

# The Sierra



# ECHO

VOLUME 37

1993

JULY-AUG

NUMBER 4



## SPS TRIPS: 1993

### JULY

17-18	I: Blackhawk	Larry Tidball, Barbee Hoffmann
23-25	I: Split, Prater, Tinemaha	Jim Adler, Jim Fleming
24-25	M: Morgan (south)	Darrell Lee, Ed Lubin
24-25	I: Pinchot, Wynne	Barbara Cohen, Randy Danta
24-25	M: Corcoran	Bill Oliver, Larry Tidball
24-25	I: Cloudripper	Suzanne Mamedalin, Igor Mamedalin

30-Aug 1	I: Merriam, Royce, Julius Caesar	Dave Petzold, Carolyn West
30-Aug 1	M: Gemini, Seven Gables	Larry Tidball, Barbee Hoffmann
30-Aug 2	M: Cirque, Muah, Cartago, Trail	Rick Jali, Fred Camphausen
31-Aug 1	I: Sawtooth, Needham	Dave Dykeman, Nancy Gordon

### AUGUST

8-8	M: Russell, Tunabura, Carillon	Sigrid Hutto, R.J. Secor
7-8	I: Langley, Cirque	Dave Petzold, Dave Dykeman
7-8	I: Red Slate, Red & White	Barbara Cohen, Jim Ralford, Barbee Hoffmann

8-15	M: Iron, Foerster, Electra	Fred Camphausen, Rick Jali
14-15	M: Center, Bradley	Larry Tidball, Bill Oliver
19-22	M: Arrow, Ruskin, Pyramid, Goodale	Igor Mamedalin, Suzanne Mamedalin
20-22	M: Junction, Tyndall, Keith, Bradley	Dave Dykeman, Barbara Cohen, Dave Petzold
20-23	M: Deernorn, East Vidette, West Vidette, Center, etc	Al Conrad, Bob Wyka

28-29 I: Sawtooth, Needham

### SEPT

3-6	M: Highland, Silver, Pk 10,820	Gordon MacLeod, Roy Magnuson
4-6	M: Split, Prater, Tinemaha	Dave Dykeman, Dave Petzold
4-6	M: Brewer, North Guard, South Guard	Greg Roach, Barbee Hoffmann
4-6	M: Tower Peak	Gene Mauk, Mary MacMannes
4-6	M: Wynne, Pinchot, Ruskin	Larry Tidball, Bob Wyka
10-14	O: Trail Maintenance Party	Fred Camphausen, R.J. Secor, Chuck Stein

11-12	I: Koip, Gibbs	Ron Young, George Toby
11-12	M: University, Independence	Dave Dykeman, Dave Petzold
11-12	M: Sawtooth, Spanish Needle	Bill T. Russell, Pat Russell
18-19	I: Vandever, Florence	David Underwood, Al Conrad
18-19	I: Baldwin, Bloody	Jim Adler, Paul Cooley
18-19	I: Pickering, Joe Devel	Barbee Hoffmann, Larry Tidball
18-19	M: Middle Palisade	Barbara Cohen, Nancy Gordon
18-19	M: Cloudripper	Dave Dykeman, Roy Magnuson
25	I: Lone Pine Peak List Finisher	Dale Van Dalsem, Dave Petzold
25-26	I: Smith, Lamont	Jerry & Nancy Keating
25-26	I: Spanish Mountain, Three Sisters	Patty Kiene, Ron Young
30-Oct 4	M: Conness, North, Excelsior, Dunderberg	Rick Jali, Fred Camphausen

### OCT

2-3	I: Baxter, Diamond	Ron Jones, Maris Valkass
9-10	M: Clouds Rest, ??	Bob Hartunian, Mary MacMannes
9-11	I: Gilbert, Johnson	Dave Petzold, Carolyn West
15-18	I: Sonora Pass Peaks	Rick Jali, Fred Camphausen
16-17	M: Mt. Muir	Ali Aminian, Henry Arnebold
18-17	M: Corcoran	Dave Dykeman, Nancy Gordon
30-31	I: Dicks Peak, Tallac, Pyramid	Larry Tidball, Barbee Hoffmann

## SPS MONTHLY PROGRAMS

### AUGUST 11

"Sierra Environmental Concerns" Joe Fontaine a Sierra biodiversity expert will speak on current environmental concerns in the Sierra. Of particular interest will be Joe's current work on the Public Involvement Team planning Sierra wilderness management guidelines.

### SEPTEMBER 8

"Select High Points of Europe" Burton Falk will show slides from his climbs in Europe.

### OCTOBER 13

"Identification Contest" Test your Sierra knowledge. An identification contest using slides from SPS summer 1993 climbs, Sierra places and peaks will be held. Prizes and Fun!

### NOVEMBER 10

"Aconcagua" Dave Dykeman will show slides from his climb on the highest peak in South America.

### DECEMBER 8

**Banquet Speaker: Kitty Calhoun Grissom.** The annual SPS banquet will be held at the community hall at the Greek Orthodox church in Long Beach. This is a beautiful facility and the cater is a great Long Beach Italian restaurant, Buon Gustos. Our speaker is a world renown mountaineer. Kitty will show slides and present a program entitled "The Spirit of Alpinism". Tickets \$25.00. Send check made payable to SPS and SASE to Barbee Hoffmann.

### JANUARY 12

"Antarctica" Doug Mantle will show slides and talk about his 1993 trip to climb Vinson.

Monthly meetings are held at the L.A. Dept. of Water and Power Bldg. at 111 N. Hope St. in the L.A. Civic Center. Auditorium on Level A (1 floor below the main lobby). 7:30 P.M. Newcomers Welcome!

## PEAK INDEX

Mt. Bernard	Four Gables
Mt. Givens	Grouse Mtn.
Kaiser Pk.	Lookout Mtn.
Kebnekaise (Sweden)	Mt. McAdie
Olancha Pk.	Pyramid Pk.
Tioga Pk.	Trojan Peak
	Mt. Williamson

## COVER PHOTO

Mt Darwin.

*by Tom Ross*

## Echos from the Chair: July / August 1993

George Toby brought up the safety when crossing a stream or river at the last SPS meeting. More than anything else in mountaineering, stream crossings are the thing that really get my attention. I have had a few hair raising experiences; from crossing a swollen Bubbs Creek on a wet & slippery 10" diameter log on the approach to Mt. Brewer (only to be told by campers on the far side that someone fell off and drowned the day before), to the approach to Aconcagua; crossing the raging white waters of the Relincho three-in-line holding ourselves together with a pole and helping to hold each other up as the boulders rolled underfoot, and each bracing ourselves with a pole to the stream bottom.

With the end of the drought and the Sierra snowmelt in full swing, it is a good time to remind ourselves of the safety precautions to take when crossing a swollen stream or river without the convenience of a bridge.

