

The Sierra



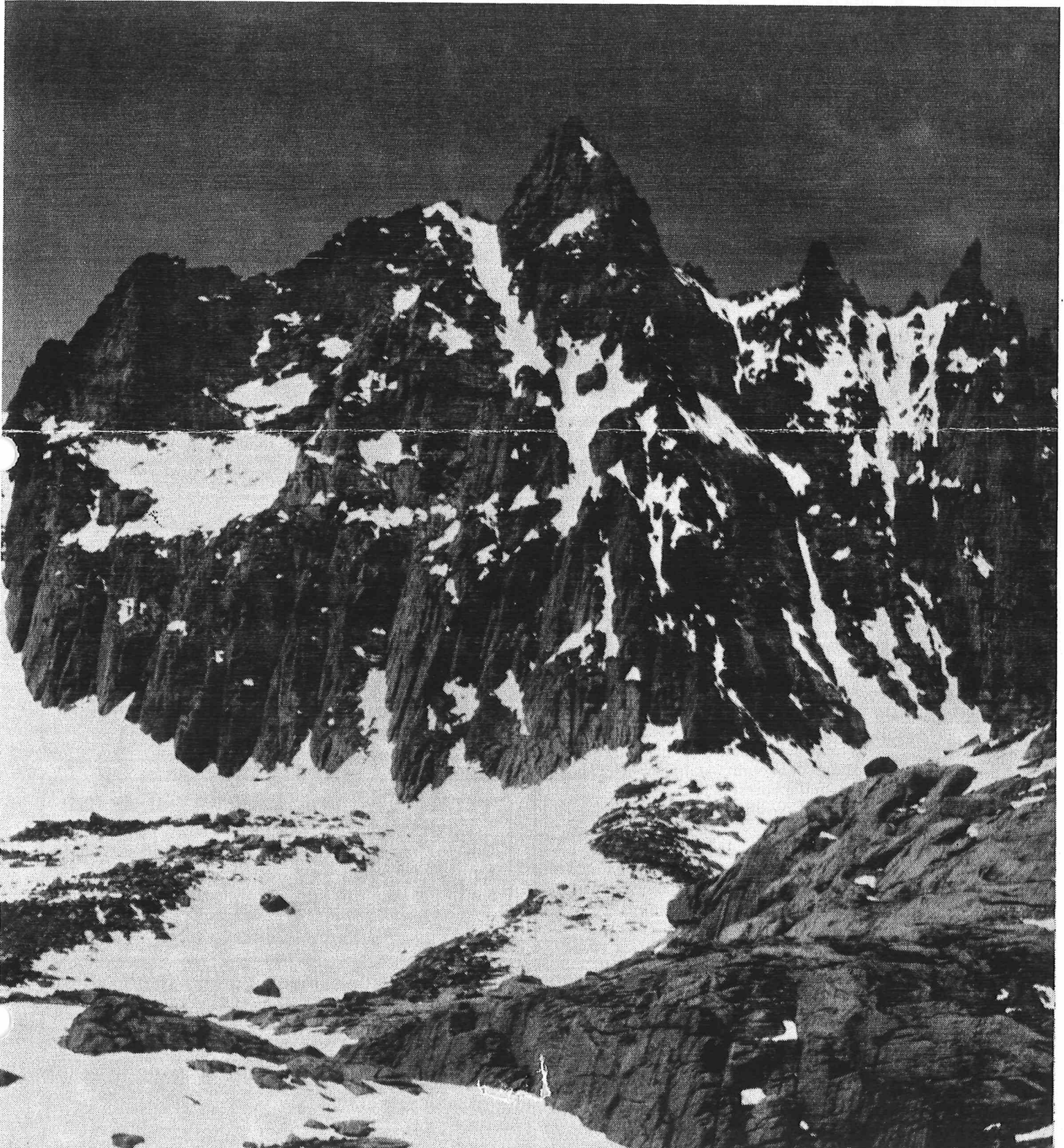
ECHO

VOLUME 34

1990

MAY-JUNE

NUMBER 3



ECHOES FROM THE CHAIR

Chair's Corner

Meetings - Meetings - Meetings: Hold them once a month, every second Wednesday - lest you forget to note your calendar for such an important, instructive, entertaining and even beneficial event. How's that? Well, by coming to the meetings you get to talk to your friends about "important" things like the next outing you might be able to go on, whether private or led trip. "Instructive" because the guest speaker, be it a member of the Section or someone recruited by your Program Chair, has taken the time to have a presentation ready and worthy of your attention. "Entertaining" because the speaker/presenter is not only well versed on his/her subject - most likely a well traveled person - but generally possesses the eleventh essential: a good sense of humor. It's possible, however, you might not care for the program(s)... ok, let us have your opinion and constructive suggestions. Management Committee is open to any comments members may have to offer. Finally, attending the meetings, especially on even-numbered months, can be "beneficial" .. you get to pick up your *Echo* hot off the press. How about doing a friend a favor -- bring him/her [for your mother-in-law] to the meetings!

It's that time of the year when membership/subscription renewals (100%, I hope) are all in. Tools need sharpening now and then and the Section's

f o r m u l a :
BL+PL+PP=M
(By-Laws, Peaks List, Policies & Procedures) may be revised from time to time to fit our needs. Therefore, members are reminded that only proposals to either add or delete (oh, no!) peaks to the List must be submitted to the Management Committee for review, allow time for publication, and, if valid, considered for the Annual Ballot in November. The same procedures and time

Palisade School of Mountaineering Closes

After 32 years in business in California's eastern Sierra Nevada, the Palisade School of Mountaineering closed its doors in early April, reported owner and president, John Fischer. The school was the oldest climbing-guide service operating on Forest Service land.

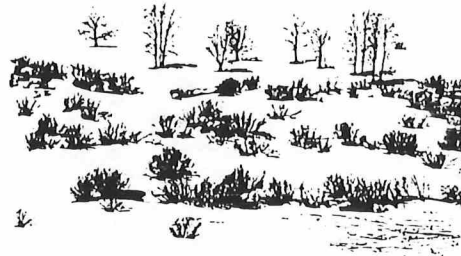
The primary reason for the school's closure, says Fischer, is the failure of the Forest Service to enforce regulations and its issuance of permits to "just anyone." Rogue guides, he says, have become a problem in the area.

"This forest is the biggest in the country in recreation user days," reports Fischer, "but guided backpacking, climbing and cross-country skiing are a low priority to the Forest Service."

Larry Williams started the school in 1958. Fischer joined in 1969 and became director in '75. Mountain Travel of Albany, Calif., bought the school after Williams was killed in a plane crash in the '60s. Fischer purchased it in 1976.

allowance applies to any changes in the Section's By-Laws. If you need information or clarification on procedure to effect any changes, please contact the Chair. Or come to the meetings and voice your views. **It is YOUR SECTION!**

[The revised SPS Policies & Procedures along with the amended By-Laws are reprinted on the following pages for the membership's information, review and comment.]



Alone they stand against the cold
Would men like us be so bold
To take this test I don't believe
Without a coat or any leaves



Quaking aspen trees, Toiyabe National Forest

DOWNTOWN L.A.?

The SPS has the opportunity to relocate the site of its monthly membership meetings from Studio City back to the Department of Water & Power Building in downtown LA beginning next year at a cost of \$25/meeting. If you feel strongly about the issue, please contact a member of the Management Committee soon so that they can make an informed decision.

PEAK INDEX: VOL 34-3 (MAY-JUNE '90)

Devil's Crag
King's Peak, Utah
North Palisade

Shepherd Pass Trail
Crystal Crag
Mt. Morgan #2

PHOTO CREDIT: The cover photo features Mt. Muir, a Mountaineer's peak, (along with Aiguille Extra and Third Needle) taken by Tina Stough from Consultation Lake in May of 1986.

BYLAWS

SIERRA PEAKS SECTION
SIERRA CLUB, ANGELES CHAPTER

Bylaw 1: Organization and Membership

Section 1: Organization

1.1 Constitution

This Section is constituted by action of the Executive Committee of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club in accordance with and subject to the provisions of the Bylaws of the Sierra Club. This Section is an integral part of the Sierra Club and of the Angeles Chapter and is governed by their Bylaws; it is not a separate legal entity.

1.2 Name

The name of this Section is the Sierra Peaks Section of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club.

