

The Sierra



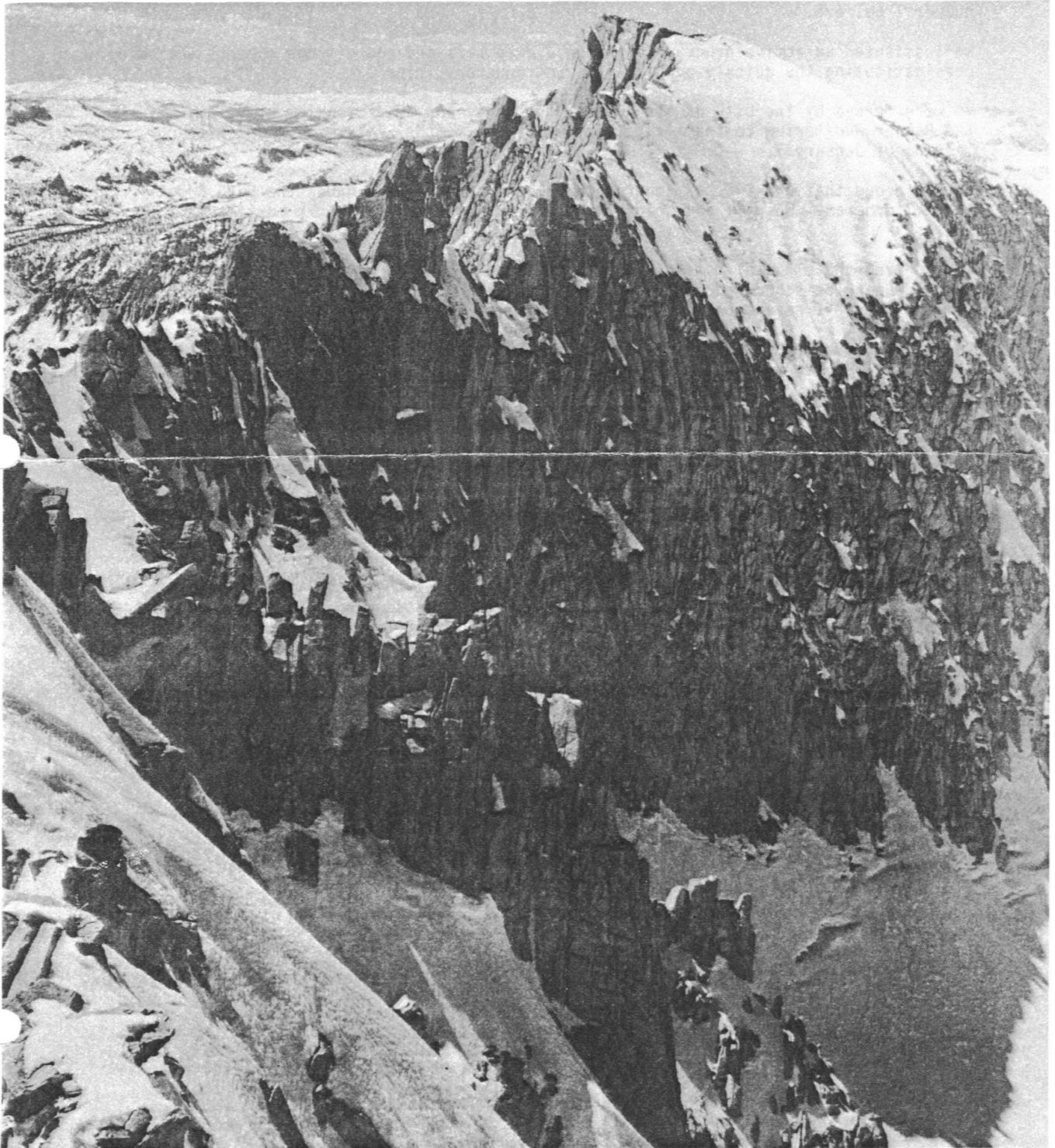
ECHO

VOLUME 31

NOV - DEC

1987

NO. 7



CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

"Up where no overshadowing mountain stands, towards the greatest and the loftiest peak, a fiery longing ever draws me on..."

Petrarch, April 1336

Another SPS year draws to a close and the current Management Committee prepares to hand over the reins to the 1988 Committee. We've done our best to keep the section strong and I'll take this opportunity to sum up our deeds (and misdeeds) of the year.

We scheduled about 87 trips in the schedule year July 6 through July 4, a record number I believe.

We instituted an active program to retain old members and recruit new members including our instituting the quickly popular "SPS Introductory Trips".

We were forced by the City of Los Angeles to change our traditional meeting day at the Ranger Auditorium to the first Thursday of the month. This will start with our meeting of January 7.

We are proud that the SPS has adopted the Shepherd Pass Trail under the USFS Adopt-A-Trail program. We will be scheduling spring, summer and fall work parties on this trail.

We approved the proposal to add Palisade crest to the SPS peaks list and recommend that the peak be scheduled again next summer and be included on the 1988 ballot. (Bill Oliver & I have scheduled it for August 5-7)

We also recommended to the 1988 committee that they include a ballot proposal for a "Master's Emblem" (see the Sept.-Oct. '87 ECHO).

We introduced a popular concept for discussion and future action to recognize a SPS Leadership Service award.

We considered a SPS sponsored patch which would be offered for sale to all climbers who have climbed all the California peaks over 14,000 ft.

We considered a post-list finisher recognition for those finishing the emblem and senior emblem a second time after finishing the list.

In order for the section to stay solvent and have monies to buy new supplies of emblems, to place a deposit on banquet facilities and other operating expenses, we raised the ECHO subscription from \$6 to \$8.

We added to the section treasury with a successful auction of 20 years of ECHO newsletters donated by Barbara Lilley.

We revised and updated the SPS "Policies and Procedures", a compilation of approved Management Committee motions and procedures. In so doing we eliminated the old Mountaineers List of Climbers from section use and we included a "honorary" class of membership, the Sustaining Member.

We planned a successful banquet and program at The Proud Bird Restaurant.

And one correction from Dick Beach in his story of "The Oldest Kelty". (August ECHO) The used Keltys his father bought for him were numbers 27 and 28.