When there is no bridge, or the bridge is washed out, scout around for the best crossing point. This may be some distance from where the trail normally crosses the river or stream. In a heavily wooded area, it is often possible to find a large fallen tree or a log jamb that can safely be used for a crossing. The same storms that washed out a bridge may have undermined the roots of a large tree, felling it across the river.

When the runoff from snow melt is a factor in the volume of a stream, the water level will be lowest early in the morning. If you reach a swollen stream in the late afternoon, sometimes the best course is to camp and cross the next morning, when a next to impossible wade changes to a relatively easy boulder hop. Hiking up stream and crossing smaller tributaries will may reduce the size of a major stream to a more manageable size.

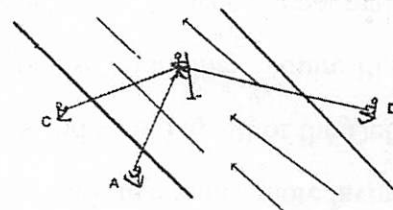
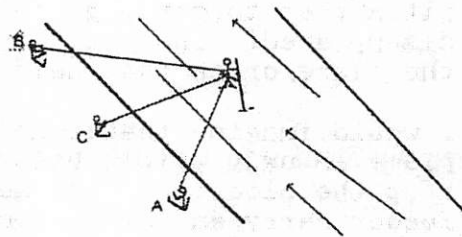
When boulder hopping or wading across a stream; a pole, branch or a ski pole braced to the stream bottom gives three points of stability. Just as in rock climbing, move only one point at a time for security. I will often carry a collapsible ski pole for just this purpose. Loosen your pack straps when crossing so that if you go down, you can get out of your pack to avoid having it hold you down.

If you need to wade across, select the best spot. The widest portion of a stream will be the shallowest and have the slowest water flow. If the bottom is rocky and may make keeping you footing difficult, remove your socks to keep them dry, but keep your boots on to protect your feet. Once across, you can pour the water out of your boots and put on dry socks. In deep but not swift water, crossing facing upstream and leaning into the current on a pole braced to the bottom is also recommended. Water that is more than knee deep and swiftly flowing is dangerous, as it can boil up to your waist and sweep you off your feet.

Sierra Club leaders may carry a rope to use for safety in crossing streams. Avoid using a single belay for a stream crossing, as the belay rope can hold a fallen hiker in the current with no way to get to shore. The following description of a belayed stream crossing on a trip to Devils Crag was reported by Ron Jones in the May 1985 Echo.

We carried three ropes and set up our belayed stream crossing as shown:

Belayer A is upstream from the backpacker so that if the hiker loses footing he will pendulum downstream into the bank. Belayer B is there to help him to shore. The hiker has loosened his backpack from his waist so that he can slip out easily if he falls so that he will not be held under or caught on a branch by his pack. Belayer C has a rope tied to the pack so that it can be retrieved if it was shed by the hiker. Once the first hiker is across, belayer D is established upstream to hold the hiker if he was to slip past the half way point in the stream and pendulum to the far bank.



Larry

## SUSTAINING ECHO SUBSCRIPTIONS

Get your Echo first class mail before the others get it in a few weeks via bulk mail. You can do this by becoming a Sustaining Member at \$25 a year, instead of the regular \$12 subscription price. The \$13 contribution is put to much needed use by our section.

As of the writing of this article on July 17, a total of 55 of our members or subscribers have paid their 1993 Echo Subscriptions at the sustaining level. In the March/April issue of the Echo a list of 42 Sustainers was published. Here are the additions to our Sustaining List since March 16. Congratulations to all 55 of you who have helped our section financially by adding the \$13 contribution.

Mark Frolli  
Gus Ordonez  
Sylvia Sur  
Bob Henderson  
R.J. Secor  
David Campbell  
Bob Wyka (oops-omitted on  
March list)

Robert Latter  
Reiner Stenzel  
Virgil Talbott  
Herbert Buehler  
Vicky Hoover  
Mike Kelley

Compiled by

*Patty Kline*

Sierra Peaks Section Treasurer

Dear Editor,

During a CMC climb of Mt. Clarence King over 4th of July weekend, Mario Gonzalez, George Faustle, Murray Zichlinsky, Eddie Nuñez and I were surprised to find that the fixed piton that formerly graced the top of the summit block had disappeared! In fact, not only is the piton gone, but so is the flake/crack that held the pin.

I would imagine that some sport climbing freak will someday place an ugly triple bolt anchor system (linked with chain) atop the block. In the meantime, it is suggested that the leader carry an extra rope to the top, and lower this rope to the base to be anchored. This would serve as the belayer's anchor, and by tying a descending ring to the end of this rope, it could also serve as a rappel anchor for the belayer.

Sierraly,

*R.J. Secor*  
R.J. Secor

Minutes from SPS meeting May 12, 1993

Present: Larry, Barbee, Dave, Bob W., Patty, Dan Richter, Bill O., Bill T, Patty, Mary Sue, Chuck Stein, Barbara

Larry started the meeting at 6:45pm. Minutes read and approved. Larry proposed a new waiver and sign-in sheet which he will increase to legal size and add rules of conduct. The waiver will be printed on both sides to accommodate groups of more than 10.

Barbee is negotiating with Galen Rowell, a possible banquet speaker. If he will reduce his fee, we might be able to keep the ticket price under \$30. The date will be Dec. 8, 1993. The management committee voted to pursue a cost of more than the current \$24. There is also a possibility of reserving tables ahead of time to avoid the mad rush at banquet time.

Patty reports that we have \$4972.32 in checking and \$2003.13 in savings. The park superintendant will accept our \$425 for a bear box and will tell us where they decided to place it.

Barbara will call Kathy Price regarding reprinting the second 7 years of Echos.

Dave reports that Lori Ives has been rearranging words in our trip writeups for the schedule. Chuck Stein will speak to her about this.

Dan Richter is the new council rep.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm followed by general meeting.

Vi announced that peaks needing registers/cannisters will appear in the Echo.

Mary Sue gave a conservation report on the cowbird's exponential growth.

Bill O. reported that water craft insurance has been reinstated the hopes are up for mountaineering insurance.

Slide show on Mt. Hood presented by Pat Christie and Nancy Jensen.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Cohen, Secretary

Mario Gonzalez gratefully acknowledges R. J. Secor's fine leadership and outstanding mountaineering skills manifested on North Palisade (5/30/93) and Mt. Clarence King (7/4/93)

### Minutes from SPS Management Committee Meeting June 9, 1993

Present: Larry Tidball, Barbee Hoffmann, Patty Kline, Dan Richter, Bob Wyka, Wayne Norman, Delores Holladay, and Karen Leonard.

Larry started the meeting at 6:45 pm. May 12, 1993 meeting minutes read and approved. Patty noted that we have \$4492.72 in checking and \$2008.24 in savings.

Counsel news was reported by Dan Richter. Dan attended the May 24, 1993 Council meeting. The following items were noted for interest to the SPS members:

Bill Oliver to send CAL PAW petitions to all trip leaders.

