

*The
Sierra*



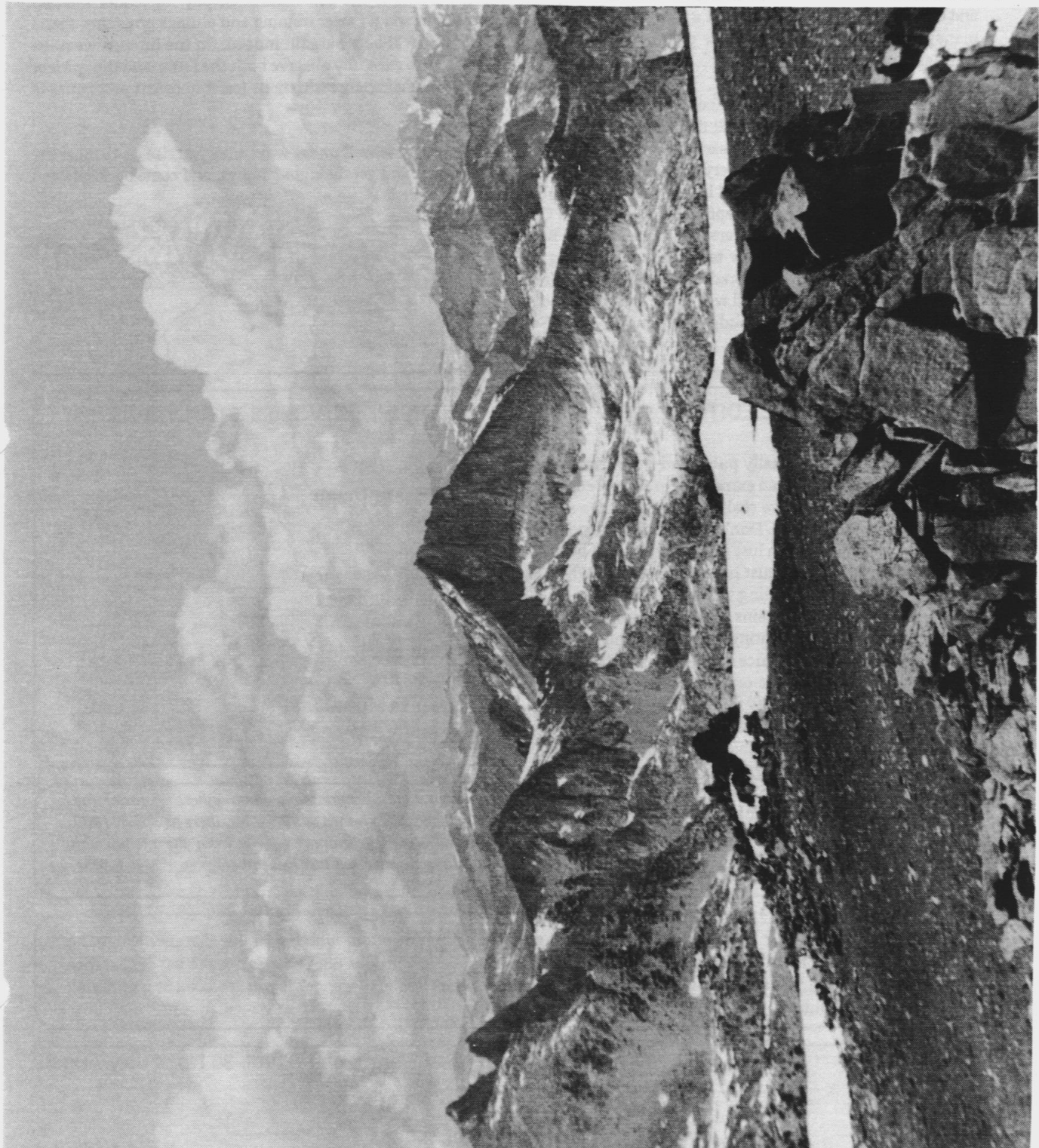
ECHO

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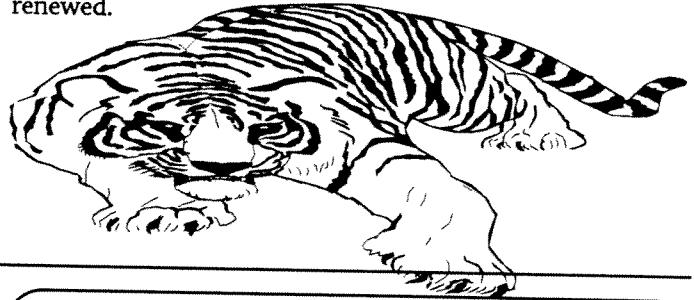
ECHOES FROM THE CHAIR

Following up on a commitment made at the May board of directors meeting, Sierra Club President Richard Cellarius, to his credit, in late May created the Mountaineering Policy Task Force to "establish a process to study the best method of administering a mountaineering program with adequate guidelines, if proper insurance can be obtained." This is continuing, interim good news. This task force will work separately from two other parallel efforts under the president's direction: one working on the procurement of affordable insurance quotes and one investigating the creation of a separate corporation to manage the entire - or the riskier portion of - the Club's Outings Program.

The new task force includes John Cheslick and Cal French and is chaired by Bruce Knudtson. All three have already made prodigious contributions to the earlier Mountaineering/Insurance Task Force. The SPS is very relieved and grateful for their continued deep involvement in this vital matter. Other members are directors Sandy Tepfer and Sally Reid, a Club staff person and four advisory persons (including Phil Berry and Rob Langsdorf). The new task force is pursuing the various recommendations of its predecessor organization (refer to a listing in the June *Echo*) and will report back to the Board in time for the latter's annual budget meeting on 16-17 September.

These recent developments are indeed encouraging. Let us not forget, however, that their ultimate success crucially depends upon the procurement of affordable insurance. We must also recognize and accept that our earnestly-sought goal of mountaineering restoration, if achieved, will not mean a return to the way it was. There will be requirements for Sierra Club membership by all trip participants, waivers, user fees, periodic leader re-certification and new levels of administration. If this is the price we must pay for leader liability protection and for safer training and outings programs, then I believe it will be a bargain indeed. In the interim we must continue to carefully observe both the letter and the spirit of the current climbing restrictions (refer to recent past issues of this column).

The summer is well under way. May you rise up to meet the mountains and get their glad tidings, and come back safe and renewed.



ECHO FROM THE EDITOR

The *Sierra Echo* is usually published seven times a year, bi-monthly with an extra issue in July. Well, by now you probably have realized that you have not received the July issue. Don't start calling the postmaster; it has not been lost in the mail; it has been combined with the August issue which this is. Why? Blame it on the demanding work schedule. Blame it on the call of the mountains in the summer. Blame it on the rising cost of printing. Blame it on the underestimated effort to produce the membership survey. But, above all blame it on the editor. The editor accepts full responsibility for the missing issue and appologizes to the *Echo* readers. The editor can only hope that the contents of this combined issue will be found to be satisfactory by the *Echo* subscribers. The editor also wishes to thank Suzanne Thomas and Tanya Mamedalin for their help in bringing this issue to light. Bill Oliver's input submitted on floppy disks is also greatly appreciated.

