

*The
Sierra*



ECHO

VOLUME 35

1991

MAR-APR

NUMBER 2



PEAK INDEX

Finger Pk	Red & White Mtn
Kaiser Pk	Red Slate Mtn
Mauna Kea	Tower Pk
Mauna Loa	Tunemah Pk
Petit Pk	Volunteer Pk
Piute Mtn (2)	

"From My Perspective"

*The feats of this story
To gain self, not glory,
Recount an adventure
Which spurned man's indenture.*

*It's the fabric of life,
Full of pleasure and strife;
Woven with hopes and fears,
Much laughter, some tears.*

*At times grueling, even boring, brother,
Keeping one step in front of the other;
But know beyond any doubt
That's what success is all about.*

Best regards,

10 Jan 1991

Dick San

Correction for Echo, Jan-Feb 1991

{CORRECTION: Topo Maps-How to Find Them
The Pasadena Map Co. has moved about
a mile east: 1778 E. Colorado Blvd.}

SPS MONTHLY PROGRAMS

APRIL 10 WEDNESDAY
Sierra Peaks Potluck. This event is now in April, so you can talk to your friends and line up your summer climbing plans. See you at the usual time and place, with food to share.

MAY 8 WEDNESDAY
"Mt. McKinley: Classic Traverse and Summit Climb." Join Nancy Gordon as she triumphantly crosses 95 miles of Alaska, including that famous bump.

JUNE 12 WEDNESDAY
"Ice on Denali." Larry Tidball explores the West Rib of Denali.

JULY 10 WEDNESDAY
"The Andes." Join Larry Tidball on an adventure in South America.

AUGUST 14 WEDNESDAY
"Nakalu." Jim Farkas speaks about the American expedition to the fifth highest summit in the world.

SEPT 11 WEDNESDAY
"Mexican Volcanoes." RJ Secor presents a program on climbing the lofty volcanoes of central Mexico.

OCT 9 WEDNESDAY
"The Khumbu." Patty Kline speaks on the heart of the Himalayas, the Khumbu region of Nepal.

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!

Location change effective July 10th.
See the following pages for more info.

Coming in the May-June Echo:

Devil's Crag

Granite Pk, Montana

Trekking Peaks of Nepal

and much, much more!

COVER PHOTO:

Banner Peak and small tarn below. Photograph by Tom Ross, September 1975.

ECHOES FROM THE CHAIR

DWP INNINGS

Attention Orange County, Riverside and Cucamonga! Effective July 10th the SPS monthly meeting will revert to the Dept. of Water & Power (DWP) Headquarters in centrally-located downtown LA. We have longingly missed seeing our southern and eastern brethren and sistren and are eager for their return. The parking is on-site, free and safe. Come early - the Marriott cafeteria serves great dinners until its 7 pm closing. In the Auditorium, we will be able to project slides onto a real screen. On the slight downside, our rental fee increases from zero at Glendale Fed to \$25/nite. A large turnout will show that it is well worth the expense. Chuck Stein has graciously agreed to step down as our bank key-getter. The post, not Chuck, will become obsolete. Many thanks, Chuck.

SPS OUTINGS

Outings Chair Karen Leonard, with the fantastic support of 46 leaders, has put together a peak-filled summer season: 40 trips - at least one but up to five outings every weekend. Many of these climbs must be restricted to those who are experienced and comfortable ropeless on third class rock. We are all greatly indebted to our leaders for coming through again - it is because of them that we continue to exist.

What about peaks the SPS can't lead? Advertise your private ventures in the ECHO and/or come to the meetings and gather a following. The California Mountaineering Club (CMC) also offers many spring (ice axe) and 4th class (rope) climbs. Regarding details on membership and outings with the CMC, contact any of their officers, e.g., RJ Secor, Jon Inskeep, Rick Beatty and Dave Dykeman. Note: this club does not carry leader liability insurance, and a trip needs only one leader, who need have no "rating." No endorsement by the Sierra Club or the SPS is intended or implied. The CMC is only mentioned as one of several possible alternatives for climbers seeking to join other climbers on trips that the Sierra Club cannot sponsor due to liability insurance restrictions. Some would argue that such "restricted" peaks should be dropped from The List. Readers are invited to submit their pro or con views to the ECHO Editor.

About the \$3 Trailhead Reservation Fee

Consider, a \$3 per person reservation fee has been paid by trip leaders for all Sierra quota trailheads (6/28 - 9/15), excluding national parks (free). The leader had to pay this expense upfront and, once confirmed, it is non-refundable.

1. Even if not requested in the announcement, you should send the leader \$3 along with your initial sase.
2. If enclosing a check, you should make it payable to the leader (not the SPS).
3. If you subsequently are not accepted on the trip, your \$3 should be refunded.
4. If, however, you drop out of the trip, your \$3 is non-refundable. This helps make up for the leader's possible loss in not filling all of his or her trips.

The Sierra ECHO

The ECHO is normally printed in time to be distributed at the monthly meeting of issue (even-numbered months). If it is not picked up there, you can expect to wait a while. Mailer Kathy Price will try to label and sort the issues in time for a bulk mailing downtown the following Sat. Otherwise, it will probably be the second Sat. before the Post Office gets them. It then commonly takes one to three weeks before your mail carrier arrives ECHO-in-hand. Please keep Secretary Bob Wyka promptly informed of changes in your address. As 4th class mail, the newsletter will not be forwarded by the PO.

The Management Committee last year considered the possibility of mailing the ECHO first class. With the new postal rates the difference per copy is now 11.1c vs 52c (2 oz). No way! Anyone who is willing to pay the extra cost, 41c per issue, is welcome to contact the Mailer and request this service (payable in advance).

For the past two years there has been no July ECHO. It has been too much of a burden on the Editor to get out an issue for each of three consecutive months. In a move which also saves postage expense, the Management Com. has now decided to drop the July issue. As in the past two years, however, this loss will be made up by including more pages in the other six issues. Not to worry!