Zion National Park is off limits to Sierra Club events. The Sierra Club is considered an outfitter.

Southern Sierran is requesting that leaders submit trip write ups and photos.

The council voted that trail maintenance money would only be distributed to Sierra Club groups.

A banquet update was presented by Barbee. Barbee presented a map showing demographically the locations of SPS members and locations of banquets for the last 10 years. Barbee then proposed 5 locations for the 1993 banquet. 8 SPS members present at the committee meeting voted for the Grace E. Simmons Lodge at Elisian Park. Barbee is to try to arrange for an Italian restaurant to cater the event. Three security guards will be present the night of the banquet. Galen Rowell had to cancel speaking for 1993 as he will now be in Antarctica. Rowell did agree to lower his speaking fee to \$2000.00 from \$3000.00 for the SPS and has agreed to speak Dec. 14, 1994. Management committee to look at his contract for 1994 in July. Rick Ridgeway was suggested for 1993. Barbee stated she had a few other ideas and would call each management committee member later this month with speaker choices.

### Minutes from SPS General Meeting June 9, 1993

Larry Tidball started the meeting at 7:50 pm. Three visitors were introduced. Patty Kline read the treasure's report, Barbee the secretary's report and Dan gave the Council report (see notes above for details). Barbee announced that the Banquet would be the Elisian Park and that we were trying to plan an Italian dinner. Banquet speaker to be announced.

Dennis W. Martin Forest Supervisor. Inyo National Forest presented the SPS Section on June 5, 1993 a Certificate of Appreciation. The certificate was "In recognition of your commitment to maintaining the Shepherd Pass Trail during the past five years." In Dennis Martin's letter Dennis noted, "The Forest has received many compliments on the trail's condition from backpackers and animal packers alike. Your work has not gone unnoticed." Campy requested that the membership be informed of the award and reminds us all that members are welcome to participate in the SPS Shepherd Pass Trail maintenance event and peak climb September 10-14, 1993. The award will be displayed at the banquet.

George Toby presented information on stream crossings. George noted that with streams higher than they have been in years that SPS trips should be prepared. The pendulum method using a rope was described. Larry to reference in the next Echo an old Echo article that shows the pendulum method. Trip leaders were reminded that where a rope can not be used for climbing it can be used for stream crossings and emergencies. Other stream crossing tools such as a stick, ski pole or collapsible ski pole were discussed.

Dave Dykeman had to cancel his presentation on Aconcagua. This program will be rescheduled.

Nana Kiser with the Mono Lake Committee gave a presentation on the affect the DWP was having on Mono Lake. The presentation was accompanied by many beautiful slides of Mono Lake. SPS members were encouraged to help the Mono Lake Committee with its battles against the DWP.

## Resounding *ECHOES*

[Bill Oliver]

### The Most Important Thing

[The following item first appeared in the May-June 1984 *ECHO*. It was penned by **Nancy Gordon** as the Chairman's Corner article.]

During a navigation noodle I participated in last April, one of the M-level navigation candidates asked me what I thought was the most important thing for a mountaineer to possess. Perhaps he meant equipment, and I should have answered by naming a particular kind of compass, backpack, or tent, but that didn't occur to me until I reflected on this later. Instead, words like confidence, stamina, experience, resolution, adventuresomeness, and mettle flashed through my mind. As I turned to answer, I surprised even myself by answering "a sense of humor."

Obviously, it was not the answer he expected because his face betrayed his disappointment in such an answer (and perhaps my credibility as a mountaineer disappeared with it as well). Not without some awkwardness did he immediately change the subject to the profundities of converging gullies, benches, and ridge crests.

Later I checked my climbing books and confirmed what I already knew: none of them mentions a sense of humor as being important to mountaineering. Clearly, this is an oversight on their part.

I doubt whether there is one thing that is "most important" for a mountaineer to possess; but, if you were asked that question, what would you answer?

[Well, at least we can all agree that clearly the next most important thing is a sense of seriousness!]

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### Nathan C. Clark

1906 - 1993

Nathan Clark passed away in April following an extended illness. Nate's name should be familiar to readers of the Sierra Club High Trip mountaineering articles in the *ECHO*. His first High Trip was in 1929. Earning his B.S.E.E. at U.C. Berkeley, he relocated to Los Angeles in 1930 to teach at the recently founded USC Engineering School. Much of his later professional career was with the LA DWP.

In 1932, in company with fellow young LA stalwarts Glen Dawson and Dick Jones, Nate joined the Bestor Robinson and Norman Clyde party on their harrowing ascent of El Picacho del Diablo by the Pinnacle Ridge Route. I last visited Nate this past March in his Montecito Hills home. Although he was not in condition to communicate well, I readily elicited a sparkle in his eyes when I brought up this long-ago adventure.

Nate served on the Sierra Club Board of Directors, 1955-68, and held its Presidency from '59 to '61. His older brother, Lewis, who passed away two years ago, was also a former Club President and a prominent Sierra mountaineer. Just last year Nate lost his spouse of 48 years, Joan Dyar Clark, a younger sister of Ruth Dyar Mendenhall. He leaves a daughter, two sons, grandkids and his near-life-long friend Jonnie Serna.

Some of Nate's greatest enduring legacies can be found and appreciated in our own backyard. He was a tireless, leading proponent in the eventual establishment of both the San Geronio and San Jacinto Wildernesses. Although not totally successful in opposing the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, his efforts, nevertheless, resulted in a much-reduced project. We are all grateful heirs to his fierce devotion to our wild lands.  
Bill Oliver

[Nate Clark appears in a photo from the '89 SPS Banquet in the Mar-Apr '92 *ECHO*.]



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Inyo  
National  
Forest

873 N. Main St.  
Bishop, CA 93514  
(619) 873-2400

Reply to: 1830

Date: June 5, 1993

"Campy" Camphausen  
Adopt-A-Trail Group Leader  
Sierra Club Peaks Section,  
2765 Sierra Vista Way  
Bishop, CA, 93514

To All Members of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Peaks Section,

In 1988, your group "adopted" the eleven mile Shepherd Pass Trail, one of the Inyo National Forest's most rugged and strenuous Sierra Crest crossings. Starting with that first season, it has become quite clear that yours is a dedicated group of climbers, backpackers, wilderness-lovers, and trailworkers.

I'd like to use the celebration of Trails Day to remember and acknowledge your great contribution to this forest's trail and Wilderness resource. Trails Day commemorates the signing of the National Trail Systems Act twenty-five years ago. This act emphasized a national commitment to providing quality trails for all Americans. This was a great step, but the real muscle behind reaching this goal is seen in your group's many hard and fruitful days, working on "your" trail.

In the past five years, the Angeles Chapter SPS has contributed 2,264 hours of trailwork and Wilderness improvement in the Shepherd Pass area. During these many hours, you've removed brush and rocks from the trail annually, constructed much-needed creek crossings at four locations, constructed a public corral at the trailhead, reconstructed the steep switchbacks on the pass headwall, restored campsites and removed campfire rings in the heavily-used camp areas, and even built retaining walls to support and protect a sensitive plant species growing near the trail. The trail and resources in this area show great improvement thanks to your efforts.