(Continued on next page)

VOLUME 31-7 PEAK INDEX (1987)		
Abbot	Black	Palisade Crest
Abbot	Diamond	Trojan
Bradley	North Palisade	

COVER PHOTO: Tom Ross took this picture of the east face of Mt. Abbot, an SPS emblem peak, from Mt. Dade's summit. Thanks again, Tom, for another spectacular cover photo.

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN (Continued)

Thanks finally to all the leaders who make our section the best in the Angeles Chapter and to all the participants who make those trips worthwhile.

--Ron Jones

"Men go abroad to admire the heights of mountains and the long winding courses of rivers, the compass of the ocean and the track of the stars and there they forget themselves" -- Confessions of Saint Augustine

1988 SPS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Elected Officers

Chairman.....Maris Valkass
 Vice Chairman.....Bill Oliver
 Secretary.....Ruth Armentrout
 Treasurer.....Al Conrad
 Program Chairman.....Vi Grasso

Appointed Positions

Council Representative...Ron Jones
 Mountain Records...Rob Roy McDonald
 Safety Chairman.....Tom Duryea
 Membership Records...Gerry Holleman
 ECHO Editor.....Igor Mamedalin
 ECHO Associate Editor..Jeff Solomon
 ECHO Printer.....Sharon Conrad
 ECHO Mailer.....Carolyn West
 Banquet Chairman....Mario Gonzales
 Conservation Chairman...Jim Raiford

1988 SPS SCHEDULE

* SPS INTRO TRIP

O	MAR 19-20	SHEPHERD PASS TRAIL MAINTENANCE	RJ SECOR, NORM ROHM
M*	MAR 26-27	MCGEE (non SPS pk)	FRED CAMPHAUSEN, JON LUTZ
O	APR 16-17	SHEPHERD PASS TRAIL MAINTENANCE	RJ SECOR, ROB ROY McDONALD
M	APR 22-24	TROJAN, BARNARD	DOUG MANTLE, BOB HICKS
M*	APR 23-24	ALTA	BRUCE KNUDTSON, JOHN CHESLICK
M	APR 30-MAY 1	FOUR GABLES, BASIN	LARRY TIDBALL, SCOT JAMISON
M	APR 30-MAY 1	LECONTE, MALLORY, LONE PINE	DAVE DYKEMAN, ROY MAGNUSON
M	APR 30-MAY 1	BAXTER	DAVE FURLONG, RON HUDSON
M	MAY 6-8	TROJAN, BARNARD	GEORGE TOBY, AL CONRAD
E	MAY 7-8	BLOODY	BRUCE KNUDTSON, RANDY DANTA
M	MAY 7-8	BEAR CREEK SPIRE, DADE	LARRY TIDBALL, SCOT JAMISON & SMS
M	MAY 13-15	WILLIAMSON, TROJAN, BARNARD	DAVE DYKEMAN, DON BOARD
M	MAY 21-22	BIRCH, THE THUMB	LARRY HOAK, BRUCE GUBERSKY
M*	MAY 21-22	UNIVERSITY, KEARSARGE	BOB HICKS, DUANE MCAUER
M	MAY 28-30	BLACK, DIAMOND	DAVE DYKEMAN, NANCY GORDON
M	JUN 10-12	CLARK, GRAY	GEORGE TOBY, AL CONRAD
E	JUN 11-12	HAECKEL	BRUCE KNUDTSON, MARIS VALKASS
M*	JUN 11-12	MOSES, NORTH MAGGIE	BOB WRIGHT, VIRGIL BAYLESS
I	JUN 11-12	CIRQUE	J & H KEATING, WALT WHISMAN
M	JUN 14-19	GOAT, KID, STATE, MARION	NORM ROHM, RJ SECOR
M	JUN 18-19	RED SLATE, BALDWIN	BRUCE KNUDTSON, TOD WILLIAMSON
M	JUN 18-19	BEAR CREEK SPIRE, DADE	BILL OLIVER, TOM DURYEA
M	JUN 23-26	MT KAWeah, BLACK KAWeah	BILL T RUSSELL, BILL GRAY
E	JUN 24-26	DISAPPOINTMENT, THUMB, BOLTON BROWN	DAVE DYKEMAN, NANCY GORDON
M	JUL 2-4	GABB, HILGARD, JULIUS CAESAR	GEORGE TOBY, AL CONRAD
M	JUL 2-4	ABBOT, DADE, MILLS, BEAR CREEK SPIRE	DAVE DYKEMAN, BRUCE GUBERSKY
E	JUL 2-4	THUNDERBOLT, WINCHELL	BILL OLIVER, BRUCE KNUDTSON
M	JUL 9-17	WILLASN, TNDL, JNCTN, KTH, SHEP PASS TR MANT	RJ SECOR

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

NEW EMBLEMS

#479 Bill Oliver
#480 Richard L. Fritsen

NEW MEMBERS

Jim Adler
10726 Woodbine St., #3
Los Angeles, CA 90034
(213) 838-0524
(213) 384-4088

Ruth Adler
2901 S. Sepulveda, #210
Los Angeles, CA 90084
(213) 473-2321

William Clark
1711 Purdue Ave., #2
Los Angeles, CA 90025
H (213) 479-7740
W (213) 825-3888

Mel Daybell
10 Top Rail Lane
Rancho Palos Verdes,
CA 90274
(213) 547-3159

Ken Duzy
1322 Euclid, #9
Santa Monica, CA 90404
H (213) 395-7898
W (213) 237-4750

Joseph R. Goss
18691 Carousel Lane
Huntington Beach, CA
92649
H (714) 846-3950
W (213) 414-1833

Gary Perless
28016 Acana Rd.
Rancho Palos Verdes,
CA 90274
(213) 377-4182

Janet A. Scott
528 California Terrace
Pasadena, CA 91105

NEW MEMBERS (CONT.)

Tom Sexton
10410 Carlyle Ct.
Cypress, CA 90630
H (714) 995-6840
W (714) 782-5271

Jon Sheldon
524 S. Ogden Dr.
Los Angeles, CA 90038
(213) 938-4318

Dan Skagland
3808 Mt. Vernon Dr.
Los Angeles, CA 90008
(213) 294-5961

REINSTATED MEMBERS

Michael Lorr
C/O Team House
P.O. Box 4093
Malibu, CA 90265

Vic Wong
8619 Firmament Ave.
Van Nuys, CA 91406
H (818) 989-1988
W (213) 816-3297

NEW SUBSCRIBERS

Roger S. Coit
3349 Cadden Dr.
San Diego, CA 92117
H (714) 456-1771
W (714) 583-9420

Bobby Dubeau
1112 Story Place
Alhambra, CA 91801
H (818) 281-7237
W (818) 795-0881

Larry Kelbley
5920 Flambeau Rd.
Rancho Palos Verdes,
CA 90274

Thomas B. Ritchie
9051 Yew St.
Rancho Cucamonga, CA
91730

NEW SUBSCRIBERS (CONT.)