SPS MEETS 2nd WEDNESDAY OF MONTH - 7:30 pm

Starting JULY 10th at L.A. Dept. of Water & Power - DWP
111 N. Hope Street

Inbound to Civic Center: (refer to map)

From either the Hollywood Fwy (101) or the Harbor Fwy (110) or the Pasadena Fwy (110): transition as if onto the Santa Ana Fwy (5/10) but exit at Temple St. DWP is just ahead on Hope St.

From the Santa Ana Fwy (5/10): transition as if onto the 110 (Harbor/Pasadena), but exit on Grand Ave. Go south on Grand to Temple; right one blk to Hope.

Enter facility on Hope at Gate #6. Tell gateperson that you're attending the Sierra Club/SPS Meeting.

Cafeteria & Auditorium on Level A (1 flr below Main Lobby)

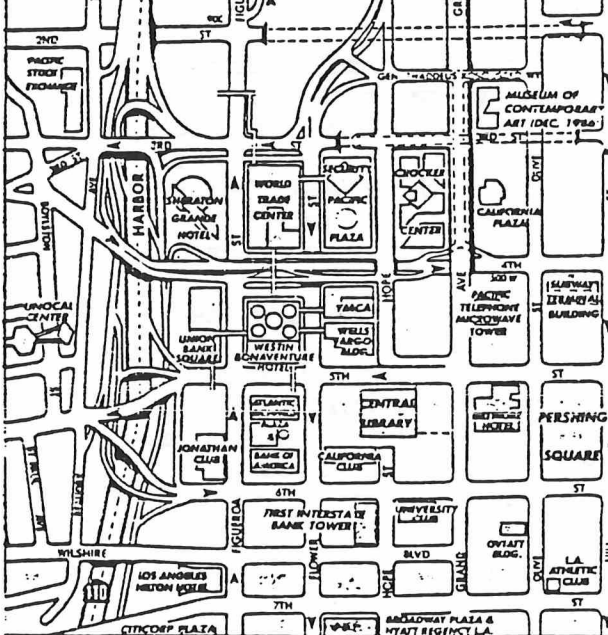
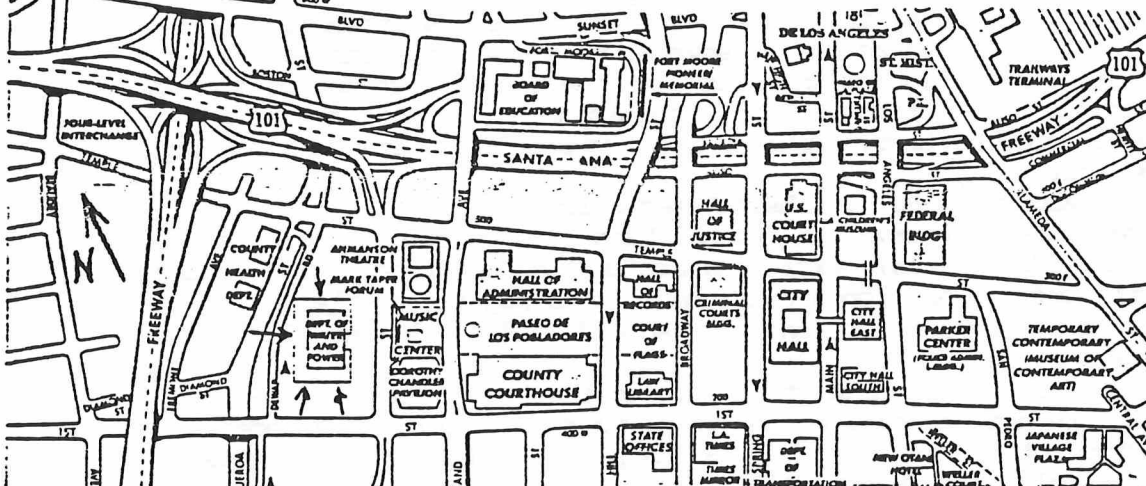
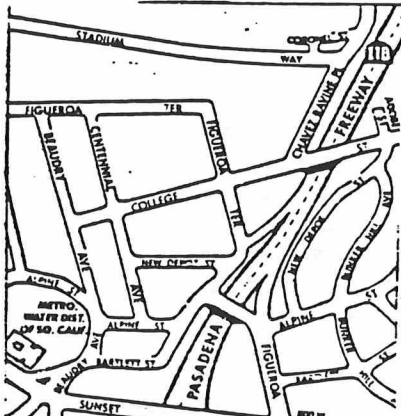
Marriott Cafeteria serves dinner until 7 pm.

No food or drink in Auditorium please.

Outbound from Civic Center: (refer to map)

East - Santa Ana Fwy (5/10): exit parking left on Hope, then straight ahead for fwy onramp.

Pasadena & Hollywood & Harbor Fwys can be accessed from either Grand, N. of Temple, or else go S. on Hope, curving SW (right) onto 3rd St.



SPS SPRING 1991 SCHEDULED CLIMBS

MAY

11-12 I: Kern Peak, Three Rocks
Ron Jones, Bill Oliver

25-27 I: Sawtooth #1, Smith, Sirretta, Rockhouse
Igor Mamedalin, Suzanne Thomas-Mamedalin

JUNE

1-2 M: Perkins, Colosseum
Maris Valkass, Karen Leonard

1-2 I: Owens, Pilot #1
Dave Petzold, Carolyn West

15-16 I: Rockhouse, Taylor Dome
Dave Petzold, Carolyn West

22-23 M: Moses, N. Maggie
Kathy Price, Bob Hartunian

29-30 I: Taylor Dome, Sirretta, Smith
Charles Knapke, Barbara Cohen

JULY

3-7 I: Florence, Vogelsang, Davis, Foerster,
Electra, & Rodgers
Dave Petzold, Dale Van Dalsem

NOTE: Unfavorable snow conditons may require cancellation of some of these trips.