1.3 Purposes

The purposes of the Section are to foster among its membership an interest in exploring and preserving the peaks of the Sierra Nevada Range, to develop and expand interest and activity of the Sierra Club membership in the Sierra Nevada; to promote weekend knapsack and other trips and mountain climbs in the Sierra Nevada, and to cultivate close comradeship among hikers and mountaineers; to aid in the conservation and preservation of the wilderness areas of the Sierra, the maintenance of good trails and clean campsites; and the dissemination of the general knowledge concerning the range — while supporting the purpose of the Sierra Club, as stated in its bylaws.

1.4 Requirements

The members of this Section shall be those members on the Sierra Club in good standing who:

- Subscribe to the Section newsletter
- Club any six mountains on the Peaks List maintained by the Section. At least two of these peaks shall be climbed on trips scheduled by the Section.
- Make application for membership in writing to the Secretary stating peaks climbed, dates, and those climbed with the SPS and giving Sierra Club membership number.

1.4.1 Classes of Membership

Active members remain in active status by:

- Maintaining their membership in the Sierra Club.
- Participating in at least one Section activity per calendar year. A qualifying activity is a climb with the Section, presentation of a program, service on a committee, providing refreshments at a meeting, writing an article for the Section newsletter, or an individual special activity when approved by the Management Committee.
- Subscribing to the Section newsletter. Subscription fees are due on January 1 of each year and are delinquent on March 31 of each year.
- Sending a membership renewal application to the Treasurer or Secretary by March 31 stating the qualifying activity done in the preceding calendar year.

Inactive members are members who, by March 31, did not meet the requirements of 1.4.1. Inactive members may become active in the current year by fulfilling the delinquent requirements and by submitting a membership renewal application to the Treasurer or Secretary stating the requirements fulfilled and giving the last year in which the member was active.

Only active members shall have the right to vote. Only active members may hold office.

1.4.1 Honorary Members

Any member of the Sierra Club who has performed outstanding service for the Section may be designated an Honorary Member by majority vote of all ballots cast at an annual business meeting.

1.5 Meetings

At least one regular general meeting shall be scheduled each calendar quarter. Special meetings of the Section membership at large may be called, with appropriate notice to the membership stating time, place, and purpose by the Section Management Committee and shall be called with similar notice upon petition to the Section Management Committee signed by fifteen (15) or more members of the Section for a meeting to consider specified subjects. If the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Section are both absent at a general meeting, the next management committee member in order shall preside. In the event of the absence of all Management Committee members, the members present shall elect a temporary Chair.

No binding action may be taken at a special meeting of the Section, but resolutions by majority vote may be adopted and addressed to the Management Committee of the Section, the Executive Committee of the Angeles Chapter, the Sierra Club Council, or the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club. A meeting may also direct the Management Committee to conduct a referendum (election) by ballot of the entire membership of the section on a specific issue.

1.6 Elections

The membership of the Section shall choose members of the Section Management Committee in an annual election. In addition, special elections or referendums on any subject within the province of the Section may be held either by direction of the Section Management Committee, the Chapter Executive Committee, a general meeting of the Section membership, Sierra Club Council, or Board of Directors, and shall be held upon petition to the Section Management Committee signed by five percent (5%) or more of the members of the Section. The direction or petition shall state the issue to be voted upon in proper form for ballot. A quorum for any special election shall be ten percent (10%) of the membership of the Section. A majority vote (more than half the vote) of those voting is required to establish Section policy. However, if the issue is the removal of an elected member of the Management Committee, a majority vote of at least two-thirds of those voting is required; if a member is so removed, the resulting vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term is to be filled within three months in a special election utilizing the same procedures as for the annual election of members of the Management Committee. Whenever possible, and if a delay of not more than two months is entailed, special elections should be held in conjunction with the annual election.

Bylaw 2: Management Committee

Section 1: Number and Powers

2.1 Members

Subject to the powers of the members as provided by these Bylaws, the management of the affairs and activities of the Section shall be in the hands of a Management Committee of five (5) members, elected by the members of the Section for a term of one year. Members elected to the Committee shall take office at the close of the last regularly scheduled meeting of the calendar year, if after the election, or, in any event, as of January 1. They shall hold office until their successors have been elected and installed.

2.2 Vacancies

A vacancy in an elected position on the Management Committee shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by vote of the remaining members of the Management Committee, except when the vacancy results from recall in a special election. Preference shall be given to those members who were candidates for the Management Committee at the last annual general election.

2.3 Powers

Only the Management Committee or those specifically authorized by it shall act in the name of the Section. The Committee shall have the authority to make rules and regulations for carrying out the procedures established by the Bylaws. If any dispute arises concerning any act of the Section Management Committee, the Chapter Executive Committee shall have the power to determine the procedures to be followed. Actions of the Section must be consistent with the purposes of the Club and the policies and directives of the Angeles Chapter and the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Nominations and Elections

2.4 Election of Management Committee

An election to choose members of the management committee shall be held annually in the fourth quarter of the calendar year, with a closing date for receipt of ballots specified by the Management Committee. The annual election, as well as all special elections, shall be conducted by written ballot mailed to all active members at least three weeks before the closing date of the election, and shall be conducted in such a manner as to insure facility of voting and secrecy of ballot.

2.5 Nominating Committee

A Nominating Committee of at least three active members of the Section shall be appointed not later than three months before the designated closing date of the annual election. No member of the Management Committee may serve on the Nominating Committee. Sufficient opportunity shall be given for members of the Section to submit names for consideration by the Nominating Committee. Notice of this, and the opportunity to nominate candidates by petition shall be given in a regular general meeting and in the Section newsletter.

2.6 Candidates

The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least two (2) more candidates than the number of members of the Management Committee to be elected, and shall report their names to the Chair of the Management Committee at least four weeks in advance of the scheduled mailing of ballots. Nominees shall be active members of the Section in good standing, who give their consent. The name of any member of the Section proposed in writing by ten (10) members of the Section or by voice vote at the September general meeting (by ten members), and who gives consent, shall also be included on the ballot, provided that the petition is received by the Management Committee at least ten (10) days in advance of the scheduled mailing of ballots. The Nominating Committee is not precluded from submitting names of its own members as candidates.

2.7 Elections Committee

An Elections Committee of at least three members of the Section shall be appointed by the Management Committee prior to the scheduled date of mailing of ballots. No nominees may serve on the Elections Committee. Under the direction of the Election Committee, the Secretary shall cause the ballots to be prepared and mailed as scheduled. The ballot should allow each voter to vote for as many candidates as there are positions to be filled; a voter may not cast more than one vote for any candidate.

2.8 Counting Ballots

The Elections Committee shall determine the validity of ballots (to be valid, the ballot must be prepared by a member who is active and received prior to the regular November meeting) and count the ballots on the closing date of the election, or as soon as practical thereafter and report immediately to the Management Committee. The five candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected. Any tie shall be resolved by lot, in the presence of the candidates or their authorized representatives. The Elections Committee shall report the results at or by the November regular meeting of members. The ballots shall be sealed and retained for at least sixty (60) days, or until their destruction is directed by the Management Committee.

2.9 Meetings Schedule

Section 3: Meetings

The Management Committee shall hold regularly scheduled meetings at least quarterly at times and places it specifies; these times and places should be announced in advance to members of the Section at regular general meetings of the Section and in the Section Newsletter. Special meetings of the Management Committee may be called by the Chair, or any three members of the Committee, but only on at least one week's notice, unless all members waive this notice requirement. Due notice of the special meetings and the scheduling of regular meetings must be given to all members of the Management Committee.

2.10 Open Meetings

All meetings of the Management Committee shall be open to attendance by any member of the Sierra Club in good standing, except that in unusual circumstances, the Committee may convene in private session for discussion of sensitive issues, but shall take no vote except in open session.

2.11 Quorum

A quorum, a majority of the members of the Management Committee in office, is required for the transaction of business. However, an absentee ballot from a member delivered to the Chair in writing or by telephone on a specific issue shall be counted, in the vote and quorum, provided that either a full discussion of the issue has occurred at a previous meeting or the arguments pro and con have been included with the call for the meeting. Business of the Management Committee shall normally be conducted at a regular meeting.

A quorum of the committee may act without a formal meeting only when quick action is necessary and there is insufficient time to arrange a well-attended special meeting, or if prior authorization to so deal with a specified issue has been given in a meeting, provided in either case that a determined and documented effort has been made to contact all members of the Committee. Any such action must be reported to all members of the Committee and reaffirmed at the next regular meeting of the Committee.

2.12 Temporary Chair

In the absence of the Chair and the Vice Chair the members of the Committee present shall elect a temporary Chair from their number.

2.13 Absences

The unexcused absence of a member from three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings of the Committee will be considered a resignation if so decided by a vote of at least two-thirds of the remaining members of the Executive Committee.

