

# The Sierra



# ECHO

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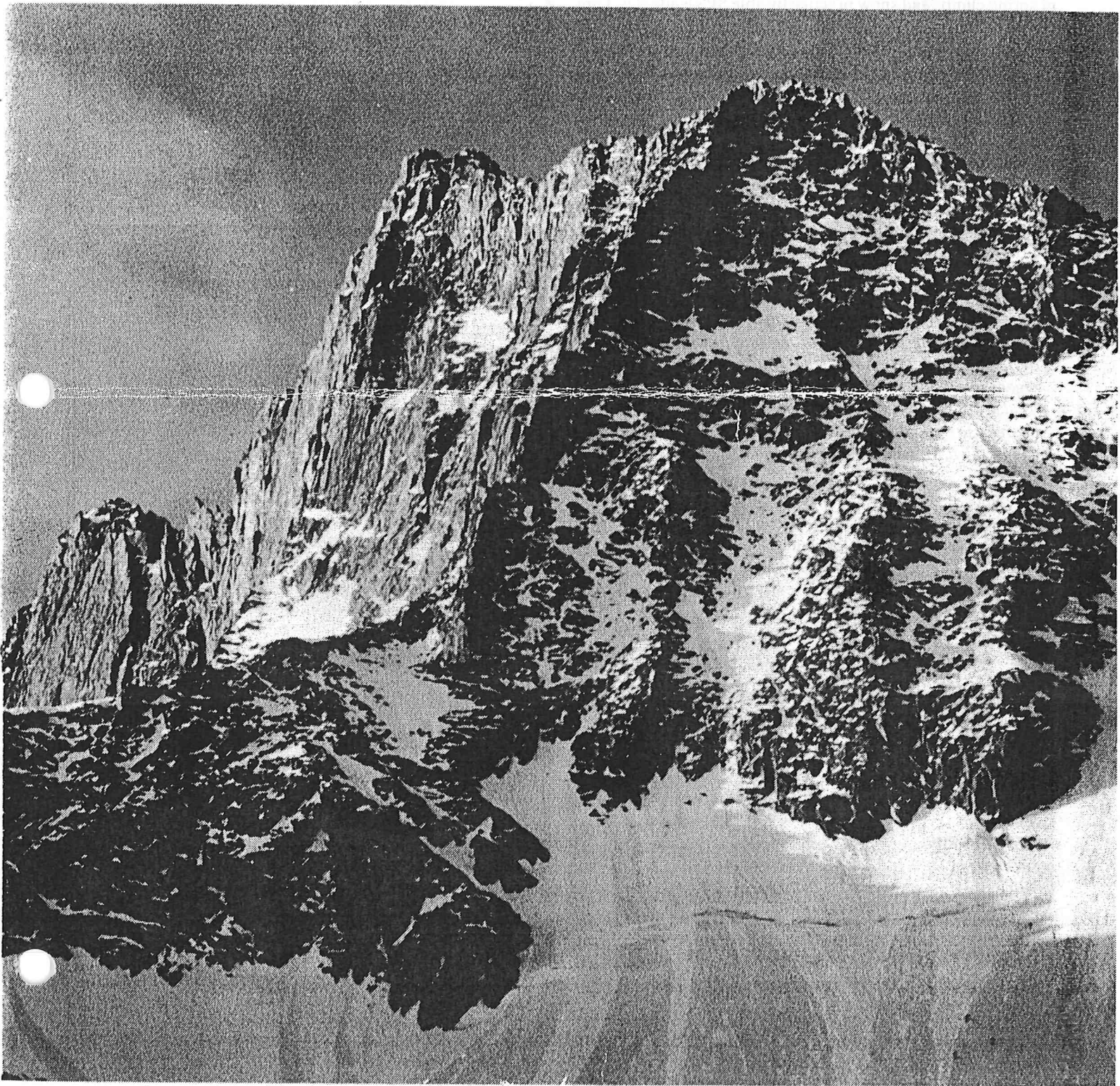
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# ECHOES FROM THE CHAIR

## Chair's Corner

With the most recent snowfalls Spring peakbagging will be a great way to go! Crisp mornings that allow cramponing up and away on a just-right slope, zipping right up to the summit then back to camp nicely balanced on your ice ax -- what am I saying! Are those days gone for good? I had thought the insurance issue was not going to be kicked around any more, at least for the time being -- and not by me! But that is the cause of what has noticeably left a void in the Chapter Schedule. The absence of spring climbs and snow practice by able SPS leaders is, I am sure, sorely missed by all. Not to make matters worse, and awaiting confirmation from Sierra Club Headquarters, it seems the policy of permitting only the leader to carry an ice ax and rope for emergency use (I never thought that would help much anyway), has been apparently misinterpreted. The current Sierra Club National Mountaineering Committee Chair, Bruce Knudtson writes: "no ropes or ice axes be taken on any ... SPS outings." (An excerpt of the policy and from the insurer's statement can be found on page 4 of the current *Echo*). What to do? Go private or with other climbing groups willing to lead? Iffy, as SPS member Jack Miller contributes,

*"... litigation process as if an accident had occurred. The party seeking damages first goes to insurance carrier. If there is no satisfaction, suit is filed. Defendants named would most likely include the event leader, the committee chair, the organization and its directors and officers ... few recorded legal actions involving mountaineering ... those that do exist, the release of liability has been upheld when no negligence can be cited." [Mazama Executive Council Jan. '90].*

Now then, is it asking too much for members to stay tuned until the SPS is able to offer the programs it did before under Sierra Club auspices? Not really. I've had a chance to review many of the past SPS led trips and invariably, the policy stressed for all outings is safety first. From its early on led trips, SPS has

evolved a strict set of rules reflected in its written policies and procedures to which leaders adhere to. When and if mountaineering insurance coverage for ALL activities becomes affordable by the club once again, SPS will not have to reorganize, reassess or re-evaluate its outings policies on safety. It's all there, in place, and ready to go with the addition of the use of liability waiver on all outings. Your comments on any and all issues are invited and most certainly welcomed.

--- Vi

Would you like to see **YOUR** name in **THE** Membership List to be published in the next issue of the *Echo*? **THEN RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION!!!**

Would you like to avoid "This is your last issue" on your *Echo* label? **THEN RENEW BY MARCH 31st!!!**

## SPS MONTHLY PROGRAMS

May 9th

"First Aid for Venomous Snake Bites"  
by Dr. Willis Wingert

June 13th

"Road Warriors on the Silk Road"  
by Karen Leonard & Jim Farkas

Monthly meetings are held at the Glendale Federal Savings Building at 12191 Ventura Blvd. 1/2 block west of Laurel Canyon in Studio City. 7:30 PM. Refreshments served. Newcomers welcome!

## UPCOMING OUTINGS

5/5-6 I: Mt. Warren, Clouds Rest	R. Fritsen/L. Tidball
5/5-6 M: Cartego Pk.	Bill T. Russell/Bill Gray
5/12-13 I: Harrington, Kennedy	Fritsen/Tidball
5/12-13 I: Rockhouse, TaylorDome	R. Jones/B. Oliver
6/2-3 I: Homers Nose	D. Mantle/B. Hicks
6/9-10 I: Kern Peak	G. Toby/B. Gray
6/9-10 I: Olancha Peak	P. Kline/B. Hartunian
6/22-24 I: Angora Mtn/Coyote Pk	THE Mamedalins
6/23-24 M: Moses/Maggie	G. Toby/B. Gray

## PEAK INDEX: VOL 34-2 (MAR-APR, '90)

Clouds Rest	McClure
Dana	Orizaba
Darwin	Red & White
Glacier Ridge	Sawtooth
Lamont	Whaleback
Lyell	Whitney

**PHOTO CREDIT:** The cover photo features Pete Yamagata's view of 'Early Morning Light on North Face of Norman Clyde' which was awarded the First Place Prize at the 1989 SPS Banquet.