Linda Robinson
5733 Balboa Dr.
Oakland, CA 94611
(415) 339-9084

ADDRESS CHANGES

Robert Ayers
679 Waverly St.
Palo Alto, CA 94301
H (415) 328-1377
W (415) 853-2153

Wynne Benti
23309 Oxnard St.
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
(818) 992-8756

Hal Compton
1501 W. Meadow Loop Rd.,
#8
Park City, UT 84080

Randy Danta
23309 Oxnard St.
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
(818) 992-8756

Martha Flores
252 S. Mentor Ave., #11
Pasadena, CA 91108
H (818) 796-4030
W (818) 578-5651

Victor T. Henney
C/O Barber
18971 Antioch Dr.
Irvine, CA 92715-3305

Bruce Knudtson
12322 Idaho Ave.
Los Angeles, Ca 90025-3658
(213) 820-2748

Barbara Lilley
Phone Correction
(805) 527-7703

Bob Michael
972 Highlands Dr., #4
Santa Barbara, CA 93109-
1340

ADDRESS CHANGES (CONT.)

Karl Pearson
21120 Vanowen St.
Box 833
Canoga Park, CA 91304
(818) 347-8360

John Reed
1400 Glenwood Rd., #203
Glendale, CA 91201-1919

Larry Tidball
Phone Correction
(714) 882-8188

Dale Van Dalsem
1217 20th St., #104
Santa Monica, CA 90404
(213) 453-4715

Don Weidner
4542 Skidmore Ct.
Moorpark, CA 93021
(805) 523-0255

Jordan Weiss
20321 Keswick St.
Canoga Park, CA 91306



VALUE: 5% plus we pay tax and shipping.
MAIL ORDER ONLY
Send for price sheet.

MOUNTAIN HIGH, LTD.
436 N. WARNER
RIDGECREST, CA 93555

To the Editor:

I read with interest the proposals for a "Masters Emblem" and a "Leadership Service Symbol (emblem?)" in the Sep/Oct 1987 Echo. I would like to add two suggestions to this discussion, namely:

1) The possibility of awarding a "Leadership Service Emblem" on the basis of points, perhaps 50 points total, to be accumulated as follows:

Leader	2 points	Leader, emblem peak	4 points
Assistant	1 point	Assistant, emblem peak	3 points
Leader, intro trip	3 points	Leader, trail repair trip	6 points
Assistant, intro trip	2 points	Assistant, trail repair trip	5 points

There could be an initial award of an emblem, then "bars" (like the HPS) for the accumulation of each additional 50 points.

2) The possibility of creating an "Alpine Mountaineering Emblem" to recognize the attainment of a given number of summits by specified technical (4th-low 5th class) snow, rock, and ice routes. I have assembled a list of 25 suggested peaks and routes for purposes of discussion; it appears below. It would be necessary to climb the listed peaks by the designated routes in order to obtain this emblem. The idea here is to offer something for people who would like to be recognized for meeting specific technical challenges in addition to being recognized for climbing a certain number of peaks.

"Alpine Mountaineering Peaks"

Peak	Route	Rate	CGHS*
Cathedral Peak	SE buttress	II,5.4	96,5
Clyde Mineret	Starr's Route	4	114,1
Mt. Mendel	Mendel Couloir	5 ice	158,3
Mt. Lamarck	N gully	4 ice	158,-
Mt. Darwin	N face	4	159,3
Mt. Haeckel	N face	4	161,3
Mt. Gilbert	NE couloir	5 ice	166,-
Devil's Crag #1	SE face	4	171,-
Thunderbolt	N couloir	4	198,6
North Falisade	U-notch	4	200,1
Temple Crag	NW face	4	205,16
Falisade Crest	N ridge	4-5	215,-
Norman Clyde Peak	N face	4	216,6
Mt. Clarence King	regular route	5.4	256,1
Black Kaweah	SW ridge	4	281,3
Mt. Whitney	E face	III,5.4	307,8
Lone Pine Peak	N ridge	III,5.4	317,1
Mt. Sill	Swiss Arete	II,5.4	204,3
Seven Gables	E face	4	139,-
Mt. Starr King	S side	5.0	—,-
Mt. Gardiner	S ridge	4	257,-
Mt. Humphreys	SW side	4	142,1
Florence Peak	NW face	II,5.1	286,5
Bloody Mtn	NNW couloir	4 ice	128,-
Mt. Clark	NW arete	4	102,3

*:"The Climber's Guide to the High Sierra [Roper]: page #, route #.

William T. Russell
13065 Mindanao Way #10
Marina del Rey, CA 90292
(213) 822-9044

August 31, 1987

Management Committee, Sierra Peaks Section
Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On Aug 14-16, I led an SPS scheduled exploratory trip to Palisade Crest, 4131m, (13553') which is a named peak located on the main crest of the Sierra about 1 mi northwest of Norman Clyde Peak and 1-1/4 mi southeast of Mt. Sill.

The trip participants were Roy Magnuson, Joe Stephens and myself. We evaluated the peak against the peak addition criteria of the SPS Policies and Procedures dated Oct 1977: Elevation, Dominance of an area, View, Inaccessability, New area to the SPS, Climbing interest, Area impact, Proximity to other listed peaks. In our opinion it scores high in all of these factors. The peak has a distinctive shape that is easily recognized from long distances. It sits in a gap in the Palsades between the dense grouping of Disappointment, Middle Palisade and Norman Clyde on one side and Sill, North Palisade and Thunderbolt on the other.

The climbing is 3rd and easy 4th class with relatively little rock fall danger and with very good hand and foot holds. I am confident that those SPS members who are comfortable on our other 3rd and 4th class peaks and who know how to rappel and to tie into a rope will find this climb a safe, exhilarating and memorable experience.

On behalf of the many SPS members who have climbed this peak and feel that it merits addition to the PEAKS LIST, I recommend that it be placed on the ballot as a list addition. A trip report with a detailed route description is attached to this letter and a copy has been sent to the ECHO editor.