*** Trip just added ***

June 1-2 Sat-Sun Sierra Peaks
M: Climb Perkins (12,566) and Colosseum (12,451') early in the season.
Send sase to leader: Maris Valkass. Co-leader: Karen Leonard.

SUMMER/FALL CLIMBS, SPS 1991

JULY

13-14 M: Kearsarge, Dragon Larry Tidball, Scot Jamison
13-14 I: Gibbs, Kotp Jim Raiford, Barbara Cohen
13-14 I: Tunnabora, Carillon George Toby, Al Conrad
13-14 I: Royce, Merriam Jim Adler, Karen Leonard
13-14 M: Goode, Gilbert, Johnson Doug Mantle, Randy Danta

19-27 M: McDuffie, Black Giant, Charybdis, Scylla,
Goddard, Fiske, Huxley, McGee, Emerald, Henry
Dave Dykeman, Nancy Gordon
19-21 M: Julius Caesar, Hilgard Doug Mantle, Vi Grasso
20-21 M: McAdie, Irvine Larry Tidball, Bill Oliver
20-21 I: Florence, Franklin Lakes Eivor Nilsson, Ron Young
20-21 M: Mystery Peak Maris Valkass, Jim Farkas

27-28 I: Arrow, Cardinal Virgil Talbott, Randy Danta

AUGUST

2-5 M: the Kaweahs Reiner Stenzel, Bill Oliver
2-10 M: Henry, Emerald, Mendel,
Goethe, McGee, Scylla George Toby, Al Conrad
3-4 M: Dade, Mills Dave Dykeman, Roy Magnuson
3-4 I: Gould, Bago Barbara Cohen, Jim Raiford

10-11 M: Mystery Peak Maris Valkass, Jim Farkas
17-18 M: Center Peak Dave Dykeman, Don Borad

22-25 M: Deernhorn, W. Vidette,
E. Vidette, Bago Bill T. Russell, Bill Gray
24 M: Mt. Gould Kathy Price, Randy Danta
25 I: Kearsarge Jim Adler, Randy Danta

SEPTEMBER

30-2 I: Triple Divide, Lion Rock,
Stewart Igor & Suzanne Hamedalin
30-2 M: Carson-Iceberg Wilderness Gordon MacLeod, Neko Colevins
30-2 I: Marion, Pyramid, Wynne,
Pinchot, Striped, Goodale D. Van Dalsem, Vi Grasso
31-2 M: Foerster Peak Dave Dykeman, Nancy Gordon
31-2 M: Brewer, M. & S. Guard,
Farquhar Bill Oliver, Larry Tidball

7-8 M: Russell, Thor, Carillon Bill Bradley, Fred Camphausen

13-16 M: E. Vidette, Deernhorn, V. Vidette, Center,
Bradley, Bago, Rixford D. Van Dalsem, Larry Tidball
14-15 I: Morrison, San Joaquin Patty Kline, Bob Hartunian

21 I: Dana (Jim's list finish) Jim Murphy, Steve Thaw
21-22 M: Thompson, Powell Dave Petzold, Larry Tidball
21-22 M: Hallace, Haackel Randy Danta, Bill Oliver

28-29 I: Johnson, Cloudripper Larry Tidball, Steve Thaw
28-29 I: Lone Pine, Mt. Mallory Igor & Suzanne Mamedalin
28-29 I: Mt. Tom, Basin Ed Zdon, Bruce Parker

OCTOBER

5-6 I: Three Sisters Dave Petzold, Carolyn West

12-13 I: Clouds Rest George Hubbard, Mary McMannes
12-13 M: Harrington, Kennedy Vaughn Sherman, Bruce Parker

19-20 I: Silver Peak Dave Petzold, Carolyn West
19-20 I: Scodie Mtn, Lamont Pk Jerry & Nancy Keating, Walt
Whisman

26-27 M: Sawtooth, Needham Ed Zdon, Bruce Parker

EDITORIAL

We need more contributions for the Echo. If you led a trip last year and did not write it up, please do so. If you went on a private trip to the Sierras (or elsewhere), we want to read about it. And let's not forget about photographs. We need 8X10 B&W photos for the cover and 3X5 B&W photos for the mystery peak contest. ALL photographs will be returned. We would especially like to see more "people on peaks" pictures.

The Echo is your newsletter. I would like to know what you like about the Echo and what you don't like about it. Are there certain features you would like added? Are there certain features you would like deleted? Let us know. Send your thoughts on this matter to Bill Oliver or the editor.

The following two lists were last updated on 3/20/91.

SPS Members Who Have Not Renewed for '91 (96)

Andrews, Joe
 Bailey, Scott
 Baillie, Clive
 Beach, Richard
 Beymer, David
 Bloland, Paul
 Bond, Matthew
 Borun, Raymond
 Bradley, W.C.
 Bueler, Herb
 Cheslick, John
 Chval, Richard T.
 Compton, Hal
 Cooley, Paul R.
 DeChantillon, Evelyn
 Duryea, Tom
 Dykeman, Dave
 Engs, Bill
 Erb, Jim & T. Rutherford
 Erickson, John Peder
 Farkas, Jim
 Fawell, Richard
 Franz, Al
 Freimanis, Harry
 French, Calvin & Louise
 Fridella, Mike
 Fritsen, Richard
 Frolli, Mark
 Gat, Isabelle
 Gnagy, Rich
 Gomillion, Jeff
 Goodman, Steve
 Grams, Jack
 Grau, Ron
 Hadow, Roger
 Harris, William
 Heath, Robby
 Holland, George
 Hoover, Victoria
 Hutto, Sigrid