# ECHOES TO OUR READERS

## SPS SCHEDULED SUMMER CLIMBS - 1990

### July:

- 7-15 0-M: Shepherd Pass Trail Maintenance plus  
Williamson, Tyndall, Junction, Keith  
7-8 I: Highland, Disaster  
14-15 M: Langley, Cirque  
21-22 I: Red and White Mtn  
21-22 I: Tom, Basin Mtn  
27-29 I: Seven Gables, Gemini, Senger  
28-29 M: Cardinal, Goodale, Striped  
28-29 I: Red and White, Red Slate

### August:

- 3-5 M: Brewer, N. Guard, S. Guard  
3-5 M: Junction, Tyndall  
4-5 M: Julius Caesar, Hilgard  
4-12 M: Mendel, Goethe, Emerald, Goddard, Henry, Scylla, McGee  
11-12 M: East Vidette, Center  
11-12 M: Red Slate Mtn  
11-12 M: Tunnabora, Carillon, Thor  
11-13 I: Brewer  
16-19 I: Rodgers, Electra, Foerster  
17-19 I: Goat Mtn, Kid Peak  
23-24 M: Iron, San Joaquin (Thu-Fri)  
24-27 M: Farquhar, Brewer, N. Guard, S. Guard  
25-26 M: Virginia Pk, Twin Peaks  
30-3 M: Finger, Reinstein, Tunemah  
31-3 M: Vogelsang, Fletcher, Rafferty, Johnson,  
and Peak 11,282' (sase to Neko)  
31-4 M: Tower, Piute, Pettit, Volunteer

### September:

- 1-3 I: Gould, Bago  
1-3 M: Cotter (maybe Bago)  
8-9 M: Baxter, Black  
14-16 M: Whorl, Matterhorn  
14-16 M: Red and White, Red Slate  
15-16 M: Harrington, Kennedy  
15-16 I: Kearsarge, Gould, Rixford  
22 O: List Finales for Leaders: Alta Peak  
29-30 I: Royce, Merriam

### October:

- 6-7 I: Half Dome, Cloud's Rest  
6-8 I: Finger, Tunemah  
20-22 O: Piute Mtn  
27-28 I: Kern Peak

R. J. Secor, Mary McMannes  
Doug Mantle, Bob Hicks  
Ron Robson, Reiner Stenzel  
Larry Tidball, Scot Jamison  
Jim Raiford, Joe Wankum  
Igor & Suzanne Thomas/Mamedalin  
Larry Tidball, Bill Oliver  
Bob Hartunian, Patty Kline

Dave Petzold, Dave Dykeman  
Don Borad, Phil Marquez  
Larry Tidball, Bill Oliver  
George Toby, R. J. Secor  
Dave Dykeman, Roy Magnuson  
Joe Wankum, Ron Young  
Larry Tidball, R. Fritsen  
Ed Zdon, Bruce Parker  
Igor & Suzanne Thomas/Mamedalin  
Len Ludwig, Steven Thaw  
Gene Mauk, Nancy Gordon  
Steven Thaw, Ron Young  
Larry Tidball, R. Fritsen  
S. Thaw, J. Murphy, N. Gordon

Gordon Macleod, Neko Colevins  
Dale Van Dalsem, Dave Petzold

J. & N. Keating, Walt Whisman  
Gene Mauk, Bruce Gubersky  
Larry Tidball, Scot Jamison  
Dave Dykeman, Mary McMannes  
Bill T. Russell, Bill Gray  
Dave Petzold, George Toby  
Suzanne & Igor Thomas/Mamedalin  
George Hubbard, Gene Mauk  
Doug Mantle, Vi Grasso

Dave Dykeman, Don Borad  
Dale Van Dalsem, Dave Petzold  
Jim Murphy, Steven Thaw  
Doug Mantle, Mike Manchester

**NOTE: All climbs are subject to the Club's insurance restrictions: no ropes and no ice axes. Also, waivers are required of all participants. A \$3/trip-person reservation fee required for most trips.**

Good Show Leaders - we have an extensive program. **SPECIAL THANKS** to our leaders of several trips: Larry Tidball - 6; 4 each for Dave Dykeman, Steven Thaw, and Dave Petzold; and 3 each for: Doug Mantle, Gene Mauk, and Igor & Suzanne Mamedalin. Members less experienced and/or not well known have ample opportunity here to strengthen their skills and become better known (and perhaps more easily join private climbs of the more technically challenging peaks).

**Note: Leaders - you can still submit new SPS trips to me for Echo note.**

-- Bill Oliver, Outings 03/20/90

# SIERRA CLUB MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE

FROM: Bruce Audulson  
DATE: February 19, 1990  
SUBJECT: Insurance Restrictions

As you are probably aware, the Mountaineering Insurance Task Force "interpreted" the mountaineering insurance restrictions imposed by Admiral Insurance in its policy so as to allow Sierra Club leaders and assistants to carry ropes/ice axes for emergency use. I received the enclosed letter last Friday - please note the highlighted paragraph. It would appear that Admiral does not agree with our "interpretation" of the policy and wishes the ban on the use of mountaineering equipment to remain absolute - they are not going to let us bend the rules even a little.

Therefore, I would strongly suggest that no ropes or ice axes be taken on any SPS, DPS, or HPS outings. If the leader feels that the outing cannot be safely lead without the presence of ropes or ice axes, then I suggest that the outing not take place. I realize that this makes an already bad situation even worse but the alternative, i.e., leaders and the Sierra Club having to bear the burden of litigation without insurance, is even more terrible.

Johnson & Higgins of California  
345 California Street  
San Francisco, California 94104  
415 981-6700

Telex: 6771339  
Answerback: KERO UW

**JOHNSON  
& HIGGINS** Established 1845

As respects ropes and ice axes carried by the leader and assistant leader, for use in emergencies on outings, the Admiral Insurance Company policy is clear - "This policy does not apply to the following activities: Climbs, hikes, expeditions, including instruction courses, schools and similar training which require the use of ropes or any such activity where pitons, jam nuts, runners, bolts, ice axes, carabiners or delaying techniques are recommended. The Admiral Insurance Company shall not have any duty to defend any claim or suit against the insured seeking damages on account of or arising from such excluded activities."

I realize the Sierra Club feels it is a prudent measure to have this equipment for emergency purposes. Should there be a claim involving this equipment, the insurer would be within their rights to deny coverage and the burden of proof that the use of the equipment mitigated a greater loss would be upon the Sierra Club.

I am not aware of an insurance product to cover training in the use of this equipment only. Most underwriters want to cover all mountaineering activities or exclude all mountaineering activities; it becomes difficult to price and control coverage for selected activities only.

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BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

THE BANCROFT LIBRARY  
March 19, 1990

Bill Oliver  
3763 Hughes Ave. #312  
Los Angeles, CA 90034

Dear Bill:

It has come to the attention of The Bancroft Library that some climbers have complained about the retrieval of historic registers from Bancroft Library as part of the Sierra Club archives in The Bancroft Library.

Please let me assure you that these registers are maintained by the Library according to the highest archival standards. They are not only stored in acid-free enclosures, but many of the very fragile, often quite damaged, early registers and loose pages have received special conservation treatment so that they can be consulted and copied without further harm.

It is true that because of campus space constraints the registers are stored off-site, as are more than half of our manuscript collections. They are, however, in a specially designed library facility, with humidity and temperature control and exceptional security.