PEAK INDEX: VOL 33-4 (JULY-AUG, '89)

Clouds Rest
Disappointment
Gibbs
Mauna Kea
Mauna Loa
Middle Palisade
Needham
Norman Clyde
Sawtooth
Spanish Mountain
Tehipite Dome

This issue also contains the membership roster (addresses and phones of SPS subscribers as of July 1989) and some preliminary results from the membership survey mailed out last December.

-- Editor.

PHOTO CREDIT:

This front cover photograph features one of our emblem peaks, Clarence King. The picture was taken from atop Mt. Gould by Jeff Solomon on a clear day in July '88. The peak to the left of Clarence King is Cotter, but what is the high peak in the far distance to the right of Clarence? If you are good at identifying mystery peaks, submit your guess to Jeff.

CARPOOLING CAUTION

The following important news item comes from Mary Sue Miller, Chapter Activities Committee Administration Chair:

Leaders must not take an active role in making arrangements for participants' transportation. A recent accident has highlighted the need to bring this matter to all leaders' attentions. The policy is that all trips start at the trailhead. Carpooling and transportation arrangements are not to be directed by the leader. The leader is responsible to see that all participants know the directions and, in case of moving roadheads and/or campsites, that no participants are left behind. He or she should not imply that transportation arrangements are anything but voluntary and participant-initiated because some lawyers may try to make the Sierra Club liable for traffic accidents. For further information, please contact Bob Hicks, Safety Chair, or any member of the Executive Committee.

OLD ISSUES OF THE ECHO ARE RECYCLABLE

Not only that but they are very valuable to the membership. Any member interested in retiring his or her collection of past issues of the *Sierra Echo*, large or small, should contact Chair Bill Oliver. We are in the process of trying to establish complete sets in various locations for public and member reference. Don't let this valuable resource be discarded. We need to have back issues more readily available to our newer members.

NEW CONSERVATION CHAIR

The Management Committee welcomes **Sylvia Sur** to the position of SPS Conservation Chair. She comes to the position with both a degree and work experience appropriate for the job, and also possesses a strong personal interest and commitment. Appreciation is extended to Carolyn West, who had to resign from the position due to increased work demands.

SYLVIA SUR
658 Flaming Star Ave.,
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
(805) 493-2350

ENVIRONMENTAL ALERT

LETTERS NEEDED TO SENATOR PETE WILSON TO STOP JAMES CASON APPOINTMENT. President Bush has nominated Mr. Cason for Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Special Services. If approved by the Senate, he will be supervising the U. S. Forest Service, the Soil Conservation Service, and other conservation programs.

The Sierra Club and all the other major national environmental groups are united in their opposition to this nomination and are mounting a major effort to block the appointment in the Senate confirmation process. The Senate Agriculture Committee should begin hearings in September. California's Republican Senator Pete Wilson sits on this committee.

It is critical that Senator Wilson receive letters from thousands of Californians as soon as possible that Cason's appointment is unacceptable. During the Reagan administration, Mr. Cason served as a deputy to Interior Secretaries James Watts and Donald Hodel, and played a leading role in undermining protection for our federal public lands. He promoted federal give-aways of shale oil claims, undercut regulations against strip-mining, attempted to block the Forest Service from enacting regulations controlling oil and gas development in National Forests, and worked with Watt to eliminate 1.5 million acres of lands from the Bureau of Lands Management Wilderness Study Program.

So far, Senator Wilson has been noncommittal about Cason's nomination. If he chooses to do so, he could play a decisive role in stopping this nomination, either in the Senate Agriculture Committee or by quietly advising the Bush administration that it should be withdrawn early.

Send your letter right away to :

The Honorable Pete Wilson
Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

1990 SPS OFFICERS

Anyone interested in nominating himself, herself, or someone else's self for the 1990 Management Committee's five elected positions should make their interest known to the Nominations Chair, Maris Valkass, by the 10th of September. We need old timers, young timers, two timers and in between timers.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Golden Corral Restaurants. ***** Five Stars *****
St. George, Kingman, Lancaster, Porterville, Ridgecrest and Tulare.

The best salad bar going! That is usually the consensus of opinion after stopping at the Golden Corral. I've eaten at restaurants at three different locations and they must have a selection of fifty fresh, crisp and tasty items in the salad bar. The costs in St. George, Utah and Kingman, Arizona are \$4.49 and that includes a soup bar with three or four tasty selections and a small dessert bar. For an additional fifty cents you can add a large baked potatoe and your choice of toppings such as cheese and broccoli or chili. Golden Corral also has shrimp, chicken, hamburgers, sirloin, club, filet and rib eye steaks. This restaurant franchise has a policy of not locating in major cities. This is a Los Angeles's loss but a good reason to stop at when in the boonies.

For SPSers enroute to peak bagging orgies, Golden Corral restaurant franchises are also located in Lancaster, Porterville, Ridgecrest and Tulare.

[Reviewed by Ron Jones]

[If you have had a good, bad or ugly meal at a restaurant enroute to the Sierra, we encourage you to share your experience with the rest of the membership. Send your restaurant review to the Echo editor for publication.]

ECHO PRINTING

If you know of a quality printer willing to publish the bi-monthly Echo at a reasonable price, please let the Editor or a member of the management committee know. We would appreciate some leads. (Or, if you are a printer yourself, would you consider volunteering your services at cost?)

MOUNTAINEERING FIRST AID

October 28, November 4-5, 1988 (SAT, SAT-SUN): Learn essential first aid skills in an exciting format at the Keller Peak Ski Hut. Lots of hands-on skills practice and several realistic accident simulations included. First day will be held in Fullerton. Red Cross Standard First Aid course with adult CPR is included. Cost \$75.00 includes notes, meals, \$18.00 in Red Cross fees, and hut fee for weekend. Enrollment limited. Make check out to Steven Schuster. Send 2 sase's and check to lead instructor: Steven Schuster, 1113 N. Oakdale Ave., Fullerton, CA 92631.

BOOK REVIEW

California Mountain Ranges

by Russell B. Hill,
Falcon Press Publishing Company, 1986,
120pp.

Covering ranges throughout the state, this superb book has special emphasis on the Sierra Nevada. It is lavishly illustrated, including many photos by David Muench, and very well researched. There is an illuminating chapter relating to geology and one focusing on flora and fauna. The final chapter, entitled Mountain Trivia, includes the attached listing of the state's 100 highest peaks.

This book is actually number one in the California Geographic Series. Number two focuses on State Parks and number three on the Deserts, also highly recommended. More broadly, Falcon Press now has similarly formatted, softcover books by various authors covering the Mountain Ranges of most of the Western states, i.e., CA, CO, ID, MT, OR, WA & WY. I also have the Colorado book and am eager to acquire others.

One may order direct from the publisher by mail or phone: Falcon Press, Box 1718, Helena, MT 59624; toll-free 1-800-582-BOOK. \$14.95 + \$1.50 P&H. CA and CO are also available hardcover for \$19.95.

[Reviewed by Bill Oliver]

[If you have read an interesting book on mountaineering, backpacking, travel, climbing skills, or commentary on nature in general, please share your thoughts with the Echo readers by submitting a book review.]

QUIZ!