Good climbing,

Bill T Russell

Bill T. Russell

TALK OF THE TRADE

BY LEONORE FLEISCHER

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY / AUGUST 14, 1987

And Now, the Envelope, Please . . . We have enjoyed the "Smallest Publisher in America" contest so much we are loath to bring it to a close, but we have unearthed a winner, who wrote us that he was looking forward to the first prize, that *one* mention in this space (runners-up got two), and we don't want to keep him waiting.

Robert J. Secor says he is the sole proprietor of his company; "except for myself, there are no employees. From my enclosed business card you can see that I gave myself the title of 'Director.' When I started this business in 1984, I was thinking of giving myself a title that would make the firm sound Very Big and Important, such as, 'Senior Vice-President in Charge of Management,' but I finally settled on 'Director' because my mother liked it.

"At this point, Gorak Books [of Pasadena, Calif., and there's the prize mention] is something of a misnomer since I have only one title: *The Organization of an Alaskan Expedition* by Boyd N. Everett Jr. The bulk of my sales are to specialty backpacking/mountaineering shops in the U.S. The rest are to distributors that service these shops, and I am proud of the consistent orders that have come from Japan, Canada, England, France, Germany.

"Of course, I do not plan to remain the smallest publisher in the land forever. I currently have two properties in the pipeline [leave the punning to us, please Mr. Secor; it's our column], and believe me, they will be blockbusters in this small, super-specific field of literature." Well, there you have it folks, the winner of the contest of the decade. Congratulations to you, Mr. Secor and to G— B— (only one mention) and may you not keep your trophy too much longer.

On Saturday, Aug 1, Bob Hicks and I climbed Palisade Crest after climbing Gayley and Sill on Friday. Two weeks later, on Aug 15, I led a scheduled SPS exploratory trip to the same peak using the same route via Elinore Lake. Roy Magnuson was the vice leader in place of Bob Hicks, who went to Kilimanjaro, and we were glad to have good climber Joe Stephens as a participant.

The route has several segments. The part from the roadhead at Big Pine Creek to Elinore Lake is described in my report on our Gayley/Sill climb. The part from the lake to the main crest, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi north of the peak, is ordinary 2nd class. After the first 150m, the traverse south along the ridge is like running a maze. There are many decisions to make as to whether to go along the crest, down on one side or the other, or back up to the crest. There is a solid 3rd class path with a few hard moves and there are many alternates that come to 4th or 5th class. On our first trip we explored several of these no goes and we were so busy that we did not set ducks nor make notes. On the second trip, I forgot the detail in one place and consequently found another 4th class alternate. Of course the route looks different coming back than it does going, so one has two chances to wander. On the second trip we placed some ducks and I give some climbing notes below.

The traverse ends at a deep notch (150'elev) that separates the summit spire from the crest to the north. On the west side of this spire is a plane surface tilting up at about 45°. It is about 15' wide and 160' long and has very good hand and foot holds. Because it is quite exposed it is rated 4th class. This ramp is followed by 2nd and 3rd class to the summit.

On the first trip we carried a 120' and a 80' rope which led to a rappel in three steps. On the second trip we had two 120' ropes which allowed us to reach the intermediate platform. It holds three people easily. With five or more in the party, one could take two light weight ropes, each 165' long. Eric Schumacher suggested to me that they could be bought at a marine supply store which I found to be true.

The first trip took from 0630 to 1730 and the second from 0650 to 1630. The summit register is a spiral bound notebook in a 3" dia tube with a plastic cap. It was left by Greg Vernon in Aug 1980. I give a listing of the entries later. There are four previous reports in the Echo and quotes from each are interesting.

- | | | |
|------|-------------|--|
| 25-3 | Ranschau | "this is perhaps the best, named, mountain-eering quality peak which is not on the list" |
| 26-2 | MacLeod | "it is a fine challenging climb -- it is the only major named peak along the entire main crest of the Sierra not on the list!" |
| 28-6 | Hartunian | "This Peak we <u>will</u> climb again" |
| 30-3 | Holleman, P | "Palisade Crest is an outstanding peak and certainly should be on the SPS list" |

We thank these authors for their useful reports. We agree with them that this peak should be added to the PEAKS LIST and I have written a letter to the SPS Management Committee recommending that it be placed on the ballot.

PALISADE CREST cont'd

Climbing Route From Elinore Lake go up to the south over pleasant terrain to the horizontal spot on the ridge at 683054. Descend a few feet, traverse southward, climb up to the SW and reach the flat snowfield at 680050. Ascend this snowfield to the west and northwest to the Sierra crest, 675052, which is about 400m (¼mi) north of the summit. Go south up the ridge on the west side for about 170' elev and 150m to the end of easy 2nd class climbing. My notes for the rest of the traverse to the big notch may have errors or inaccuracies; I would appreciate comments.

Traverse the ridge top for about 100' dist to a 30' high pyramid that has an apparent class 2/3 face that is facing north. In this traverse, go over an exposed notch and around a 7' high lonesome rock standing on the solid ridge top.

Go around the 30' pyramid on the right and back to the ridge crest.

Go along the crest for perhaps 30', passing over a flat slab of nice old granite that slopes gently to the south.

Go down on the right (west) of the crest thru a 14 inch wide notch in the rocks. Descend about 18', then horizontal for 20' to the near side of a 12' square platform, then go back up to the crest.

Pass over an exposed notch, then up a 4th class move and thru a slanted slot under a tipped and overhanging rock on the crest.

Go down on the left (east) for about 30' elev, then horizontal thru an 8 inch notch behind a rock and then back to the crest.

Make a 7' let down move on the 50° slanted and rounded nose of a rock that is right on the crest. Some people may need help in scrambling back up this thing on the return. Continue south and down along the crest over two more exposed rocks.

Go down on the left perhaps 10', then horizontal 20' along the side of some vertical rocks

Descend a steep ledge/trough with little exposure toward the big notch. Go out to the crest, around a rock and down 20' elev and 30' horiz back to the north. Turn again and go down and then horizontal to the big notch.

Go over the chockstone in the notch and up the other side for about 20' elev to an alcove which is a good start and end for climbing the inclined slab.