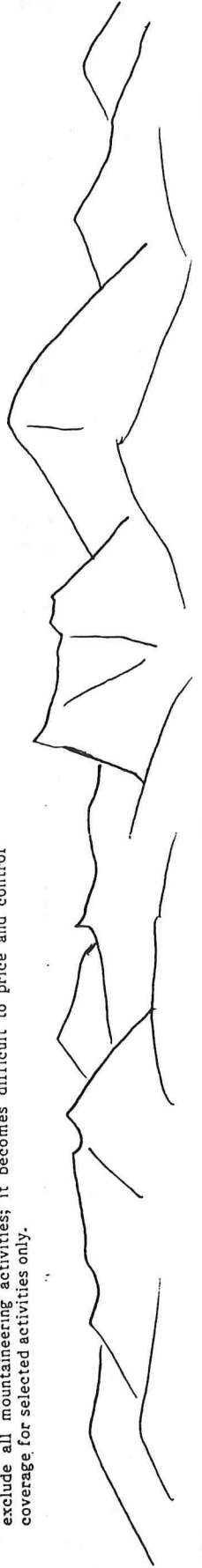
Although materials need to be requested in advance, items requested one day are ordinarily available the next. Because a complete inventory of the registers is available and kept up-to-date, only a telephone call is needed to insure that the registers will be on-site and ready to use when the interested person arrives.

We agree that there is a special thrill to reading the original of these historical documents. The Bancroft Library is pleased to have been designated by the Sierra Club as the repository where this excitement will continue to be available to present and future climbers, Club members, and other researchers. We applaud the efforts of all who work for the preservation of these registers for, although they may "belong to the mountain," the mountain is ill-equipped to preserve them from vandalism, theft, and storm.

Sincerely,

*Bonnie Hardwick*

(Dr.) Bonnie Hardwick  
Head, Manuscripts Division





## ECHOES FROM OUR READERS

I dislike long dissertations. They tend to be boring. But the Vice-Chair's "Whymer" [Jan/Feb '90 *Echo*] merits a rebuttal. So here I go.

Bill's two dissertations attempt to give an aura of continuous and orderly amassing of mountain records by the Sierra Club. Bill Eng's was the Register Records Subcommittee Chair of the Sierra Club Mountaineering Committee (SCMC) for 11 years (approx. 1960-1972). In a drafted article for the *Sierra Club Bulletin* he writes:

*"group of climbers who had visited Mt. Starr King (1932) became interested in the unique value of registers and decided to compile a complete record of Sierra Club registers and to organize the mass of uncoordinated data covering the intervening years since 1894 that had collected in the Club archives."*

From the same article it appears the Club, from very early times, was, for different reasons, either enthusiastic or indifferent to mountaineering:

*"... in the 1890's the Sierra Nevada was still being explored and the Club members thought it would be a good idea to place registers to obtain records of exploration of high places. It was then that the tubular screw cap brass register was placed [some of us have been fortunate enough to encounter them now and then]. By the turn of the century, the Club's interest diminished when it seemed the most prominent peaks had been registered and the job was done. Between 1916 and 1939 the California Alpine Club (CAC) took it upon itself to place registers on Sierra peaks. Subsequently, the Club renewed its interest in the traditional role of placing registers but found CAC's on some of the peaks it had selected for its improved aluminum rectangular containers and book-type registers. [I can speculate on the unrecorded controversy that must have taken place when the two organizations vied for the same peak!] Seems the Sierra Club agreed to leave the CAC registers and maintain them while continuing to place its own."*

So much for the theory of "placing and preserving for almost 100 years". This "ethics" preservation tag seems to have become attached to the forehead of the Sierra Register Committee (SRC) so that SPS should feel ashamed for its lack of such.

The evidence points to several holes in those poor "ethics"! SPS responded to SCMC's appeal for assistance as Chair Miles Brubacher reports in the June '62 *Echo* on a San Francisco meeting of the SCMC with SPS and RCS in attendance. This gave speculation that perhaps the Club had increased its interest in mountaineering. At that meeting Bill Eng's announced he was keeping records on summit registers and the SPS "is going to record the type and condition of summit registers in its trip reports and also the SPS is planning to place some registers". Prior to Bill Eng's efforts there had to have

been a breakdown in register record keeping. Why else would he avail himself of the *Sierra Echo* to ask for help:

*"... Mountaineering Committee will sincerely appreciate your help ... gigantic inventory of peak registers ... whereabouts and condition of peak registers."* [May/June '63 *Echo*]

*"Information still needed: Anyone having information ... on Sierra Club peak registers is asked to communicate with Mountain Records care of Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower ..."* [August '63 *Echo*]

A symbiotic relationship developed between SPS and the Club. The first had the climbers, the second wanting the assistance of the first. For eleven years Sierra Club/SPSers represented the interests of the Mountain Records Subcommittee until Mr. Eng's departure in 1972 when the then logical succession, SPS Mountain Records Chair, Dennis Lantz was briefed about the summits registers record being moved from the 1050 Mills Street address to the Bancroft Library. When Lantz departed in 1975, SPS Mountain Records Chair Paul Lipsohn continued the dual role.

I met Paul shortly after I joined the section and climbed with him on many occasions. Paul tells me he was well aware of the Sierra Club policy of bringing in old registers but he never sent one in. He states that it was rather his goal to protect old registers with new containers and delegated trip leaders or whoever was going up a peak to place either a needed canister or register or both. He did not, by the way, appoint Robin Ingraham as claimed in Bill's lengthy article [Sep/Oct '89 *Echo*]. As it has happened in the past, but for other reasons, in those days the Club was not exactly enamored of mountaineering but more in favor of conservation and other political issues. We all know what the [degree of] disinterest is now.

The rhetoric that had the SPS been more faithful does not take into account that anything worth saving is safely stored in the archives. Not by a deliberate "preservation" effort, but simply by a more or less dedicated effort of those who like to keep records. It was fortunate, indeed, that people like Bill Eng's and subsequent SPS Mountain Records Chairs had such interest. There may be a few 1930's registers still left out there, but the real history of the Sierra Nevada is already in books and libraries.

Robin Ingraham's (SRC) basis for formation is the missing register on Midway, Sierra Club registers boxes stolen, "historic" registers neglectfully decaying in rusty cans...borne out of the inaction and neglect of the SPS -- c'mon! Given the benefit of the doubt that registers were being stolen, (Lantz reported so in 1974 - the Midway register was reported to be suffering but otherwise OK as of 1976 by some climbers from Arizona). The unfortunate period of the 70's brought a lot of people into the mountains that wanted to go back to the "roots

and soil." Sierra Club could not have foreseen that placing containers on readily accessible peaks would provide a souvenir for the unscrupulous hiker. That policy changed under Bill Eng's. SPS' changed its policy too after losing a few canisters trying to replace the Club's containers.

*"SPSer Paul Kellow, while placing a register on Mt. Gibbs, wonders why the Club commemorated Mono Pass with its cast aluminum register and why place one on Dana Peak that gets full in a month."* [Nov/Dec '74 Echo]

I took the minutes at the SCMC meeting held in Nov '89. Robin presented a distressed register he found on an unnamed peak. It consisted of a small thoroughly rusted tin can which had contained a few tattered sheets signed by Norman Clyde and company. Probably the first and only ascent of that particular high point. (There are 900 Sierra high points.) Robin had laminated the one sheet, mounted it on a piece of wood, plaque-like. He is to be congratulated on his find -- If he continues going to unnamed peaks or peaks not on the SPS list, he will probably run into the glass jars and film canisters that SPSers like Andy Smatko, Barbara Lilley, Tom Ross, Gordon McLeod, to name but a few, have left in their wanderings to some of those high points. By the way, some of those trips were officially scheduled and the trips written up in the *Echo*. If SPS should not disregard the 900 high points, why bother to have a peaks list as an objective?

SPS has not "chosen a no-action policy." Organizations such as the Sierra Club and its entities are made up mostly of volunteers. Thus, certain periods lacking continuity are bound to occur. Some people "reign" over a pet project, others make a real contribution. I've been an SPS member for the better part of 20 years and found it to be largely a democratic body lending an ear to dissension. Members began to protest: "Where'd all the good old registers go?" Responding to popular sentiment, the first tenuous policy about copying a register and returning the original to the summit was issued in 1975. The debate would go on whether it should be the other way around. In the Mar/Apr '78 *Echo* Dennis Lantz (the very person briefed by Bill Eng's in '72) writes, "...Abbott register 41 years old with lots of SPS names - left for others to enjoy and added new tablet for new climbers."