Jones, Ken
 Jordan, Greg
 Knoblich, Ingrid
 Lake, David
 Landau, Linda
 Leverton, Susan
 Lieberman, Izzy
 Lindberg, Gordon
 Lingle, Bill
 Machleder, Larry
 McDonald, Rob Roy
 Mihalka, Mike
 Moore, Susan
 Mothermal, Rayne & Mary
 Parker, Bruce G.
 Raiford, Jim
 Reed, John
 Rigney, Stuart
 Robison, Gayle
 Ross, Ed
 Ross, Tom
 Russell, Robin
 Schroeder, Allen
 Sharp, Wes
 Shaw, Chris
 Shea II, John
 Shubert, Paul
 Sparks, Don
 Stevens, Bill
 Sur, Sylvia
 Talbott, Virgil
 Titus, Jay
 Underwood, Dave
 Valkass, Maris
 Wankum, Joe
 Weldon, Vieve
 Whisman, Walter
 Wild, Chuck
 Wolfe, Ray

Echo Subscr Not Renewed (18)

Aiken, Todd
 Bowman, Brenda
 Castillo, Nancy
 Coit, Roger
 Foerstel, Greg
 Freiman, Paul
 Goulet, Andrea
 Horgan, Betsy
 Kelley, Mike
 Lowe, Caroline
 Neale, Bernie
 Nelson, Steve
 Rayman, Jan
 Rigney, Stuart
 Smetko, Carl
 Swenson, Signe
 Wylie, K.C.

RENEW!!!
 RENEW!!!
 RENEW!!!
 RENEW!!!
 RENEW!!!
 RENEW!!!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Address Changes

Danta, Randy
 1284 Oakridge Dr.
 Glendale, CA 91205
 818-547-3067
 Ferguson, Bill
 1032-H Royal Oaks Dr.
 Monrovia, CA 91016
 818-303-4580
 Hope, Bruce
 590 S. Race
 Denver, CO 80209
 303-777-7049

Olson, Ken
 1406 Via Valente
 Escondido, CA 92029
 619-741-0040

Sanson, Mike
 6994 Wildlife Rd.
 Malibu, CA 90265
 213-457-0851

Schumacher, Eric
 8847 Noble
 Sepulveda, CA 91343
 818-780-5323

Smith, George
 16423 Riggs Place
 Los Angeles, CA 90045
 213-670-7749

Stephens, Joe & Tina
 655 S. Fair Oaks #B210
 Sunnyvale, CA 94086

West, Carolyn
 P.O. Box 17616
 Irvine, CA 92713-7616
 714-786-2099

Chris Yaeger
 2464 El Camino Real #500
 Santa Clara, CA, 95051-3026
 (H) 408-243-3026

New Echo Subscriber

Peterson, Paula
 1845 Euclid Ave
 San Marino, CA, 91108
 (H) 818-441-0651
 (W) 213-614-2340

New Emblem Holder

Webber, Ron Mt. Goddard 8/90

Telephone Changes

Reactivated Members

Campbell, Dave
 Eckelmann, Ron
 Jali, Rick
 McNicholas, Tom
 Mevay, Rene

Bausback, Brendan 818-441-5466
 Dixon, Lance 415-367-6542
 Heubach, Bill 206-927-6973
 Hudson, Ronald 415-872-1858
 Inskoop, Jon 818-790-6959
 Jali, Rick 619-934-8430
 Latter, Bob 213-398-4458
 McNicholas, Tom 415-839-5622
 Meador, Robin 714-970-7696
 Miller, Chls & Mary 714-659-4364
 Orange, John 714-854-9636
 Scott, Janet 818-792-0856
 Slager, Don & Ursula 619-873-3323
 Throgmorton, Jim 213-487-3155
 Bradley, Bill 818-355-8759
 Frolli, Mark 805-963-8761

SPS Supports Mountain Rescue Groups

For several years now the SPS has consistently sent donations to various Sierra-involved mountain rescue groups. (Among our membership as a whole, we lately seem to average about one helicopter ride per year - not per person!) Last December then-Treasurer Mario Gonzalez sent \$100 checks each to the Sierra Madre Search & Rescue Team, the China Lake Mountain Rescue Group, and the Inyo County Sheriff's Posse. We recently received the following acknowledgment from this last group:

Dear Mario,

What a pleasure (and personal surprise) to find your letter, and generous donation. I am the newly elected treasurer of the Inyo County Search & Rescue, and I am an old (sic!) SPS'er - from the early to mid 1960's. As a matter of fact, around the mid 60's, I believe I was treasurer of the SPS also. How is the group doing these days? And what are you doing? Are any of the old timers still around? I see the Echo every once in awhile courtesy of Dick Beach. I used to be editor of it - early 60's. I'd love to get it again!

Do drop me a line and catch me up on news (25 years of it?). I certainly would appreciate it. I am hiking and climbing again after a long hiatus of raising two boys - both in college now. Do say "hello" to folks for me! And I really would appreciate hearing from you.

Sierraly,
Ellen Siegal

[Let's help Mario out: write to Ellen at 675 W. Pine Street, Bishop, CA 93514.]

IN MEMORIAM

GOODBYE TO GEORGE SHINNO

George Shinno, long time member of the Ski Mountaineers, died late October at his home on Micheltorena Street in L.A.'s Silver Lake area.

George took a bad fall at Alta, Utah during a late March ski trip. He hit his head in that Fall and was unconscious. After two days in that state, a craniotomy was performed with no appreciable results. Two days later, a second operation was also unsuccessful. George went deeper into a vegetative state. The months passed, with George in a seeming coma, and his face and body becoming ever more rigid.

In October, son John decided the case was hopeless. George was brought home, where in a few days death mercifully overtook him. Three years earlier, at roughly the same time, George's wife Marjorie passed away from cancer, also at home after George had her brought home from the hospital and its artificial life-support systems.

George came to the Sierra Club through his son, John. As a teenage backpacker and peak-bagger, John prevailed upon "Dad" to join him on hikes. George caught the 'bug' and became an active SPS'er and SMS'er. He served as chair of the SPS, and held every known office in the SMS. He was drafted into the national Mountaineering Committee in the early sixties, where he took over the rescue sub-committee. His famous 'rescue cards' were distributed not only Club-wide, but nation-wide and beyond.