Bylaw 3: Officers

3.1 Officers

The Management Committee may meet at any time but not later than the first regular meeting in January or February and shall elect from its membership the following officers, who shall also be officers of the Section: a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Alternate Officer. Notice of the officers and appointees of the Section shall be provided to the Chapter Executive Committee and the Sierra Club Council or its designees by the end of January.

The officers so elected shall serve until their successors have qualified. No member may hold the same office for more than one term, or for an unexpired term and one term, during a five year period. The duties of the officers shall be those customary for their respective offices.

The Management Committee shall designate representatives and alternates to the Angeles Chapter Council and Conservation Committee. The Chair will serve as the alternate to these two Committees unless another member of the Section is appointed.

3.2 Duties of the Management Committee are:

1. Chair: The Chair shall preside at the meetings of the Section and of the Management Committee; shall addin these bylaws; shall call meetings of the Section and Management Committee as required; shall make reports on th activities and financial status of the Section as required by the Chapter Executive Committee; and shall, with advice of the Management Committee, appoint committees to plan and carry on the activities of the Section.

2. Vice-Chair: During the absence or disability of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall act in his place. The Vice-Chair shall plan the mountaineering activity of the Section. These activities shall include but not be restricted to climbs of the qualifying peaks. Including Sierra Peaks not on the qualifying list is encouraged.

3. Secretary: The Secretary shall keep minutes of the meetings of the Section and of the Management Committee shall have custody of the records; shall chair the Membership Committee (recruit and retain members); shall maintain records of active and inactive members including eables status and offices held; shall maintain a list of policies of the Management Committee; shall have a copy of these bylaws and those of the Angeles Chapter available for inspection at all meetings of the Section and of the Management Committee; and shall give notice meetings.

4. Treasurer: Under the general supervision of the Management Committee, the Treasurer shall have the custody the funds, and keep an accurate record thereof; shall make disbursements when authorized to do so by the Manage Committee or Chair; shall prepare a financial statement, itemizing receipts, disbursements, and financial posit to be submitted quarterly (or upon request) to the Section Management Committee and the Chapter Executive Coma and in any event at the annual meeting; shall maintain all records for a complete and satisfactory audit and sh collect and disburse all funds for special events. Any officer may collect funds which will then be turned ove the Treasurer. In addition, the Treasurer shall from time to time secure pins and patches as needed to supply membership.

5. Alternate Officer: The Alternate Officer shall be responsible for arranging for a meeting facility and for programs to be presented at the regular meetings; and also for refreshments, if deemed necessary. The Alternat Officer has full voting privileges as member of the Management Committee.

6. Council Representative: The Immediate Past Chair, if available, shall serve as the representative to the Chapter Council. The Chair shall also be an alternative representative to the Chapter Council.

3.3 Changes

The Committee shall have the power to change its officers and to fill a vacancy in any office.

Bylaw 4: Committees

Section 1: Committees

4.1 Creation of Committees
The Management Committee shall appoint standing and special committees for such objectives as it may designate consistent with the purposes of the Club, Chapter and Section. Members of a committee shall be appointed by t Section Chair from among the active members of the Section and approved by the Management Committee, and shall serve until discharged. Committee Chairs shall be designated by the Section Chair at the time the Committee is appointed. The Chair of the Section, or another member of the Management Committee shall be an ex-officio memb of each Committee (except the Nominating and Elections Committees) with the right to vote.

Except for the Nominating and Elections Committees (where it may only fill naturally occurring vacancies), the Chair or Management Committee may at any time add members to a committee, recall or replace any of its members.

all the committees shall expire with the term of the office of the Management Committee making the appointment.

4.2 Reporting

The Chairperson of each committee shall regularly report to or consult with the Section Chair and the Management Committee. Each committee shall submit an annual report to the Management Committee. Each committee (except the Nominating and Elections Committees) shall consult with any corresponding Chapter Committee.

4.3 Conservation Committee

The Conservation Committee of the Section shall further the conservation objectives of the Club, Chapter, and Section, and assist national, regional and Chapter Club actions, and supervise specific conservation action programs as authorized by the Management Committee. The primary objective of the Section Conservation Committee is to promote conservation in the Sierra Nevada Range. The Conservation Committee, or the Management Committee, may create issue and action sub-committees which report to the Conservation Committee, and to the Management Committee as requested. The Section Conservation Committee Chair or the alternate shall represent the Section on the Chapter Conservation Committee.

4.4 Membership Committee

The Section Secretary shall chair the Membership Committee. The Membership Committee of the Section shall maintain a roll of current members, shall assist in efforts to recruit and retain members, and shall be responsible, under the direction of the Management Committee, for recruiting new members and encouraging them to participate in Club, Chapter and Section activities. The Section Membership Committee may consult with the Chapter Membership Committee.

4.5 Standing Committees

The standing committees of the Section serve at discretion of the Management Committee and shall include a Mountaineering Safety and Training Committee, Mountaineering Records Committee, Publications Committee, and Banquet Committee.

(a) The Mountaineering Safety Committee shall serve as a liaison between the Chapter Safety and Training Committee and the Section, assuring that the Section observes Chapter Safety Procedures. The Committee shall schedule Section training practice sessions as needed. It shall establish the criteria for and maintain a list of qualified climbers.

(b) The Mountaineering Records Committee shall maintain the list of qualifying peaks, including recommending additions to or deletions from such list subject to the provisions of these Bylaws; shall maintain a record of mountaineering activities of the Section, including a record of persons participating in those activities; shall distribute a sign-in form and emergency form to the leader before each trip; and keep any records of a mountaineering nature (e.g. Condition of Sierra Summit registers and those placed by the Section) as may be required by the activities of the Section.

(c) The Publications Committee shall publish, or cause to be published The Echo--the Section newsletter; and yearly a list of all members, and their eable and leader status for distribution within an issue of the newsletter. The Publications Committee may be assisted by a Mailer sub-committee appointed by the Chair.

(d) The Banquet Committee shall make arrangements for a facility and speaker (approved by the Management Committee) for a banquet to be put on at the regular meeting (of members) date in December.

Bylaw 5: Finances

Section 1: Sources

5.1 Receiving Funds
The Section may receive funds from the Chapter in a manner specified by the Chapter Executive Committee, but the Section itself may not assess or collect dues from its members. The Section may receive contributions directly but, since it is an entity of the Club, its expenditure of such contributions shall be consistent with any policy and instructions of the Board of Directors.

5.2 Fundraising
Consistent with the policies of and limitations specified by the Board of Directors, the Sierra Club Council and the Chapter, the Section may conduct fund-raising and other activities, which require members, as well as others, to pay a fee in order to participate. Sections are not allowed to raise money through direct mail appeals. Voluntary contributions may be accepted, however, to pay for supplies, equipment, decorations, prizes, refreshments, and to meet other incidental expenses.

5.3 Outings
Section outings shall be conducted on an independent financial basis, except insofar as they are used as a net fundraising activity, as authorized by the Management Committee in accord with Board of Directors and Council policy. Section funds shall not be available for outings, except insofar as they are derived from outings; however, the Management Committee may authorize the Treasurer to make advances for the purpose of outings.

Section 2: Authority

5.4 Bank Accounts
The Management Committee shall have authority to open bank accounts and to regulate withdrawals therefrom. Bank accounts shall be in the name of the Section, and shall include the words "Angels Chapter of the Sierra Club", and shall be under the jurisdiction and responsibility of the Treasurer of the Section, who shall at least annually report the status of such accounts to the Section Management Committee and the Chapter Treasurer. Access to the account(s) shall be by the Treasurer and the Chair. All Section funds shall be accountable to the Chapter.

5.5 Requirements to Deposit
Unless otherwise specified by the Section Management Committee or Chapter Executive Committee, all monies received by the Section shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the Section. The Management Committee may authorize expenditures by Section entities and may authorize the Treasurer to provide advances.

5.6 Delegation of Authority
The Management Committee may delegate financial authority, subject to these Bylaws and Club Bylaws, to Section committees, but it retains responsibility and control. Any committee must provide regular and satisfactory accounting to the Section Treasurer and the Management Committee.

5.7 Prohibitions
Neither the Section or any entity thereof shall have authority to borrow money or own real estate.

5.8 Fiscal Year
The fiscal year of the Section shall coincide with the fiscal year of the Club.

5.9 Books and Reports
The Treasurer shall keep proper books of account, and annually, and at such other times as may be required by the Management Committee or Chair, submit a report of revenues and expenses and the financial position of the Section. The Treasurer shall report to the Executive Committee the financial position of the Section at least once in each quarter.