Using the attached list of 100 highest California peaks, we challenge you to answer the following three Mountain Trivia Quiz questions. Send your opinions/guesses to Echo Associate Editor, Jeff Solomon, and your response with your name will be acknowledge in print.

Mountain Trivia Quiz #1 - Of the 100 highest California peaks on the attached list, which Sierra peaks are not included on the SPS list? (For example, Caltech Peak.)

Mountain Trivia Quiz #2 - Of those peaks on the SPS list over 13,050 feet, which are not included on the attached list? (For example, Mt. Dana.)

Mountain Trivia Quiz #3 - Of those peaks on the attached list, which, if any, are identified as having first ascents by SPS mountaineers? (Hint: we're talking the latter half of this century.)

Above all else: the 100 highest peaks in California

The following list of California's peak elevations, the official names of those peaks, the ranges in which they are located, and the first recorded ascents is based upon computerized lists provided by the United States Geographic Survey, on Sierra Club archives (including *The Climber's Guide to the High Sierra*, by Steve Roper, Sierra Club Books, 1976), and on the

archives of the American Alpine Club. Omitted from this list are peaks without official names, and peaks for which no exact elevation is available (such as Aperture Peak in the Sierra Nevada, listed on topographic maps as having an elevation of 13,200+). It is also worth noting that many elevation figures were first recorded years ago and may

not be exact. Moreover, California's mountain peaks are actually changing their elevations frequently—the 1872 Lone Pine (Owens Valley) earthquake, for example, raised numerous mountains in the Sierra Nevada several feet, and the 1971 San Fernando earthquake raised peaks in the Transverse Ranges a similar amount.

Elevation	Name	Location	First Ascent - Date	Elevation	Name	Location	First Ascent - Date
14,494	Mt. Whitney	Sierra Nevada	A.H. Johnson, C.P. Begole, and John Lucas, 1873	13,960	Mt. Le Conte	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1925
14,375	Mt. Williamson	Sierra Nevada	W.L. Hunter and C. Mulholland, 1884	13,950	Trojan Peak	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1926
14,246	White Mountain Peak	White Mts.	first ascent unknown	13,917	Disappointment Peak	Sierra Nevada	J.M. Davies, A.L. Jordan, and H.H. Bliss, 1919
14,242	North Palisade	Sierra Nevada	James Hutchinson, Joseph N. Le Conte, and J.K. Moffitt, 1903	13,891	Mt. Agassiz	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1925
14,163	Mt. Sill	Sierra Nevada	James Hutchinson, Joseph N. Le Conte, James Moffitt, and Robert Pike, 1903	13,888	Junction Peak	Sierra Nevada	E.B. Copeland and E.N. Henderson, 1899
14,162	Mt. Shasta	Cascades	E.D. Pearce, 1854	13,850	Mt. Mallory	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1925
14,086	Mt. Russell	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1926	13,832	Caltech Peak	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1926
14,058	Split Mountain	Sierra Nevada	Frank Saulque and others, 1887	13,830	Mt. Darwin	Sierra Nevada	E.C. Andrews and Willard Johnson, 1908
14,040	Middle Palisade	Sierra Nevada	Francis Farquhar and Ansel Hall, 1921	13,802	Mt. Kaweah	Sierra Nevada	William Wallace, James Wright, and F.H. Wates, 1881
14,027	Mt. Langley	Sierra Nevada	first ascent unknown, but prior to 1871	13,770	Mt. Irvine	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1925
14,018	Mt. Tyndall	Sierra Nevada	Clarence King and Richard Colter, 1864	13,768	Mt. Winchell	Sierra Nevada	H.C. Mansfield, J.N. Newell, and W.B. Putnam, 1923
14,015	Mt. Muir	Sierra Nevada	John Mendenhall, Nelson Nies, 1935	13,765	Black Kaweah	Sierra Nevada	James Hutchinson, Onis Imis Brown, and Duncan McDuffie, 1920
14,000	Thunderbolt Peak	Sierra Nevada	Robert L.M. Underhill, Jules Eichorn, Lewis Clark, Norman Clyde, Glen Dawson, Francis Farquhar, and Bestor Robinson, 1931	13,760	Mt. Corcoran	Sierra Nevada	Howard Gates, 1933
13,990	Mt. Barnard	Sierra Nevada	John Hunter, William Hunter, and C. Mulholland, 1892	13,748	Mt. Morgan	Sierra Nevada	Wheeler Survey Party, (probably), 1870
13,986	Mt. Humphreys	Sierra Nevada	G.R. Bunn and others, 1919	13,715	Mt. Abbot	Sierra Nevada	M. Yeatman and M.L. Huggins, 1927
13,977	Mt. Keith	Sierra Nevada	C.G. Bradley, R.M. Price, J.C. Shinn, and J.E. Price, 1898	13,713	Bear Creek Spire	Sierra Nevada	H.F. Ulrich, 1923
13,963	Mt. Stanford	Sierra Nevada	Bolton Boit Brown, 1896	13,711	Mt. Gabb	Sierra Nevada	H.H. Bliss and A.L. Jordan, 1917
				13,691	Mt. Mendel	Sierra Nevada	first ascent unknown, but prior to 1930
				13,666	Midway Mountain	Sierra Nevada	Francis Farquhar, William Colby, Robert Price, and others, 1912
				13,665	Birch Mountain	Sierra Nevada	J.W. Bledsoe, 1887
				13,652	Mt. Tom	Sierra Nevada	Tom Clark (possibly), 1860

