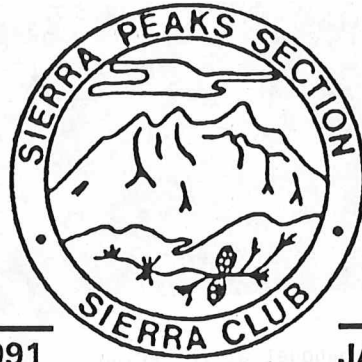


# The Sierra



# ECHO

VOLUME 35

1991

JAN-FEB

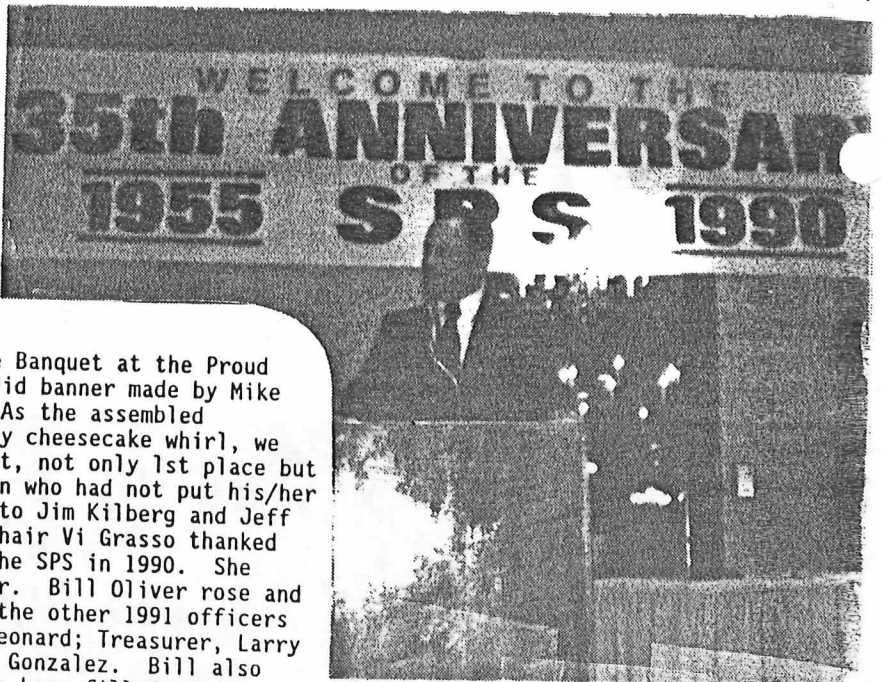
NUMBER 1



PEAK INDEX: VOL 35-1 (JAN-FEB, '91)

Basin & Tom  
Highland & Disaster  
Mokeloumne  
Mt. Humphreys  
Red Slate

Darwin  
Junction & Tyndall  
Mt. Brewer  
Northern Peaks Odyssey  
Red & White, Red Slate



**SPS BANQUET, 1990**

Herewith my last SPS meeting minutes, for the Banquet at the Proud Bird Dec. 12, 1990, a banquet held under a splendid banner made by Mike Manchester for the 35th anniversary of the SPS. As the assembled mountaineers finished their dinner with strawberry cheesecake whirl, we heard that Pete Yamagata had won the photo contest, not only 1st place but second, and that other prizes had gone to a person who had not put his/her name on the photo and to Dave Underwood. Thanks to Jim Kilberg and Jeff Solomon for judging the contest. Then outgoing Chair Vi Grasso thanked the many people who had assisted her in leading the SPS in 1990. She introduced the new SPS Chair for 1991, Bill Oliver. Bill Oliver rose and presented Vi with a past-Chair pin and announced the other 1991 officers and their positions: Vice-Chair/Outings, Karen Leonard; Treasurer, Larry Tidball; Secretary, Bob Wyka; and Programs, Mario Gonzalez. Bill also informed us that only two appointed positions have been filled so far, Mary Sue Miller for Conservation and Delores Holladay for the Banquet.

Numbers were drawn by Chris Hubbard and Karen Leonard announced the winners of the three door prizes. Art Meares got the summit pack from A16, Andy Smatko the \$25.00 gift certificate from Sports Chalet, and Nancy Gordon the copy of Seven Summits donated by Dick Bass, our speaker.

Just after 8 p.m. Vi introduced Dick Bass, who entertained us with an account of his life, including slides of the Everest climb which completed his seven summits attainment on April 30, 1985. We learned that it took God, guts, and poetry to get him to his goals! Hats off to a man who "tells it like it is" and whose report card surely reads A for his many achievements. And thanks to Jon Inskeep for the projectors which made the slide show possible.

Karen Leonard, Outgoing Secretary

**WELCOME TO THE  
th ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE  
955 S P S 19**



**SPS MONTHLY PROGRAMS**

MAR 13 WEDNESDAY SIERRA PEAKS

"Chungste". Our very own R.J.Secor will explain the difficulties of managing a Himalayan expedition; in particular what to avoid.

APRIL 10 WEDNESDAY SIERRA PEAKS POTLUCK

Yes, another potluck, meant to switch this annual event to April, just before the climbing season starts so you can talk to your climbing partners and line up your plans! See you at the usual place and time, with food and fellowship to share.

MAY 8 WEDNESDAY SIERRA PEAKS

"Mt. McKinley: Classic Traverse and Summit Climb." Join Nancy Gordon as she triumphantly crosses 95 miles of Alaska, including that famous bump.

JUN 12 WEDNESDAY SIERRA PEAKS

"ICE ON DENALI". Larry Tidball explores the west rib.

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!

Have you heard? The SPS is alive and well - and summitting. Rumors of our imminent demise are greatly exaggerated. Our active membership encompasses many who are yet shy of their Emblem status, a great many who have proudly gone beyond the Senior Emblem, and quite a few who are now eagerly closing in on their long-sought List Finishes - plus some who would make a habit of this feat.

The '91 Management Committee has a splendid mix of new and not-new officers. Among the electees are bright first-timers Bob W and Larry plus appointees Bob S, Delores and Kathy. We will also benefit from the first-time convergence of four past Section Chairs: Vi and myself plus Bill T ('77) and Mary Sue ('86). Karen and Mario very capably round out our stalwart band.

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Chair: <b>Bill Oliver</b>        | Vice Chair/Outings: <b>Karen Leonard</b> |
| Programs: <b>Mario Gonzalez</b>  | Treasurer: <b>Larry Tidball</b>          |
| Secretary: <b>Bob Wyka;</b>      | plus appointees -                        |
| Banquet: <b>Delores Holladay</b> | Conservation: <b>Mary Sue Miller</b>     |
| ECHO Editor: <b>Bob Sumner</b>   | ECHO Mailer: <b>Kathy Price</b>          |
| Council Rep: <b>Vi Grasso</b>    | Mtn Records: <b>Bill T. Russell</b>      |
| Safety: see treasurer            | Trail Maintenance: inquire within        |

Karen is keen to hear from our leaders with input for the Summer Schedule. She will subsequently be sending out the trip sheets, etc. to leaders.

Larry is anxious to get your ECHO renewals (still only \$8). He's also the guy who can help out leaders with an advance for the \$3 permit reservations.

Bob W cheerfully accepts checks from new members as well as lifestyle changes and climbing feats from not-new members.

Mario is actively soliciting great programs for the monthly meetings - you can be the star of your own show. Hero/ine status is also earned by bringing hearty refreshments (expense refunded).