It follows then that the '79 - '87 register Bill refers to as rescued by Ingraham would have such an inscription. (An aside: In accordance with that, Angeles Chapter should be contacted - they'll look to see who's Mtn. Records Chair for SPS, and direct you to that person. You might as well take a shortcut and turn the register over to current Mtn. Records Chair, Barbara Reber for proper disposition - unless you've already done so?)

It took scarcely two summers for the SRC to become the authority on registers with the "significant" backing of the National Park and Forest Service. I think it rather peculiar that SPS's 30+ years of placing and maintaining of registers on its behalf and that of the Sierra Club would prompt the Sequoia/Kings Head Ranger to speculate that if "the Sierra Club is no

longer interested ... the government will reassert its authority..." The government to allocate funds and personnel to reassert authority over summit registers it never placed?!! They have their own to keep track of comings and goings -- but to assert authority over summit registers on say ... Marion?

"...register preservation will go on with or without Sierra Club or SPS support..." Bless it, the SRC found a mission: One 1923 register in a sardine can; 4 1934 in tobacco cans, three 1940 hardback SC books and one 1953 SC Book. Will not divulge the locations of these registers for "obvious reasons." All SRC (Ingraham) had to do is refer to the Angeles Chapter library to get all the information he will ever need to locate whatever is left of "historic" registers. *Echo* issues have a wealth of information.

**To Fred Camphausen:** Fred apparently assumes that hordes of people are climbing mountains and making history in the process; therefore, "following registers will strain the capacity of containers to contain them" Future study and research of these full-to-capacity preserved register records no doubt will make a very interesting litany sprinkled now and then with suitable blather.

**To Ron Jones:** Ron asserts that there is no SPS affiliation to a register placed by Walter Starr, Norman Clyde, Ansel Adams, etc. Most of us learned of the Sierra Club first, joined it, then elected the activity that suited us best. The SPS was instrumental in my having signed some of the earlier registers establishing that "affiliation." I observed, however, the old timers simply signed their names unobtrusively and without "passionate" hyperbole. If the SPS is "nearly parochial" then DPS and HPS are in good company. To have made our wishes known to the powers that be - as you input - would have required volunteers with 20-20 hindsight.

**To Mr. Jules Eichorn:** All of the above applies.

-- Vi Grasso



(SAWTOOTH: continued from page 13)

in on the last page of the 30 year old register and a new book was placed. Shortly after 10 we started back and were at the cars a few minutes after 11 to wash up and start the drive down to Walker Pass Road and home. Participants were Bob Wyka (who was chagrined to find in the register that he had climbed Sawtooth years before) and SPS newcomers Karl Kraves, Doug Hatfield, Wayne Norman, and Monica Parker.



**The Mystery Is Back!** Study the above photograph, recollect your past climbs, tune-in on those brief moments that you've spent on top of mountain summits, remember if the register on top of the above peak was of 'historic value' and send in your guess to Jeff Solomon, Associate Editor! Along with your guess as to the identity of the above mystery peak, send in your comments on the **major** issues affecting our section today: how will the \$3 permit reservation fee imposed by the Forest Service affect your climbing this summer? what is your solution to the continuing insurance crisis (shoe laces on boots are no longer allowed -- must use velcro)? how is the newly formed California Mountain Club (CMC) going to affect the our section? are our leaders and our membership going to defect and our foundation crumble? Yes, there are important issues that affect our section, not just the register preservation contest. So, please send in your opinions so that we can air them in these pages.

### EDITORIAL

I am happy to see a full line up of scheduled climbs sponsored by the SPS for the coming summer. We all are grateful to leaders that have come through and have not abandoned our section due to the insurance crisis. I am sad to see our Club abandon our section and 'mountain-eering' in general by not coming through and ease the restrictions imposed on climbing by the insurance underwriters. Current Club leaders and directors should be held accountable. I am sad to read the letter from 'Campy' [see page 8] and learn that he is no longer able to support the Club in clear conscience. I can sympathize and share in his feelings; however, I believe that we must continue to support the Club as the primary voice defending our environment and we must continue to struggle to summon the Club's support for mountain-eering. Let us persevere and not despond in these times.



# ECHOES FROM FROM OUR READERS (cont.)

**"Campy" Camphausen**  
 2765 Sierra Vista Way  
 Bishop CA 93514  
 (619) 872-2338

15 February 1990

Richard Cellarius, President  
 Sierra Club  
 PO Box 7959  
 San Francisco CA 94120

COPY

Dear Mr. Cellarius:

I must refuse to respond to your request that I contribute money to the Sierra Club in the guise that this will help meet future environmental challenges.

You have chosen to neutralize the formerly strongly supportive mountaineering voices within the Club, by requiring that an impossibly stringent liability insurance requirement be met. Predictably, the result has been underwriter no-bid. The limit of liability to cover similar risks required even by the Federal government (NPS) is only 10% of that which you have imposed. I note also that you did not bother to reply to my earlier letter to you regarding this matter.

Many people have learned to love "John Muir's environment" by way of Sierra Club led training programs and climbs. Indeed, some have gone on to become champions and stewards of the mountains and deserts as their way of life and work. But many must realize now that, because of opportunities lost during your watch, many potential environmental guardians doubtless will not evolve, nor grow and explore and live within the mountains which John Muir had loved.

As I would not tie into a rope with a climber who has no spine, I will not lead future mountaineering trips for the Club which has lost sight of the mountains (or, to turn about a phrase, which "...cannot see the trees for the forest"). I will speak out against the Club which can even think of expending budget to sell fancy flashlights and imported walking sticks, but will not afford to train mountaineers. I will speak out against Club directors who proclaim on the one hand that its active mountaineer members are a negligible minority, and then go on to assert otherwise within its own magazine advertising rate cards. I will be found elsewhere instead. I will back organizations which teach that the "environment" should be "home", as the Sierra was "home" to John Muir and to Norman Clyde, and to all of us lesser mountaineers as well.

Very truly,



To: Graham Breakwell Karen Leonard  
 Mario Gonzalez Bill Oliver  
 Vi Grasso Igor Mamedalin  
 Barbara Reber

From: Bill T Russell

Mar 19, 1990

Here is an alternate to the draft poll prepared by Bill Oliver. I think that questions to the SPS membership should deal with real situations and implementable actions. Questions like what is "historic" or where to store registers that are removed as well as issues of better containers and relations with non SPS entities should be dealt with by knowledgeable people, i.e. the management committee.

I intend to learn more about the records at the BANCROFT LIB. but it will take a few weeks. Wouldn't a membership referendum make more sense after the APR 1 meeting of the SCMC? What is the rush to get this into the next ECHO?

### PEAK REGISTER REFERENDUM

For more than thirty years the SPS, with the encouragement of the Sierra Club Mountaineering Committee (SCMC), has placed and maintained register containers and books on summits that are listed on the SPS Peaks List. For the past several years, Rob Roy McDonald and now Barbara Reber have done a magnificent job in keeping the status of registers and in charging trip leaders to carry new ones to summits as needed. SPS leaders also have done a fine job of reporting the actual condition of registers. Rob Roy's letter in the Jan-Feb ECHO gives the story; up to 140 high quality containers and books have been placed by the SPS.

Some of the early books contained a stamped instruction to remove the book when full and to send it to Sierra Club headquarters. It appears that many books have been removed only to disappear. Since 1980 it has been SPS policy to leave full books placed by the SPS or placed in the past thirty years, on the summits for all to enjoy. Where appropriate the old instruction to remove a full book has been changed by handwriting to ask that the book be left on the peak.

In 1988, Robin Ingraham who lives in Merced, entered the picture with the stated intent of removing all full or damaged "historic" registers and sending them to the BANCROFT LIBRARY of UC, Berkeley for preservation. The catch is that probably all of the really historic books have already been removed and many are at the Bancroft. Rob Roy's data shows that only seven registers on SPS peaks date from 1924 to 1939 and another nine from 1940 to 1955. What to do about these sixteen books can be decided on a case by case basis but these oldies should not set the policy for the large number of registers placed after 1955. The issue is important because Ingraham, with the support of some Sierra Club people has apparently removed more recent books, has placed his own containers and has moved SPS containers.