The Forest has received many compliments on the trail's condition from backpackers and animal packers alike. Your work has not gone unnoticed.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to this part of the National Trails System.

DENNIS W. MARTIN  
Forest Supervisor







United States  
Department of Agriculture

# Certificate of Appreciation

Awarded to

## Sierra Peaks Section Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club

In recognition of your commitment to maintaining the Shepherd Pass Trail during the past five years. Your efforts on the trail, and in restoring the delicate Wilderness resource along this historic route exemplify the true spirit of the National Trail Systems Act, signed 25 years ago today.

Date June 5, 1993

DENNIS W. MARTIN, Forest Supervisor

### BANQUET NEWS:

WOW! Barbee did a great a job in finding a speaker for this years banquet; Kitty Calhoun Grissom! For those of you who might not have heard of Kitty, check out the 1991 American Alpine Journal article she wrote on her climb of Makalu, or the May/June 1993 issue (# 55) of Rock & Ice magazine, which features a profile of her. I'm really looking forward to her presentation. Tickets are \$25.00 and can be obtained by sending a check and a SASE to Barbee Hoffmann (address in the membership report).

### A QUOTE:

*"I am not the first to compare climbing to chess. Both require patience, strategy and creative vision for the unlocking of moves. Yet I have never met a chess player who thinks intense challenge lies in the acquisition of different and new chess boards."*

- Stetson

From the Editor: **Background Noise**

So much to say and so little time (lucky you). Work is keeping me too busy. I arrived home from a business trip Friday and have to leave again on Monday, leaving just one day to do the Echo (and of course one day to spend in the mountains). If you submitted an article to the Echo and you don't see it, don't fret, you probably will see it next issue.

**Kudos for the SPS.** The U.S. Forest Service awarded a Certificate of Appreciation to the SPS for its commitment to maintaining the Shepherd Pass Trail. (See accompanying letter and award.) Also the SPS contributed a food storage box to Sequoia National Park. With any luck I should be able to use it this summer. More on Bear Boxes in this issue.

Just another reminder to send in those **Trip Reports**. If you lead a trip this year and have not submitted a report please do so now while the details are still fresh in your mind.

The Leadership Training Committee would like to encourage our members to become Sierra Club Leaders. The next Leadership Training Seminar is Saturday, October 9 at the Griffith Park Ranger Station. Club members who have been on at least five Sierra Club outings can enroll by sending a SASE to Alice Bannister Danta, LTC Registrar, 4488 Sunnycrest Dr. L.A. CA 90065-4827. Completed applications must be returned to the Registrar no later than September 30, 1993

R. J. Secor submitted an interesting article on Water Purification and a side article on what happened to a company who manufactures water filters plus how a retailer found itself caught in the middle.

Listed below are two trips that didn't make the schedule. Both trips are provisional leads.

Editor's Soapbox: "Only in California". This is a classic example of how California makes it difficult for companies to do business here. You need one EPA registration for the rest of the U. S. and an additional one just for California! Guess who pays for this superfluous bureaucratic red tape? Good guess. No wonder businesses are leaving the state! It is also this very same mentality which drives up insurance rates and keeps us from being able to find affordable climbing insurance! Oh well, just call me a "Ditto Head".

**SPS Intro. Trip (Rescheduled): Sept 18-19 (Sat-Sun)**

I: Vandever Mtn. (11947), Florence Pk. (12432): Provisional Lead: Moderate paced climb of two scenic peaks in Mineral King. Sat 10 mi., 4150' gain climb Vandever. Sun 5 mi. 2500' gain climb Florence, return to cars 8 mi. This is a good intro. trip for those interested in the SPS, also meets WTC requirements. Send SASE H&W phones to leader: Dave Underwood 26111-D Framton Ave., Harbor City 90710: Asst. Al Conrad.

**SPS Trip October 16-17 (Sat-Sun)**

M: Mt. Muir. Moderate trip to climb this 3rd class peak near Whitney. Saturday 5 miles on trail 2900' gain to our camp. Sunday rise early to climb Mt. Muir 3.5 miles 2300' gain, back to camp & hike out. Send SASE, conditioning and carpool info to leader, Ali Aminian, 815 San Simeon Dr., Newbury Park, CA 91320 (805) 499-0926 (H), (805) 372-8186 (W)

## Bear Boxes and where to find them in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

These are the published locations of the bear-proof backcountry food storage boxes located in these national parks as of 12-28-92.

### **Woods Creek and Rae Lakes Area:** Kings Canyon Trailhead, or Via Kearsarge Pass & Glenn Pass for; Arrow, Marion, Clarence King, Diamond, etc.

LOWER PARADISE VALLEY: one box below the trail in lower Paradise; one box above the trail in lower Paradise.

MIDDLE PARADISE VALLEY: one box above the trail in middle Paradise.

UPPER PARADISE VALLEY: one box below South Fork crossing.

WOODS CREEK CROSSING/ JMT: two boxes south side of the foot bridge.

ARROWHEAD LAKE: one box on the east shore, next to the trail.

LOWER RAE LAKE: one box on the east shore, west of the trail.

MIDDLE RAE LAKE: two boxes, together, on the east shore, west of the "Bear Box 100 yards" sign.

### **Copper Creek:** Kings Canyon Trailhead for Goat, State.

LOWER TENT MEADOW: one box below creek crossing Lower Tent Meadow.

### **Bubbs Creek:** Kings Canyon Trailhead or via Kearsarge Pass for; Brewer, N. & S. Guard, Jordan, E. & W. Vidette, Deerhorn, Center, Bradley, etc.

SPHINX CREEK: one box above the Bubbs Creek trail east of the crossing, one box across the creek on Avalanche Pass Trail.

CHARLOTTE CREEK: one box below the trail east of the crossing.

JUNCTION MEADOW (LOWER): one box next to the trail below Junction Meadow.

JUNCTION MEADOW (EAST CREEK): one box on the west side of the East Creek Trail just south of the log crossing of Bubbs Creek.

VIDETTE MEADOW: the box at Lower Vidette is located approximately 0.1 mile west of the JMT junction on the south side of the Bubbs Creek Trail, the box at East Vidette is located approximately 0.2 miles on the JMT above the Bubbs Creek/ JMT trail junction, on the south side of the trail.

9,900' ELEVATION/ JMT: one box on the south side of the JMT, visible from the trail, located approximately .2 miles below the "No fires Above Here" sign.

JMT/ CENTER BASIN TRAIL: one box below the trail in a camp area on Bubbs Creek approximately 300 yards east of the JMT/ Center Basin junction.

EAST LAKE: one box at the upper end of the lake, and one box at the lower end of the lake.

### **Charlotte & Kearsarge Lakes:**

Kearsarge Pass access for; Gardiner, Rixford, Bago, etc.