Elevation	Name	Location	First Ascent - Date	Elevation	Name	Location	First Ascent - Date
13,641	Milestone Mts.	Sierra Nevada	Francis Farquhar, William Colby, and Robert Price, 1912	13,327	North Guard	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1925
13,632	University Peak	Sierra Nevada	Joseph N. Le Conte, Helen Gompertz, Estelle Miller, and Belle Miller, 1896	13,325	Joe Devel Peak	Sierra Nevada	Wheeler Survey Party, 1875
13,630	Table Mountain	Sierra Nevada	Paul Shoup, Fred Shoup, and Gilbert Hassel, 1908	13,289	Mt. Bradley	Sierra Nevada	J.E. Price, R.M. Price, J.C. Shinn, and C.B. Bradley, 1898
13,608	Mt. Ericsson	Sierra Nevada	Bolton Coit Brown and Lucy Brown, 1896	13,289	Black Mountain	Sierra Nevada	George Davis, 1905
13,588	Thunder Mountain	Sierra Nevada	George Davis, 1905	13,271	Mt. McDuffie	Sierra Nevada	Charles Bays Locker, Karl Hufbauer, and Alfred Elkin, 1951
13,570	Mt. Brewer	Sierra Nevada	William Brewer and Charles Hoffman, 1864	13,265	Deerhorn Mountain	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde (probably), 1927
13,568	Mt. Goddard	Sierra Nevada	Lil Winchell and Louis Davis, 1879	13,253	Royce Peak	Sierra Nevada	Nathan Clark and Roy Crites, 1931
13,565	Tunnabora Peak	Sierra Nevada	George Davis, 1905	13,241	Gendarme Peak	Sierra Nevada	Andy Smatko and Bill Schuler, 1967
13,559	Mt. Dubois	White Mts.	first ascent unknown	13,240	Basin Mountain	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1937
13,552	Mt. Carillon	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1925	13,231	Mt. Warlow (recently named)	Sierra Nevada	Nathaniel Goodrich and Marjory Hurd, 1926
13,538	Mt. Bolton Brown	Sierra Nevada	Chester Versteeg and Rudolph Beris, 1922	13,225	Mt. Emerson	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1926
13,524	Mt. Fiske	Sierra Nevada	Charles N. Fiske, John Fiske, Stephen Fiske, and Frederick Kellet, 1922	13,224	South Guard	Sierra Nevada	Clarence King and Richard Cotter (probably), 1864
13,510	Mt. Gayley	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1927	13,196	Mt. Julius Caesar	Sierra Nevada	A.H. Prater and Myrtle Prater, 1928
13,495	Mt. Pinchot	Sierra Nevada	USGS members, 1905	13,184	Mt. Hitchcock	Sierra Nevada	Frederick Wales, 1881
13,485	Mt. Pickering	Sierra Nevada	Chester Versteeg, Tyler Van Degrift, and Oliver Kehrlein, 1936	13,183	Acrodesces Peak	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde and others, 1935
13,484	The Jumpoff	White Mts.	first ascent unknown	13,183	Red Spur	Sierra Nevada	Jules Eichorn, Virginia Adams, Jane Younger, and Carl Jensen, 1936
13,470	Mt. Versteeg	Sierra Nevada	first ascent unknown	13,179	Mt. Wynne	Sierra Nevada	Sierra Club group, 1935
13,468	Mt. Mills	Sierra Nevada	James Hutchinson, Joseph N. Le Conte, and Duncan McDuffie, 1908	13,177	Mt. Young	Sierra Nevada	Frederick Wales, William Wallace, and James Wright, 1881
13,441	Montgomery Peak	White Mountains	first ascent unknown	13,169	Mt. Chamberlain	Sierra Nevada	J.H. Czock, date unknown
13,435	Mt. Haeckel	Sierra Nevada	Rt. 1: Walter Huber and others, July 14, 1920; Rt. 5: Edward Allen, Francis Crofts, and Olcott Haskell, July 14, 1920	13,163	Red Slate Mountain	Sierra Nevada	James Gardiner (possibly), 1864
13,417	Mt. Lamarck	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1925	13,157	Mt. Ritter	Sierra Nevada	John Muir, 1872
13,410	Mt. Newcomb	Sierra Nevada	Max Eckenburg and Bob Rumohr, 1936	13,126	Diamond Peak	Sierra Nevada	first ascent unknown
13,397	Cardinal Mountain	Sierra Nevada	George Downing Jr., 1922	13,125	Mt. Baxter	Sierra Nevada	George Davis (probably), 1905
13,390	Mt. Jepson	Sierra Nevada	Don McGeein, Chet Errett, and Evelyn Errett, 1939	13,117	Mt. Huxley	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1920
13,388	The Thumb	Sierra Nevada	W.B. Putnam, 1921	13,114	Mt. Lyell	Sierra Nevada	John Tileston, 1871
13,377	Mt. Wallace	Sierra Nevada	Theodore Solomons and E. Bonner, 1895	13,103	Mt. Gilbert	Sierra Nevada	Norman Clyde, 1928
13,361	Mt. Hilgard	Sierra Nevada	Charles Urquhart, 1905	13,092	Mt. Goode	Sierra Nevada	first ascent unknown
13,344	Mt. Jordan	Sierra Nevada	Art Argiewicz and others (probably), 1940; (Norman Clyde, lower summit probably, 1925)	13,091	Charybdis	Sierra Nevada	Anna Dempster and John Dempster, 1931
13,330	Black Giant	Sierra Nevada	George Davis, 1905	13,077	Merriam Peak	Sierra Nevada	Lewis Clark, Julie Mortimer, and Ted Waller, 1933
13,328	Mt. Prater	Sierra Nevada	Fred Jones, 1948	13,075	Seven Gables	Sierra Nevada	Theodore Solomons and Leigh Bierce, 1894

ECHOES OF OUR CLIMBS

SAWTOOTH PEAK & NEEDHAM MTN.

August 20-21, 1988

Ron Young / Eivor Nilsson

Our group of 12 was underway up the Monarch Lakes trail by 9:20 AM, about an hour later than planned. Because of the overnight camping restrictions along the Mineral King road we allowed time to drive in to the roadend in the morning. There is now a toll booth a few miles in along the road that was open at 7 AM, and still open at 6:45 PM as we were leaving.

We stopped at the ranger station to pick up the permit, losing a half hour in the process because the people ahead of us had no idea as to where they wanted to go. The ranger had to do a lot of trip planning on the spot. When our turn came, we were informed that our entire group was wanted for the wilderness briefing. It was pointed out that the reservation letter did not mention this, that our group was waiting at the trailhead and that the leaders normally assumed this responsibility. The fellow in line behind us had just returned from fetching his group from the trailhead so he spoke up in support of our cause. The young lady ranger backed down when it became apparent that we were somewhat less than amused by this request (especially Eivor the Terrible).

From some of the elaborate precautions at the trailhead, it was evident that marmots have become a real nuisance. One vehicle had a chicken wire fence completely surrounding it. We proceeded to Lower Monarch Lake without incident, arriving at 12:30 PM amid a few sprinkles. After a few exploratory walks we discovered an open air toilet and a metal food locker which had not been there on my last visit. Excellent additions to a heavily used area. Camp was established without further ado and the weather watch began.

The original plan was to climb Sawtooth Peak Saturday afternoon, but an occasional bolt of lightning and dark clouds overhead made the exposed ridges uninviting. This proved to be fortuitous because it is more efficient to climb both peaks at the same time (as we later discovered).

Sunday morning we awoke at 5 AM and set off for Sawtooth Peak about 6:30 AM. Diane Rosentreter saw a bear approaching camp as we were getting ready. Our route took us to the cirque behind Upper Monarch Lake then up the ridge to Sawtooth Peak, with the first group arriving at 8:10 AM. A long search of the summit boulders yielded no register.

We descended the east ridge of Sawtooth Peak from near the summit, dropping slightly below the lowest saddle between Needham Mountain and Sawtooth Peak while avoiding the ribs and slabs en-route. The first group arrived at the summit area of Needham via the west ridge in an hour and fifty minutes. The three main groups of summit boulders were searched by Bruce Gubersky, Diane Rosentreter, Bob Meador

and myself but we could not find a canister (or even a prominent cairn).

We retraced our steps back to Sawtooth Peak surveying the cirque wall above Amphitheater Lake for a feasible route. At about 12,000 feet (nearly the summit of Sawtooth) we found easy access to the Monarch Lakes drainage and followed our route back to camp. Total gain was approximately 3,400-3,600 feet over 5.5 to 6 miles of which 75% was scree.

The last of us reached camp by 3:30 PM and all had departed by 4:17 PM for the approximate two hour hike to the trailhead. Some members of our group had multiple ascents of Sawtooth Peak and were happy at last to have bagged Needham Mountain. Strangely there were no overwhelming expression of desire to return.

