 15,000 ft Himalayan Mountaineering Institute in northern India. Joint Sierra Peaks/Mugelnoos meeting. Griffith Park Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Refreshments by Vi Grasso.

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ECHO back issues; many are still available for 1979 through 1986. Contact Mailer: Carolyn West for details. Surplus copies will be discarded in about a month. Also, send checks for \$4.50 for each copy of 30th Anniversary Echo (Vol.30, No. 7) Nov.-Dec. 1986. (Price only \$3.00 at meetings.) Phone: (213) 398-6346, Address: 5000 Centinela Ave., #302, L.A. 90066.

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AWARDS: Emblem pins (\$7.50), list finisher pin (\$10.00), and patches (\$2.00) are available from the Treasurer, Vi Grasso, 1173-1/2 Amherst, Los Angeles, CA 90049.

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