We are indebted to **Karen Leonard** for putting together this special issue of the ECHO. **Igor Mamedalin** and his star-studded team have retired after three years' worth of stirring ECHO productions. **Bob Sumner** has just accepted the coveted post of Editor, and we avidly await his inaugural issue.

Our Trail Maintenance position has yet to be filled as R J Secor is now passing on the pick and spade. His remarkable three-year effort got the ball rolling. Let's not drop the ball now. Shepherd's Pass still needs us. RJ can help someone or a team get started. So call him or me already.

The year ahead is fresh and full of promise - come with us and lend a hand as we eagerly seek out the summits and gather the glad tidings of our Sierra.

*Bill*

**DOUBLE TRIPLE LIST FINISHER - Bill T. Russell**

In 1985 Bill T. Russell became the 14th SPSer to finish the peaks lists of the three Chapter climbing sections - SPS, DPS and HPS. Not content with this remarkable triple achievement, last year Bill T. finished revisions of all three lists: January - HPS, 271 peaks; April - DPS, 97 peaks; and November - SPS, 247 peaks.

No doubt forced into early retirement by this mammoth project, our List Keeper added new peaks, dropped old errors and diligently incorporated the latest 7.5 min. topos. Members will joyously (as in "far out!") note the following innovations to the eight-page 15th edition of our list: a peak index, columns for recording ascents, and a column of auxiliary maps. (Igor Mamadalin is to be credited for a two-page supplement that geographically relates the 7.5 and 15 min. topos.)

This latest edition is certainly not our List Keeper's inaugural effort. His rigorous apprenticeship included three prior editions ('76, '81 & '86). Bill T., your painstaking efforts are deeply appreciated and will lead us on to new heights.

We all now wait in breathless anticipation - who among us will be first to achieve a triple triple list finish?  
(by Bill A. Oliver)

## TOPO MAPS - How to Find Them

Bill Oliver

Mountainrearing and topo maps go hand-in-hand. A crux move, however, may be how to get the latter in hand. We will review here some of the available resources. First, if you're mostly interested in research and can settle for a xerox copy, then check out the library.

### DTGA: The Henry Brunner Map Library

Hours: Mon - Fri, 10 am - 3 pm. (213) 825-3526

Did you know that this collection of over three quarters of a million maps is the largest in academia? It is surpassed, in fact, only by three government collections in Washington, DC. Located in the basement of Burche Hall and open to the public, the library has a map to every place, both real and imaginable. Of particular interest to the SFS is the fact that it is a depository for all US Geological Survey topo maps for the entire country (yes, folks, every 7.5 and 15 min. topoi). Additional pluses are the facts that the staff is very user-friendly and that the topos are directly accessible for browsing. Maps cannot be checked out, but a large format (up to 11"x17") copying machine is available for only a dime a shot. On the downside, campus parking is \$4 - enter from Hilgard at Wyton or Westholme.

### Angelenos Chapter Office: The John Leonard Memorial Map Collection

3550 W. 6th Street, Suite 321, Los Angeles 90020

Hours: Mon - Fri, 10 am - 6 pm. (213) 387-4287

Established in 1985, this collection particularly focuses on topos of interest to the SFS, DFS and HPS, in all of which John was an active member. This is not a static collection, as it continues to be updated through various gifts and purchases. The maps cannot be checked out but, if you're cool about it, you can probably make reasonable use of the office copying machine. The library is self-service; please return items to their proper geographical and/or alphabetical location in the map drawers - located in the office west of the conference room.

OK, so you want to get your very own original, full-color topo. The best source is The Source.

### The US Geological Survey, Western Distribution Branch

Building 41, Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225

Ordering by mail is both the easiest and cheapest, though not the fastest, means of procurement. Map coverage for each of the western states, including Hawaii and Alaska, is now available in the new booklet-style State Index and State Catalog. The Index's regional map format makes it very easy to pick out the 7.5 min topos for your area of interest. The companion Catalog indicates when, and if, the map was published. While each State Index is now good for all time, the corresponding Catalog is supposed to be updated every few years as additional 7.5 min topos are published. The latter booklet also contains the proper form for ordering maps from Denver.

The standard 7.5 and 15 min topos are \$2.50 each. There is no sales tax and, for orders over \$10, there is no postage and handling charge.

Such a deal! Figure on about three weeks for delivery. Note, on an order over \$500, there is a 50% discount. (Every few years or so someone in the climbing sections will go to the trouble of collecting enough individual orders to earn the discount. Hint!) How to get a free California Index and Catalog? Stay tuned.

You want cheap but are willing to trade easy for faster? Go to the:

### US Geological Survey's Earth Science Information Center

Room 7638, Federal Building; 300 N. Los Angeles Street, LA 90012

Hours: Mon - Fri, 11 am - 4 pm. (213) 894-2850 (Phone calls only from 8:30 am.)

You've got to check this treasure out. It's especially handy if you have jury duty downtown. They stock the complete line of all topos for CA, OR, WA, HI, AZ and NV, plus larger scale maps for AK, UT, WY, MT, ID, CO and NM. A big plus for us is the self-service access to all the topos for CA, NV and AZ. This makes it easy to browse or research. All sales are over the counter - no mail order: \$2.50 each for 7.5 and 15 min topos, no sales tax. However, they will accept phone requests for mailing without charge the various State Indices and State Catalogs. The Center also has a wealth of other kinds of maps, books and pamphlets, many of the latter free.

The crux move here was parking. Not to worry! You can now park free in "Joe's Parking Lot" - on Alameda between 1st and 2nd (about a 5-7 min. walk). Actually, you pay Joe first, get your ticket stub validated at the Center, and then Joe gives the refund. It works!

Note, there are similar Earth Science Information Centers up north: San Francisco: 504 Custom House, 555 Battery Street. (415) 705-1010. Menlo Park: Bldg. 3, 345 Middlefield Rd. (415) 329-4309.

You really want it already? Go to a local retailer.

The various REI Co-op, Adventure 16 and Sport Chalet outlets are all good sources for the more popular 7.5 and 15 min topos. All still sell them at the \$2.50 each price, plus sales tax. The following specialty retailers generally offer more complete map coverage and a higher price. The list is hardly exhaustive. Such a list, however, is to be found in the front of each State Catalog.

San Fernando Valley: Geographia, 4000 Riverside Drive, Burbank (818) 848-1414. Hours: Mon - Sat, 10 am - 6 pm. Cost: \$3.00

San Gabriel Valley: Pasadena Map Co., 985 E. Colorado Blvd, Pasadena (818) 795-3626. Hours: M - F, 9am - 6pm; Sat 10-4. Cost: \$3.25

West L.A.: The Map Shop, 12112 W. Washington Blvd, West L.A. (213) 391-1848. Hours: Mon - Fri, 10 am - 6 pm. Cost: \$3.25

Farther East: Riverside Blueprint Co., 4295 Main Street, Riverside (714) 686-0530. Hours: M - F, 8am - 5pm; Sat 9-1. Cost: \$3.50

Orange County: Allied Services, 966 N. Main Street, Orange (714) 637-8824. Hours: Tu-F, 10am - 6pm; Sat 10-3. Cost: \$3.25  
I understand that they have topo coverage for the whole country.

Note: all information is current as of January, 1991. Phone ahead for updates and to check the availability of particular maps.

Now that you have it in hand - GO FOR IT!