*It won't be long before the cold  
 Just takes this creek in such a hold  
 That for five months it won't let go  
 Before it then again will flow*

*Early winter, Eldorado National Forest*

## ECHOES OF OUR CLIMBS

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### MT. DARWIN - NORTH ARETE

July 21-23, 1989

Bill Oliver & Jeff Solomon

Our intention was to approach Darwin from the north and climb it via the standard NW ridge (Roper's Route 2). Time-allowing, we would follow up with an ascent of Mendel by its east face. I had climbed the latter peak four years earlier from the John Muir Trail. At that time we had badly underestimated the effort required to run the long, serrated ridge arching over to Darwin. Being true peakbaggers, my two companions went back the next day and maxed out at the eastern rim of the summit plateau, where they were then content to find and sign the register.

Jeff, Ron Grau and I left the North Lake Campground on Fri. at 8:30 AM, crossed the Lamarck Col by 2:30 PM and established camp at the eastern terminus of Darwin Canyon, a couple of hundred feet above the highest lake. On the way in we had failed to note the use trail that heads off from the creek a short ways ahead of Upper Lamarck Lake. This necessitated some modest cross-country travel to connect with the switchbacks heading up the steep slopes east of the lake. Note: the use trail begins climbing the wall on the left just where the main trail crosses the creek below a cascade. Crampons were optional in handling the snow-laden north side of Lamarck Col - we exercised the option on our slightly icier return.

Aside from being overrun with abusive marmots, our level campsite did afford a meager supply of water from a rivelet that was surely about to vanish. Surprisingly, there were still lush benches in the area crowded with damp grasses and assorted small wildflowers. Our senses were continually scanning the weather as a major storm had swept the area ahead of our arrival and could still be lurking nearby. Startling at first, we eventually got used to the hourly sound of rockfall off the NW face of Mendel. Our site was prime for distant westerly views above the string of five lakes, and our day ended with fresh popcorn, fortified chocolate coffee, and a Sierra sunset that left us pointing without words.

(This was my second trip this summer with the Jeff-Ron duo. I feel obliged to warn others - these guys are confirmed flossheads. Most of us are content to perform this private act alone and out of sight. These two face off, tune their strings, and rage on like dueling banjos.)

Darwin was one of six peaks, all bordering the east side of the "Evolution" Basin, named with this common theme by Theodore Solomons in 1895. Can you name the other five? Answer at end.

Saturday we were up at the leisurely hour of 5:30 AM and headed out at 6:45. A couple of Yetis, Chuck & Chris Kudija, from the Vagmarken (VM) Club, who had camped at the small

lake just N of the Col, passed our camp as we were also exiting. Perhaps partly to avoid our route, they planned to climb Darwin somewhere east of the standard chute (the latter is about 100 yards east of the most prominent ridge notch).

After about an hour of traversing and ascending around the canyon wall, we were brought to below the saddle NE of the peak. It was at this juncture that Ron chose to withdraw from the climb. He had been a little slow on the backpack and now was continuing to lag behind. He had been enduring a headache all along, probably due in no small part to a root canal only two days earlier.

Jeff and I felt badly for Ron. Facing the mountain again, we were both suddenly and unexpectedly inspired to take a more challenging approach to the summit. We were then directly in position below the prominent north arete. Jeff surmised that the large snow couloir on the left side of this rock rib, although quite steep, seemed feasible. A snow tongue extended to the very plateau rim. I was fascinated by the arete itself. I could make out a possible route on the left side of the lower portion and the higher reaches seemed complex enough to offer many possibilities. (Refer to the May-June '89 *Echo* cover for a good view of the north face of Darwin.)

At 8:45 AM we donned our helmets, left behind the scree and snow, and embarked upon a climb of the arete, unsure of what challenges the mountain spirits were calling us to but willing to risk success in our attempt. Roper rates the route class 4. I also had a zerox of the earlier Voge guide with me. The latter rates the climb class 3 to 4 and notes that the first ascent is credited to David Brower and Hervey Voge himself in 1934. We each carried a 75-foot, 8-9 mm rope, but had virtually no pro to place. It was thus advisable for us to avoid serious 5th class pitches. Based on the 7.5 min. topo, I would estimate that the arete gains about 900 feet vertically.

Our route was largely high third and stayed pretty much just left of the rib centerline. Again and again stretches connected, and we made steady progress. After an hour, just short of halfway up, a very large boulder stubbornly blocked our way. I tried skirting it on the right, but backed off when the holds became too thin. We were able to pass it on the left by first dropping down a little. Jeff was given the opportunity to share in the "leading" but we were both content to leave me in front.

Above the boulder the arete consisted quite noticeably of fairly cruddy rock. Jeff would have to wait below in a sheltered spot for me to re-settle into a safe stance and then join me. Too many people along would make this route very slow-going. The boundary between high 3rd and 4th is pretty vague and, besides, I seldom think to look down to assess the exposure - the holds wait above. The rock improved again closer to the rim. At 10:50 AM an ecstatic blast from my whistle signaled the others

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my sudden mounting of the summit plateau. I had expected the rim to "recede" as we approached it, but it had been in view all along. The arete climb had taken just over two hours. A belay had neither been requested nor offered. We'd done it! Far out!

The arete had brought us to the high eastern edge of the plateau, but it did not quite deliver us to the register. A level walk straight ahead about 75 yards stood the "detached" summit block, much like the tower isle hanging off the edge of an aircraft carrier. The peak was not yet ready to let us aboard. I was impressed and, to be honest, a little intimidated. By what incredible course of geologic events was this awesome block fashioned? By what magical power was it maintained upon its precarious perch set off from the rim? How many a brave mountaineer had ventured this far and no farther?

Well, we knew, of course, that the block yielded regularly to fellow SPSers, so we dropped our packs and set about preparations to board it. The July '72 *Echo* cover offers a good view of the short but sheer south face of the summit block, while the April '77 issue shows climbers coming up its north side. We bridged the notch between the plateau and the block and commenced a counter-clockwise inspection of its flanks. I knew the south face could be climbed, but I was not prepared to flash it without pro or rock shoes. A north side approach from the notch appeared to first entail downclimbing onto loose steep rock. With Jeff forging ahead we circled around from south to east. A diagonal chute on the SSE side offered

a possible entry. Downclimbing a short face here, however, and continuing to the east side brought us to two adjacent, short class 3 chutes. Jeff took the left and I the right, and we had stumbled upon the key. I think the right chute had better rock but either led up and across to an easy mantle onto the highest block layer at 11:20. It was unexpectedly easy as the final ascent is made up the hidden back side of the block. Jeff, as usual, went wild seeking to identify distant peaks in every direction.

We lunched out back on the plateau and at 12:30 began our descent via the standard route along the NW ridge. After a plodding walk down the plateau, the serrated ridge was invigorating. We intercepted the VM couple along the way. They had come up the standard chute after all, having belayed one section of it. It was to our good fortune to be able to identify, at 1:30, the proper chute down by finding their ice axes and crampons cached above.

This was not a fun chute - steep, narrow, and consisting of a loosely-held mixture of dirt and rock. At one point we encountered a near-vertical chimney that I backed off descending free. As I set about rigging a rappel anchor, Jeff searched farther to the left and discovered a feasible bypass to the chimney. Way to go, Jeff! We gingerly stepped onto the glacier at 2:45 and cramponed around easterly, encountering bare ice lower down, over to near the beginning of our arete climb. Somewhere along the way we had quietly surrendered ambitions of climbing Mendel due to threatening storm clouds and the certainty of returning well past sunset.