CHARLOTTE LAKE: one box on the south side of the trail, approximately 2/3 of the way down the north lakeshore.

KEARSARGE LAKES: one box on Kearsarge Lakes lateral trail at south end of upper small lakes, one box on north shore of largest upper lake, one box on north shore of lowest small lake in basin.

### **Tyndall/ Crabtree:** Upper

Kern River Area for; Kern Point, western approach to

Barnard, Young, Hale, Hitchcock, Chamberlin, etc.

JMT/TYNDALL CREEK CROSSING: one box west of the trail and about 350 north of the creek.

TYNDALL FROGPONDS: one box about 1/2 mile south of Tyndall Creek Crossing on the east side of the trail.

JMT/WALLACE CREEK CROSSING: one box west of the trail and about 100 feet south of the trail.

PCT/LOWER CRABTREE MEADOW: one box about 75 yards south of the Whitney Creek Crossing on the west side of the trail.

CRABTREE MEADOW: one box about 100 yards southeast of the JMT and about 100 yards south of the Crabtree Ranger Station.

### **Rock Creek:** Army Pass/ Cottonwood Pass Trailheads for Joe Devel, Pickering, etc.

LOWER ROCK CREEK CROSSING/ PCT: one box on the south side of the crossing.

LOWER ROCK CREEK LAKE: one box north of the Rock Creek trail near the west end of the lake.

LOWER SOLDIER LAKE: one box on the rocky peninsula on the south side of the lake.

### **Kern Canyon:**

LOWER FUNSTON MEADOW: one box 200 yards east of the Kern Canyon Trail, at a campsite in the forest between the northeast corner of the meadow and the Kern River.

UPPER FUNSTON MEADOW: one box southeast of the hitchrail at the northeast corner of the meadow, near the river. One box near a campsite 60 yards farther south. There is a pit toilet in the forest north of the meadow.

KERN HOT SPRINGS: one box is located between the trail and the river, 80 yards north of the Hot Springs bulletin board. One box is located 50 yards east of the trail, in an open stand of Jeffrey Pine.

The pit toilet is behind a clump of manzanita northeast of this box.

JUNCTION MEADOW (KERN): one box next to the High Sierra Trail, near the southeast corner of Junction Meadow. It is 230 yards north of the Wallace Creek stream crossing, and 200 yards south of the junction with the Colby Pass Trail.

### **Little Five Lakes/Cliff Creek:** Mineral King access to Kaweah Region via Black Rock or Hands & Knees Pass.

CLIFF CREEK: one box on east side of the creek at the Timber Gap/Cliff Creek trail junction.

PINTO LAKE: one box on the north side of the trail at Pinto Lake.

BIG FIVE LAKES: About 50 south of the Black Rock Pass, Big Arroyo, Big Five Lakes trail junction.

COLUMBINE LAKE: one box on the north side of the trail 200 feet east of the lakes outlet to Cyclamen Lake.

BIG ARROYO PATROL CABIN: On the East side of Big Arroyo Creek approximately 100 feet southeast of the Kaweah Gap, Little Five Lakes, and Big Arroyo Creek trail junction.

MORAINE LAKE: one box adjacent to the trail along the east shore of the lake.

**Mineral King:** Mineral King Trailheads for ; Sawtooth, Florence, Vandever.

**LOWER MONARCH LAKE:** one box about 100 yards northeast of the lake outlet near some rock bluffs about 250 yards west of the lake; one box east of the trail and 50 yards northeast of the outhouse behind a large boulder.

**FRANKLIN LAKE:** one box below and east of the dam and about 100 feet west of the trail; one box 1/4 to 1/3 mile east of the dam and SW of the trail at the pit toilet sign; one box .4 miles east of the dam and 200 feet above the lakeshore.

**Hockett Meadow:** No SPS peaks in this area.

**HOCKETT MEADOW:** one box at the stock camp in the trees 1/4 mile SE of the Ranger Station. Storage cable 100 yards north of the backpacker camp immediately west of the ranger station.

**SOUTH FORK MEADOW (AKA ROCK CAMP):** one box at the main stock camp on the west side of the river near a large rock and hitch rails.

**HIDDEN CAMP:** one box on the north side of the river and 1/5 mile south and west of the end of Sand Meadow.

**UPPER CAMP:** one box at each camp (2) between trail and the meadow about 1/4 mile north of Hunter Creek

**HORSE CREEK:** food storage cable at the main camp on the north side of the creek and east of the trail.

**Lodgepole Backcountry:** Lodgepole & Mineral King Trailheads for; Silliman, Triple Divide, Stewart, etc.

**MEHRTEN CREEK:** one box 40 west of the trail on the west side of the creek.

**NILE MILE CROSSING:** one box by the trail on west side of creek.

**BUCK CREEK CROSSING/ HIGH SIERRA TRAIL:** one box at camp on west side of Buck Creek.

**BEARPAW MEADOW:** four boxes in main camp area.

**UPPER HAMILTON LAKE:** two boxes in open rocky area on the west side of the lake. one box 200 yards west of the lake on the south side of the outlet stream.

**EMERALD LAKE:** two boxes between the trail and the lakeshore.

**PEAR LAKE:** two boxes north of the lake.

**CLOVER CREEK SOUTH CROSSING/TLT:** one box north side of first Clover Creek crossing.

**JO PASS TRAIL/TLT JUNCTION:** on box at JO Pass trail junction.

**TWIN LAKES:** two boxes at Twin Lakes.

**Sugarloaf Valley/Roaring River:** Kings Canyon

Trailheads for approach to; Glacier Ridge, west side of Great Western Divide Peaks

**RANGER LAKE:** one box on the east side of lake (mid-lake) and 75 yards from shoreline. One box at north end of the lake, 80 yards from the shore.

**SEVILLE LAKE:** one box at main camp area north side of lake; one box on west side of lake.

**LOST LAKE:** one box at main camp area north side of lake.

**SUGARLOAF MEADOW:** one box at south end of meadow near hitch rack.

**ROARING RIVER RANGER STATION:** one box at west side of bridge; one box 100 yards north of Lackey Cabin; one box 200 yards south side of cabin on west side of river.

**COMMANCHE MEADOW:** one box right off trail next to large camp towards lower east end of meadow.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Kings Canyon National Park

Sequoia National Park



Dear Ms. Kline:

Thank you for your contribution for a food storage box for Sequoia National Park. Your contribution is very timely as we will be replacing a small box at the Big Arroyo Crossing with the larger one you have allowed us to purchase. The larger box will allow enough room for everyone to store their food during peak use periods. This will remove the opportunity for bears to obtain human food and promote their natural foraging habits.

Sincerely,

J. Thomas Ritter  
Superintendent

Two internationally recognized medical experts give us the low-down.