Climbing the slab is easy. Protection can be placed with slings or small stoppers and there is an old fixed pin about 15' from the start. The halfway platform, which is on the right, holds three or perhaps four people. It has a good horn for anchors. There is a good solid anchor at the top of the slab.

From the top of the slab go down about 15' and around the summit spire into a chute. Then climb the 100' elev to the summit. There are a few high 3rd class moves near the top.

Register Data

1980 Aug 31 : Greg Vernon, Cuno Ranschau, Dick Banner

1981 Sep 7 : Cuno Ranschau, Ron Bartel, Jack Gramms

1981 Sep 13 : (SPS scheduled) Bill Sanders, Laura Leventhal, Ernie Tempelmeier,
Eric Schumacher, Barbara Lilley, Gordon MacLeod

1984 Jul 28 : Bob Hartunian, Dave Vandervoet

1984 Aug 17 : Kyle Atkins, Greg Jenagene

1985 Jul 21 : Don Palmer, Elliot Page

1985 Aug 11 : Gerry Holleman, Larry Machleder, Pat Holleman, Harold McFadden

1986 Aug 16 : Dan Mihaljevich, Mark Goebel, Charmaine le Desma
Pete Fisher, James Wilson, Lono No Fo

1986 Aug 24 : Gene Mauk, Al Conrad, Steve Mauk, Rob Mauk

1987 Jul 4 : Igor Mamedalin, Jim Farkas

1987 Aug 1 : Bob Hicks, Bill T Russell

1987 Aug 8 : Daryl Hinsman, Paul Oersiter, Tom Roseman

1987 Aug 15 : Bill T Russell, Roy Magnuson, Joe Stephens (SPS scheduled exploratory)

Bill T.

SPS PROGRAMS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

NOTICE: SPS MEETINGS WILL BE ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH BEGINNING JANUARY 7, 1988! THE SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS SCHEDULE WHICH STILL LISTS SECOND WEDNESDAY MEETINGS IS INCORRECT!

January 7 Meeting (Thursday): "Mt. Olympus/Bicycling in Greece": As a winter-time diversion for SPSer's, DENNIS BAKER will present a notable slide show of a bicycling trip through Greece and a climb of Mt. Olympus. Refreshments. Griffith Park Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

February 4 Meeting (Thursday): "Trailbuilding and the Mountain Bike Issue": BILL and KATHIE REILLY of the JPL Trailbuilders will present a program describing the fundamentals of and issues surrounding trailbuilding. Bill is a member of the Citizens Resolution Group for Mountain Biking. Refreshments. Griffith Park Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

TROJAN PEAK

APRIL 18-19, 1987

L. TIDBALL / T. DURYEA

This was to have been the third spring trip that Karen Patterson and I had lead up George Creek in recent years. However; when she suddenly sold her house just before the trip and had to hunt for a new place this weekend and was forced to cancel, Tom Duryea consented to act as assistant leader. Tom had been on our previous trips up George Creek (Williamson in 1983 and Barnard in 1984) making him certifiable when he jumped at the chance to do those 8,600' of gain that early in the season. Richard Fritsen signed up not realizing what he was getting into, and the other three participants canceled out at the last minute, leaving the three of us for the climb.

We consolidated into one car in Lone Pine for the rough drive up to the trailhead. On arriving at the trailhead campsite at 6,400', Tom realized that he had left his sleeping bag in the car left in Lone Pine, so back we went, finally settling in for the night at 1:00 A.M. Off at dawn Saturday we headed up the faint trail on the North side of the creek carrying snowshoes. Even with the low snow year we feared that we might need them based on past experiences. The low snow level made the first stream crossing a dry one over the log jamb which had been under water in previous years. Just above the easy second crossing is an old burn area at about 7,200'. In 83-84 this was an open clearing with dead standing trees. Now this area is crisscrossed with downed trees and filled with 6' tall brush. Once through this area you have a view far up the canyon. This is where we had encountered consistent snow previously, this year we could see the route was dry and stashed the snowshoes. We now faced the canyon in its true form, first a talus field to cross and then miles of brush intermixed with odd bits of trail and patches of breakable crust snow.

After this exhausting approach we finally reached our campsite on the last patch of dry ground among the highest trees, and just below the snow chute leading up into the upper basin between Barnard and Trojan. Off early Sunday morning we cramponed out of camp and up the chute into the basin. Looking across the basin the slopes of Barnard were almost free of snow. We continued up the South slopes of Trojan following a consistent snow patch, cramponing to the summit.

After and uneventful return to camp, we decided to try the North side of the stream for our return, having seen less snow patches and more trail than on the South side which we had ascended. The willow-wacking however turned out to be equally ferocious.

On our return to the car, and over dinner in Lone Pine, Tom and I vowed never to go back up George Creek unless good snow conditions cover the brush in the upper canyon. Thanks to Tom for assisting and to Richard for putting up with it all. P.S. Karen you don't know what you missed.

LAD

Larry Tidball / Scot Jamison

We had a full compliment of 12 as we started out up the Baxter Pass trail. The first stream crossing was an interesting rock hop in this low water year. The stream bed is very eroded at this point and could be tricky without a replacement bridge in a high water year.

On arriving at our campsite just below the stream junction at 10,800', most of us relaxed in the sun while Tina and Dale walked up to Baxter Pass to take a look at Baxter Peak. They found soft snow all the way from camp to the pass and turned back just in time to join the happy hour back in camp. Everyone had brought hors d'oeuvres and drinks to share, and after enjoying the munchies no one was interested in cooking dinner.

Off for the peaks the next morning we headed up into the upper basin between Black and Diamond. Barbara didn't feel well and returned to camp soon after starting out. Eleven of us then kicked steps up the perfect snow in the first gully leading to the easy upper slopes of Diamond from the upper basin. On reaching the summit we looked across at Black Mtn. to work out our route across to our next peak.

Heading down from Diamond we tried a couple of chutes further West than the one we had ascended but were forced back to our original line of ascent. Traversing around the head of this upper basin at about 11,800' we climbed a combination of steep chutes at the west end of the cliffband separating the slopes of Black from the basin between the two peaks. As we climbed up we angled toward the saddle on the ridge $\frac{1}{2}$ mile North of Black. Before reaching the ridge we traversed around a small peaklet to reach the ridge at the next saddle to the South. From there the route went easily up the ridge.