Ron welcomed us back into camp shortly before 5:00. Although I remain somewhat skeptical, he insists that he saved my food bag from certain capture. It had been hung over the side of a large boulder. In the nick of time, he alleges that he rescued it from an intrepid marmot that had taken the cord in his bite and was dragging the bag up the boulder wall. The VM couple passed our camp after 8 PM, having finished the plateau but stalling short of the summit. They had rapped a pitch down the ridge chute on their return. The next morning Ron was feeling much better and so we all climbed Lamarck on the way out. The cars were reclaimed at 1:30 PM.

To our good fortune the mountain spirits had favored our enterprise. Although indispensable, our ropes were never uncoiled. Although threatening, the weather never turned against us. Although intimidating throughout the day, Darwin had befriended us at last.

The other five "evolutionary giants" named by Solomons are Spencer, Haeckel, Wallace, Fiske and Huxley. Only Spencer is not on the SPS List. In keeping with the area theme, Lamarck was named in 1912, and Mendel by the Sierra Club about 1940. The first "recorded" ascent of the latter peak was in 1930 by 18 year-olds Glen Dawson and Jules Eichorn with Johnny Olmstead. They found a cairn! John Muir may have climbed Darwin in 1873, but the first ascent is credited to others in 1908.

Bill

### PEAKS IN NEED OF REGISTERS

Alta	Henry	Senger
Arrow	Hermit	Stanislaus
Bago	Huxley	Striped
Black Giant	Independence	Thor
Charybdis	Iron	Three Sisters
Clyde Minaret	Jordan	Mt. Tom
Colosseum	Mallory	Tunemah
Cotter	Morrison	Tinemaha
Davis	Pickering	Virginia
Eisen	Powell	Vogelsang
Genevra	Sawtooth (MK)	Volunteer
Gray		

Anyone going to any of the above peaks please contact Mountain Records Chair, Barbara Reber at: P.O. Box 1911, Newport Beach, CA 92663 or (714) 640-7821, to obtain the needed materials, i.e., register book and/or canister. Now more than ever it behooves SPSers, whether on led or private trips, to report on the condition of registers. Past Mountain Records Chairs Chuck Stein and Rob Roy McDonald repeatedly published this appeal -- let's take the current one seriously.



## WRITE-UPS FROM BEYOND THE CRYPT (LYELL AND McCLURE)

Mid 1988

Leader: George Hubbard

Scribe: Mike Manchester

### PROLOGUE

This is not a tale of death and it is not a tale of dismemberment and horror. (There were no sightings of Jason on the glacier).

This is just a very, very late write-up. It is being submitted now as I promised George I would do so over a year ago. Even after persistent prompting from George and his handing me the "friendly reminder" from Jeff Solomon dated August 28, 1988., I had the audacity to tell him "It's almost in the mail, ol' buddy!"

### CHAPTER AND VERSE

A group of approximately twelve climbers met at Toulomne Meadows for the long back pack to camp above the far end of the meadows near a stream of water where a food line was strung between two poles. The line was presumably out of reach of the bears. The weather was threatening a downpour but delivered only a persistent April shower. We set up camp. The leaders scouted the route to trails end and picked the brain of climbers returning from the peaks.

We ate dinner and communed around the campfire, I think. We may have just communed around. In point of fact, there was no campfire. Everything was too wet. Soon we all hit our sacks. No

sooner did visions of sugar plums begin dancing in our heads when Bob Wyka yelled, "The bears have got our food". The sugar plums turned to green faced witches and winged monkeys. Most of us jumped out of the sack to help ward off the invader. Only two persons lost their food to the bears. So depressed were they the next morning that they bade us all farewell and packed out to their cars.

The next day we headed for the peaks by the standard route up over the glacier towards Lyell. This year was a very low snow year. Consequently what was generally a Class II climb, became a low Class III climb after leaving the glacier. Ropes were offered but no one was in need.

The views were spectacular from the Lyell's summit. We climbed down to the saddle and up the ridge to McClure. Summit time was cut short by the weather which was closing in on us. Amidst thunder claps we made our way off the mountain and back to camp.

On the third day, a Sunday, we broke camp and packed out to the cars for the long drive home to Los Angeles.

### EPILOGUE

The trip had all the ingredients of the complete mountain experience: a day long backpack; a little rain; comradery; a bear attack with some provision loss; and a low third class rock climb on a route which did not usually involve third class rock.

And now this write-up made possible by its sponsor, GUILT!

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## GETTING HIGH IN MEXICO

Jack Miller

It was New Year's Eve. My partner, Ray Crerand, and I were in Mexico and we were higher than either of us had ever been before on that traditionally festive evening. We were shivering in a flapping wind blown tent perched on a glacier at 16,000' on Mexico's El Pico de Orizaba and toasting the new year with hot lemonade and hot chocolate.

To most tourists Mexico is a warm land with white sandy beaches, clear blue water, luxury hotels, acres of cheap trinkets, sharply contrasting cultures and crowds. There is, however, another Mexico of grand alpine vistas, moonlike beauty and no crowds. This is the land of Mexico's high volcanoes with its ancient glaciers and unpredictable mountain storms.

Mexico's highest mountain and the third highest peak in North America is the 18,546' El Pico de Orizaba. The most popular climbing route starts from the Piedra Grande Hut at 14,000' and ascends the Jamapa Glacier. We drove the thirteen miles to the hut from the small town of Tinchichuca over the most daunting and terrifying road either of us had ever been on.

We started hiking from the hut in mid-afternoon planning to camp on the glacier at a flat place near the 16,000' level. By the time we got there a storm had come up. We were suddenly in a white out and the wind was blowing furiously.

We spent over half an hour leaning into the wind, trying to see and looking for a flat place to pitch our tent. The wind was unrelenting and it was getting colder. From a few feet away we couldn't tell the wind driven snow along the surface of the glacier from the wind driven clouds. Both mist and snow moved together and we were totally engulfed in the moving, mildly disorienting whiteness.

Our search for a camp site was interrupted when a climber coming down the glacier staggered out of the white. His legs wobbled and he seemed near exhaustion when he dropped on the snow in front of us. He was the leader of a group that soon came staggering along. They had failed to reach the summit and were now desperately trying to get back down the mountain before dark. We pointed out the route as well as we could, wished them well and began to wonder what we had gotten ourselves into.

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At last, during a clearing in the weather we found a flat place, pitched our tent and were in it by 6:30 PM. That was December 31st, New Year's Eve. The wind was still blowing furiously but we were at last safe in our flapping tent. We had some supper, toasted the new year and tried to sleep.

The next morning we were up at first light. It was now clear but the wind was still strong and it was biting cold. The blowing spindrift stung our faces and numbed our fingers as we prepared to climb. The hard snow on the glacier made ideal footing for our crampons, but my hands and face were numb from the stinging wind.

The slope of the glacier was about forty degrees and at that altitude we were only able to take 25 or 30 steps before stopping to gasp for breath. I could feel my heart booming as I leaned over my ice ax to breathe as deeply and as rapidly as I could. With my head down to protect my face from the biting wind I spent most of those climbing hours counting steps, gasping for breath and watching the spindrift snow scud across my boots and gaiters.