APPLICATION FOR WILDERNESS VISITOR PERMIT

HOW TO APPLY: Reservation applications are accepted by MAIL, ONLY with POSTMARK (POSTMARK ON ENVELOPE) dates of March 1 through May 31 for the quota period of the last Friday in June through September 15. Self-issue permits are available at all Inyo National Forest ranger stations outside the quota period (not available at Mt. Whitney R.D. May 22 through October 15).

Please print clearly or type in all necessary information. Incomplete applications are returned without processing.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER (OPTIONAL) \_\_\_\_\_

RESERVATION FEE: NO. OF PEOPLE X \$3.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Check or Money Order payable to U.S.D.A. Forest Service)

ENTRY DATE \_\_\_\_\_ EXIT \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY TRAIL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

EXIT TRAIL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

METHOD OF TRAVEL \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN PARTY \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION/GROUP NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PACK OR SADDLE STOCK \_\_\_\_\_

OVERNIGHT CAMP LOCATIONS: List all overnight camp locations, as accurately as can be determined in advance.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_

List 2nd and 3rd choices for trails and dates on reverse side. Chances of obtaining a reservation are greater if party size is small and starting dates are other than Friday or Saturday.

This page can be xeroxed. Enclose a separate check with each application - not one check per envelope.

SECOND CHOICE

ENTRY DATE \_\_\_\_\_ EXIT DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY TRAIL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

EXIT TRAIL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN PARTY \_\_\_\_\_

OVERNIGHT CAMP LOCATIONS:

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_

THIRD CHOICE

ENTRY DATE \_\_\_\_\_ EXIT DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY TRAIL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

EXIT TRAIL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN PARTY \_\_\_\_\_

OVERNIGHT CAMPS LOCATIONS:

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_

HELPFUL HINTS: Indicate the smallest party size acceptable in the event the available quota cannot accommodate the entire requested group. Request entry by correct trail name, not general landmarks. Send application to correct ranger station to avoid delay in processing. Good Luck!

## CENTRAL SIERRA - WEST SIDE

### BACKPACKING IN YOSEMITE

**WILDERNESS PERMITS** Wilderness Permits are required for all overnight use in Yosemite's backcountry.

They may be obtained at the following stations in the Park: Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, Tuolumne Meadows Permit Kiosk, Wawona Ranger Station, and the Big Oak Flat Information Station.

Reservations are accepted by mail only, between February 1 and May 31. Send a brief itinerary to the Backcountry Office, Box 577, Yosemite National Park, Ca 95389. Fifty percent of the capacity of each trailhead will be available for reservations. The remainder of the daily quota will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis, and may be picked up no more than 24 hours prior to trailhead departure.

Hikers are encouraged to make reservations or pick up a permit a day in advance for hikes out of the Tuolumne Meadows area or to Little Yosemite Valley or Half Dome, particularly on weekends.

### WILDERNESS RESTRICTIONS

#### SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

In order to preserve the natural environment and to assure a quality wilderness experience, it has become necessary to control backcountry use in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

As part of the plan for managing backcountry use, a daily limit has been established for each trailhead entry point. Once the limit for any trail is reached, an alternate route will be suggested, or backpackers will be required to delay entry until the next day.

A reservation system has been designed to allow backcountry visitors to pre-arrange a firmly committed trail entry date. Reservations may be made beginning March 1 for any period throughout the summer, at least 14 days in advance.

Organized groups of 15 or more are requested to obtain their reservation at least 14 days prior to their trip. Please check for maximum group size for your trailhead.

To obtain a Wilderness Permit Reservation by mail, please send the application to the appropriate address listed under: Daily Entry Limits.

To avoid having a delay in getting a reservation, please submit alternate entry points and/or dates.

It should be OK to use the Forest Service form when applying for permits in Yosemite and Sequoia/Kings Canyon Nat'l Parks - (no fee for Parks).

### SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST

MARIPOSA RANGER DISTRICT (209) 688-6655  
41969 HIGHWAY 41  
OAKHURST, CA 93644

Chiquita Pass/ Quartz

MINARETS RANGER DISTRICT (209) 877-2218  
NORTHFORK, CA 93643

Mammoth Jackass  
Walton Fernandez  
Isberg Norris

KING'S RIVER RANGER DISTRICT (209) 855-8321  
34849 MAXON RD.  
SANGER, CA 93657

This trail is administered by the Pineridge Ranger District. All reservation applications and fees must be sent there.

Maxsom

PINERIDGE RANGER DISTRICT (209) 841-3311  
P.O. BOX 300  
SHAVER LAKE, CA 93664

Florence Deer Creek  
Bear Creek Mono Creek  
Devil's Bathtub/Graveyard  
Potter Pass

### WEST SIDE TRAILHEADS

#	Entry	Entry Limit	Max. Grp. Sz.
57	Lady Bug	15	15
58	Garfield Grove	15	15
47	Franklin Pass	30	25
48	Sawtooth Pass	20	15
49	Glacier Pass	15	15
50	Timber Gap	25	25
51	Paradise Ridge	15	15
52	Atwell/Hockett	25	25
53	Tar Gap	25	25
54	White Chief	25	25
55	Mosquito/Mineral	25	25
56	Eagle Lake	20	15
60	Md. Fork, Kaweah	25	25
61	Crescent Meadow	30	15
62	Wolverton	25	15
63	Pear Lake	25	15
64	Twin Lakes/Silliman	30	15
65	Redwood Canyon	20	10
66	JO Pass	15	15
67	Belle Canyon	25	25
68	Sugarloaf	25	25
69	Bubbs Creek	30	15
70	Woods Creek	30	15
71	Copper Creek	20	15
72	Lewis Creek	25	25

Wilderness Permits for these trailheads may be obtained by sending your application to:

CHIEF RANGER'S OFFICE  
SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON  
NATIONAL PARKS  
THREE RIVERS, CA 93271  
(209) 565-3307

WILDERNESS TRAILS AND QUOTAS  
FOR THE MAMMOTH RANGER DISTRICT

ARE AS FOLLOWS:

TRAILHEAD	TOTAL QUOTA	RESERVATION	1ST-COME-1ST-SERVED
<b>LIGHTLY USED TRAILS</b>			
Beck Lakes*	25	15	10
Fern Lakes*	20	10	10
Deer Lakes	10	5	5
Valentine Lake	none	small groups are recommended	
Laurel Lake	none	small groups are recommended	
<b>MODERATELY USED TRAILS</b>			
Red Cones	25	15	10
Fish Creek*	25	15	10
Convict Canyon	none	self-issuance at trailhead.	
		Small groups are recommended.	
<b>HEAVILY USED TRAILS</b>			
Shadow Lake*	30	15	15
River Trail*	35	20	15
High Trail*	25	15	10
Minaaret Lake*	10	5	5
John Muir Trail*	10	5	5
Duck Pass	40	20	20

\* There is a mandatory shuttle bus to these trailheads.