An annual report of the Treasury shall be submitted to the Management Committee and to the Chapter Treasurer.

Bylaw 6: Construction and Amendment

6.1 Interpretation of Bylaws

All questions as to the construction or interpretation of these Bylaws are first to be referred to the Section Management Committee for decision. Appeals from such a decision may be taken to the Chapter Executive Committee.

All procedures not prescribed by these Bylaws or the Bylaws of the Chapter or Club shall be governed by Roberts' Rules of Order, revised.

6.2 Amendment

These Bylaws are fundamental and shall not be added to, amended or repealed except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Section Management Committee and a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all mail ballots cast in an annual or special election, following or preceded by approval of the Chapter Executive Committee.

In the event that a change in the bylaws of the Club or Chapter results in a conflict with a provision of these bylaws, any conflicting provisions of these bylaws shall be suspended, and the Management Committee shall replace it with a temporary rule until the members have agreed to an appropriate revision in a regular or special election.

In the event that these Bylaws are changed by any method as indicated in paragraph 6.2 above, notification to the membership shall be made in the next issue of the Section Newsletter by the Section Secretary.

Bylaw 7: Peaks List and Emblems

7.1 Peaks

The Section shall maintain and publish a Peaks List which lists the Section qualifying peaks and which designates the emblem peaks and mountaineers peaks, as well as the geographical areas in which they are located.

The Mountain Records Committee of the Section or any active member of the Section may propose a change in the Peaks List. Changes to the Peaks List must be approved by the Management Committee. Approved changes to the Peaks List shall be submitted to the membership for vote in the annual election mail ballot provided for in Section 2 of these Bylaws, a majority of the votes cast being required for passage. Additions to the Peaks List must have previously been scheduled and climbed by the Section. A change to the Peaks List may also be authorized for inclusion on the ballot by following the process of petition in Section 1.6 and the process for inclusion on the ballot in Section 2 of these Bylaws.

7.2 Emblems

Emblem: A member of the Section who has climbed ten emblem peaks and fifteen additional peaks on the Peaks List, who has been a Section member for at least one year, and who applies to the Secretary in writing, listing the peaks and the dates climbed shall be awarded Emblem Status and shall be entitled to wear the Section Emblem pin.

Senior Emblem: A member who has been an Emblem holder for at least one year, who has climbed one hundred peaks on the Peaks List and who applies to the Secretary in writing, listing the peaks and the dates climbed, shall be awarded Senior Emblem status and shall be entitled to wear the Section Senior Emblem pin. The one hundred peaks must include all of the emblem peaks, 15 of the Mountaineers Peaks and at least two peaks from each of the geographical areas identified on the Peaks List.

List Completion: A two year member who has climbed all of the peaks on the Peaks List as of the date of List Completion and who notifies the Secretary in writing, listing the dates climbed shall be awarded List Completion status and shall be entitled to wear the Section List Completion pin.

ECHOES FROM OUR READERS

A MESSAGE FROM JOHN MUIR

On display in the "Sierra Club" room at JOHN MUIR NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Martinez, California.

"Saunter" was one of John Muir's favorite words. He used it in place of "hiking" which he considered a vile word. John Muir told this story to a group of returning climbers.

"You know, when the pilgrims were going from England to the Holy Land, the French would ask them 'where are you going?' and they did not speak French very well, but they would say 'Sante Terra' (Holy Land). That is where we get our word 'Saunter' and you should Saunter through the Sierra because this is a Holy Land, if there ever was one." Contributed by Steven Thaw-Interpreter J.M.N.H.S.

VI GRASSO

Chair, Sierra Peaks Section
Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club

Dear Vi,

I am writing in regards to this "Message from John Muir" that I submitted for the ECHO, but has not appeared without censorship and the second time not at all. Even though John Muir was not an S.P.S. member, his advice is relevant and deserves publication. Several issues have been devoted to insurance and peak registers which are not the point of climbing. The MOUNTAINS deserve equal time. There is no better advice than John Muir's, not just in the range of light, but in ones daily life. Sauntering means walking in grace, something lacking in the attitude of what I read. "Sauntering in any wilderness is delightful" --- John Muir. Humility, modesty, trust, respect, honor, truth, integrity, and love are necessary integral parts of mountaineering. Making friends with the mountains instead of "bagging" is the route of a true mountaineer like John Muir. "Walk away quietly in any direction and taste the freedom of the mountaineer. Camp out among the grass and gentians of glacier meadows, craggy garden nooks full of nature's darlings. Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves. As age comes on, one source of enjoyment after another is closed, but nature's sources never fail." --- John Muir

Looking forward to Sauntering with you!
Sincerely,
Steven Thaw

Censorship? You've got to be kidding!

I do not have time to censor. I introduce errors and reduce the copy until it is barely readable! You give me too much credit, Steve!

-Editor.

PLEASE PRINT BOTH MESSAGE AND LETTER FOR ECHO.

THANKS ☺

Amendment to Sierra Peaks Section Bylaws

Bylaw 3: Officers, Section 3.1, second paragraph reads as follows:

"The officers so elected shall serve until their successors have qualified. No member may hold the same office for more than one term, or for an unexpired term of one term, during a five year period. The duties of the officers shall be those customary for their respective offices."

Effective November 8, 1989 the Section bylaws are hereby amended in accordance with Bylaw 6: Section 6.2 as follows:

"The officers so elected shall serve until their successors have qualified. No member may hold the same office for more than two terms, or for an unexpired term of one term, during a five year period. The duties of the officers shall be those customary for their respective offices."

Addition: Effective November, 1988

MASTER EMBLEM

A member who is a Senior Emblem holder, who has climbed one-hundred-seventy-five (175) peaks on the SPS Peaks List, and who applies to the Secretary in writing, listing the peaks and the dates climbed, shall be awarded Master Emblem status and shall be entitled to wear the Section's Master Emblem pin. The 175 peaks must include four (4) peaks from each area designated on the Peaks List, and twenty-five (25) Mountaineer's Peaks.

Attest:

Vi Grasso, SPS 1990 Chair

Karen Leonard, SPS 1990
Secretary

Widgets For Midgets

SPS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

May 1990

*Angeles Chapter Requirement

Each newly elected Chairperson shall ensure that every member of the Management Committee reviews these Policies and Procedure annually. The Secretary shall maintain a listing of the policies of the Management Committee" (Bylaws 1986 revision). The purpose of this outline is to provide continuity between successive management committees. Within the constraints of the Chapter policies and the SPS Bylaws, each management committee may set its own policies and procedures.

1.0 TRIPS AND LEADERS

1.1 *All SPS trips will be conducted pursuant to the Angeles Chapter Outings Impact Rules, Angeles Chapter Safety Policy and the SPS Safety Rules.

1.2 SPS Trips

- a) *must be announced in either the Chapter Schedule, Southern Sierran or the ECHO.
- b) *must be rated as to technical difficulty.
- c) must have two certified leaders, each with a Chapter rating to at least the level of the trip. Under certain circumstances, the leader may be a provisionally rated leader. *One of the leaders may have a one-time rating granted by the Chapter Safety Chair (typically a person who is judged to be qualified for the trip, but is not certified at the trip level).
- d) must have leaders who are capable of leading the trip, (i.e., must have experience commensurate with the nature of the trip).
- e) must be led by a member of the SPS (assistant leader may be a non-member).
- f) will be scheduled to peaks on the SPS list and to other peaks of interest within and outside the Sierra Nevada.
- g) will not be scheduled to peaks on the SPS or DPS lists (except for joint sponsorship) unless for the specific purpose of rock climbing training or ice axe practice.

1.3 Proposed trip writeups:

- a) must be submitted to the Outings Chair (SPS Vice Chair)
- b) will be submitted by the Outings Chair to the Management Committee with a recommendation for approval or non-approval.
- c) will be announced after approval by the Management Committee.

1.4 The Outings Chair will mail copies of Sections 1.0, 2.0, 4.0 and 7.0 of these Policies and Procedures to prospective leaders of SPS trips at the time when write-ups for summer trips are requested (normally the end of January). At the same time, recommend that leaders or others in outing report either via trip write-up or at meetings, the condition of the summit register encountered on the climb.

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1.5 Changes in trip leadership:

If a leader of an approved trip is unable to go on the trip, that leader and/or the remaining leader should contact SPS Outings Chair or the SPS Chair, if time permits, for assistance in obtaining a replacement and for approval of a substitute leader.