**Dr. Paul Auerbach** is Chief of Emergency Medicine at Stanford University, co-editor of the definitive textbook Management of Wilderness and Environmental Emergencies, author of Medicine for the Outdoors, and past president and founder of the Wilderness Medical Society;

**Dr. Howard Backer** of the Department of International Health with Kaiser Permanente Hospital, is the author of the chapter on field water disinfection in Management of Wilderness and Environmental Emergencies, and the current president of the Wilderness Medical Society.

**Q: Is there a difference between water purification and disinfection?**

**A:** According to Dr. Auerbach, yes. Water purification only means the physical removing of impurities that affect the color, offensive odor, and taste of water. Disinfection involves the removal or destruction of harmful microorganisms that cause infectious diarrhea—most commonly achieved through halogens (chemicals) but also through heat and filtration.

**Q: What is Giardia?**

**A:** *Giardia* is a flagellate protozoan that has a two-stage life-cycle. It is transmitted in cyst form through fecal contamination, with water being the major vehicle of infection. Cysts can retain viability in cold water for as long as three months. Once inside the body, it becomes a mobile trophozoite which causes low-grade nausea, loose stools, flatulence and cramping. Drugs most commonly used in treatment are Flagyl and Quinacrine.

**Q: How easy is it to get Giardia?**

**A:** Dr. Auerbach ruefully remembers a Grand Canyon raft trip where he got *Giardia* by simply ignoring his own advice and sipping the few drops of water that remained on top of a cold beer just pulled from the drag bag that had been floating directly in river water behind their raft. All it takes is a few cysts for infection to occur. Dr. Auerbach further stresses that even with the use of a top-grade water disinfection system, it is possible to become infected simply by not following basic hygienic procedures—washing your hands in purified water, ensuring all water used in food preparation is pure, etc.

**Q: Is Giardia the only "little nasty" that we should be concerned with in the backcountry?**

**A:** While Dr. Backer agrees that *Giardia* has received the most notoriety, the accounts of viruses and other bacterial contamination occurring in remote areas is on the rise. As long as humans continue to visit areas and not practice proper hygienic disposal of fecal matter near water sources, the spread of microorganisms that cause infectious diarrhea will increase and spread. At this point, Dr. Backer adds, basic filtration is probably safe enough within high Alpine areas of the U.S., however, those who venture into more populated and traveled areas, such as people who canoe on Midwestern rivers, must absolutely treat for bacteria, viruses and pesticides—this mandates a filter with activated carbon and the additional second-stage use of either a halogen or the presence of an iodine resin in the filter itself. Further, if *Cryptosporidium* turns out to be a significant pathogen, the simple halogen use is not adequate—*Cryptosporidium* is resistant to chemicals. The only effective way to remove *Cryptosporidium* is through filtration.

**Q: What are the most effective types of filters, without showing brand preference?**

**A:** Dr. Backer believes that those filters offering a two-stage system involving halogen (such as iodine resin) and physical filtration, which includes activated carbon for adsorbing pesticides and chemicals, offer the best protection. As for tests and claims that iodine resin systems kill all pathogens outright, Dr. Backer stresses that comparative data and equivalency data comparing resin with solution iodine is inadequate and recommends that all users of filters with resin allow water to sit for 10 to 15 minutes before drinking. This will allow the iodine that is in solution to effect a complete kill of remaining pathogens. As far as types of filter construction, you will find either membrane or depth.

Membrane filters have very uniform pores which means that each pore size must be smaller than the minimum size of microorganism it is intended to filter out. The advantages of membrane filters are that they are easy to clean and replace. The disadvantage is that they have to be easy to clean because they clog quickly. Depth filters are made of ceramic, carbon block or other substance and utilize a labyrinth maze of channels to

trap organisms. They have much more capacity for sediment, but sediment trapped deep inside cannot be removed (even though you can clean the outer surface) and eventually clogs the filter. One other important note is that silver oxide in filters has been clearly shown not to prevent bacteria growth. Running a chlorine solution through the filter before storage to cleanse it is a better practice.

**Q: What about other forms of water disinfection?**

**A:** Both Dr. Backer and Dr. Auerbach like the Sierra Water Purifier because of its ability to super chlorinate the water, but caution that the 30-percent solution of hydrogen peroxide, used to remove the taste and odor of chlorine from treated water, must be administered carefully as it is extremely corrosive and will burn skin. Both crystal and tablet forms of iodine are very effective in disinfection and easy to use. Dr. Backer cautions that iodide, an odorless and tasteless version of iodine and available in drug stores for skin disinfection, has no value in water disinfection and should not be substituted for iodine. It is also important to note that the common use of chlorine bleach to disinfect water is also not effective.

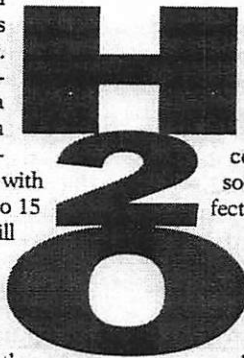
**Q: Are there any ways to remove the taste of iodine from the water without a carbon cartridge?**

**A:** Adding Vitamin C (ascorbic acid found in many flavored beverage mixes) or a few crystals of sodium thiosulfate, available in

most drug stores, converts iodine to a flavorless and odorless chemical known as iodide. Dr. Auerbach cautions that flavorings should never be added until well after the recommended contact time. Add flavorings too soon and you neutralize the disinfecting process and you may end up with contaminated water. Dr. Auerbach suggests a minimum of 30 minutes and up to overnight as recommended contact time before flavoring is added to halogen treated water.

**Q: What does an EPA registration really mean?**

**A:** According to Dr. Backer, an EPA registration currently only means: that for filters without chemicals, the product has been officially registered. There is no endorsement of performance claims. For filters with chemicals, it means that the amount of chemical that comes out in the water is not harmful. Again, no endorsement of performance claims.



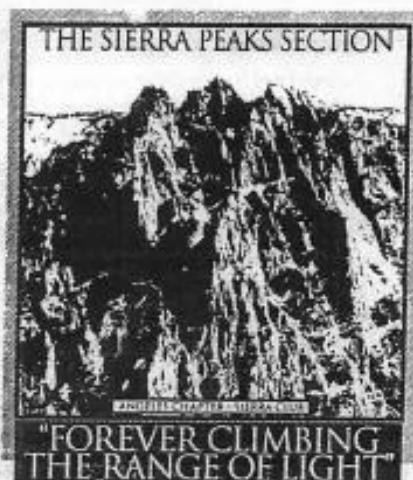
### SPS T-SHIRTS

It is not too late to get your SPS T-Shirts. Wynne Benti-Zdon did a great job on the design. The T-Shirts show a great view of North Palisade on the front and the entire SPS list by geographic area on the back.

They are priced a \$12.00 in 3 colors: ash (sweat-shirt grey), fuchsia and yellow. There are 3 sizes: medium, large and extra large.

Buy them at the SPS meeting. You can also mail order them through me specifying color and size and enclosing a check (payable to the Sierra Peaks Section) for \$14.00 (\$2.00 to cover shipping).