MAMMOTH RANGER DISTRICT (619) 934-2505  
P. O. Box 148, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

MT. WHITNEY RANGER DIST. (619) 876-5542  
P. O. Box 8, Lone Pine, CA 93545

TRAIL NAME	QUOTA PERIOD	MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE	CAMPFIRE RESTRICTIONS	DAILY QUOTA
Mc. Whitney Trail	5/22 - 10/15	15	YES	50 people

Taboose Pass	Last Friday in June - 9/15	10	NO	15
Sawmill Pass*	For these trails	10	NO	15
Baxter Pass*		10	NO	15
Golden Trout Lks.		10	YES	25
Kearsarge Pass		20	YES	60
Shepherd Pass*		10	YES	15
North Fork Lone Pine Creek		10	YES	15
Meysan Lake		10	YES	15
Cottonwood Lakes		20	YES	60
Cottonwood Pass		15	YES	40

The Mt. Whitney Trail is 100% reservable: 5/22 - 10/15.

WHITE Mtn RANGER DIST. (619) 873-4207  
798 North Main St., Bishop, CA 93514

WHITE MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT TRAILS AND QUOTAS

TRAIL NAME	AVG. # PERMITS PER DAY	SPACES RESERVED BY MAIL	1ST-COME 1ST-SERVED DAY OF HIKE	MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE	CAMPFIRES* ALLOWED?
MCJEE CREEK	6	12	12	12-25*	YES
HILTON LKS. & CRK.	5	10	10	8	YES
MONO PASS	6	12	12	10	NO
LITTLE LAKES VLY.	6	12	12	11	NO
TAMARACK LAKES	4	NONE	22*	10	YES
PINE CREEK	5	10	10	10	YES
GABLE LAKES	4	NONE	8*	6	YES
HORTON LAKES	4	NONE	20*	10	YES
PIUTE PASS	8	16	16	8	NO
LAMARCK LAKES	4	8	8	12	NO
SABRINA BASIN	7	14	14	12	NO
TREE/GEORGE	4	NONE	15*	10	YES
TREASURE LAKES	3	6	6	6	NO
BISHOP PASS	9	18	18	13	NO
BIG PINE, NO. FRK.	6	12	12	10	NO
BIG PINE, SO. FRK.	3	6	6	6	YES
BAKER CREEK	-	NONE	NONE	25	YES
BIRCH LAKE (HX)	-	NONE	NONE	25	YES
RED LAKE (HX)	-	NONE	NONE	25	YES

Symbols Legend  
 a = Campfires are prohibited to the Inyo National Forest boundary.  
 b = One large group of 13 to 25 permitted every weekend.  
 c = Quotas for the 4th of July and Labor Day Holiday periods only.  
 No advance reservations. Maximum non-quota trail group size: 25.  
 dx = 4-wheel drive vehicle needed to reach trailhead.

CENTRAL SIERRA - EAST SIDE

INYO NATIONAL FOREST

MONOLAKE RANGER DISTRICT (619) 647-6525  
P. O. BOX 429  
LEE VINING, CA 93541

TOiyabe NATIONAL FOREST

BRIDGEPORT RANGER DISTRICT (619) 932 7070  
P. O. BOX 595  
BRIDGEPORT, CA 93517

TRAIL NAME	QUOTA PERIOD	MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE	CAMPFIRE RESTRICTIONS	DAILY QUOTA
Rush Creek				
Shepherd Crest (from 20 Lakes Basin)				
Buckeye				
Green Creek				
Virginia Creek				
Leavitt Meadows				
Twin Lakes				
Horse Creek				
Cattle Creek				
Robinson Creek				
Blacksmith Creek				

Trail Pass	No Quota	25	NO	--
Hulkey Pass	No Quota	25	NO	--
Sage Flat	No Quota	25	NO	--
Robinson Lake	No Quota	25	YES	--
Blackrock Saddle	No Quota	25	NO	--
George Creek*	12/15-1/1 and 4/15-5/15	6	NO	6

\* These trails pass through the California Bighorn Sheep Zoological Area. DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED. Cross-country travel is restricted. Please call or write the Ranger Station for more information.

Mt. Darwin  
June 30 to July 4, 1990  
Mel Daybell and Patty Kline  
(a private enterprise)  
By Patty Kline

The Fourth of July weekend was coming in a month and I held a permit for 2 for Lamarck Col. I decided to do Darwin with Mel Daybell. Mel and I had never done this peak and always wanted to. We didn't want a hurried trip, so this 5 day trip was perfect.

We got a leisurely start about 8:30 a.m. from North Lake over Lamarck Col on June 30th. Lamarck Col is my favorite pass in the Sierra with the magnificent view of Darwin and other peaks from the top of the Col as you enter Kings Canyon National Park. There was no snow except the small permanent snow field on the northeast side of the Col just above the lake in this low snow year. We picked our way slowly down the sand and boulders to one the lakes in the Darwin Canyon chain. It was now 7:00 p.m. and the wind was about to blow us away. As soon as we set up the tent, the wind stopped. My pack weighed a lot, partly because of all the good food I brought. Tonight it was spaghetti dinner with a specially prepared sauce. None of this freeze-dried stuff for me.

The next day we continued on to Evolution Lake, not grabbing Goethe along the way. We realized this is a break with tradition. There was the afternoon to idle away.

We had copies of the route from Darwin from Vogue and Roper. It is hard to see the route from the take off point from Evolution Lake, but it became more obvious as we ascended. Roper only said it was "a classic exercise in route finding." Roper seemed more helpful for the class 3 west side route, giving a precise chute which would work. At the top of the series of chutes was a short knife edge which was to be straddled. That we did, looking straight down below on the left 1000 or more feet. The summit was very flat. We boogled across the flat, wind eroded boulders to the southeast side where the much talked about summit pinnacle stands.

Since dawn at 5:00 a.m., the sky had been overcast. First there were stratus clouds. It had started to sprinkle an hour or two into the climb. I figured we didn't have a prayer to get Darwin and would turn back any minute. I was pleased to get this far. The route had been in white out a few times on the way up. Now the pinnacle was drifting in and out of the fog. It was missing. Mel and I both felt if we didn't get the pinnacle, we didn't get the peak. Was it worth coming back for? No, probably not. We huddled together eating lunch on the flat top of Darwin as the wind picked up. After 30 minutes we were both fairly numb. Mel said he would go check out the pinnacle and holler if the weather permitted climbing it. Miraculously, the fog lifted a little and the pinnacle came into full view. Why it looks like a brick tower with an oversized bird bill on top I'll never know. Finally, Mel called to come over to the 4th class ice chimney below the pinnacle. It was easy to find my way there were little drops of blood marking the route. Mel didn't really hurt himself, it first looked bad on the rock. Mel gave me a signal in the chimney. Then we climbed to the pinnacle proper and signed the register. There were two registers to sign. One spiral and one bound SPS one.

We both rappelled down the slippery chimney off of Mel's Parisian Baudrier sling from the Rock Climbing Section class a few years back. When we reached the flat part of Darwin again, the wind had blown all the storm clouds away. It was perfectly clear. The view was fantastic from this Emblem Peak. It looked like you could touch Humphreys. After much photography and three hours on the summit, we left. We descended in perfect weather. Nature was truly kind to us today. Two days were taken to retrace our steps to North Lake where we ran into Marta Flores in the parking lot. She was going over Lamarck Col the next day. Mel and I had a very enjoyable trip.

## Mt Humphreys

July 20-22, 1990

Bill T Russell

This year the Russell family annual mountain climb did Humphreys. We paid \$3 each for a wilderness permit in March and hiked in on Fri, July 20. We went from North Lake to Piute Pass and then north over the smooth terrain to the upper Humphreys Lake; it took us about six hours. We camped on the north side of the lake on the west "flat", near a rock rib (UTM 513254). It seemed to be the best place and had plenty of room for our four tents. Our party consisted of Pat, son Steven and wife Nancy, son David, daughter Mercedes and husband Jim, and me. On Saturday we climbed the peak and returned to camp just as an afternoon thunder shower started. It lasted two hours and then stopped so that we could have a pleasant dinner. On Sunday we hiked out. It was a fine outing to an excellent mountain.