Lakes and streams were low this year. Lake Kaweah is just a fraction of its usual size. We saw several deer around camp along with numerous blue grouse, a few of which were scampering along the trail just a few feet ahead of us. It was a pleasant trip and the leaders would like to thank the participants who helped with the route finding and rock climbing. Eivor and I were caught behind the 30 vehicle pile up on Interstate 5 near Lake Hughes road. Traffic started crawling after 3 AM, delaying us for over three hours.

NORMAN CLYDE PEAK (and more)

September 3-5, 1988

Randy Danta / Larry Tidball

by Bobby Dubeau

Saturday, 7:30 AM. Five determined climbers (Leaders Randy Danta and Larry Tidball plus Bobby Dubeau, Joe Andrews and Dave Underwood) departed from the Glacier Lodge area via the South Fork Big Pine Creek trail and hiked to about 10,200' where we left the trail and followed the creek to the outlet of Finger Lake. Jack Miller, who went in early and climbed Middle Palisade on Friday, met us there.

With camp set up before 12:00 AM, Randy and Jack departed for Disappointment while Bobby and Joe headed for Middle Palisade. Each pair bagged their peaks and were back to camp shortly before dark.

Sunday, 6:30 AM. All six left for Norman Clyde passing the north end of Finger Lake, ascending and following the ridge southwest, contouring southerly around peak 3,862 meters (Split Mountain 7 1/2 minute topo), across the Firebird Ridge "bridge" and up the talus slope to the northeast ridge of Norman Clyde. We crossed the ridge onto the face at a notch marked by two sharp protruding boulders at 9:45 AM. There is a duck close to the westerly side of this notch.

Dave Underwood then led a zig-zag course up the northwest face, following occasional ducks, and staying close to the ridge to our left, to a point about 300' below the east-west ridge. We were uncertain about crossing under the water stained black rocks noted by other parties and instead Dave led a steep crack covered by green lichen. At the top of the "green lichen" crack we emerged onto the ridge close to the false summit. It was then an easy traverse to the summit. All six elated participants were on top just after 12:15 PM.

At 1:00 PM (accompanied by two other climbers who made the summit from the northeast face while we were having lunch), we started back down. Just past the false summit Dave set the first of six 150' rappels which took us back to the notch. We exited the face by 5:15 PM without incident and all were back in camp before 7:00 PM. Everything went like clockwork and ropework on the ascent was minimal. The roundtrip took over 12 hours but was accomplished in daylight.

Our celebration party was energetic and punctuated by a sense of welcome relief, and the wine was not wasted.

Thanks to Randy and Larry for leading a great trip, and to Dave Underwood, who did an outstanding job of leading the rock face up and down. No one suffered more than the usual minor scratches and bruises. Our strong fast party was out before 11:00 AM Sunday [*sic - Monday?*] with Dave near the front. Congratulations were exchanged and we left for home.

CLOUDS REST & GIBBS Jim Murphy / Nancy Gordon October 1-2, 1989

The annual fall day hike and festival occurred again this year. Saturday dawned bright, clear and brisk to welcome eight eager hikers at the Mono Pass parking area (just in inside Yosemite National Park) for the climb of Gibbs, 3,000' and about 6 miles round trip. The trail took us to the foot of the West Ridge, which we followed to the summit. First through trees and then the open slope. True to the expectations, there are good views all the way to the summit, especially of the nearby Dana. The weather was exceptionally cooperative providing very clear air and unusually warm temperature (LA was having a mild Santa Ana condition). This was the first Sierra peak for Daisy Marks who showed a lot of tenacity at getting the peak. Without much discussion we decided to spend the night in Lee Vining rather than endure the rigors of a real campground. The participants were clean, and somewhat prepared for the evening social which turned out to be quite mild by comparison, but fully enjoyed by all. A spaghetti dinner for a few provided dinner for the entire group.

Nicely's Restaurant, open at 6:00 AM, supplied breakfast, but we still got on the trail a little late of the 7:30 AM target at the West end of Tenya Lake. There is a trail all the way to the

summit of Clouds Rest that covers about 14 miles round trip. I had never been to Clouds Rest before and was really impressed with the view it provides of Yosemite and I look forward to a return visit. After a short while the wind changed direction and the smoke from four forest fires seemed to clear from the air in all directions. Everyone was back to the cars by three and we opted for dinner at the Smoke Signals BBQ joint in Lone Pine.

Participants were Dave Petzold, Don Croley, Bill Faulkner, Marti Washburne, Daisy Marks, Sylvia Sur, Jim Kilberg, Mary Sue Miller and Mary McMannes. Many thanks to Nancy for a good assistant.

TEHIPITE DOME & SPANISH MTN.

Dale Van Dalsem

October 8-10, 1988

September and October are my favorite times in The Range of Light. Gone are the mosquitoes, hot days, thundershowers, suncups, pack animals, quotas, permits, kids called Rangers playing rent-a-cop, crowds, and usually ice axes, crampons, and heavy boots.

The phone rang the Monday before, telling me that I had to cancel the trip; Sierra Club had cancelled mountaineering insurance. Phoned all and advised that the trip was now private; lost a BMTC sign-off seeker. Wrote a waiver; all signed at trailhead.

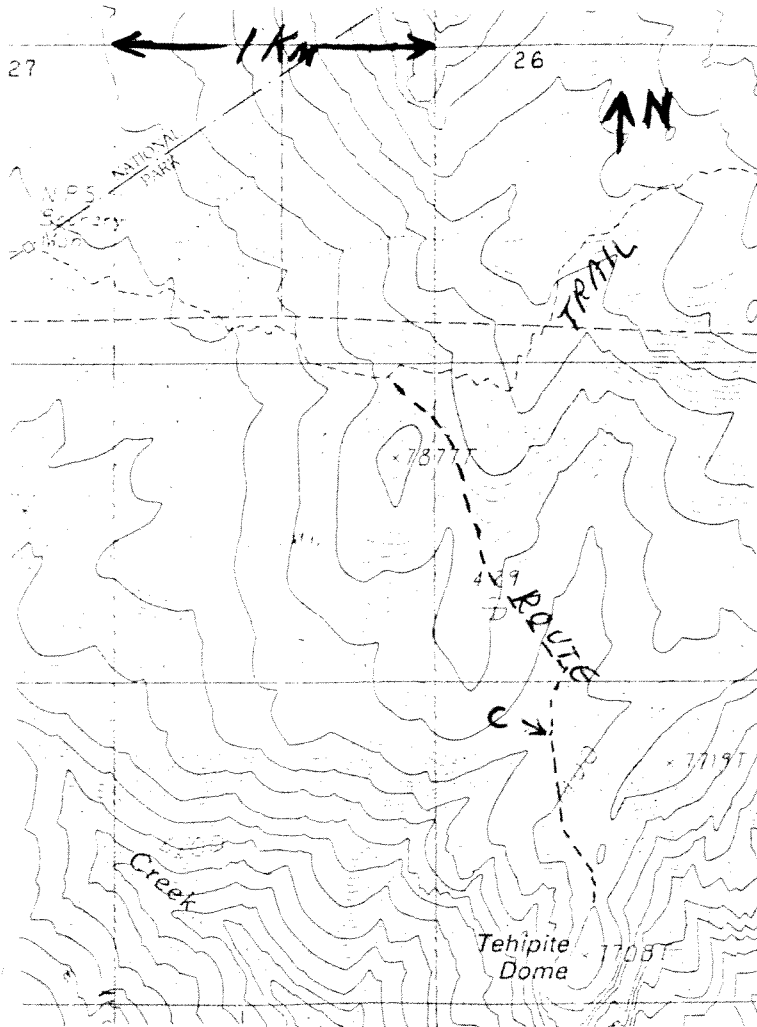
We exited 99 at Kingsburg, North on Mendocino Ave and Academy Ave (Fresno County AAA map helpful), and Cal 168, right on Dinkey Creek Road to the Wishon Dam. Some slept in the quarry/boat launch area Friday. (Left before the dam; park in shade under the floodlight. Toilets. Free.) We met at 7:30 AM at the dam and drove about 3 miles to a fork. Don't take the left fork to the Rancheria Creek Trailhead. Take the right fork to Crown Valley Trailhead (Sign mentions Spanish Lake also). About a mile on this fork, the trailhead is on the left, parking on the right. (New 7.5' topos show roads and trails as they are: Rough Spur 1986 and Tehipite Dome 1987.) We hiked to the high point on the trail just east of Spanish Lake (UTM 314887), dropped packs and hiked Spanish Mtn, following the ridge. Twelve signed in. Back to the trail and past Crown Valley Camp, a collection of huts near BM 7881. This is the perfect campsite. Thank you, George Troy for the superb 1987 write-up! We stayed here both nights, although we could have packed out on day 2 and drove home late. This site has good water, picnic tables, good privies, and refrigerator lockers for bear-proof food storage!!