When we reached Orizaba's enormous crater we followed its rim to the summit. We enjoyed the exhilarating view and the satisfaction of achieving our goal. It was bright and clear and we

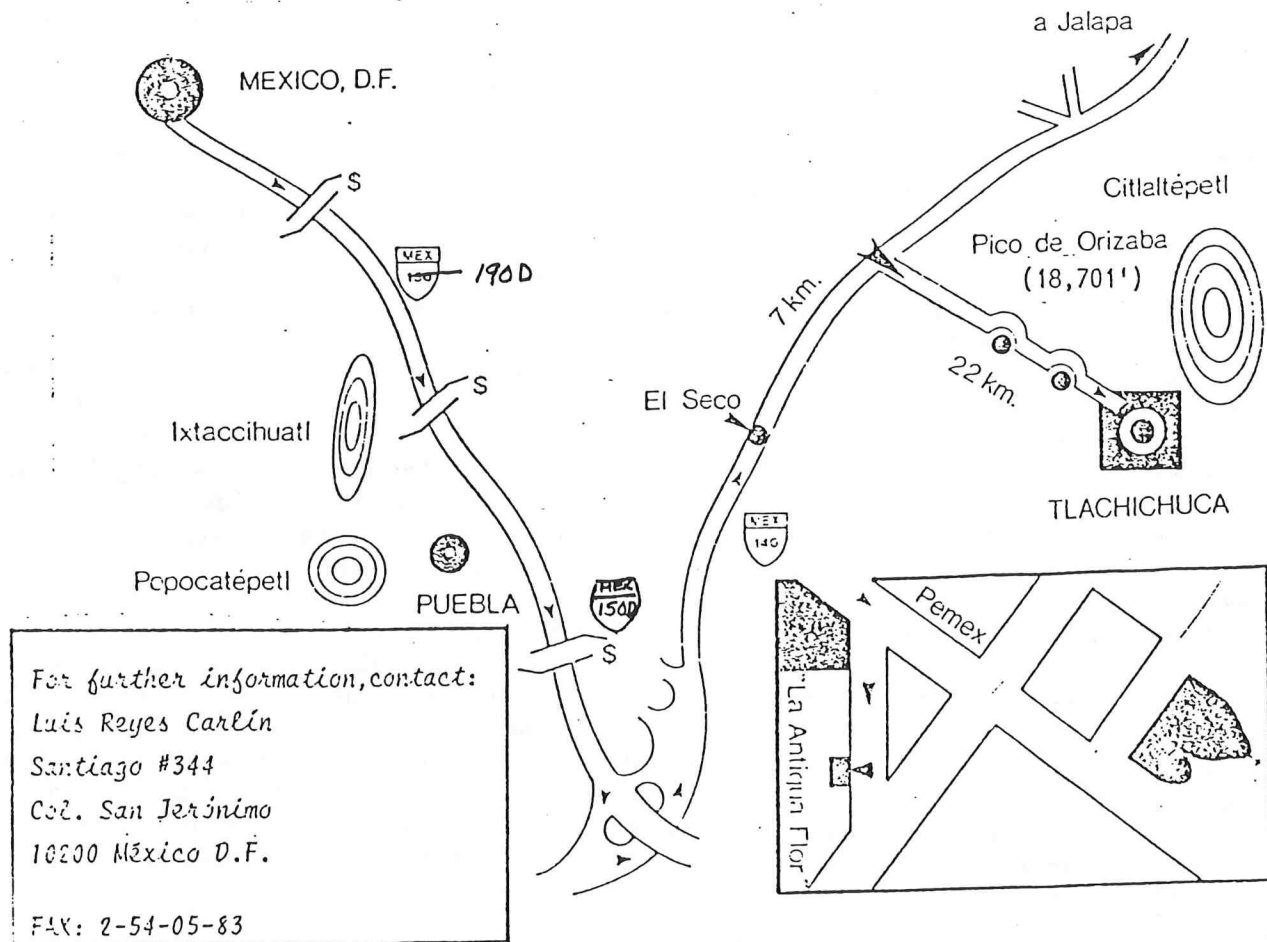
thought we could see the Gulf of Mexico 75 miles away. The wind had temporarily subsided and the sun had its pleasant warming effect. There were only a few small clouds and they were well away from the mountain and over a mile below us.

Even though the weather was pleasant now we could hardly forget yesterday's storm, and didn't want to end up lost in a whiteout wandering blindly around the mountain. So after a short rest for a snack and some picture taking, we went quickly back to our camp, packed up our tent and other gear and headed back to our car at the Piedra Grande Hut. Ray, the driver, then successfully traversed the ruts, deep mud, tree roots and boulders of that steep terrible road. When we were finally safe back on flat terrain we stopped to look back. The storm clouds had moved in again to cover the summit and the glacier where we had been just a few hours before.

We were in Mexico for eleven days. In addition to climbing Orizaba, we climbed Popocatepetl (17,887') and Iztaccihuatl (17,342'). We also visited Veracruz, the city of Puebla, some nearby Aztec ruins and took a short tour of Mexico City.

Sunny Mexico is a marvelous place for the challenging fun of a winter mountaineering adventure. Dare mighty things. Steal a copy of R. J. Secor's book. Get some other helpful stuff from the Auto Club and go for it.

Map below for Orizaba contributed by Michael B. Sanson



## GLACIER RIDGE & WHALEBACK

July 28-31, 1989

Maris Valkass / Ron Jones

These were two of the few remaining peaks that Ron had to do before finishing the list. So we decided on a private trip since the Club would not allow to lead a peak with a fourth class summit.

Our trip started from Sunset Meadow, which is east of Big Meadows, near Kings Canyon National Park. We followed a trail for 15 miles going east to Roaring River Ranger Station. Up to that point, the scenery was average forest [*trees, brush, fallen logs?*], almost dull. From here we went towards Colby Pass, and turned off on a faint trail going between Whaleback and Glacier Ridge. The trail is shown on the John Muir Wilderness topo, Southern Section. Entering the Big Wet Meadow, the scenery was almost mystical. At the end of the long meadow you could see the glaciated valley with stately pine trees lining the background, and above all, perfectly placed, stood Whaleback. That view alone was worth the 20+ miles that we had to hike.

I must confess, that eight of us started out together, but before nightfall we were separated. Ron and I could not keep up with the others, and we spent the night about 18 miles from the trailhead. The others went three or four miles further. Dave Dykeman and Nancy Gordon did the two peaks the next day, and started their hike out. Chris Yeager did both of the peaks also the same day, but went in further to do some others. Bob Wyka, Lance Dixon and Gary Gerlach climbed Glacier, and then on the same day did Triple Divide. Ron Jones and I went past their camp and up into the canyon between the two peaks and set up our camp at about the 9,400' level. Then we climbed Glacier Ridge. It is not too difficult to get into 4th or even 5th class conditions climbing this peak. The summit block is exposed, but the holds are very good and most people probably would not ask for a belay.

The view from this mountain is magnificent. I would compare it to the one from Clouds Rest. It really shows the granite batholith, and how it has been carved out by the glacier. The surrounding mountains are 1,500' higher, yet close enough to make one feel quite humble before them. To me, this scenery shows what the Sierra is really like. Ron and I both, thought that this peak should be a mountaineer's peak. Next day Ron and I climbed Whaleback, which is a grand looking mountain, but the view was pretty average. On our way up we met Wyka, Dixon, and Gerlach who were on their way down. This was Ron's 265th peak; four more to go!

The same day we hiked back to the Roaring River Ranger Station where we spent the night. Next day we hiked the remaining 15 miles out. We were back to the cars by 2:30 PM.

-- Maris Valkass

## RED & WHITE

August 29, 1989

David Hammond

Our leader 'Campy' arrived at the McGee Creek roadend near Lake Crowley shortly after dawn. He had driven up from his home in Bishop, which he moved to last September from Ridgecrest. Three people had dropped out, so only Delores Holladay (Asst.) and Vi Grasso and your scribe were there for the start. After about half an hour Campy said he was not feeling too well, so after giving some instructions returned home. We followed the trail up to an attractive amphitheater then up to Little McGee Lake. Leaving the trail, we climbed up to the Crest then along a narrow ridge to below the summit mass, where we scrambled up a steep gully which required class 3 moves in places. The summit (12,816') is quite small and can only accommodate 3 or 4 people, and gives good views, particularly of dominant Red Slate Mountain to the north. After scrambling down the steep part we descended towards Big McGee Lake, and then turned north to get the trail above the lake. Lower down we got onto some low class 3 slabs, which slowed us so we did not get back to the car till just after dark.

After eating in Bishop we spent the night on Campy's front lawn, and I had an interesting chat with him next morning before returning home. On reflection I think Red & White is the most interesting Class 2 peak I have ever climbed.