A focus point for climbing Humphreys is the prominent deep notch, hereafter the NW notch, on the Sierra crest to the left (NW) of the summit pinnacle. We ascended to this notch via Route 2 in Yoge's "A Climber's Guide to the High Sierra, 1965" and we descended from the notch via Route 1 in Roper's 1976 Guide with the same title. Both routes are fine and doing it the way we did gives variety. From our campsite and looking at the SW face, six talus fans are seen. Going from left to right, the first fan ends more or less on the small ridge ("rocky shoulder" per Yoge) that is north of the campsite and goes thru 513256. Above the fan is a nondescript area of ledges and rocks. Route 2 ascends this fan, turns left (N) for about 100' gain and then goes up a broad shallow chute to the NE to near the Sierra crest. From here a variety of routes can be taken to go right and reach the NW notch. To help in orientation, the second fan comes from a chute that points to the NW notch. The third fan comes from a narrow notch that points to the summit; it merges with the fourth fan. The fourth fan is prominent and comes from a narrow avalanche chute. The fifth fan has a relatively broad top and comes from a prominent chute that, higher up, appears to lead to the col to the south of the summit pyramid. The sixth fan is large and stems from a broken area underneath the dark rock buttress on the right (south). Route 1 is a diagonally upward sloping ledge system that starts at the top of the fifth fan and leads to the main NW notch. It is perhaps 15' wide and is mostly 2nd class climbing. It cannot be discerned from the campsite although it can be picked out from the high ground south of the lake. It has an average slope of 35°, not 45° as stated in Roper.

The NW notch is at about 13,600'. From here the route goes south up a steep chute on the right of the crest for about 230' to an alcove where the chute ends. This chute looks intimidating but is easy 3rd class climbing. From the alcove, the route traverses right (W) and up for about 30' gain and 40' horizontal to a comfortable platform of perhaps three by six feet. This short pitch is 3rd to 4th class but the first few moves are exposed. From the platform the route ascends the steep nose of the ridge that is on the left when facing the mountain. This 4th class pitch of about 30' has excellent holds. From the top of the 4th class pitch, it is easy 3rd for perhaps 40' gain to the base of the summit blocks and then another easy climb to the summit.

Many people rappel from the top of the nose down to the alcove and there is a bevy of slings at this point. Because the climbing is easy, we chose to down climb with an upper belay. The last person, me, had a few pieces of protection to remove on the way down, these had at least some psychic value.

Humphreys is a noble mountain and this route a very satisfying climb.



NORTHERN PEAKS ODYSSEY. 6/30 to 7/4, 1990 AI Conrad/ Bob Wyka

A light-hearted group gathered at the Donner Memorial State Park CG to tackle 9 peaks in Areas 23 and 24; all were climbed. This trip allowed Dave Petzold to clean out the areas and qualified two of our party, Barb and Howard Eyerly, for SPS membership. Delores Holladay, Scott Sullivan and others had a chance to enjoy the hot tub at the Clair Tappan Lodge. With Eivor Nilsson and Vi Grasso, we had a total of nine people on Stanislaus.

My standard van and Scott's low-clearance Subaru 4WD station wagon successfully negotiated the logging roads (and their truck-scaled water barriers and ruts) to Lola and English on day one and to Castle on day two. Fortunately, the roads and potholes were dry. For Lola we drove to almost 7800', about 1/2 mi south of the Cold Stream crossing, having left Hwy 89 at the Jackson Meadows Reservoir turnout and traveled west on FS07, the road shown near the top of the Independence Lake 7 1/2' topo, before turning toward Perrazzo Meadows at 6638. Awakie's writeup (ECHO, Vol. 28, No. 4) is a good reference. Per Stough's writeup (ECHO, Vol. 34, No. 1), we then drove to about 7300' on the 4WD road shown west of the summit on the English Mtn 7 1/2' topo. After much to-be-avoided backroad driving past Bowman Lake, we arrived at the Sierra Club's Clair Tappan Lodge for a late dinner, lodging, amenities, breakfast and sack lunch; all for \$25 and a chore!

Getting to about 1/4 mile from the end of the road west of Castle, we arrived at the Class 3 summit not knowing that we had missed a direct hiking route from Castle Pass, which we took on the way back. Mt. Rose was a long road and trail hike starting a short distance below Mt. Rose Summit on Nevada 431, with much wind at the summit. Enjoyed a good, prompt casino buffet at Harvey's before staying at KOA in South Lake Tahoe.

With rain at 4am and heavily overcast skies when we awoke at 6am, the group headed for Ereeel and soon-to-be sunny, windy skies. We drove 0.9 mi on Pioneer Trail from Hwy 89/50 before driving 4.3 mi on the paved Oneidas St roadway to about 1/2 mi below Fountain Place. Hiked (assumed the No Trespassing signs were for vehicles) to saddle at head of the north fork of Trout Creek, keeping the creek on our right; learned the hard way that when we reached the avalanche area we should have moved uphill to find the trail rather than closer to the creek. A wind in (if you dare) the saddle got us to the summit and out of the wind in (if you dare) near the structure at the summit. After transport over Luther Pass and Carson Pass we climbed Roundtop from the Woods Lake CG. The scenery was voted the most picturesque we hiked in. Getting to the summit block and up the easy Class 3 pitch provided an extra amount of enjoyment. Experienced a superb dinner at Caples Lake Resort with Jan and Gene Hauk, who came up for the event!!

Took 1 5/6 hrs + breakfast (at the colorful Cutthroat Saloon) in Markleeville + gas stop to get to Sonora Pass from Woods Lake. Met Dave, Delores and Vi at 9am for the short drive to the Stanislaus Trailhead and some fun Class 2 at the top. Five of us did Leavitt, having identified a shortcut, not on the topo, for the route down at the hairpin switchback shown on the topo at 10100'. Quite a beautiful, long, high-elevation day. Got to the Sand Flat CG on the Clark's Fork before dark.

Disaster goes easily from the ridge north of the summit after having traversed Paradise Valley. Found what we thought was the "unfindable" trail south of the summit on the way down and decided to track it to its intersection with the main trail rather than using the obvious southerly drainage below us. Poor choice. We crossed a ridge (oops!) and after a short distance, rather than back-track or following the trail any more, had an adventurous descent down the lower drainage from Paradise Valley eventually back to the trail. The scenery on the ride east over Sonora Pass was outstanding. Had dinner in Bishop and a hassle-free drive home, completing a 1250 mile trip. All would agree that everyone's cooperation and camaraderie made this a memorable trip.

MOKELOUMNE PK

7/5/90

Private Trip

Do not go to Mud Lake. (Old Echo write-up 20-2). Good friend of mine suggested "leaving car east of Mud L. hike due east on road to NE corner of Sec. 21 on topo. Cross-country it SE to slope below skyline then toward Cole Creek Lakes. Follow faint trail extending NW from Cole Lakes which runs out below ridge on E side. Pass Cole Creek L. on NE which then picks up good trail to Munson Mdw. and on to saddle." I did. "Return by same route." I didn't.