One could write reams about George: the tough years of youth, the internment years in Manzanar and Nebraska, and persecution upon return. Raising a family, taking up skiing, life as a respected architect, ad infin. Mainly what we remember though is a kind, soft-spoken, thoughtful man. A real gentleman, self-effacing yet always ready and willing to serve; always generous of his time to help friends, and the Club. As son John, Barbara Lilley, Wedberg and many of his buddies from past agree, in a sense George died "on the slopes" which is how he wanted it all along.

(RJS, BL,JS, JW et al)

-from the Mugelnoos newsletter, Jan 1991

Contributed by Ron Jones

BOOK REVIEWS

Book Report

"Challenge of the Big Trees"

Al Conrad

For those of us who spend so much time in the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, this Centennial history of these two magnificent parks and the once General Grant National Park provides a well-referenced, insightful and fascinating account of the efforts to establish and maintain them. The authors are Lary M. Dilsaver and William C. Tweed, a geographer and a historian, respectively. It was published in 1990 by the Sequoia Natural History Association, Three Rivers, CA. (\$14.95 paperback)

All aspects of the parks are explored, and in the process the roles of familiar climbers, scientists, activists and politicians. A name not previously familiar to me was Col. John R. White, a long-time park superintendent, who contributed so significantly to these national parks and whose work established precedents in national park administration around the country. One politician who figured prominently in the establishment and enlargement of these parks and Yosemite is William B. Vandever, Congressman from Ventura.

The reader will find much enjoyable reading about a variety of topics. Those I appreciated were: the intriguing political maneuvering that led to establishment of Sequoia N.P., its enlargement, along with Yosemite's, all between 9/25/1890 and 10/1/1890, some of which people in California knew nothing about; the battles to get more roads into the backcountry, some to cross over the Crest; the original plan for the High Sierra Trail to go over the Kaweah Peaks ridge, rather than south of the crest; the basis for the wilderness permit system; the Mineral King fight which cost Rep. Bob Mathias his seat in the House; the on-going efforts to preserve Giant Forest; the efforts and intrigue to develop the South Fork of the Kings River, and how altercations between developers at a time when they had the battle won provided enough time for the preservationists to prevail; the introduction of scientific, ecologically-oriented resource management practices; and the general battle between conservationists and preservationists as exemplified by the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service, respectively.

ECHOES OF OUR CLIMBS

TOWER, VOLUNTEER, PETIT, PIUTE: Petzold & Van D. 8/31-9/4, 1990

We planned on a car shuttle: going in from Buckeye Campground, coming out to Twin Lakes. Got the idea from Dykeman; Tower is 4.4 mi. closer from Buckeye; the other 3 peaks are 5.0 mi closer from Twin Lakes, according to the '87 Hoover Wilderness Map. Our "Keep up or get signed out" trip sheet, and the prospect of 75 mi & 15K', blew away all applicants except Rob Langsdorf, who cheated by going in a day early. Rob did save the day by getting us a permit the day before. The Bridgeport R.S. opened at 8 A.M.; we'd have gone in sans permit; otherwise, there's no way we could have made Tower on day one. We did encounter one ranger, a Forest Ranger, 2 mi. inside the National Park, on horseback, WITH A DOG, who peed on my pack!(The dog did, not the ranger!).

Anyway, car shuttles are difficult with one vehicle, so we went in and out of Buckeye. Day 1 we started at 6 A.M., picked up Langsdorf at Buckeye Junction, humped over Kirkwood Pass & camped at first water on Kirkwood Creek at 9300', then SW XC to TOWER PEAK. Follow the left-most (southerly) drainage to the N. Ridge & ascend the steps to the summit. Easy cl 3; noone should need a rope. Back to camp by last light at 7:30 P.M. & we had a fire, as we did every night on this trip. Toughest day at 13.5 hrs.

Day 2 we hiked to Lake Benson & camped on the beach. Arguably, Lake Benson is the most beautiful lake in the Sierra Nevada! We were there 2 nights & could have stayed much longer. A natural lake, rimmed with rock cliffs except for this incredible sandy beach. Sierra surf city! 10 hr day, camp at 4:30!

Day 3 we bagged VOLUNTEER, staying on trail until 9700', then N to notch & W to summit. Nested red cans; Mtn Records didn't give us SPS cannister. Then Petit. We tried to stay high & ran into a lot of up & down; best angle down to Rodgers Lake & lose the gain. Another 10 hr day & gorgeous sunset on Lake Benson & bathing in the lake!

Labor day we packed up to 8400' on the PCT & did PIUTE. We went for the notch E of the summit & did the E. Face, about 5.2, then came down the usual route, the big gully at UTM 768117, 1 Km SSE of summit. Then over Buckeye Pass to camp at first water: 11 Hr day.

Day 5 saw us out by noon for the 370 mi drive to L.A., w/ Major Pigout at Bishop Sizzler.

A glorious weekend; perfect weather & a beautiful, remote area with two of the best, Dave & Rob - Dale

We started hiking from the McGee Creek trailhead on Friday at noon and reached the excellent camp spot at Big McGee Lake by 1630. We had a fine evening aided by freshly popped pop corn from Bill Gray.

On Sat we started for Red & White at 0715. We went up the trail to the outlet of Little McGee Lake and then SW up the enjoyable rock slab area to the Sierra crest. From here the route goes south along the crest to the small col that is just north of the final 250' pyramid. From this col, the route goes onto the east face and up easy 2nd/3rd class ledges and cracks to the top. We climbed together and made the summit by 1130. The register container is a SPS cyl. can and the book is SPS from 1981 and 1/3 full. We descended to the crest ridge for lunch and then went back to Little McGee Lake and the McGee Pass trail.

Here, for a number of reasons, Ron, Jim, Charlie and Bill G returned to camp and Pat, Lenora and I chugged up Red Slate. The register container is a SPS cyl can and the book is from 1988 and 1/2 full. Many people climb this class 1 peak! We returned to camp by 1830. It was a long day but very satisfying. My estimate was 4400' gain and 8 miles.