After signing the register we retreated down out of the wind to eat our lunch. Our return route went more directly towards camp, dropping into the upper basin at the East end of the cliff band via a route spotted from the top of Diamond Peak. Our to the cars was uneventful. 11 reached the summit of Diamond, and 9 signed in on Black.

The participants were: Richard Fritsen, Dave Petzold, Barbara Reber, Dave Perkins, Bruce Veidet, Ali Aminian, Tina Stough, Bill Kilgore, Clive Ballie, and Dale Van Dalsem.

SEVEN OF US STARTED SAT MORNING FROM THE CROWDED (MEMORIAL DAY) N FORK TRAILHEAD AT 7:45. THE SNOW LINE WAS ENCOUNTERED AT THE START OF THE STEEP SWITCH-BACKS LEADING UP TO SAM MACK MEADOW, WHICH WE REACHED AT 1:45 PM. WE PITCHED TWO TENTS ON THE SNOW IN TIME TO BE SHELTERED FROM A MILD STORM THAT LEFT 1-2 INCHES. THE WEATHER EASED UP BEFORE DINNER AND REMAINED CLEAR ALL NIGHT.

A DAWN START SUN GOT US TO THE STEEPENING GLACIER ABOUT 8:30. AS WE PREPARED TO PUT ON CRAMPONS, I WAS INCREASINGLY CONCERNED THAT WE WOULD NOT HAVE TIME TO BE UP & OFF BEFORE THE VERY LIKELY AFTERNOON CLOUDS. THE TWO STRONGEST MEMBERS OF OUR GROUP, TOM DURYEA (WHO HAD CLIMBED IT BEFORE) AND JOE ANDREWS ELECTED TO SIGN OUT AND PROCEED AT A PACE MUCH FASTER THAN THE GROUP'S. THE SCHRUND, WHICH WAS BARELY OPEN IN THE CENTER, WAS EASILY BY-PASSED. THERE WAS ALSO SOME CONCERN ABOUT AVALANCHE POTENTIAL, BUT THE PACK APPEARED STABLE AND THE ROUTE UP TO THE U-NOTCH HAD BEEN BROKEN BY EARLIER CLIMBERS. THIS WAS A BIG HELP AS THE STRAIGHT UP CLIMB APPROACHED 50 DEGREES ABOVE THE SCHRUND.

THE GROUP ARRIVED AT THE NOTCH IN TIME TO WATCH TOM AND JOE BACKING OFF THE TOO-ICY CHUTE. ATTEMPTS WITH OTHERS TO SEEK OUT THE CLYDE VARIATION WERE ALSO FRUSTRATED BY THE FRESH SNOW. WE CONTENTED OURSELVES WITH LUNCH AT CLOSE TO 14,000' AND WITH SUPERB VIEWS OF BOTH SIDES OF THE PALISADE CREST. OUR EXPERIENCED GROUP REQUIRED NO BELAYS ON THE SNOW.

OUR ARRIVAL BACK AT CAMP BY MID-AFTERNOON SOON LEAD TO A UNANIMOUS DECISION TO PACK OUT AND ENJOY MEMORIAL DAY MORNING IN AN UN-TENTED BED. THE GROUP ALSO INCLUDED KATHY MOORE, HEIDI SHYU AND SCOTT SULLIVAN. SPECIAL THANKS TO RJ FOR SUPPORTING ME ON THIS PROVISIONAL LEAD, ESPECIALLY WITH SHORT NOTICE WHEN THE ORIGINAL ASSISTANT HAD TO WITHDRAW.

Bill

NORTHEAST RIDGE MT. BRADLEY

June 7, 1987
Dick Beach

The spectacular Eastern escarpment of Mt. Bradley offers two very enjoyable ridge routes. The southeast ridge leaves from Shepard Pass trailhead and the northeast ridge leaves from Pinon Creek at 5,800 feet.

My plan was to follow Fred L. Jones' route of 1948 up from Pinon Creek along the ridge to Bradley Summit, then descend the chute between Center Basin Crag 4 and 5; traverse along the base of the Crag in Center Basin, then up a large talus chute which crests at the south of University Peak known as University Cal (12,600 feet). From this remote spot, which is at the head of the Robinson Lake drainage, we would descend to the Lakes trail and pick up our second car at Onion Valley. In order to do this a car shuttle is necessary.

Arising at the lonely hour of 1:30 a.m., climbing friend Bob Good and I left Bishop. We left one car at Onion Valley and the other at our starting point at Pinon Creek. (A small road cuts off just above the Shepard Pass road turnoff. It goes for 1 mile exactly). After all our driving we started hiking at 4:00 a.m. The morning was clear and very moist, a heavy rain storm had just occurred the night before covering the dry granite soil with a pleasant firm footing. Our start up the lower ridge through the sagebrush was fine until we encountered a 300 foot drop, that hurt! From there the ridge rises quickly and what was stated as class 2 becomes a

(Continued on next page)

MT. BRADLEY (Continued)

brushy class 3. The route follows a very precise arete via heavily overgrown ledges. An eye of the needle route finding becomes the name of the game. My best suggestion at this point is to favor the southern side by staying close to the crest of the main arete at all times. Eventually point 11,320 feet comes in to view which is identified by the junction of the north and south ridges.

From here one has the feeling that the major work is done on the ridge. Even the map somewhat indicates this. No such luck. The entire ridge at my guess is 5.8 miles, this junction is halfway even though you'd wish it to be more so. The view from a "Rabbitear Spire", (which remains visible as a reference point for the remainder of the climb is spectacular. This can also be seen from Highway 395). Traversing along the south side to a very distinct saddle becomes one of many to come. The ridge from here on is class 2 and is very beautiful from the number of towering pinnacles surrounding the half dozen or so saddles between you and the summit plateau.

We started with a cloudless morning yet by 11:00 a.m clouds were coming up from the valley floor on both sides of the ridge. By 2:00 p.m. we were in a full snow and hail storm. An incredible erie feeling surrounded us as we became soaked in only noticing tall rocky spires silhouetted on the ridge. Finally the summit plateau was reached, being completely white, we knew it immediately!

Mt. Bradley is one of those enjoyable peaks that makes its location ideal for a 360° view. We were not disappointed even with limited visibility, even though during our climb we were unable to see Mt. Williamson's north face side for the entire day. Due to the amount of snow that was falling, mind you this is June, we stayed only a few minutes to get our bearings for our descent to Center Basin.