There's only one reasonable 1-day hike to this isolated peak. After hearing from other sources that the key to this peak is to locate the "right road," (and there are a few confusing ones) a passenger car can manage the dirt road: Going SW on 88 past Silver Lake to Allen Ranch, continue up the road to Plasse Trading Post (Sec. 20 old topo) a distance of approx. 7 mi. from Hwy 88. (About 5+ mi. in and you should observe Allen Ranch entrance to your right.-- Most useful, USFS map.) There's another dirt road that approaches the Trading Post junction from Caples Lake at a distance of 11 mi.

No cross-country, and no Cole Creek L. At Plasse T.P. is the entrance gate to the Mokelumne Wilderness and parking. Follow the Squaw Ridge trail So. (old wagon road) till you come to a 3-way junction post indicating Cole Creek L., Long Lake & Munson Mdw. Good visible trail all the way to the saddle with the peak always in sight. Since this is the way I eventually returned, I crossed Allen Ranch W. to get up to the dirt road junction of Mudd L./Tragedy Springs where I left the Jimmy. Just to see how much 4WD could take, exited via Tragedy Springs -- and that's what it is -- heck of a tragedy. After that thrill, headed for Caples L. to meet Mantle, Hicks & Co. for an excellent dinner at Caples Lodge Fri. nite.

9ASIN, TOM

21-22 JULY 1990

JOE WANKUM/BOB WYKA

Jim Raiford had to cancel to keep eye on dog recuperating from surgery. Bob Wyka agreed to assist. Original permit for 10 was increased to 16 to accommodate all. Thursday pm, list stood at 12 with 2 possibilities. Ten showed up; everyone got at least one peak with 7 up Basin and 7 on Tom.

DRIVE: From H395 in Bishop, west on Lime for approximately 7 mi, right on Buttermilk road for 5.7 mi. Just after road starts getting rough (last 0.2 mi), right on another dirt road (sign missing) for 0.8 mi to parking in Aspen grove at 7400 ft. Dirt road is good washboard with rocks sticking up last mile.

BACKPACK TO HORTON LAKE (4 mi, 2600 ft, dirt road all the way): Sat, left at 6:40, right at first junction, locked gate at 3/4 mi, wood bridge over stream at half way point, butldings several hundred feet above lake, then down to campsite near lake by 9:25. (Half the group could have easily made it in 1/2 hour less.) Lake has one large campsite, smaller sites to east and south.

BASIN: Nine took off at 10:40 around east end of lake to inlet stream, then mostly up boulders to first lake where 2 wisely turned back. The rest continued to upper lake (last water). After taking bearing to confirm location of hidden summit, group headed up NW slope to saddle west of summit, then left, contouring around back side of first bump, and on to summit. Group left summit at 3 pm (accompanied by light rain/soft hail) straight down talus/screes to around 11,600 ft. (Gully continues down to top of cliff/waterfall.) Then contoured left to upper lake and down to campsite by 5:30.

TOM: Sun, left at 6:40. With slow, steady pace, seven headed up road/switchbacks and were on plateau near vertical rod at 8:00 and on to Tungstar mine by 8:30. Just past mine (at end of road), headed up talus to ridge, then had to contour left through a number of gullies/ridges before reaching talus slope that led to summit. (It would have been better to have gone up the way we came down.) After all the detouring, first people were on summit well before noon with last on top by 1 pm. With clouds approaching, first 3 left, making it down to mine before rain started. The last 4 had descended only about 500 feet when light rain/hail started, which slowed descent considerably. Descent was straight down gully from top to within 5-600 feet of mine, then left to next gully and on down to mine. Steady rainfall then started and lasted an hour. Threat of lightning rushed group across plateau to where road starts descent. As last of group approached vertical rod (marking start of descent), a lightning strike up the ridge gave the group even more encouragement to move. At camp, last of group had packed up by 5 and were at cars by 6:40.

A special thanks goes to Bob, whose stamina and leadership got us up the peaks (even though he had to slow to half speed to stay with group) and to Barbara Cohen and Ruth Armentrout for their assistance. Others included Ron Campbell, Barry Holzman, Ralph Lefevre, Suzanne Novotny, Stuart Nowinski, and Stuart Rigley. Several were MITers who gained their first SPS peak on the trip.

The extensive talus fields on these peaks and the nearly 10,000 feet of gain for the weekend make this trip a long one for participants without much boulder hopping experience. The hike up Tom would go much faster if all participants had expertise in moving swiftly across boulder fields.

Red and White, Red Slate

July 28-29, 1990

Patty Kline and Maris Valkass

By Patty Kline

Ten of us met at the end of McGee Creek Road Saturday morning at 6:45 a.m. The road's end is a newly paved parking lot beyond the pack station parking. This new parking lot has space for a lot of cars. We all camped in the parking lot, most of us arriving between 12 midnight and 1:00 a.m.

Maris Valkass took Bob Hartunian's place. Bob had foot surgery on July 23rd, and will be recuperating for a long time. We all wish Bob a complete recovery.

The backpack in on trail seemed to be about 8 miles to Big McGee Lake. Signs and various guide books indicate less mileage. There are quite a few campsites at Big McGee at 10,472' and many marmots and ground squirrels. It is a good idea to hang your food on a sling during the day when you are off climbing so these daytime creatures don't eat your food.

The group got to three lake about noon, set up camp and had lunch. We left for Red and White (12,816') at about 1:00 p.m., Maris the way to the peak. The route can be described as straight forward with about 4 miles round trip and about 2,500 feet of gain. We first took the trail to Little McGee Lake, crossing at the outlet and on to a series of terraces heading up to the ridge to the north of the peak. From the north the peak is very dramatic with a sheer orange face complete with a glacier. We passed just to the east of the peak and climbed up the 2nd and 3rd class black slate to the top. This rock is not the granite one seen in the Sierra. The usual register had a piece of white irrigation pipe (capped on each end) beside it, which was the historic register. It can easily be mistaken for garbage, and I can see why these historic registers might not stay on the peaks. If they only looked more official. I was disappointed not to read the names in the original. It was cold and cloudy on top and rained to the north, but we were spared. The eight of us who did the peak departed down the first 200 or 300 feet one at a time because the blocks of black slate were not all fastened to the mountain. We ran into Brian Smith coming off of Red and White. He had his own permit and had originally intended to go with the group, but had gotten a late start.

Sunday morning we did Red Slate via the McGee Pass trail in about 6 miles round trip and a little over 2,500 feet of gain. From the pass we went north on the use trail to the top. There were fields of Sky Pilot (Polemonium eximium) right near the pass going to the peak. I have never seen so many of these beautiful bluish purple flowers that grow in alpine areas or on peaks. The view is really great from Red Slate. How nice it was to be on this mountain on my birthday. The weather was great today. We had a little party the night before. Ann and Maris brought a birthday cake. Red Slate at 13,123' is the highest peak this far north in the entire Sierra. All peaks north of here are lower than Red Slate. This is probably one of the reasons for making this a mountaineers' peak. All 10 of us did Red Slate.

We went back to camp, packed up and were out to the cars by mid-afternoon. Incidentally, a ranger stopped and asked to see my permit for 10 on the way out Sunday afternoon. Those who participated not already mentioned were Georgina Burns, Hoda Shalaby, Bruce Orenstein, Greg Gerlach, John Fisanotti, Mike Kelley, and Hersch Kolp. Thank you so much Maris for helping me lead this trip. We all had a great time.