Day 2 we were off at 7 AM for Tehipite Dome. Best route with reference to attached map: leave the trail at 7640', just north of 7877T on the 7.5' or just northwest of the 'N' in "National" on the 15'. Follow the route shown, contouring from saddle to saddle, then drop into the canyon that drains south and follow it down to its confluence with another canyon at point 'C' (on

the map), at 7220'. Then angle up to the Tehipite Dome Ridge, bearing south, then slightly southeast. When you reach the summit ridge, the easiest move is probably left along a very exposed ledge and then up. Better to go back 50': go up the center of a 15 degree slab, then up a step up and friction climb to the backbone. Most will want a short belay at this point, both up and on the return. It's "high class 3". Stroll to the summit for one of the most mind-boggling views in the Sierra Nevadas. Thirteen signed in. Back to the camp about 3 PM for a long happy hour.

Day 3 was only 3.5 hours out to the cars, pizza in Sanger and home early. Doing Spanish Mtn on day one is definitely the way to go, as we had reasonable 7-8 hour days on both days 1 and 2. Thanks to Steve Smith for his usual great assist; other participants were: Petzold, Slagers, Holladay, Henney-Wyman (not a borscht-belt comic!), Underwood, Jurasevich, Alan Hill, Carrie Carpenter, and Rich Gnagy, alive and well near Sacramento.

Next time when we go deep into the forest and probe for Finger and Tunemah, we'll try the Spanish Lake 4WD road, which according to the Rough Spur topo, goes to the southeast corner of section 33, (UTM 292878), at the new border of the John Muir Wilderness. Sign at fork mentioned above said this road was open 10-88.



SPANISH MOUNTAIN

Mantle, McRuer, Hicks
October 15-16, 1988

As planned, the leaders arrived reasonably early Friday evening at the Statum Creek road head and bedded down nearby, a mistake we regretted by morning. Hunters, horses, and associated vehicles wreaked havoc with sleep. We arose to a warm sunny morning, but instead of seven eager hikers we met - ZERO! Most of the hunters were sleeping in for the obvious reasons. The 7 will remain unnamed (one sent us a letter of apology and is vindicated), but not forgotten.

The start of the trail is well marked and in good condition. The 3,000' hike to camp at Spanish Lake (not our original destination) was achieved before noon. We found a fine camp at the outlet at the end of the lake. Spanish was climbed in the PM following the trail around the lake for a while and then heading cross-country. The view was impressive in this domed area. Our return to camp was more to the north, a bit more cross-country, but no problem getting back by early afternoon.

Much to our surprise a note had been placed on one of our packs in camp. Two people from Mammoth who knew about the hike had arrived late and followed our tracks to camp. Particularly impressive because we had planned to camp at Twin Lakes. They were off climbing the peak. The hedonistic leaders choose to not to delay the gourmet Greek meal for the return of the others, but we welcomed them before too much had been consumed. We all shared dolmades, mousaka, leak a la Greek, restina and other goodies too numerous to mention.

The leaders hiked out next morning for breakfast in Shaver Lake. The other two stayed in for possible climbs of Tehipite Dome and Tunemah Peak.

THE [O.K.] CORRAL BUILDING PARTY

R.J. Secor & Norm Rohn
April 15-16, 1989

This was the unofficial name of Shepherd Pass Trail Party that started work on the B&B Corral. The corral has been named after Bob Hiestand and Bill Tryon, who built the corral during their first SPS trip.

There was once a corral at the stock trailhead of the Shepherd Pass Trail, but it got wiped out by the Onion Fire of 1983. Our first task was to remove the cable and barbed wire that remained from the old corral. Digging the post holes was extraordinarily difficult due to the buried rocks. We made some slight adjustments to the placement of the posts, and this explains why the posts may look as if they were installed by drunken sailors. The skills of Norm Rohn were especially useful while building the braces for the corner posts and

constructing the gate. All of this work went faster than expected, and on Sunday we built a short trail down to Symmes Creek so the animals would have easy access to water. What remains to be done is the nailing of wire to the fence posts and this will be done on Sunday, May 14. Please come out and help!

Some may question our work on the stock trailhead. Aside from building goodwill between the Sierra Club and the packers, the corral will be used by the packer supplying the trail crew on the headwall this summer. (A description of the headwall appeared in the Mar-Apr '89 *Echo* in a letter to the editor from Louis French). So the corral will be needed for the benefit of everyone: stock and hikers.

I want to thank all of the participants for much hard work: Bob Hiestand, Bill Tryon, Barbara Reber, Gene Munk, and John Secor.

I also want to thank Marty Hornick of the Mt. Whitney District for all of the assistance he has given us over the past year and a half. This was Marty's last Trail Party with us. He has been promoted to the Inyo National Forest Headquarters in Bishop to oversee all trail contract work in the Forest. Good luck Marty and we'll miss you.

RJS

MAUNA KEA & MAUNA LOA

Bill Crane / Ron Jones

June 26, 28-29, 1988

Bill Crane leads a trip to the Hawaiian Islands yearly with the Backpacking Committee. In 1987 and 1988, I have been fortunate to act as his assistant on these trips. In 1988 we flew to the island of Hawaii on Sunday, June 25th, where we drove to One Ka ha Ka ha Beach Park, barbecued ahi-ahi (Yellow tailed tuna) and chicken, and set up camp.