2.0 RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRIP LEADERS -

- 2.1 At Roadhead: At the beginning of the trip, brief all participants on plans for the outing. Inform everyone of their responsibilities. Make sure that names, addresses and phone numbers of all participants are entered on the sign-in sheet and that the entries are legible. Make sure that all participants have the equipment necessary for the trip. It is the leader's prerogative to refuse anyone who does not meet the qualifications of the outing. Obtain a parental medical release for any minor unaccompanied by an adult. Inquire and determine whether any participants have medical problems.
- 2.2 Liability Waivers: All participants and leaders are required to have signed waivers and to turn them in to the leader when they sign in at the trailhead. The leader must safeguard the collected waivers (preferably left at the car) and should not dispose of them before the end of the year. In the event of an incident, they should be turned over to the Safety Chair. Anyone unwilling to sign the waiver cannot join the trip. A waiver must be signed for each trip. The leader should bring along spare copies.
- 2.3 First Aid Kit: Make sure that an properly equipped first-aid kit is carried on the trip.
- 2.4 Discipline: Maintain effective control over the group during the trip. Make decisions based on the welfare of the group and enforce those decisions. Report any incidents and refusals to cooperate to the Management Committee upon returning the sign-in sheets.
- 2.5 Pace: Set a reasonable pace geared to the abilities of the group.
- 2.6 Rear leader: Make sure that the rear leader remains with the slow members of the group. His/her responsibility for the slow participants takes precedence over his/her making the peak. However, it is the prerogative of any leader to turn back participants who might not reach the trip's destination without seriously hampering the rest of the party.
- 2.7 Leaving the group: Make sure that those who wish to leave the main group are qualified for what the plan to do. Such a group, if it does not have two qualified and certified leaders, will no longer be considered part of the official party and its members must check off their names on the sign-in sheet.

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- 2.8 Base camp: Never abandon participants under any circumstances on a trip. Do not leave base camp until all participants have returned from the mountain. Do not leave the roadhead until all participants have returned. Make sure that all cars start.
- 2.9 Conservation: Make sure that good conservation practices are followed. Ensure that litter must be carried out of the wilderness. Enforce Chapter policy with regard to campfires and use of stoves. In every way, set an example of which the SPS can be proud.
- 2.9.1 Additional Responsibilities:
- On Third and Fourth Class Trips - Be certain of the route before the actual ascent. Limit the group size and have equipment suitable for the trip.
 - On snow and ice trips - Exercise extreme caution to avoid avalanche areas and dangerously steep, icy slopes. Do not hesitate to turn back or change course if conditions are judged to involve too great a risk. Remember that belays can be used on snow and ice, as well as on rock.
 - Accidents: If an accident or emergency should occur where additional aid is beyond the capability of the party, the leader must do the following:
 - contact the Sheriff in the county where the accident has taken place or the Park Ranger if an National Park or Monument. If possible, send two persons for help with COMPLETE written instructions; use EMERGENCY REPORT form (send one copy, keep one.)
 - Contact the Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team at (818)355-1414 (24-hr service) for Sierra Club Search and Rescue Coordination.
 - Contact the Section Chair and/or the Safety Chair. Keep notes, and as soon as possible, submit copies of the ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT to the SPS Safety Chair, Chapter Hdqs., and the Chapter Safety Chair. Do not release information to other than the authorities listed here.
 - If further assistance is needed, contact Jon Inskeep (818)790-5461.

3.0 SAFETY AND TRAINING -

- 3.1 Under the overall supervision of the Management Committee, the Safety Chair establishes and enforces safety standards for the climbing activities of the Section and formulates training and testing procedures to implement them.
- 3.2 The qualified safety instructors list is established by the Management Committee upon recommendation of the Safety Chair. It is reviewed periodically by the Safety Chair.

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- 3.3 The SPS schedules rock climbing and ice axe practice sessions each year. These are for the purposes of training novices and for improvement of members' skills.
- 3.4 Training equipment (ropes, etc.) belonging to the Section is in the custody of the Safety Chair.

4.0 MOUNTAIN RECORDS -

- 4.1 The Mountain Records Chair maintains:
- a list of qualifying peaks;
 - a record of peaks scheduled and climbed by the Section;
 - a record of persons participating in the Section's mountaineering activities; and
 - a record of the condition of summit registers and register containers on qualifying peaks.
- 4.2 The Mountain Records Chair distributes summit kits and receives filled out sign-in sheets.
- 4.3 The Mountain Records Chair maintains and preserves, as required, registers and register containers on the summits of qualifying peaks.
- 4.4 From time to time, Mountain Records Chair reminds leaders and/or outings participants to report via the Echo or at membership meetings, on the condition of the summit register.

5.0 MEMBERSHIP -

- 5.1 The Secretary shall acknowledge new members by letter. The original member application forms and letters should be filed. It is not necessary to keep copies of the acknowledgment letters.
- 5.2 New membership applications received after October 1st are credited for ECHO subscription for the next calendar year.
- 5.3 The Membership Records keeper gathers all membership information and prepares the Membership Report which is published in the ECHO after March 31st of each year.
- 5.4 Information regarding new members and new emblem holders, name and address changes and reinstated member applications are to be sent to the Secretary. Renewals and Echo-only subscriptions are to be sent to the Treasurer.
- 5.5 The Membership Retention and Recruiting Chair:
- Provides information and assistance to prospective SPS members; and
 - determines the reasons why members fail to renew and makes suggestions to the Management Committee to maximize the renewal rate.
- 5.6 Members who wish to provide additional support to the Section may become Sustaining Members. A Sustaining Membership costs \$20 per year, receives the benefits of a regular member, and will be specially recognized in the ECHO.

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6.0 PEAK LIST CHANGES -

- 6.1 Peak Addition Criteria: Peaks considered for addition to the list will be evaluated with respect to elevation, dominance of an area, view, climbing interest, proximity to other listed peaks, and other factors as deemed appropriate.
- 6.2 Exploratory Climb: As required by the Bylaws, a peak must be scheduled and climbed by the SPS before it can be considered for Peak List addition. Such a climb is termed an "exploratory climb," with the understanding that the peak may be recommended for addition to the list. The Management Committee must grant approval for the list. The Management Committee must grant approval for the scheduling of an exploratory climb.
- 6.3 Peak Additions: After an exploratory climb, a member may recommend addition of a peak, in writing, to the Management Committee and furnish an evaluation of the peak in terms of the peak addition criteria. A letter or an abstract will be published in the ECHO. The Management Committee will consider the recommendation and decide whether to place the question on the Oct/Nov ballot. Pro and Con statements will be included with the ballot.
- 6.4 Timing: Sufficient time must be provided for members to climb a peak considered for addition before a vote is taken. Therefore, the ECHO write-up describing the exploratory climb must be received by the members before August 1st, or the voting will be carried over to the next year.
- 6.5 Deletion: A member wishing to delete a peak, or to change the designation of emblem peaks or mountaineer peaks, will furnish the Management Committee with a recommendation and reasons. A letter or an abstract will be printed in the ECHO. The Management Committee will consider the recommendation and will decide on bringing it to the members for decision on the Oct/Nov ballot. To be on the ballot then, the ECHO must have been received by the members before September 1st or the vote is carried over the next year.
- 6.6 Management Committee: In other paragraphs of this Section, submission of a recommendation to the Management Committee includes a review and recommendation by the Mountain Records Chair and by the Outings Chair. The letters of recommendation should be addressed to the Management Committee.

7.0 PEAK REGISTERS

Summit registers will be left in place on the peaks. Larger containers will be provided when there is insufficient space in the existing container.

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Illegible scraps of paper, business cards, etc., may be removed from a register container if, in the judgment of the leader, they have no particular significance. However, if such notes have records of early Sierra Club climbs or SPS climbs, they should be left. Scraps removed should be returned to the Mountain Records Chair.

Notebooks with historical significance shall be preserved by copying. The original should be returned to the peak within a year. Another notebook must be left on the peak when the original is removed. Removal should be coordinated with the SPS Mountain Records Chair. Copies thus made will be retained by the Mountain Records Chair.

8.0 ECHO ANNOUNCEMENT AND ADVERTISING -

A fee of \$1.00 will be charged for private trip announcements up to four lines. An additional charge of \$1.00 per line will apply to all lines in excess of four. A fee of \$1.00 per line will be charged for advertisements.

9.0 MEMBER RECOGNITION

9.1 In accordance with the SPS Bylaws, recognition will be given to members who have achieved emblem status, senior emblem status, master emblem status, and list completion status. Such recognition will be published annual in the ECHO.