MR. BREWER  
August 24-27, 1990  
Steven Thaw & Ron Young

Steve's saunter slipped slightly since his bevy of bay beauties was late for the 8 a.m. rendezvous. Seems they lumbered into camp the previous night from San Francisco at 1:30 a.m. By 8:50 the pride was off and running from Roads End. After two miles we crossed the first magnificent bridge over a deep hole in the Kings River. Another short distance and three strategic bridges and we were ascending Bubbs Creek. About four miles in another strategic bridge led us to the Sphinx Creek drainage. Here a spectacular trail ascends the left face of the canyon, eventually dropping down to Sphinx Creek where the main trail goes off to Avalanche Pass. From here it was cross-country following an intermittent use trail generally on the right side of the drainage to the first lake at 9600 feet. To avoid mutiny after about nine miles and 4600 gain Steve decreed camp. Whereupon one maiden did doff the accouterments of the trail to plunge into the cold lake. Names are withheld to protect the innocent. I marveled!

Morning comes late to this site with no sun until 8:30. Steve and Howard played pinata with a recalcitrant food bag adding to our late start. Oh for a couple of Yosemite bears! It did make for a great cookie soup. Off by 8:50 the four gentlemen of the climb proceeded up the Sphinx drainage over ledges, slabs, among cliffs, brush, and talus large and small. We passed through the symmetrical 12,000 foot saddle at drainage end and contoured left to the spur descending southwest from the North Guard ridge. From here Steve and Keith dropped into the Brewer north fork drainage to attempt Roper's "easy" north west slopes. Making some mental calculations I decided that it would be prudent for Howard and me to turn back and make camp before darkness fell upon the land. This rough drainage is nearly as slow descending as ascending and could be hazardous in the dark. Keith and Steve were making good time up a gully on the left side but topped out at the westernmost set of summit rocks. They made their way over to the summit register on the eastern blocks from which they descended a chute directly back to the Brewer drainage. This is probably the furthest chute on the left (east) as seen from below. From here they made a hasty retreat to camp arriving before dark at 7:15. Howard and I reached camp about 5:20.

Day three saw a sluggish crew except for recent WTC graduate and new SPS member Howard Eyerly who was up and off by 6 a.m. to retrace the route of the previous day. Amid whispered asides and deep salaams Howard stumbled into camp about 7:20 after a successful climb of Brewer. I was still husbanding my resources after a bug the preceding week and Keith and Steve decided that North Guard could wait until next year when we would return to climb with George Toby who still needs North and South Guard but was unable to make this trip due to his surgery. Or was it the sunbathing maidens?

The next morning we were up and off about 8 a.m. arriving at the cars within minutes of my predicted five hours. We stopped for showers at Cedar Grove and were en route home by 2 p.m. To do this trip more efficiently, it would be better to camp near the two large lakes at 10,500. It would mean 5500 gain the first day including 2000 feet of rough cross-country. From here a strong group could probably do the three peaks in one long day, and a moderate group shouldn't have difficulty with Brewer and South Guard. Congratulations to Keith Schoenhof who qualified for SPS membership on this trip.

JUNCTION and TYNDALL

Leaders: Don Borad and Phil Marquez August 3-5, 1990

At 6 AM sharp on Friday, six people with strong backs and weak minds set off for Shepherd Pass. Beside Phil and myself the group included Rene Wevey, Martha Flores, Greg Gerlach and Dave Morris. Thanks to the work of R. J. Secor and his trail crew the trail was in absolutely magnificent condition. Despite numerous rest stops and an odorous dead horse near the top of the pass, we arrived at Lake 12002 at about 4:30 P.M. After a relaxing afternoon and evening we retired only to wake to the noxious reveille of Rene's alarm clock. At six A.M. sharp we headed for Junction via the Diamond Mesa route.

My best information indicated that when one reached the ridge at Junction one climbed to its left side along nice ledges. I proceeded to do this but after a few hundred feet the route forced me to the right side. This went well and we subsequently reached the summit plateau where hundreds of footprints indicated that many others had made the same mistake. Much to my surprise I discovered that the summit plateau doesn't include the summit! It appeared to be a bump northward along the ridge. Getting to the bump required a descent of about 100 feet. On getting to the bump we discovered there was no register there and the "true" summit was another bump further north. We descended about 200 feet this time and finally reached the register at 11 AM. While we signed in we argued as to which bump was really higher. Assuming that there must be a better way than the one I had used, I turned Phil loose to get us down and he found the correct route. The directions I had received were not incorrect but they were definitely misleading. Forget trying to follow the left side of the ridge. Instead take an upward traverse on the west side of the peak until you see the summit. The route looks improbable but uses scree ledges and passes 3 or 4 ribs via easy if uninviting notches. It's basically class 2.

On returning to the beginning of the ridge we descended to the south via one of the greatest dirt glistades I've seen. I later announced that there would be a 10 minute rest before heading for Tyndall. The response was a variety of hand signals which indicated that these people did not suffer from summit fever. In order to maintain my excellent state of health I therefore called off the Tyndall hike. Thanks to one and all for a very enjoyable weekend.

*Don Borad*

HIGHLAND PK: DISASTER PEAK July 7-8, 1990 Winkle, Hicks

For the leaders this was the end of a nine day trip that included the northern Nevada DPs peaks as well as Granite Chief and Ticker Knob. Friday we met VI Grasso and John Richardson from Redwood City, had a marvelous supper and stayed the night at the Caples Lake resort - Highly recommended.

DISASTER

The hike started from the Highland Lakes trailhead. Shortly after we made the trail junction turn to Paradise Valley one of the participants decide that two hours of sleep the previous night was just not enough. A turn back was in order with a caution about making the turn at the trail junction.

The trail was followed virtually to the summit. A few patches of snow still remained. There was very little haze and the view of the north country was excellent. We returned to the roadhead before 4:00, but to our surprise, no one met us. A discussion ensued concerning the various possibilities for mistakes that might have been made on the return route. The inevitable conclusion was to wait, and hope. Larry volunteered to stay at roadhead and the rest left for the nearby campground. A short time later Doug and Bob rejoined Larry. We arrived at the same time as two rangers (also camp hosts) who had been out on patrol. They were given a full report which was passed on to the Sheriff.

So back to camp for a "blind" (not the participants) wine tasting. (Two merlots, one zinfandel and a French bergundy. The overwhelming winner was a Trader Joe's Maurice Carrig 86' Merlot.) Much to our relief just as dark approached, Larry drove up with the missing party. A turn in the meadow area where the trail is somewhat obscure had been missed and the hiker had gone one meadow too far and sat down to wait for our return. As dark approached the hiker realized that we must have passed by. On retracing the route back to the first meadow, the correct trail was found and a speedy return to the roadhead was made. Our great relief was shared by the Sheriff's Dept. rescue party that was at roadhead minutes away from heading out for a rescue.

The climb of Highland the next day was happily uneventful and pleasant. We drove just east of Ebert's Pass to the FCI roadhead. The trail was followed until we chose to shortcut down a few hundred feet and then up on the other side of the canyon. We followed the standard route which ends up on the ridge which ultimately leads to the summit. All six starters made it. Our return was on the trail as soon as we hit it rather than the shortcut down the canyon. Longer but easier on the body. And then the long, long drive home. Started at 1:00, but when it takes 3 hours to get to Bishop you know it will be a late arrival!