At 11 PM ten of us drove up the paved Saddle Road (4WD required by the car rental agencies) and turned north, climbing 2,500' through the Humuula Sheep Station to the residential quarters for many of the astronomers who work the many telescopes on the summit. We crashed briefly after midnight to awaken refreshed(?) at 2:45 AM. Our party consisted of SPSers Nancy Gordon, Elton and Pat Fletcher, Fred Wing, myself and 5 others. We had a difficult time finding the start of the foot trail by flashlight and after 20 minutes, a Cal Tech astronomer returning to his quarters was persuaded to show us the path. We proceeded up the trail, loose lava scree in spots, until 5 AM when dawn arrived around "White Rock", a large outcrop of white lava located at 11,200'. We gazed out toward the saddle below and watched daybreak and shadows move across the moon like landscape of cinders and craters. Fantastic! We proceeded on to Lake Waiau about five miles

out at 13,000'. The lake is 400 feet across, and only 15 feet deep, but it is never dry as the bottom consists of impervious clay layer in an otherwise porous lava area. This is reputed to be the highest lake in the United States. Half a mile beyond, the trail intersects the well-graded but steep dirt road which leads from the end of the paved road and up the final half-mile to the summit of Mauna Kea (13,796'). We hiked the 4,600' total gain in 4 1/2 hours and were met by Bill Crane and 12 others who had driven to the top and provided coffee and rolls for us. We took a pre arranged tour of two observatories before returning to Kole Kole Beach Park.

Two days later (after catching up on sleep) the group of Nancy, Bill Crane, Elton and Pat, Fred and myself were joined by SPS list finishers Bill Schuler and 3 others for a back pack climb of Mauna Loa (13,680'). We had intended to hike the 18 mile Red Hill trail to the summit, but the rainfall had been very scarce at the higher elevations on Hawaii and there was a fire closure of the that trail. As a result, we drove our Trooper II's up the Saddle Road between Mauna Kea to the north and Mauna Loa to the south and turned south to the Mauna Loa Weather Observatory at 11,465'. We parked our cars and had lunch before starting up the trail leading through the old lava flows to the rim of the crater. The trail is well marked by 3-4 foot ahus or cairns of volcanic rock. We arrived at the crater about five after a slow hike up, and eight of us dropped our packs and hiked west and south for the summit 2.6 miles away. Two hikers chose to hike directly to the cabins 2 miles away on trail in the other direction. The summit hikers reached the top at sunset and our views into the crater and across it to the shadow of our peak cast on the cloud layer were fascinating. We couldn't stay long as it was getting dark and we returned by flashlight through the rough lava to our packs, arriving at about eight. Several hikers were suffering from altitude and fatigue and three people camped with Bill at the trail junction while Fred, Nancy, me and another hiker wearily trudged through a lunar landscape another two miles to the comfortable cabin equipped with bunks and blankets for ten. There is a water cistern in the back of the cabin and the worlds most spectacular outhouse view is gained from the facility which sits over a deep crack in the lava overlooking the crater. We crashed about 2:45 AM and were off again for our cars by 8 AM, arriving and reuniting with Bill and his group about noon. This hike could be done as a 12.8 mile round trip strenuous day hike. Join Bill and me on one of our hiking and snorkeling trips to Molokai, Maui, and Kauai and again, Hawaii in 1989.

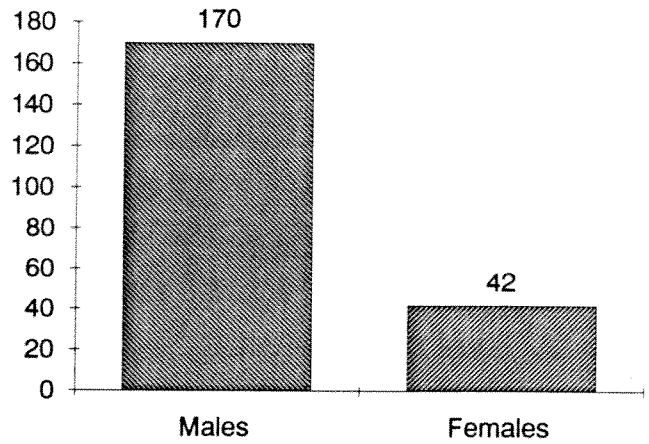
- Ron Jones

[See related story on the ascent of Mauna Kea in Hawaii on the facing page submitted to the Echo by our special correspondent in Hawaii -- Ron Jones]

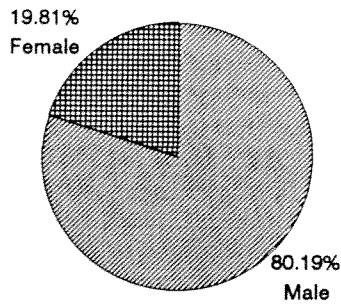
SPS MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Last December, along with the membership renewal form, a membership survey form attached to the *Echo* was mailed out. The survey was conducted so that the SPS management committee and the editor can better understand their constituency. We received a total of 212 responses. In this issue we present some of the survey results that may be of interest to the readers. More results will appear in future issues.