9.2 Members who have achieved list completion status will be recognized in the ECHO and at an SPS meeting for achievement of emblem status, senior emblem status, master emblem status and list completion status after their initial completion of the list.

10.0 SHEPHERD PASS TRAIL MAINTENANCE -

In accordance with the SPS Bylaws which state that it is one of the purposes of the SPS to aid in the maintenance of good trails, the SPS will cooperate with the U.S. Forest Service in the maintenance of the Shepherd Pass Trail.

The Trail Maintenance Chair will be responsible for the trail maintenance program and will be assisted by the Conservation Chair and the Outings Chair.

11.0 RESCUE ORGANIZATION DONATIONS -

Annual donations will be made to both the China Lake Mountain Rescue Group and the Inyo County Sheriff's Posse in recognition of an appreciation for the service they make available to SPS members. The amount and date of the donation will be determined each year by the Management Committee after considering the Section's budget.

12.0 BANQUET SPEAKER PAYMENT -

The banquet speaker will be paid a minimum honorarium of \$100.00 and given two banquet tickets.

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DEVIL'S CRAG #1

Sept 8-10, 1989

Bill Oliver, Tom Duryea, Deb Lerner

[a private enterprise]

Deb and I hit the sack about half past 9:00. It had been a long, exhilarating day at the Crags. We squeezed in together and tried to get comfortable. Wait a minute - what's that? Hell, it's Tom - practically lying on top of us. Who invited him? What went wrong?

Tom's plan sounded ambitious - and very appealing. We'd do Devils Crags as a fast three-day trip, rather than the standard four. None of us had climbed the peak before, but the plan sounded feasible as the Middle Frk of the Kings River should be presenting a not-difficult crossing and as we had no interest in bagging nearby Wheel Mtn. (Actually, Tom had already climbed Wheel, and neither Deb nor I are List-driven.)

We departed the South Lake trailhead (9800') Friday at 7:30 and topped Bishop Pass (12,000') at 11:00. The John Muir Trail/Kings River was struck at 2:30 and camp established in Grouse Mdw (8200') by 3:30. One does not often have the thrill of backpacking 16 1/2 miles into the Sierra and ending up lower than the car. Our trip out would not be a coast. The meadow is basically the last good campsite short of Rambaud Lakes, the standard highcamp from which to start the climb. However, it appeared to be within striking distance of the peak; we didn't want to kill ourselves on day one; and there's no trail to the lakes. (Evidently Doug Mantle was not deterred by such sane reasoning on a Section trip in 1977. He took his group to the upper lake the first day.)

Late in the afternoon Tom and I reconned downstream in search of a suitable crossing. Past *Echo* trip reports are commonly written as though the river crossing is the Crux Move of the weekend. For us, however, it was late summer in a low snow year. Our efforts were frustrating for awhile, but we eventually found a passable site. Less than thrilled, I decided to forge downstream farther and stumbled upon a primo spot - a little ahead of where the John Muir Trail abruptly cuts east. With a couple of easy rock-hops we could get across in dry boots and then head straight up the steep hillside, bypassing the dense brush to be encountered upstream. I carefully marked the crossing with tape, and in the dwindling light tried to pick out a route up amid the rock outcroppings.

Saturday we were up at 3:30 and within the hour three headlamps were enroute, focused on a single, yet-unseen objective - a climb commonly rated among the two toughest on the List. Progress was comparatively slow until it was light enough to extinguish our lamps, about 5:45. We attained the highest lake (10,400') at 7:40 and started up the "Henry Cutoff" at 9:00. This gully is quite prominent on the 7.5 min N. Pal topo. Without snow,

however, it is also quite taxing - very loose and cruddy and steep - real helmet terrain.

Over the years Bob Hartunian has drawn outstanding route illustrations for several of our more complex and challenging peaks. It was a great boon for us to have his craftsmanship in hand as we crested the gully and looked across at the ominous, sharp ridge slowly winding up to Devil's Crag #1. (Bob's drawing appears in the Dave Dykeman *Echo* report of July '86. {Send me a sase if you need a copy.} Ron Jones has a fuller narrative on the stream crossing and climb in the May-June '85 issue. "White Top" is Peak 12,262'. A good overall view of the mountain appears on the Sept-Oct '75 cover.)

Approaching the top of the Henry Cutoff, most of an hour had been misspent as we shifted too many chutes to the left - putting us up against White Top. From the crest, we descended its SE flank and traversed over to the prominent notch that tops a broad chute from the SW. It was past 11:30 as we finally began climbing the 100-ft, 3+ class headwall.

Topping this wall, our course was now fixed and certain - the thin ridge would lead us to the register. Actually, it was Tom and I that did most of the leading, overcoming repeated notches and the final "knife-edge." This was the highest "4th class" I've yet encountered. I would rate one or two notches as low 5th. Without a doubt the ridge is a daunting and awesome climb - somewhat solid rock, a lot of belayed moves, and spectacular exposure on either side. The high point was gleefully surmounted at 3:45. The jagged crest of the Palisades was majestically arrayed before us to the east. The wind was holding its breathe. The sky was an unblemished blue, its dome supported in every direction by far-off lofty ranges. It was the best of times.

It was an unexpected and thrilling surprise to discover that the cannister contained the original register, placed on the third ascent by a party from the Sierra Club High Trip of 1933. The book also noted the two prior climbs - Charles Michael solo in 1913, and 18-year olds Jules Eichorn and Glen Dawson, with Johnny Olmstead, in 1930. The summit is so seldom climbed, averaging less than one party a year for the past decade, that the register still has plenty of room. Unfortunately, it also has plenty of wear. It is long and narrow and must be wound up to fit into our cylinder. A deep central rip has developed in it that is only worsened each time the pages are handled. A careful and extensive Scotch tape job may extend its useful life - it should probably be copied first though. As is often the case, our stay was foreshortened by the hour and our preference to end the day back in camp. We were impressed to observe in the register that Joe Stephens had climbed the Crag solo a few years ago. It was also noted that the ascent prior to ours was only a few weeks earlier by another fearsome threesome: Vic Henney, Sue Wyman and her brother - the former two having just previously earned their Senior Emblems.

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[On the '33 High Trip, Dawson and Eichorn agreed to lead a party of "hand picked" climbers. On July 25, five groups of three each converged on Crag #1 by three route variations. The summit leaders were Dawson, Eichorn, Norman Clyde, Lewis Clark and Hans Leschke. Among the fifteen summiteers were Helen LeConte (whose father, "Little Joe," had named the peak about 1903), Marjory Bridge and Julie Mortimer. The next day Clark, Bridge, John Poindexter and John Cahill made the first ascent of nearby Peak 12,778' and named it "Wheel Mtn" because of the peculiar structure of its summit, "which consists of four steep buttresses radiating symmetrically from a hub like the spokes of a wheel." Meanwhile, back south Eichorn, Dawson and Ted Waller made first ascents of Crag #2 & 3. On their descent they were caught in a sudden, severe rainstorm. Jules managed a narrow escape when torrents of water and rock debris trapped and engulfed him for an hour on a perilously exposed, thin ledge. A week later Crag #9 & 11 also fell to the former two. The remaining Crag (#4, 5, 6, 7, 8, & 10) were first topped the following June by David Brower, Hervey Voge and Norman Clyde.]

We reversed course at 4:10. No one bothered to point out that we'd probably be relighting our headlamps before reaching camp. We were totally absorbed at the time in the task of a safe traverse off the long ridge. Although all three of us are able rock climbers, our progress was less than anticipated as we took the precaution of more belays than on the ascent. In such a situation a rope of three is inherently slower than, say, two ropes of two. There were two major rappes. [I would concur with Bill T. Russell's advice (*Echo* 2/78): two 8-9mm, 120-foot ropes are about right; plus about eight slings and maybe a few small pro pieces.] We made do with a 120 and a 70-foot rope.

It was past 8:00 and quite dark as Tom and Deb carefully headlamped down the final 100' wall to the notch topping the comparatively broad chute. While enroute Tom had shouted down that I might consider looking about for a bivouac site. Rats! I sat immobilized for a short time as reality slowly crept up and seized me. We were still high on the mountain and still faced a lot of exposed upward traversing even before reaching the crest of the Henry Cutoff. We could wait for some major moonshine, but sunshine was forecast to come several days sooner. Denial begrudgingly yielded to acceptance. It would be my second bivouac in less than a year. I guess I felt better that this time I wasn't alone in a snowstorm (refer to *DPS Desert Sage*, 2/89).