Patty Kline  
20362 Callon Drive  
Topanga Canyon, CA 90290



### 1993 SIERRA PEAKS SECTION MEMBERSHIP REPORT

<b>SUST Key: S denotes SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP</b>							
<b>ACCOM Key:</b>		* denotes EMBLEM STATUS achieved					
		** denotes SENIOR EMBLEM STATUS achieved					
		& denotes MASTER EMBLEM STATUS achieved					
		&& denotes LIST FINISHER STATUS achieved					
		2X, 3X. etc., denotes a multiple accomplishment					
<b>OIEM is Leader Rating (if any)</b>							
<b>AIEG is ACTIVE, INACTIVE, ECHO SUBSCRIBER, or GRATIS SUBSCRIPTION</b>							

# Earliest Sierra Register Entry by a SPSer?

Bill Oliver

While photographing (through 1980) the Mt. Stanford (S) register atop the summit last summer, I noted the 1933 entry by a certain D. M. Popper. Aha! Our very own **Dan Popper**. Recall, he referred to this summer adventure, which occurred following his freshman year at U.C. Berkeley, in the Jan-Feb '90 *ECHO*. Actually, the current register and Sierra Club box were placed in 1940 by Norman Clyde when he retrieved the original book, which was placed on the first ascent in 1896 by Bolton Coit Brown. As was then customary, the contents of the entire original book were copied into the new book. The register is now only about half full and is in very good condition.

While visiting The Bancroft Library on the Berkeley campus last April, I was thrilled at the opportunity to carefully handle the original Bolton Brown register, and I ordered a copy of its eight-page contents. Professor Brown wrote that he and his wife, Lucy (thus Lucy's Foot Pass), had just that morning climbed and named Mt. Ericsson and that they "named this peak in honor of The Leland Stanford Junior University," where he taught drawing and painting.

The Popper party made the eleventh ascent. They were preceded, among others, by Norman Clyde, solo in both 1920 and 1927, and three Cal Tech undergrads, including Nelson Nies, in 1931. Dan first entered the Sierra in 1931. A Berkeley resident, he majored in astronomy at UCB, earning his PhD in 1938. He joined the Sierra Club two years later under the sponsorship of Will Colby and W. H. Wright, the latter of which had climbed the Black Kaweah in 1922 with Norman Clyde. Dan labored on the Manhattan Project during the War. In 1947 he joined the Astronomy Dept. at UCLA, where he has been an Emeritus Professor since 1978.

While on some HPS-type hikes in the mid-50's, Dan heard about "outlaw" trips into the Sierra. He joined the SPS in 1958 and has been "outlawing" ever since. Although not a prolific climber, he continues to explore wilderness areas, including recent trips to the Northwest Territories and to Alaska.

It occurs to me that Dan may hold the record for the earliest Sierra register entry by a future regular member of the SPS. Dan, however, feels sure this is not the case - proposing, for example, Sam Fink. Senior and/or knowledgeable SPSers are asked to write me with claims of potential earliest Sierra ascents.

To be continued.

July 15, 1933

D. M. Popper, Berkeley U.C. '34  
Al Nixon " U.C.  
Edmund Thelen, Jr. " CAC, UC '34

Crossed in 45 min.

In midst of electrical storm.

Continual discharge from our hair,  
sometimes visible (brush discharge).  
Extra heavy discharges rather painful.

5/30/34

Dave Brower (S.C.) Berkeley  
Hervey Vogt (S.C.) Campbell

Climbed from Harrison's Pass.

Hand level showed this point  
to be about 20' higher than  
that 200 yds S.

From the Mt. Stanford Register.  
Courtesy of The Bancroft Library,  
Univ. of California, Berkeley  
(smaller than actual size.)

July 15 1933

D. M. Popper, Berkeley U.C.

Al Nixon " U.C.

Edmund Thelen, Jr. " CAC, UC '34

Crossed in 45 min.

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5/30/34

Dave Brower (S.C.) Berkeley

Hervey Vogt (S.C.) Campbell

Climbed from Harrison's Pass.

Hand level showed this point  
to be about 20' higher than  
that ~~at~~ 200 yds S.

Entered from  
reference at  
other library  
mission. Plc

May 16, 1993

Dear Bill,

It's a real thrill to have a copy of the original Mt. Stanford register. Many thanks for taking the trouble.

A few comments on the pertinent page.

The "CAC" after Ed Thelen's signature is for the California Alpine Club, the basis for Ed's previous experiences in the Sierra and the subject of comments in recent issues of the *ECHO*.

Al Nixon was a graduate student in chemistry at Berkeley. In the '70's or early '80's he was elected president of the American Chemical Society as a maverick pledging to give more influence to industrial chemical workers relative to the academic establishment.

I wonder how close we came to real trouble in that electrical storm on Stanford, feeling jolts connected with surrounding lightning strikes, and with discharges from our hair. The tragedy of Cricket Strong, killed in the Bugaboos, was a few years off. That incident led to a real appreciation of the potential danger of electrical storms in the mountains and to appropriate behavior under the circumstances.

The ascent after ours, by Dave Brower and Hervey Voge, took place during their long knapsack trip, recounted in the S.C.B. as "Far from the Maddening Mules," which I have referred to as the first reference to serious backpacking in the Bulletin. A close reading of that piece shows that Brower and a companion had a seven-week backpack the previous year, the same year as our six-weeker, though our paths never crossed.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Dan Popper

June 10, 1993

Dear Bill,

For the record.

In the comments about lightning in my letter of May 16, I was writing from what I thought I had been told about the accident in the Bugaboos (1948). It turns out that two climbers, Rolf Pundt and Bob Becker were killed, but Cricket Strong, though badly burned, survives.

The account is in S.C.B. 34, p. 68, 1949. The discussion of lightning in the mountains is in the same issue. After re-reading, I feel more fortunate than ever that there were no traumatic consequences of our Mt. Stanford experience.

Sincerely,

Dan Popper

[Read that Anne "Cricket" Strong. Caught high on an exposed ridge on Bugaboo Spire during a severe thunderstorm, four climbers took refuge in small cave. This is now known to be unsafe. Does anyone want to lay claim as the earliest future SPSer with a hair-raising Sierra ascent? (Jules Eichorn on Thunderbolt, 1931, excepted.) ]

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### Angeles Chapter Council Meeting, Monday May 24, 1993

The following issues were discussed they may be of interest to the section:

1. Zion National Park is off limits to scheduled Sierra Club outing as the Sierra Club is considered by the park as an "outfitter".
2. There is a need to spice up the Southern Sierran and articles and write up of hikes would be appreciated.
3. The insurance is not dead. Recent coverage of river rafting trips are encouraging.
4. The Angeles Chapter has promised 50,000 signatures for CALPAQW '94. Bill Oliver will be providing trip leaders with petitions.