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## SAWTOOTH & LAMONT PEAKS

August 22-23, 1989

Ron Young / Eivor Nilsson

Seven climbers left the Chimney Creek campground about 8:20 Saturday morning, heading east toward the Sierra Crest. About a mile up the canyon we turned and followed a south tending gully to a saddle west of the crest. What looks so easy and close on the map turned out to be more work than expected. We were trying to follow the route from Jenkin's book but never found use trails amounting to much, so we climbed boulders alternating with side-hilling in steep scree and brush. The summit was worth the effort and a strong breeze made the heat tolerable. It was surprising to find the 26 year old register only one third filled and that we were only the second visitors that year. After a long summit stay we started back about 1:20 and found it was just as much work getting back to the saddle as it was coming over. By 3:30 we were back in camp for happy hour. WE had the rather nice campground to ourselves. There are good bathroom facilities but no running water.

By 7:30 Sunday morning we were leaving the large parking area at the trailhead (shown on the 7 1/2 topo) for Lamont Peak. About 9:20 we were on the summit enjoying the view. It was another warm day but the strong breeze made hiking tolerable. (Night time temperatures dropped to 49 degrees). We signed

(continued on page 6)



**MT. WHITNEY OR BUST!**  
 July 22-28, 1989  
 Terry Morse & Barry Guthrie  
 (private adventure)

After dropping off my dog at the kennels, I arrived at Barry's Acton rancho Saturday around 8:30 AM. We loaded everything for a week's car camping into his truck and hit the road by 9:00 AM. We weren't sure about fire restrictions, so decided to check at the ranger station in Mammoth before buying our food at the Vons located there. Then, driving on to the Mt. Patterson trailhead near Lobdell Lake, we arrived there about 5:00 in the afternoon and found a nice isolated spot in the aspens next to a creek. WE set up camp and barbecued chicken and baked potatoes before going to bed.

Up at 5:00 AM and hiking by 6:00, we hiked right from our campsite to add some mileage to the trek (about 10 miles round trip and 2,800' gain). The views from the top were starkly beautiful, but we were chased off early by threatening thunderclouds. Thankfully, only a few drops of rain fell along with some thunder and lightening. We packed up and drove to Tioga Pass to climb Mt. Dana on Monday. All the campgrounds were full, so instead of driving all the way down the hill, we explored a 4-wheel drive road at the 9,000' elevation. This turned out to be Warren Canyon and had some beautiful primitive campsites. Located again in aspens next to a stream, no fires were allowed, so fixed a pot of chili on the stove.

Up at 5:00 AM, hiking by 6:00, we reached the summit of Dana by 9:00. With great views in all directions and nobody else around, lunch turned into a two hour event. Hiking down, we encountered a heavy thundershower with hail which only lasted about half hour. Back in camp in early afternoon, we took a siesta listening to the wind rustle through the trees.

Tuesday morning found us at the Clouds Rest trailhead at Tenaya Lake. This would be a 14 mile day, culminating in unbelievable views from the summit. Even on film, the scenery looked fake. How could so much grandeur be visible from one place? After coming back down, we drove to Sawmill Meadows, the trailhead for Glass Mtn., a desert peak. This area was totally deserted and proved to be a very comfortable place to camp. Glass Mtn., 2,000' of pumice, was so frustrating to climb, but fun to run down. We were out of food, so we drove to Lee Vining for restocking and camped again in Warren Canyon.

Thursday, we took a six mile hike up Convict Creek for the exercise, and then headed for a motel in Lone Pine. After five days of hiking and camping, a shower felt incredibly good. We tackled our next objective, Mt. Whitney as a dayhike, at 5:45 Friday morning. Reaching the summit in 6 hours, I was surprised at the number of 'older' people (40+!!!) on top. It seems that climbing and backpacking are not attracting as many young people as in the past. Being slow as an old dog on the way down, it took us an additional 6 hours to reach our vehicle at Whitney Portal. Back at the motel again, we went for a

refreshing swim, but surprisingly were not very hungry. In bed by 10:00 PM, we got up early for a delicious breakfast at Bobo's Bonanza and drove home ending a successful week of Sierra and desert peak bagging. Totals for the week were approximately 61 miles hiking with 18,000' elevation gain. As an addendum it should be noted that I found no registers on either Mt. Dana or on Cloud's Rest.

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**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

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*[Correction: No, Bobby DuBeau did not do his emblem a second time, and he's really #491, as feted in the Jul/Aug '89 Echo. Those that complain of not receiving prompt and adequate credit for their mountaineering accomplishments sometimes receive belated but double credit!]*

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Richard Henke 625 Marine Ave. Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 (213) 545-6491	Ang Karma Sherpa P.O. Box 3043 Kathmandu, Nepal c/o Bob Wyka (213) 827-4411
Rita Matkovich 6301 Rosemary Drive Cypress, CA 90630 H: (714) 827-6119 W: (213) 593-7865	

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Many people have renewed their membership or subscription but still more need to do so! **RENEW YOUR SPS MEMBERSHIP BEFORE THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE ECHO! THIS IS YOUR LAST ISSUE IF YOU DO NOT RENEW!!!**

**PRIVATE TRIP ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**DISCLAIMER:** *The Echo publishes paid trip notices as a service to its readers. All such trips are private. They have not been reviewed by the SPS nor are they in any way sponsored by the Sierra Club. Advertisements of private climbs are accepted if accompanied by payment of \$1.00 for the first 4 lines and \$1.00 for each additional line.*

**MAY 5-6: Mt. Bradley** over University Col. Contact Vi Grasso at W: (213) 826-5202; H: (213) 207-3875.

Dale's CMC Trips: CMC Membership & waiver required:  
Apr 28-29: Baxter via Baxter Pass  
May 12-13: Red & White, Issac Walton  
May 26-28: Royce, Merriam, Pilot Knob  
Aug 3-8: Goethe, Hermit, Henry, Emerald, McGee, Huxley, and Fiske.  
Send SASE to Dale Van Dalsem, P.O. Box 1863, Santa Monica, CA 90406. (213) 822-0274.

----- detach along dotted line -----

**SUMMIT REGISTER POLL**

All of us derive varying levels of satisfaction and pleasure in summitting a Sierra peak - usually in direct proportion to the difficulty of the ascent. Most of us would derive special added joy if then presented with the opportunity to hold and read an original early register. Others of us are concerned that historic registers not be lost to the elements or otherwise disappear. These views are really not entirely incompatible. They are different enough, however, to have presented us with a frustrating dilemma.

As previously noted, the Summit Register Poll accompanying last October's ballot was poorly designed. Some of the results were conflicting. Additional opportunities were presented for the expression of various views on this matter in the February *Echo*. All current SPS members are again asked to vote their preferences on this issue. Most of us have views - so express yourself!

-- Bill Oliver, *SPSOutings Chair*

Detach the bottom half of this page after responding to the poll and mail it in an envelope to:

SPS Secretary, Karen Leonard  
10454 Cheviot Dr.  
Los Angeles, CA 90064

**Responses must be received by no later than May 16. They may also be turned in at the May 9th Section Meeting.**

**Please carefully read all seven possible responses first and then vote for one only.**

All original registers are ultimately to be left on the summit.

- 1. \_\_\_\_ They should permanently remain on the summit.
- 2. \_\_\_\_ In support of historic preservation, they may be temporarily removed for copying if the original is returned to the summit promptly.

Only original registers of "historic value", if full or seriously damaged, be removed from the summit for preservation

- 3. \_\_\_\_ with a "partial" copy returned to the summit.
- 4. \_\_\_\_ with a complete copy returned to the summit.

Original registers of "historic value" and those placed by the Sierra Club/SPS, if full or seriously damaged, should be removed from the summit for preservation

- 5. \_\_\_\_ with a "partial" copy returned to the summit.
- 6. \_\_\_\_ with a complete copy returned to the summit.
- 7. \_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Definitions:**

*"historic value"* to be determined by the SPS Management Committee, e.g., registers placed prior to 1955.

*"partial"* only information and entries of "historic value".

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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.

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