The sky was clear and heavily laden with stars. The wind still held its breathe. Tom magically pulled a bivy sack and insulating pad from his daypack. C'mon, Tom - keep pulling! No stove or dinners or sleeping bags. Not to worry! We still had a little water and food and a lot of life within us. The notch was poorly designed as a bivy site - sheer on its north side, on the south it presented a brief, sloping rocky bench before disappearing in a mad descent. Up against a wall we leveled a small area as best we could. I had several upper-body layers of clothing, but lower

down only my wool trousers. In a major miscalculation, feeling confident of good weather and wanting to travel light, I had not brought my polypro bottoms or wind pants. I could not now sit still for long without shivering. Both Tom and Deb wore two pants layers, the two I lacked. It was determined that I would stay in the bag while they would alternate joining me every hour or two. This was their idea. I guess I'd feel better now if I could say I had agreed only after they had broken my arms and legs. Two heavily-clothed people do not easily cram into a one-person bivy sack. I now know how a mummy feels after it's been tightly wrapped. However, I did notice a big improvement when Tom was on the outside. Two of us could enviously hear the third snoring occasionally. Somehow, against all odds, we all caught snatches of sleep. (I was later to learn that the prior threesome also had a bivouac, higher on the ridge, feet dangling over a dark void.)

The long night reluctantly yielded to a cool, slow dawn. At about 0600, with great difficulty a nylon cocoon fitfully gave birth to two hardly transformed, but very stiff and sore, bodies. We flapped our arms to little effect - we had not gained wings! I couldn't believe it when Tom said we might make the cars late in the day. Good grief - get real, Tom! We reclaimed our meadow camp at 10:30 and settled into a feeding frenzy. Moving out at 12:15, we topped Bishop Pass at 5:30, struck pavement at 8 o'clock, and drove home. Somehow, we had packed out slightly faster than our entry.

One thing was clear - word of our bivouac was sure to get out and become grossly distorted. There was only one honorable way out: one of us would have to marry Deb! The wedding took place on skis atop a gentle, snowy knoll overlooking the Clark Range, near the Ostrander Ski Hut in Yosemite on January 1, 1990. I got the garter; Tom got the ring. (He's a better skier!) The mountain spirits had favored our enterprise (after a fashion). May they shower their blessings on this new enterprise of love.

NEW ECHO ROUTE INDEX

Good news! Later this year Ron Jones will update his index of trip write-ups reported in the *Echo*. The last edition of this valuable resource appeared in the 30th Anniversary issue, December 1985. Anyone aware of corrections should write to Ron. Note: only write-ups with significant roadhead or route descriptions are indexed.

BANQUET PHOTOS

Anyone who took photos at our last December banquet is asked to contact Bill Oliver. He is particularly interested in shots that include some of the Club's and Section's early climbers.

PS `Part II - Beyond Whitney' is still under development.

NORTH PALISADE

August 2-4, 1989

Bill T. Russell

[another private enterprise]

This year, the Russell family annual mountain climb was an ascent of North Palisade [via Southwest Chute]. Our party consisted of Pat, sons David and Steven, Steve's wife, Nancy and me. We left South Lake Wednesday at 7:30 AM after parking a car at the overflow parking lot which is 1.4 miles back down the road from the roadhead. We reached Bishop Pass at 11:15 AM and then went SE over easy granite and grass ledges to about ¼ mile from Thunderbolt Col. Here we traversed up through talus blocks to the col. We descended the south side to about 12,000' (646061) where we found a good campsite on sand near a stream. It has room for at least ten people. We got there by 3:30 PM.

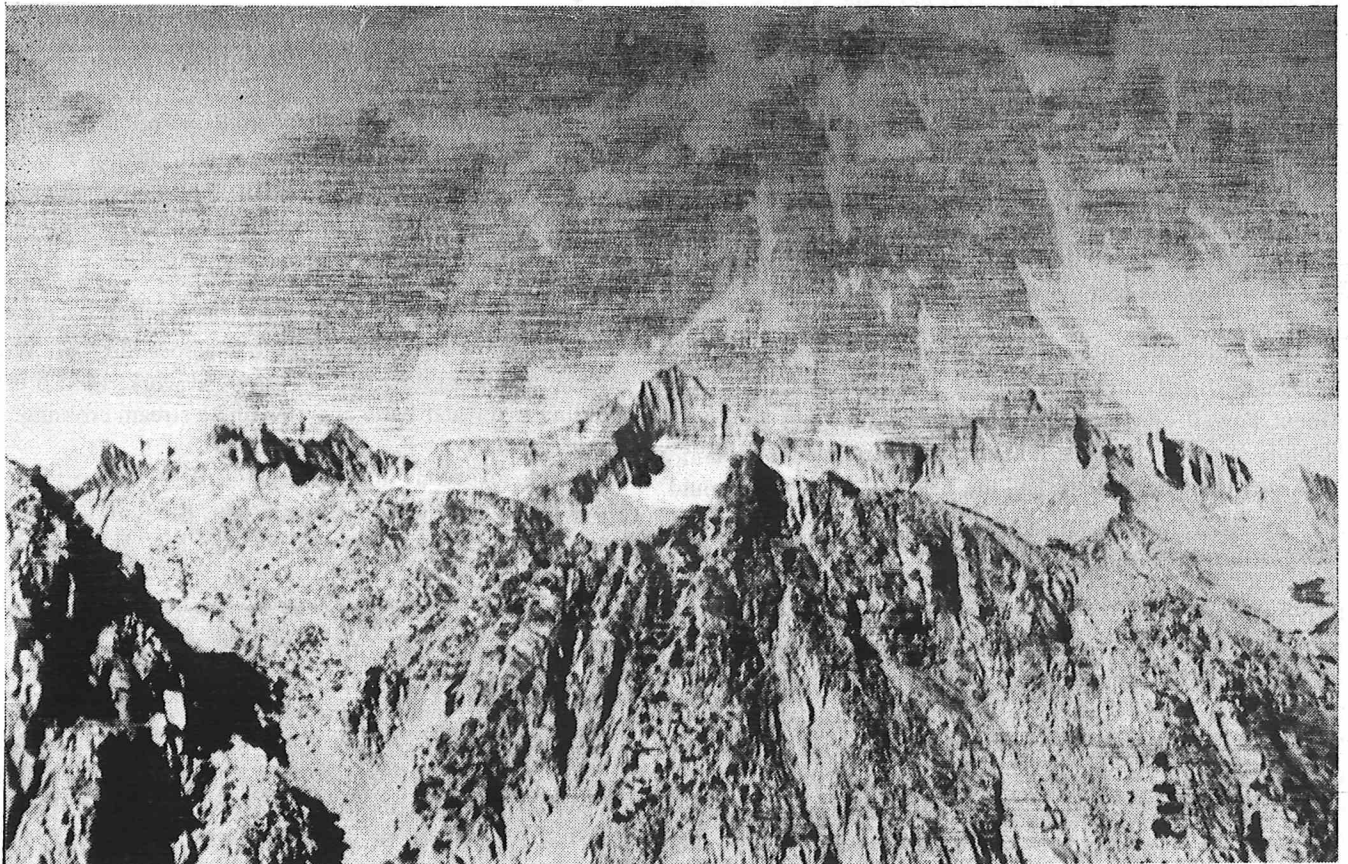
On Thursday, we were underway by 6:30 AM. We hiked southeast on a line toward the entrance to the SW chute which is at 653057. The entrance to the chute cannot be seen from our approach route because it is behind a low ridge. A large granite slab with a slope of say 25° and facing west lies on the west side of this ridge; it has a rock wall on its north side. We walked up this slab; it leads neatly to the edge of the chute. We could not usefully discern the "three white cliffs resembling inverted shields" mentioned in Voge's Climbers Guide. However, the SW chute is easy to find; it is broad and prominent and heads toward the U notch which is the distinct low point on the summit ridge.

We ascended the second class scree in the chute to about 13,100' which is the area that Voge describes as "at the upper end of a bare granite bottom area in the chute where it widens somewhat". Here there is a vague branch of the chute that bears left at az 0°; it has a rock wall on its left. The route goes up this vague chute for about 100' gain at which point a narrow ledge is visible on the rock wall. The main chute continues on the right and after a 300' gain, it narrows and appears blocked. If you get to this point you are off route. The ledge is achieved by a 10', third class pitch. The ledge descends gradually and turns a corner which is at the upper edge of the rock wall. There are ducks in the vague chute and on the ledge. From the corner we went horizontal for perhaps 50 meters and then turned right up the "second chute". This chute peters out at about 13,500' and turns into the narrow third chute on its right side. Voge says "This chute usually has snow in it".