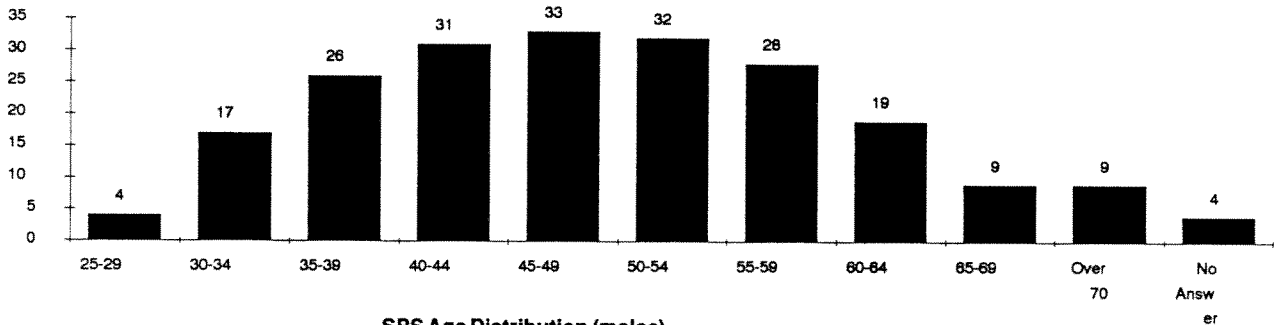
SPS Gender Distribution



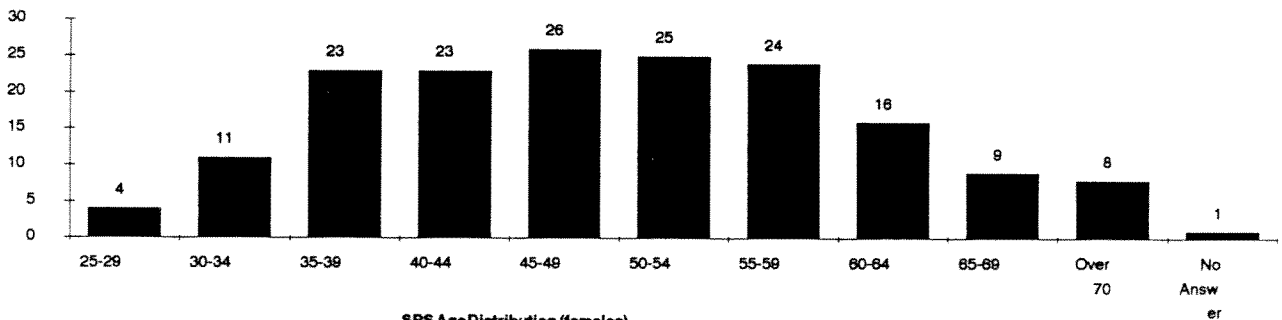
SPS Gender Distribution



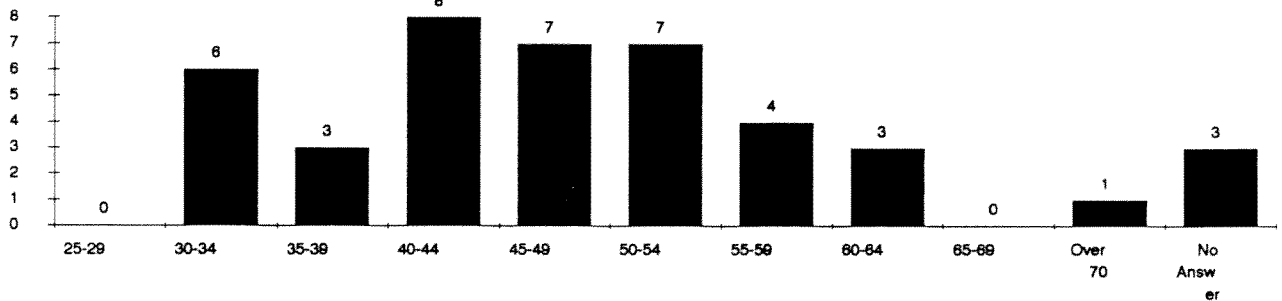
SPS Age Distribution (all)



SPS Age Distribution (males)



SPS Age Distribution (females)



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

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PRIVATE TRIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISCLAIMER: *The Echo publishes paid trip notices as a service to its readers. Such trips are private. They have not been reviewed by the SPS nor are they in any way sponsored by the Sierra Club. Please refer to the back page for advertisement submittal policy and guidelines.*

NEPAL TREK in remote areas. Leaves October 19th.. \$2650 complete cost. Call Rich Henke (213) 545-6491. Also looking for people interested in climbing a 20,000 ft Nepal peak in 1990.

ADVERTISE!

Advertise your private climbing activity in the Sierra or elsewhere for \$1.00 (first 4 lines, additional lines are \$1 each). Other product/services ads and announcements are accepted at the \$1.00 per line rate.

The attached liability waiver was created through the GROPE effort by attorney (and SPS member) Bruce Gubersky with assistance from Rick Beatty. Bruce has carefully researched this area of the law in California. The waiver is made available as a service to *Echo* readers who may judge it to be useful when leading private climbs. Users are cautioned not to make any modifications or additions to it, e.g., relating to transportation. Neither the Sierra Club nor the SPS endorses its use or warrants its validity.

**RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY
AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

I hereby acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in mountaineering and/or mountaineering instruction or training, hereinafter referred to as "activities".

I am aware that the activities are hazardous, involving risk of serious bodily injury, death, or property damage and I am voluntarily participating in these activities with knowledge of these dangers including, but not limited to, slips, falls, objects or persons falling on persons, equipment failure, injury from pointed equipment, high altitude injury, improperly administered first aid, lightning, hypothermia, and/or drowning.

As lawful consideration for being permitted by _____ or any of its officers, agents, servants, volunteers, or employees, herein referred to as releasees, to participate in these activities and/or use their equipment, the undersigned does for him/herself, his/her heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, guardians, distributees, and assigns, collectively referred to as releasors, hereby release, waive, discharge, and relinquish any action or causes of action for personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death which may hereafter arise from the activities or any pursuit incidental thereto wherever or however said pursuit may occur and for whatever period said activities and pursuits may continue. The undersigned further agrees that under no circumstances will releasors prosecute or present any claim against releasees for any causes of action, for personal injury, property damage or wrongful death, whether the same shall arise by the negligence or non-intentional conduct of any of said releasees from the activities or any pursuit incidental thereto.

The undersigned and the remaining releasors hereby agree to indemnify, save and hold harmless the releasees and each of them from any loss, liability, damage or cost (including attorney fees) which releasees may incur as a result of injury, death or property damage to the undersigned, or from suit from such personal injury, death, and/or property damage to the undersigned.

This document is intended to be as broad as is permissible under the law of the State of California and this agreement shall be interpreted under the laws of the State of California. If any portion of this agreement is invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall continue in full force and effect.

The undersigned has read and voluntarily signs the release and waiver of liability and indemnity agreement and further agrees that no oral representations, statements, or inducements apart from the foregoing written agreement have been made.

The undersigned acknowledges that he/she has read the foregoing paragraphs and is completely aware of the potential dangers incident to engaging in the activity, and is fully aware of the legal consequences of signing the within instrument.

Signature	Date
Parent or Guardian Signature	Date

The above waiver is made available as a service to ECHO readers who may judge it to be useful when leading private climbs. Neither the Sierra Club nor the SPS endorses its use or warrants its validity.

REVISION DATED June 2, 1989

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EDITOR: Igor Mamedalin, 24 Almond Tree Lane, Irvine CA 92715. **Associate Editor:** Jeff Solomon, 16 Silver Fir, Irvine CA 92714. *Echo* copy deadlines are the 20th day of odd numbered months and June. Priority is given to legible, typed, single spaced copy. Copy submitted on MS-DOS format floppies is especially appreciated. Mail copy to Editor.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$8.00 per year due by March 31st. Subscribing to the *Echo* is a requirement for active membership in the SPS. Sustaining membership is \$20.00 per year. Submit new subscription applications to the section Secretary and include your Sierra Club membership number. New applications received after October 1st are credited for the subsequent year subscription. Submit renewal applications to the section Treasurer. Only one *Echo* subscription is necessary for multiple members of a family residing at one address. Contributions or gifts to the Sierra Club (or the SPS) are not tax-deductable.

ADVERTISEMENT: Private activity announcements and advertisements are accepted at the following rates. Private trip announcements: \$1.00 for the first 4 lines and \$1.00 per additional line. Other announcements and product or service advertisements: \$1.00 per line or \$25.00 for a half page space. Reach out to our climbing constituency and place an ad today!!!

ADDRESS CHANGES: Send address change notices and new subscription applications to the section **Secretary:** Vi Grasso, 1173 1/2 Amherst Ave., Los Angeles CA 90049. The *Echo* is mailed 3rd class and is not forwarded by the post office.

MISSING ISSUES: Address inquiries regarding missing issues to the section **Mailer:** Ron Grau, 456 Chester Place, Pomona CA 91768. Extra copies of the 30th Anniversary *Echo* are available by sending \$4.50 per copy to the section Mailer. **Prospective new members:** for a one time complimentary copy of the *Echo* send a SASE with 45 cent postage to the Mailer.

AWARDS: Emblem and senior emblem pins (\$12.00), list finisher pins (\$10.00), and section patches (\$2.00) are available from the section **Treasurer:** Ruth Armentrout, 23262 Haynes Street, Canoga Park CA 91307.

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