Having traversed the Craggs a year ago with Bob, we knew the terrain to be straight forward over University Col, it was just that 2,000 foot haul up from the Center Basin that we dreaded. This was truly the great UGH of our day especially after the 8,000 foot gain of the Bradley Ridge proper.

I couldn't resist climbing Crag #5 to catch the great views of Craggs 1-4 through snow and clouds. Center Basin was still partially filled with snow and with the added snow flurries made the entire area look bleak and forboding. So, rather than drop an additional 400 feet to the basin floor, we were able to traverse nicely along the base of the Basin Craggs until the large obvious chute to University Col is reached. A year earlier when doing the Crag traverse from south to north, Bob Good and I had intended to exit to Onion Valley by the same Col only to be too tired and too late to do so. Even though it was snowing harder by now we were a good three hours sooner than our Crag traverse, plus the thought of going down to Vedette Meadows then over Kearsarge again held zero appeal.

After the longest hour of our lives, we reached the Col (6:00 p.m.). The Robinson side was full of snow. Great, we had taken 40 inch ice axes for the upward grunge and for walking, yet we still knew we would find a bit of snow somewhere. Nice glissading with continuous snow to Robinson Lake saved us a good hour plus.

Once on the trail, considering what is left because of the massive 1986 avalanche season, we were still able to get down to Onion Valley by 7:30 p.m. Unfortunately corvettes do not drive on dirt roads, so after a loss of a coin toss, a jog of one mile was required to retrieve my truck at Pinon Creek. Ugh, again.

This ended out a great long day (16 hours) to an area seldom visited on the eastern slopes of Bradley. Fred L. Jones soloed both ridges in 40's within a month of each other in a single day each. I can't help but wonder, "How did he return?" Our descent was only feasible because of our previous trip to the Center Basin Craggs. We salute you Fred Jones, wherever you are.

Nine of us met at 7:00 am at the Rock Creek trailhead. Ron Hudson had another party meeting for Mills and Dade. We left pretty much on time and arrived at our campsite by 10 am. We set up our tents, ate some food, and six of us went for Abbot. The other three came to do Bear Creek Spire

We reached the NE gully where the snow/ice tongue comes down and proceeded up. We all wore helmets, had ice axes, and crampons. After a few minutes we changed to the rock on the left ridge. As expected, lots of loose rock. We were careful in climbing so that we would keep the rockfall to the minimum.

About 300 feet from the summit as I was mantling a rock, a dislodged rock fell between my legs, hitting Donna O'Shaughnessy in front of her leg, just above the ankle. Donna was standing no more than 5 feet behind me. The rock was sharp and heavy, and chiseled a large piece of skin and flesh off.

We immediately applied first aid by placing sterile gauze on the wound and applying a pressure bandage to stop bleeding. Fortunately, no blood vessels were broken, and no bone damage was obvious.

In a few minutes we determined that Donna could not walk out, but she could move about on both feet, very carefully. Since we were sitting in a fairly small and steep gully on the ridge, we thought that the best thing to do was to move up to the summit ridge, where a helicopter could get her off. We had a 7mm rope which we tied around her as a security blanket to give her tension, and she slowly walked up.

Now, in true SPS spirit, those who had nothing to do, as Donna was walking up, went and got the peak. In fact everyone got it, including Donna. After everyone left to go about our rescue business, Donna and I slowly mized up.

Thanks to individuals in the group, the rescue went as if it had been rehearsed. Tom Duryea instantly volunteered to get sleeping bags and bring them back. Brian Smith and Hirsh Kolp volunteered to go for the sheriff, and George Tucker was going to assist with ferrying the loads to Tom. Before leaving, they left most of their water, and food for us. The accident happened at 1:30 pm, and they left us at 3:30 pm. At that time we saw Ron Hudson summiting Mills.

It is noted that both leaders had complete personal first aid kits to handle the emergency. One recommendation however, the kits should contain some large gauze pads and bandage, plus a triangular bandage. Small stuff would not have done it.

I can not give enough praise to the four who did most of the hiking, there was total cooperation. Tina Stough, and Don and Ursula Slager also helped with carrying packs and extra gear, as did Ron Hudson's group on the way out.

One great variable that was in our favor was the weather. It could not have been any better.

To continue with the long story, we spent a comfortable night on top sleeping in our sleeping bags, delivered by Tom. At 9:00 am the helicopter showed up, and by 10:00 am Donna was on her way to Bishop's Hospital. By the time we arrived, surgery had been performed, and she was recovering. I had to wait till about 6:30 when she was released. The prognosis was that there was no loss of function, no damage to the bone or muscle. Only evidence would be a scar.

Many thanks to all the participants for being so helpful and understanding, and particularly Tom for bringing the bags in the middle of the night, and being the assistant.

Maris Valkass



Because I misunderstood Dave Dykeman and thought that I was on the wait list his Banner/Ritter trip and not actually on his trip before I received the official trip sheet, I accepted a position on Maris Valkass' September 19/20 Abbott/Bear Creek Spire trip. Dave told me the following "serves you right" for then cancelling out on his trip:

I carpooled to Rock Creek with Maris. We left the trailhead at 7:10 AM Saturday. Tom Duryea was Assistant Leader; other party members were Hirsh Kolp, Ursula and Don Slagle, Brian Smith, Tina Strough and George Tucker. We arrived at Treasure Lake at 9:00 AM and set up basecamp. At 9:45 AM, six of us set off to climb Abbot: Maris, Tom, George, Brian, Hirsh and myself; the others already had the peak.

At 1:30 PM, about 150' from the summit ridge, I decided to wait for Maris to move past some loose-looking rock. My error; I should not have been standing directly below him. Most of my weight was on my left foot with my right foot resting against a rock. A few small rocks and gravel fell as Maris moved up. Suddenly, a larger rock, approximately 12" x 14" across, came down the incline. My estimate is that it fell no more than 8 to 12 feet. It did not fall free, but slid/bounced down the slope. The rock struck my left leg about 3" above my boot. It hit left of center and glanced off, leaving a large, gaping laceration which looked like a shark bite. Fortunately, I was not knocked down and the pain was not severe.

Maris called a halt to the climb, telling the others to come back down, but not down the chute we had been going up. Combining supplies from various first aid kits, Maris and Tom bandaged my leg, Tom assuring me that no major artery damage was done. During this tending, Hirsh asked me questions to fill out the accident report form. He said I could whisper my age--the Inyo Register didn't whisper it when they reported the rescue on the front page!