On Sun we hiked out and had lunch at Tom's Place. It was a good outing with fine people. The weather was clear and mild but there were strong wind gusts at times that we wished weren't. Participants were:

Ron Goldfarb
Bill Gray
Jim Kilberg
Charlie Knapke

Bill T Russell
Pat Russell
Lenora Wills

KAISER PEAK (10,310)

OCTOBER 7, 1990

Steve Thaw and I climbed this peak which lies roughly in the center of Kaiser Wilderness which is located just north of Huntington Lake out of Fresno. This was such a nice "giveaway" type of peak that I am suggesting it for consideration for SPS list inclusion.

One takes the north shore drive along Huntington Lake for about one mile from Hwy. 168, past the restaurant/market, to Upper Deer Creek Lane and right to either the pack station or the gate, which is closed in the off-season. The pack station parking lot is about 8 minutes walk from the gate. A sign reads "Kaiser Peak 5" and one simply takes the trail to the top (take the left, upper fork at a junction about one mile up). There is about 3,200' gain, with a few dips in the trail. Steve and I took 3 hours up, and two down. A nice view of two lakes is had about the low point of the last saddle before the peak, and three small lakes are seen NW from the summit. Far views include the Clark range and the Sierra crest down to Goddard with Three Sisters to the south. Unfortunately, the Sierra Summit ski area is visible, as well as Huntington Lake.

Adding this peak to the list would generate usage for a relatively ignored wilderness area. The Forest Service has declared a problem with low-use wilderness areas in trying to justify wilderness status. Let's increase the visitor-days and keep the loggers and/or road builders away!

Pete Yamagata

Everyone who has done these two peaks says, "We went in on route A, but don't do it that way; route B or C must be better." We met in the middle of the night, 5:30 A.M. at Wishon Dam, consolidated all 6 of us (leaders plus Vi G., Dolores H., Bob Sumner, & Mike Wolfe) & packs into ON ON, the Tired Toyota, & started up the Spanish Lake 4WD route. After an hour of bone-jarring bumps & improbable squeezes, I woosed out at 8300', facing a field of knee-high pan-smashing boulders (ON ON has no skid plates!), we parked and hiked the last 800' gain to the wilderness boundary near SE corner of Sec 33. Then down the blocked-off road (Not shown on the '86 Rough Spur 7.5 topo, probably at NFS request. Come on dummies; at least show it as a trail!). We hooked into a mapped trail just north of Spanish Lake, packed through Crown Valley & across Crown Creek, 3" deep, not 3', humped up & down & up Blue Canyon to camp at the 8300' level by about 5 P.M. BEST: PACK ALL THE WAY TO 8430', GREAT CAMPSITE AT N. END OF BIG MEADOW!

Day 2 we bagged both peaks as Bob, weakened by root canal trauma, hiked out. Dave led the S Ridge of FINGER, traversing R near the top. Mike & Delores dropped back & we didn't wait; big day ahead. Mike eventually got the peak. Down to 3, after Finger, a fine 3rd Class peak (no rope needed), we headed for the notch at UTM 474960, .5 mi S of 11646 on '83 Mt Goddard 7.5 topo, crossed Alpine Creek basin & slogged up TUNEMAH, an almost-angle-of-repose crudheap with no redeeming virtues (Some, who regard the List as brought down by Moses, will say "But it goes well with Finger". Friends, NOTHING goes well with Finger!). Back over the aforementioned notch into the Blue Canyon drainage as the sun set & we broke out headlamps & compasses. We found the Blue Canyon Trail again at about 9700' & lost it & refound it 50 times as we stumbled back to camp at 11 P.M. after a 17-hour day. Delores, in an act that typifies her selfless thoughtfulness, had filled our pots with water so we could cook without finding the stream! Tunemah has an oriental food cannister on top, probably placed by Hellman/Bihl in bygone years! No SPS cannister from Mtn Records.

Day 3 was a reverse of day one, a 10-hour slog, followed by a traumatic hour of 4WD. Our elapsed time from Crown Valley Camp to the Crown Valley Trailhead, just N of Rancheria Creek, including hike + 4WD time, was 5 hrs. Two years ago, we hiked out directly to this roadhead in under 4 hours! DON'T TAKE THE SPANISH LAKE 4WD TRACK, unless you're doing Spanish Mtn only, have skid-plates, and love a route that makes the Swansea Grade to N.Y Butte look like the I-5. It is about 2 hours longer, round trip total!

We re-plaqued our arteries with Me-n-Ed's Pizza in Sanger, S end of town just W of main drag on side street: not bad. -Dale

Summary: A brutal 2nd day. Better: a tough 4 days or moderate 5 days & get Spanish Mtn, Tehipite Dome as well as Finger & T.; we went right by both, but had done them two years ago, which reminds me that this was the two-year anniversary of the end of Mountaineering Insurance, and THE END OF THE SIERRA CLUB AS A CLIMBING ORGANIZATION. -Dale

The Echo needs YOUR trip write-ups!
Scheduled or private, route description
or wilderness impression -- send it to
the Editor for publication.

Upwardly immobile: Which is the most difficult mountain in the world to climb? No, it's not Mt. Everest or K-2 or any other Himalayan peak. From a strictly bureaucratic standpoint, the most difficult is Mt. Ararat in Turkey.

The reason? Mt. Ararat lies in the center of a Kurdish stronghold dotted with military installations, perched at the spot where the Soviet Union, Iran and Turkey meet. In addition, it's not too far from Iraq. Permission to scale the mountain requires no fewer than 72 official Turkish signatures.

A mountain of paperwork, in fact.