Bob Hicks

Participants: John Richardson, Stuart Rigney, Larry Tidball, David Campbell, Elaine O'Connell, Jack Archibald, Ted Pinson.

RED SLATE

11-12 Aug 1990

Joe Wankum/Ron Young

Sat am, a 2 mi walk from McGee Creek trailhead brought us to first stream crossing, where a few rocks in stream allowed crossing without getting our boots wet. (The last time I crossed here, the water was a foot deep.) A little less than a mi further, a log helped with the second crossing. Then on past the Steelhead Lake turnoff, past some llamas near lake at 10K', and on to campsite near Big McGee Lake.

RBD SLATE: After setting up tents, headed up trail accompanied by sprinkle that soon turned into steady rain, then hail which lasted close to an hour. At the pass, we veered right up ridge to summit, then back to camp.

BALDWIN FROM THE SE? Sun am, packed half way out to near Steelhead Lake junction, stashed packs, then hiked up old jeep road to Scheelore Mine. Rain started as we were climbing scree above mine and about to hit what appeared to be a possible 3rd class route to south ridge of Baldwin. Caution precluded any further exploration of route, so retraced steps, then packed out to trailhead. JW

CATHEDRAL RANGE PEAKS

31 August - 3 September 1990

Gordon Macleod - Neko Colevins

Although listed as an SPS Intro trip, the 7 participants who met at Tuolumne Meadows Fri. morning (Rick Jali, Tom Brazzell, Dick and Kate Agnos and Barbara Lilley, plus the 2 leaders) were mainly experienced senior citizen hikers--5 were retired and only I was under 50. There were two no-shows. After a moderate 9.5 mile backpack, camp was made at an excellent site, complete with fire ring, at 9500' on Fletcher Creek. Creative food hanging methods proved successful, and fortunately the area was not a usual Yosemite bear haunt.

Dick was bothered by a previous elbow injury, so he and Kate backpacked out the next day, while the others climbed Vogelsang Pk. (11,516). The register placed in 1988 was not found. It is probably futile to keep registers on these popular peaks. Even if not stolen, the book fills up in short order. Four of us then climbed Fletcher Pk. (11,408) via Pk. 11,440+.

On Sunday, four climbed Rafferty Pk. (11,110+), where an excellent register placed by the Sierra Club Peak Register Committee was found. (Pk. 11,282 was passed up in exchange for an early cocktail hour at camp). The backpack out was accomplished on Mon., with 2 climbing Mt. Johnson (11,070) en route. Weather was clear and dry, although somewhat windy on the peaks.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

NEW EMBLEM

#506 Burton Falk (12/9/90)

NEW MASTER EMBLEM

#9 Barbara Reber

NEW MEMBERS

Paul Backer  
828 6TH St. #3  
Santa Monica, Ca. 90403-1415  
(213) 451-3448

Henry Arnebold  
433 W. Renwick Road  
Glendora, Ca. 91740  
(818) 914-2015 h, (818) 967-6354 wk

NEW SUBSCRIBERS

Richard L. Anglin, Jr.  
8601 Falmouth Ave., #309  
Playa del Ray, Ca. 90293

Ted Mason  
2807 West Harvard  
Visalia, Ca. 93277

Christopher S. Schneider  
c/o Transpac Software Inc  
Commerce Plaza, Suite #203  
4340 Stevens Creek Blvd.  
San Jose, Ca. 95129

REACTIVATED MEMBERS

Eric Schumacher  
Judith Richardson

PHONE AND ADDRESS CHANGES

Joseph Goss, wk (213) 420-5656

Vi Grasso, wk (213) 826-5202

Gregory W. Jordan, wk (213) 201-3448

Ted and Anna Lou Pinson  
24370 Willow Pass Drive  
Tehachapi, Ca. 93561  
(805) 821-5079

Keith Schoenheit  
1250 Long Beach Ave. #109  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90021

Chris Shaw  
1630 30th St. #215  
Boulder, Colorado 80301

TIME TO RENEW YOUR SPS MEMBERSHIP--NOW!  
Time flies even when you're not climbing every weekend, and before you know it March 31 will be here and your name will be off the roster of ECHO subscribers. Send your annual membership/subscriber form from the last ECHO and your \$8.00 to the Treasurer, Larry Tidball, NOW.

Here is the latest bit of news on my forthcoming guide to the High Sierra.

I was in Seattle last week talking to The Mountaineers•Books and hunting down the elusive aerial photographs. At this point in time, the title has not been selected, and it is uncertain if the book will be in one or two volumes (the manuscript is now 809 pages long!). But the "official" publication date is April 1992, and it will feature USGS aerial photographs and artwork by Dee Molenaar.

And here is some more publishing news: The Mountaineers Books have authorized a new, second edition of Mexico's Volcanoes. This should be available in the fall of 1992.

Considering that most of my corrections to Roper's guide have come from the Echo, I believe that it would be appropriate for your readers to have the inside story on my new guide to the High Sierra.

Sierraly,

R.J. Seeger

George Shinno Dies

Barbara Lilley heard from Jon Shinno, George's son, that George fell while skiing in Utah last March, struck his head, and never regained consciousness. He died Oct. 30, 1990. George had been an active SPSer, serving as an elected officer from 1960-1966--he was Chair in 1961. See the Ski Mountaineers Mugelnoos (Jan. 14, 1991) for more about this fine mountaineer.

NEPAL TREK - Rich Henke is leading a 24 day trek to Makalu Base Camp in Oct 1991. Treckers will see 4 of the 5 highest mountains in the world, including Mt. Everest. The option to do some climbing is available. Cost is \$3150 including airfare. Call 213 453-8827.

Complete or add to your collection of mountaineering magazines and journals. Back issues of Sierra Club Bulletin, Ascent, Summit, Off Belay, Appalachia, American Alpine Journal, Accidents in North American Mountaineering, Climbing, Rock & Ice, Mountain, Mountain Gazette, Backpacker, and others. Mountaineering periodicals bought and sold. Joe Kramarsic, Box 1342, Dillon, Colorado 80435.

published seven times a year by the Sierra Peaks Section (SPS) of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter.

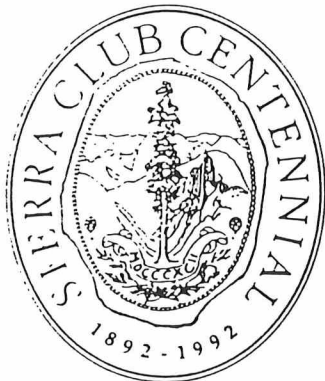
- EDITOR** Bob Sumner, 273 W. Arrow Highway #18, Azusa, Ca. 91702.  
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- MISSING ISSUES** Inquiries regarding missing issues should be addressed to the section Mailer: Kathy Price, 1546 S. Durango Avenue, L A , 90035. Extra copies of the 30th Anniversary *Echo* are available by sending \$4.50 per copy to the section Mailer. Copies of the Tribute issue (Nov/Dec '89) are also available from the Mailer for \$2.00. Prospective new members: for a one time complimentary copy of the *Echo* send a SASE with 45 cent postage to the Mailer.
- AWARDS** Emblem (\$8.50), senior emblem pins (\$12.00), list finisher pins (\$10.00), and section patches (\$2.00) are available from the section Treasurer: Larry Tidball, 1400 W. Edgehill Rd. #14, San Bernardino, CA 92405.

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