George reported that it was approximately another 150' to the ridge and maybe another 200' to the summit. Deciding that any rescue could not be made from where I was, I was belayed up to the ridge. Maris guided my feet, offered his back for me to stand on, and gave me much needed encouragement and occasional shoves. Brian and Hirsh took turns belaying me, responding quickly to my requests for "slack" and "tension".

Once on the ridge, it was decided that Maris would stay with me and the others would return to camp. Tom would re-climb the peak with sleeping bags, stove and food, if possible. At 3:07 Tom, George, Brian, and Hirsh left to effect the rescue, and Maris and I started for the summit, now reported to be 250' and 15 minutes away (for me). The 15 minutes turned out to be 45. Everyone else had had time to make the summit and sign-in during my belayed climb to the ridge.

At 6:15 PM, a helicopter came up the valley. We discussed the probability of it being 'my rescue.' It on went over Mills and continued West. I learned the next day, that it was going in to rescue a hangglider pilot.

The worst time for me during the whole incident was my concern for Tom when it started to get dark. I really worried that he would have trouble re-climbing in the dark to bring up the sleeping gear. At 8:52 PM Tom showed up; he had started climbing the face at 8:00! (Maris hadn't told me that Tom was really Superman in disguise.)

When we hadn't responded to Tom's repeated whistle blasts as he got on the ridge, Tom also thought that the early chopper might have been for us. I think we couldn't hear his whistle because of the rustling noise of the space blanket we were huddled under. The Thermarest, sleeping bag with down booties bivy sack and two sleeping pills made a very bearable night for me. I'm not sure how well Maris and Tom slept.

(Continued on next page)

Mt. Abbot Accident (Continued)

The chopper arrived at 9:10 AM Sunday. I hobbled around a bit to show that I was mobile. It circled many times, a smoke bomb was dropped, and it disappeared down the valley (I learned from Hirsh that doors were removed), and returned. After dropping and observing another smoke bomb, the chopper set down on one skid, and the 'co-pilot' got out.

I was all they could take; no other passengers and no packs. When the chopper again set down, I boarded very carefully as directed, like getting into a canoe and we took off. I heard later that if I hadn't been able to walk, the chopper could not have taken me off the peak at 13,700'.

We landed at the trailhead parking lot and I was taken by the Inyo Co. Sheriff's Posse ambulance to the North Inyo Hospital. We arrived at 11:00 AM. After x-rays and consultations, I had surgery to clean out the wound at 2:15 PM and was released at 6:10 PM. The wound could not be closed because too much dead tissue had to be removed.

The fastest way home from Bishop is to have a shot of Demerol about an hour before leaving. I swear it only took 20 minutes for Maris to drive to Lone Pine, get me something to eat, gas up at Mojave, drop his gear off at his house and deliver me to my back door! (It was about 11:45 PM, actually.)

I had skin graft surgery to close the wound on Sept 25th, and started back at work, part time, on the Oct 12th. The Inyo Hospital bill was \$1659, the surgeon \$560 and the anesthesiologist \$315, (all covered by Kaiser, I hope). I probably won't be billed for the chopper or the ambulance. The Forest Service bills Inyo Sheriff's Posse who, in turn, bills LA County. (The Posse is a volunteer organization and will accept tax-deductable donations.) TRW paid two weeks sick leave. Since I only started working there on June 29th, I had no problem with that.

My thanks again to all my rescuers, especially Maris and Tom. They were calm, decisive, and showed excellent judgement; the other party members cooperated fully as directed and made suggestions which were considered, but the leaders made the decisions. If you have to have an accident on a peak, I'd recommend choosing a Maris Valkass/Tom Duryea trip! (I've been on a rescue where one person tried to do his own thing and totally disrupted the rescue. Ask Mel Lees about his Mt Williamson experience.)

Also my thanks to all those people (some not even in our group) who helped carry gear to the mountain and/or out to the trailhead.

See you soon on the rocks or in the desert!

Donna O, 10/ 12/87

ECHO NOTICE

Leaders! It's not too late to write up your spring, summer, and fall trips for publication in the ECHO! Send them to the 1988 ECHO Editor, Igor Mamedalin.

California's
Deserts
Need Your
Help!

Barbara Reber, Chair of the Angeles Chapter Desert Subcommittee, needs volunteers to help gain passage of the Cranston desert protection bill. Get involved in this exciting campaign. An organizational meeting will take place Tuesday, Jan. 12, 1988, 7:00 PM, at the Angeles Chapter office. Call Barbara at (714) 640-7821, evenings or Jeff Widen at (213) 387-6528, for more info.

REMEMBER THAT SPS MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH, SAME PLACE, SAME TIME, BEGINNING JANUARY 7, 1988!

THE SIERRA ECHO is published seven times a year by the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club. This issue was edited by Pat Holleman.

COPY: Send to 1988 Editor, Igor Mamedalin, 24 Almond Tree Lane, Irvine, CA 92715. ECHO deadlines are the 20th of the odd numbered months and June. Priority is given to TYPED, SINGLE SPACED copy. Private trip announcements - \$1.00 for 4 lines or less, \$1.00 per line in excess of 4. Advertisements - \$1 per line.

ADDRESS CHANGES TO: Secretary, Ruth Armentrout, 23262 Haynes St., Canoga Park, CA 91307. The ECHO is sent by 3rd class mail and will not be forwarded.

INQUIRIES ABOUT NOT RECEIVING THE ECHO: Direct to Mailer, Carolyn West, 5000 Centinela Ave., #302, Los Angeles, CA 90066. Extra copies of THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY ECHO are available by sending \$4.50 per copy to the Mailer.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are \$8.00 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 (address above) and include your Sierra Club membership number. Send renewals to the Treasurer (address 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 and senior emblem pins (\$7.50), list finisher pins (\$10.00), and patches (\$2.00) are available from the Treasurer, Al Conrad, 2311 Pickens Canyon Rd., La Crescenta, CA 91214.

SIERRA CLUB, ANGELES CHAPTER
SIERRA PEAKS SECTION
5000 Centinela Ave., #302
Los Angeles, CA 90066
"To explore, enjoy, preserve"

FORWARDING ADDRESS REQUESTED

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
permit no. 36438
Los Angeles, CA