-from The Los Angeles Times, 2-17-91

October is unusual for SPS'rs to participate in a three day trip in Northern Yosemite, but it was the only date we could fit in to an busy Summer hiking schedule. It seems that most of the membership concurred, although a few serious inquiries developed within ten days of the trip. A Friday morning forecast of a Santa Ana condition was not enough to sway these expectant hikers. Trying to judge the real weather conditions from various reports is difficult, especially when the prior two days of weather reports told of snow during the couple of days prior to departure. The weather reports were accurate, but the snow on the ground was only in protected places, and then just a few inches. The Polar Bear and I forged ahead with a late start on a cold but clear morning out of Twin Lakes. Steady hiking, with lunch at Peeler Lake, got us well into the Tower Peak quad for a late afternoon camp near a slow moving Rancheria Creek. "The Spirit has again led me into the Wilderness, in opposition to all counter attractions, and I am once more in the glory of the Yosemite." Early to bed and late to rise, we continued on the trail in a clear Autumn day, past Seavey Pass to what seemed a likely spot to ascend, West, toward an obvious notch, North of an impressive but a false looking summit. There was too much snow beyond the notch, so we curved South a bit, then West up a chute to the ridge line. The Piute summit was a short backtrack, East, over some snow slick boulders. Great day but time was flying so back to the trail and a late arrival at camp with headlamps. When you start late, you get back late, otherwise it was a typical long but reasonable saunter, even for this time of year. "No place is so overwhelmingly attractive as that hospitable Godful wilderness." Coyotes sang during the night as they had the previous night to the stars and mountains - voices rejoicing. We were up and moving before sunrise and had an enjoyable day out, to the cars by 2:30.

All three days were warm. The nights were cold but sleeping bags and inspiring vistas took care of that condition. Quotes are of John Muir and passed to us by Steve Thaw - Jim Murphy.

News

The Highpointers Club (they climb the high points of the 50 states) will be having their annual peak climb and banquet this coming Fourth of July weekend. They will be doing the Nevada high point (Boundary Pk) as a two day backpack, with the banquet to follow in Bishop. They may also "sneak in" a dayhike of Mt Whitney.

The 1990 Everest Environmental Expedition was a tremendous success. The team donated a truck to the Chomolungma Nature Preserve, built eleven stone holding areas for garbage, and hauled a ton and a half of trash down from the slopes of Everest. A follow-up expedition is being planned for the spring of 1992.

Hikers using the Squaw Valley tram to hike to Granite Chief this summer will notice a change. A new outdoor ice skating rink has been built near the upper tram station. Work on a tennis complex, spa, and swimming lagoon will begin soon next to the rink.

PRIVATE TRIP

This trip offered a chance to bag two almost 14,000' peaks in December, one the high point of the 49th state. The group met in Hilo, rented two 4 wheel drive Trooper II's and drove to the Kilauea volcano area. During our four nights on the Big Island we stayed at state cabins (furnished with kitchen) which had been reserved months before. Not plush and a bit run down, but a bargain at \$6 a person per night. We did some sightseeing in the area, but the lava flow into the sea was not spectacular.

We drove back to Hilo, bought provisions and drove up the Saddle Road to the Mauna Kea state cabins. The road is shown on the road maps as 4 wheel drive, but it is two lane and paved. After lunch we drove back a few miles to the Mauna Kea road and up to the observatories. This road is mostly unpaved and steep, but great by DPS standards. The climb to the summit takes about ten minutes, a descent of 200' and then the climb back up. The view was great and with a strong wind, quite cold. Very little snow to be seen, but a few days later after a storm passed through, there was snow play on the summit. Rental cars must be 4 wheel drive for the road.

The next day Vi, Doug, Mac and I climbed Mauna Loa. We drove to the end of the paved Observatory Road (16 miles) and took off on the well marked (signs and ahu's, Hawaii's version of ducks) trail. Thirteen miles round trip and 2,600' of gain. A bit tiring and tough on the feet since some of the lava is unconsolidated. Perfect weather, not too hot. It was very cool on the summit, once again with a stiff wind blowing. We had a clear view of Maui and the high point of the dormant volcano Haleakala. Met only two people down near the road head. There is another trail that leaves near the Kilauea volcano area, 18 miles one way and 6,600' gain. O.K so we took the easy way, but it was in the true SPS tradition. Eight hours round trip and back to the cabins for a big feed. We all left Hilo the next afternoon. Doug was going on to New Zealand to climb Mt Cook. Katie and I had another 10 days on Oahu staying with mother and sister. I climbed a peak in the Waianae range, Puu Kawiwi, 2975'. A good path along a typically sharp ridge. The high point of the island is Puu Kaala, 4040'. The Sierra Club is helping develop a "native" preserve on the summit area. There is a 4 wheel drive road to the summit, but special permission is required to get up there.

Participants: Betty and Duane Mc Ruer, Vi Grasso, Doug Mantle, John Richardson and Jean Periot from S.F., Katie and Bob Hicks.

KUDOS TO SPS TRIP LEADERS

On March 23, several SPS trip leaders were honored guests at the Angeles Chapter's Annual Awards Banquet. All were presented with certificates for their longstanding Outings Service to the Chapter. The SPS was also recognized for its \$25 gift in support of this signal event. The section depends upon and is very appreciative of its many fine outings leaders. Honorees for 1990 were: Bob Hicks, John Robinson, Larry Tidball, and Dale Van Dalsem. The Chester Versteeg Outings Award went to Randy Bernard, and a Special Service Award was garnered by Maris Valkass.

CONSERVATION

Last September, the Forest Service was stopping all vehicles driving into the Frenchman Lake area near Adams Peak. They were distributing information about their upcoming effort to eradicate northern pike from that reservoir. The following are some excerpts from that information. -Editor.