We encountered a patch of hard snow just below the lower chockstone and the ice axe that I had was put to use in chopping steps. We climbed around the chockstone by a 15' fourth class pitch on the left wall. Above the lower chockstone by a short distance is another which is climbed by a 15' fourth class pitch on the right. Both chockstones would be easier with more snow.

Above the upper chockstone is a solid third class pitch and then easier climbing to the end of the third chute at a little col at about 13,700'. From here, the route goes up sort of a bowl at the base of the peak proper. The climbing for the last 100' is enjoyable

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MYSTERY PEAK: Due to overwhelming response to previous photos, this one is extra hard. Send Jeff your guess!

KINGS PEAK, UTAH, (13,528')

August 22, 1989

Rich Gnagy

Kings Peak in the Uinta Mountains is the highest point in the state of Utah. It is named after Clarence King, the first Director of the U.S. Geological Survey who supervised the initial surveys in the Uintas.

After leaving Sacramento at 3:00 PM Pacific Daylight time on Sunday, I started hiking by 2:19 PM Mountain Daylight Time on Monday from the trailhead at Henry's Fork Campground about 29 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming. Frank Ashley's "High Points of the States", La Siesta Press, 1970 has a description of the approach to the road head from Mountain View which is still accurate in all important details. Mountain View is just off of Interstate 80 in southwest Wyoming.

There is a good trail up Henry's Fork from the roadhead to Elkhorn Crossing. From here I stayed on the right side of the creek mostly cross country to camp at Henry's Fork Lake. The next morning I took the trail over Gunsight Pass, traversed cross country across marshy land below cliffs to the Anderson Pass trail and headed towards the pass. Since the summit was obvious, I left the trail at the appropriate spot and climbed second class to the summit. From the summit there is an easy scramble down a use trail to Anderson Pass. The easiest route back to camp was to traverse less than a quarter mile east from Anderson Pass on flat terrain to a prominent saddle which is descended down steep but easy talus and scree to the flat leading north to the trail to Henry's Fork Lake used in the morning. Camp was broken and the return to the car was done easily that afternoon. I arrived home by 11 PM. on Wednesday night, completing the round trip from Sacramento in 3 days and 8 hours.

This hike was different in several respects from those in the Sierra. The hike in was fairly straight with little gain, there were thousands of sheep with their Basque shepherders above camp, and no wilderness permits were required.

I used the Forest Service map of the High Uintas Wilderness and the USGS 7 1/2 minute Kings Peak, Utah quadrangle. The Mount Powell quadrangle, just to the west would have been helpful. If one insists on a 7 1/2 minute topo map for the entire hike, the Gilbert Peak NE and the Bridger Lake quads would

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third class, we found a route to the right of the summit. The register container is one of the Sierra Club designated rectangular boxes. The register books are a full one left by Greg Vernon in 1982 and a 40% full left by Dave Dykeman in 1987. It's a shame that the older ones have disappeared! We descended by our ascent route and used my 80', 7mm rope for belaying the down climbs of the chockstones. Pat had elected to wait for us below the ledge so we retrieved her and returned to camp by 4:30 PM. The next day we hiked out to end a fine outing.

SHEPHERD PASS TRAIL PARTY

September 23-24, 1989

Secor, Stein, Oliver

Our goal on this trip was to brush up the first 1.5 miles of the Shepherd Pass Trail. We had brushed this section of the trail in the spring of 1988 and an amazing amount of vegetation had grown back in a year and a half. The participants attacked this with a vengeance, cleaning as much as eight feet away from the sides of the trail, plus digging up some willow roots right on the side of the trail. On Saturday afternoon some participants hiked up the switchbacks to rebuild a retaining wall. This was not only a trail maintenance project but also an environmental project, because the wall protects a rare plant that occurs only in the eastern Sierra Nevada [the Cannabis Sierra?]. There was an enormously successful potluck dinner on Saturday night, and the promised blow-out campfire. On Sunday the party cut brush and uprooted more willows around Dykeman's Slab. Special mention goes to Bill Oliver, who fulfilled his duties as an assistant leader by driving to the roadhead from LA on Saturday morning, putting in a full day's work and a party before driving back to LA Saturday night. And we welcomed Sharon and Tom Lynch, two enthusiastic trail builders who shared their special skills with us on their first SPS trip. The participants were: R. J. Secor, Fred Camphausen, Rene McVay, John Secor, Sharon Lynch, Tom Lynch, Barbara Reber, Bill Tryon, Chuck Stein, Bill Oliver, Marty Hornick, and Diana Worman.

SHEPHERD PASS TRAIL PARTY

March 17-18, 1990

Secor & McDonald

All of our hard work on the Shepherd Pass Trail is starting to pay off. We are no longer rebuilding the trail, but are now starting real trail ``maintenance''. Instead of doing a few major projects, we are now doing a lot of little things to keep the trail in shape each year.

The only major project for this party was to hike up to the 8,000' level to remove a tree that had fallen across the trail. We then gradually worked downhill, doing tread work, light brushing, building two water bars, and cleaning a stream crossing.

Thanks to everyone for their help: R. J. Secor, Rob Roy McDonald, John Secor, Kristen Keeler, Randy Ragland, Marty Hornick, and Diana Worman of the Mt. Whitney Ranger District.

WANTED!

This is R. J. Secor's last term as Trail Maintenance Leader. The SPS needs someone who will work with R. J. this year and be ready to take over the Shepherd Pass Trail effort beginning in 1991. Contact R. J. at (818) 795-5520 or the SPS Chair, Vi Grasso.

CRYSTAL CRAG

September 9, 1989

Gary Gunther

I attempted this peak [*Crystal Crag, 10,364'*] a couple years ago using Roper's Guide "C1.2 South Ridge". I had a few hours this summer and decided to give it another try. I started from the trail head at Lake George and followed it to the outlet of Crystal Lake. From the outlet I went on a bearing of about 150 true to the base of the steep west face. From an area where there were three dead standing trees and another four trees sheered off 10' above the ground, I started the ascent. I headed up the face, diagonally (right, approximately 130 true) to within 60' of the top. The route thus far is C1.2 with some easy 3rd at the bottom. At this point where the options are few work right and up about 20' to the top of an exposed rib and follow this to the top (moderate C1.3). This appears to be the easiest route up I found after trying many options on the west face. It was an enjoyable climb with some loose rock.

MT. MORGAN #2

August 26-27, 1989

Ron Young & Eivor Nilsson

Our group of eight (max permit size) met at the Rock Creek entrance kiosk from where we caravanned to the Hilton Lakes trailhead. We chose the norther of the two possible trailheads which has a small parking area below a locked gate at 8,000'. It was a leisurely backpack into Davis Lake on good trail. There are fine campsites and small sandy beaches at various spots around the lake. We camped at the north end, west of the outlet stream.

Looking at Morgan from our campsite there is a band of cliffs at the base of the mountain preceded by impenetrable aspen thickets. After some scouting I opted to go southwest along the lake edge (rough going) to bypass the rock band and then climb/contour northwest staying to the right of peaklet 11,461'. From here we headed for the prominent wide gully in the middle of the east face of the mountain as seen from the lake. The route went very well with the gully exiting a few yards south of the summit. Unfortunately the route is mostly steep sand and scree with some brush near the lake.

Two of the ladies in our group stayed in camp and the other two turned back part way into the climb. So I and three recent WTC students, Roy Barton, Colin Carter and Bill Siegal went on to the summit, which took four hours from camp. Coming back was a different story. We stayed on scree to the lake edge returning to camp in an hour and a half. An equally fast trip to the trailhead (one hour forty-five minutes) got us to the cars by 4:15 PM, where the ladies had already arrived. Then it was off to the Sizzler's in Bishop for dinner.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

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NORTHERN PEAK (Tour De Force)

June 30 - July 5 (Sat - Thu)

Sat. Lola/English; Sun. Castle Pk./Mt. Rose; Mon. Freel/Round Top; Tue. Levitt/Stanislaus; Wed. Disaster and drive home. Leaders: **AL CONRAD** (818) 957-8835 (H) or (818) 354-3693 (W); Asst: **BOB WYKA** (213) 827-4411 (H) or (213) 535-1840 (W). The trip continues Thu. to Mokolumne with Leaders: **VI GRASSO** and Asst. **DELORES HOLLADAY**.

Sequoia Road Info: (209) 565-3351
West Side Weather Info: (209) 565-3306

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