Project Description and Location

The Department of Fish and Game proposes to eradicate northern pike (*Esox lucius*) from Frenchman Reservoir, Plumas County, California. Northern pike are not native to California and their presence is the result of an illegal introduction(s) prior to 1988. Based on more than 50 northern pike specimens collected by the Department in Frenchman Reservoir and age determinations from northern pike scales, a reproducing population appears to be established. Large age classes of young pike in 1989 and 1990 have decimated planted trout. Further pike recruitment expected in 1991 will entirely preclude additional trout plants. The loss of Frenchman Reservoir as a trout fishery will have serious impacts on recreational fishing and local economic interests. If northern pike are allowed to establish reproducing populations in areas downstream from Frenchman Reservoir, such as in the Central Valley rivers and lakes and in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, northern pike would prey upon existing fisheries resources. Already depressed stocks of salmon, steelhead, striped bass and other anadromous, resident and native stocks would be further depressed by increased predation and competition by northern pike. Unthinking anglers could also be expected to move live pike into other waters throughout the State and add to the already serious threat. A northern pike population would complicate management of wild and domestic stocks of trout while the recovery of the Sacramento splittail, a species of Special Concern, would be impeded. Recent listing by the State and Federal governments of the winter-run chinook salmon as an endangered and threatened species, respectively, has also prompted the Department to take any necessary actions to prevent further jeopardy to these stocks.

Frenchman Reservoir is a 55,000 acre-foot impoundment on the Little Last Chance Creek, a tributary to the upper Middle Fork Feather River near Portola. Initial plans call for a 2 parts per million (ppm) treatment with Nusyn-Noxfish, a registered piscicide, to a reservoir volume of about 25,000 acre-feet or less. Application of the piscicide will take place over a two-day period, commencing after April 1, 1991 and will eradicate all fish in the lake. The reservoir will remain toxic for less than three weeks.

Mitigative efforts will include implementation of an increased fingerling and catchable trout program. Every effort will be made to mitigate, offset or prevent potential short-term impacts. The Department anticipates no long-term impacts from the project. Efforts will be made to preclude adverse impacts on the bald eagles of the area.

(continued) →

Q. What method will be used to eradicate the pike?

A. A commercially available product containing the natural substance rotenone will be applied throughout the lake at a concentration of one gallon of product per acre-foot of lake water. Outboard-powered boats will be used to apply the product over the entire surface of the lake. At least two days will be required to fully dispense the chemical.

Q. Will the water be safe to contact or drink?

A. We will warn against contact with the water until tests have shown the chemical has completely dissipated from the lake, which is expected to take one to two weeks following completion of application. However, the treated water does not pose a threat to humans or air-breathing animals in the concentration that will be realized following application. The warnings are intended to discourage use of the water because of unpleasant odors, large numbers of dead fish that will appear throughout the lake, and unexpected sensitivity of some people to the chemical or any byproducts of the treatment. The water will be safe for animals to drink. Signs will be prominently displayed all around the lake and downstream from the lake to warn against contact with the water throughout the period any amount of chemical is still present.

Q. Will the water in Little Last Chance Creek (below the dam) be affected?

A. No. We will neutralize the water coming out from the lake with a salt (potassium permanganate) so the fish in the creek can survive. This product is safe and is commonly used in water treatment plants. However, it will turn the water temporarily purple in color for a mile or so below the dam.

Q. How does the chemical affect the fish?

A. It interferes with their ability to utilize the oxygen in the water.

Q. What will be done with the dead fish?

A. They will be allowed to naturally decompose in the lake, except if they create a nuisance around areas frequented by humans, in which case we plan to remove the fish to an out-of-area disposal site. We want them to decompose in the lake to provide forage for local animals and the local bald eagles in particular.

Q. Why not leave the pike alone?

A. They are highly voracious feeders with a penchant for trout-like fish and baby waterfowl. The few pike present in the lake have reproduced and chances are high that the young fish will make their way downstream spilling during spring. Pike in Lake Oroville or the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta could be disastrous to the fisheries of those areas, including a couple of depleted fish species. Also, pike in Frenchman Reservoir results in reduced trout survival and decreased angler success rates. The local fishery will improve once the pike have been eliminated, following a brief period of inconvenience.

Q. How did the pike get into the lake?

A. Somebody brought them in from another area; they do not occur elsewhere in California. What they did was illegal according to State law.

Q. What is being done to discourage illegal stocking of fish?

A. We have increased fish and wildlife law enforcement efforts in the Frenchman Reservoir area. The penalty for illegal fish stocking is a fine of up to \$5,000 and imprisonment for up to one year. We are also educating the public through news releases, presentations and leaflets such as this one (even though it is after the fact).

1991 SPS ECHO-SUBSCRIPTION AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

MEMBERS: To continue your *Echo* subscription and to renew your membership for 1991, you need to fill out the top half of this form. Your renewal for the current year is confirmed by the "91" digits appearing on your mailing label. RENEWAL DEADLINE IS MARCH 31st.

NAME _____ PHONE _____
 ADDRESS _____ DATE _____
 CITY _____ ZIP _____ S.C.# _____

- I am renewing my SPS membership as an 'active' member. My Section activity this past year was: _____
 (e.g., climb, supply refreshments). Only 'active' members may vote in the Section elections held in October.
- I am renewing my SPS membership as an "inactive" member.
- Other SPS members residing at the above address are listed below. (Fill in this section only if all of you wish to receive just one *Echo*; otherwise, fill out separate application for each *Echo* subscription desired.)
- Mark this box for address or phone change or correction.

NAME _____ NAME _____
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Mail this page and a check for \$8.00 for the *Echo* subscription to Section Treasurer: Larry Tidball
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NAME _____ PHONE _____
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 CITY _____ ZIP _____ S.C.# _____

- I hereby apply for membership in the SPS. The six peaks that qualify me for membership and the dates climbed are listed below. At least two of the peaks climbed were with the SPS. My Sierra Club membership number is listed above.

Peak Name	Date Climbed	With SPS?	If yes, Leader Name
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____

- I wish only to subscribe to the *Echo*; I am not an SPS member.
- After March 31st or lapse in membership, I wish to be reinstated as an active member. My last year as an SPS member was _____. I have done the following activities to qualify me for reinstatement:

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 Make check payable to Sierra Peaks Section. 2866 Via Dolce
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