Dan Richter



## ECHOES FROM OUR CLIMBS

PYRAMID PEAK (11,700+'), TIOGA PEAK (11,513') JUNE 24-25, 1993  
KAISER PEAK (10,320'), MT. GIVENS (10,648') JULY 2-3, 1993

With the absence of SPS trips early this season, I took the opportunity to explore these non-listed, lesser Central Sierra peaks. On none of these ascents were ice axes, crampons, or any other climbing equipment necessary, making these "allowable" ascents for conditioning or just plain enjoyment, although there were occasional patches of snow.

Owen Maloy and I started from Coldwater campground at the end of the Lake Mary Road, and began on the signed "Mammoth Consolidated Mine" trail to head for Heart Lake. We left the trail shortly to head for a saddle on the NW ridge leading to the summit. Deer trails led us up nicely, but the ridge was tediously slow due to talus, and scrubby trees. The peak is the first highpoint reached, not Pk. 11,728' which entails a deep, Cl.3-4? notch to traverse. Pyramid has a register placed 9-13-87 by the "Mammoth Lakes Group, Sierra Club," obviously before the Range of Light group was formed. It is also the highpoint of the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

The next day, I soloed Tioga, having to park by the Saddleback Lakes Road gate being locked. I walked on the road for about a mile and took the Gardisky Lake trail, which is marked by a "trail" sign, and its own parking. The maps are wrong, as the trail begins on the south side of the creek, and crosses the creek after about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile. Once the trail levels off at the lake basin, one merely heads up the WNW ridge, following a scree trail mostly on the left side of the ridge. One register book dates back to 9-12-64, and I placed a book and cans. My round trip time was under 4 hours.

About a week later, Rose Certini and I were hiking up the Kaiser Peak trail above Huntington Lake, when Rose began to feel queasy. I dashed up the last mile and placed a new can and book; my prior 10-90 placement consisted of my rusted can and lid with no book.

The next day, we drove to Kaiser Pass, and walked up to the White Bark vista point (road was gated) and enjoyed the nice views. We continued SE, following a jeep road, and past the bumps 10,061' and 10,170' on the south (right) side, using a use trail where the jeep road drops to the right at one point. At the summit of Givens was a survey scope with the names of peaks visible (Clark Range to the Great Western Divide) inscribed in a metal ring corresponding to the respective alignment of the scope. Also, a solar powered generator coupled with an "outhouse for the vertically deprived" was located on the top. I left a film can register and we hiked back to the car.

Pete Yamagata

Mario Gonzalez would be grateful for leadership to ascend the following peaks: Mt. Starr King, Mt. Darwin, Thunderbolt Peak, Mt. Gardiner, Norman Clyde Peak, Palisade Crest, Devil's Crags, Thunder Mtn., Glacier Ridge, The Hermit, Cathedral Peak.

(213) 614-2344

SIERRA CLUB, ANGELES CHAPTER  
SIERRA PEAK SECTION  
OLANCHA PEAK BACKPACK  
MAY 15-16, 1993 (SAT. & SUN)

A group of 6 happy hikers met at the end of the Sage Flat Road Saturday morning at 6:30 AM. By 7 AM we were hiking. The trail up to Olancha pass starts behind the old government building at the end of the road.

This is a pleasant trail which takes you from high desert at 5800 ft to the Kern Plateau at Olancha Pass. The elevation gain is 3450 ft. Take the horse trail not the cow trail where there is a choice.

The day was cloudy which gave us welcome shade on the hike in. About a mile past Olancha Pass at the north eastern end of Summit Meadows is a packers camp with stove, tables, and a corral. A small stream also runs through the camp. We rested here and enjoyed the pine trees and the meadow.

The packers camp marks the Bear Trap Meadow cutoff. This trail is not shown on the USGS maps but it is a good trail. This is the shortest way to Olancha peak. The Bear Trap Meadow cutoff joins the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) about 1.5 miles from the Packers camp. We decided to continue on the main trail to the PCT intersection just passed Summit Meadows. This route is a bit longer but it gave us a good view of Monache Meadows and the Kern Plateau. We stopped about noon and had lunch near a rushing stream.

That night we camped near where the Bear Trap cutoff meets the PCT. There was still plenty of snow in the trees here at 10,000 ft. However, we found a good camping spot on dry ground with a large rock which served as a big table for our Happy Hour. Thanks to everyone for helping me celebrate my Birthday and especially Ingrid for the Birthday Card which was presented to me on the peak Sunday.

Sunday we continued on the PCT until it was completely covered by snow. Then we made a bee line for the saddle south of the peak and up the south ridge to the peak. This is a class 2 route. There was snow in the trees which made for good boot skiing on the way back. Once above the timber line there was no snow.

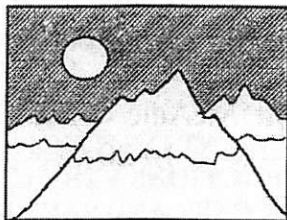
Olancha peak rewards the climber with a great view. To the north lies the Sierras covered with snow. In the foreground one sees the meadows of the Kern Plateau and off in the distance to the south one can see the Crags of Domeland Wilderness. Today our view to the east was blocked by clouds and dark thunder clouds were rolling in from the northwest.

We got back to camp about noon and packed our gear as a gentle rain began to fall. As we hiked out by way of the Bear Trap cutoff the rain turned to hail and we sang "Hail to the Chief" on the way back down the mountain. Two members of our party Pam and Mirna were hiking a little distance behind the rest of the group when we got back to Olancha Pass they excitedly informed us that a big brown bear had run right across the trail about 20 feet in front of Pam. After that Pam walked a little faster and kept up with the hikers in front of her.

The members of the group were Greg Roach, Mirna Roach, John Squires, Mike Gruntman, Ingrid Knoblich, Asher Waxman, and Pam Allen.

Thanks to everyone for a great trip!

*Greg*



## MT. WILLIAMSON, TROJAN & BERNARD *via* GEORGE CREEK

(CMC Scheduled Trip)

May 7-10, 1993

*Leaders: Dan Richter, Barbara Cohen*

Barbara Cohen, myself, Erik Siering, Tom Randel, Jim Fujimoto, Robby Heath, and Keith Martin met at 6:30 a.m. Friday morning at the trail head. Thus began the mother of all bushwhacks. This year's wet weather had spawned a bumper crop of brush and brambles in the fire damaged lower canyons. The heavy winter snows combined with the current hot weather had filled George Creek with an excess of melt water and the mandated stream crossing were only achieved with much slipping and wading. After a long scramble we began to encounter patches of snow at 7,500 feet. By staying on the south facing side of the canyon above 8,800 feet we were able to reach our camp at 4:00 p.m. without switching to snow boots. We chose a lovely stand of trees at 9,900 feet with good access to all three peaks.

Saturday morning was clear and beautiful. Robby had already climbed Williamson twice so he slept in. Jim and Keith had crampon problems which in Jim's case proved unfixable, so he had to stay in camp. With the equipment sorted out we were off by 7:00 a.m. moving quickly on crisp snow up the canyon to a spot at 11,200 feet where we began the climb toward the top of the south east ridge and the bowl east of the summit. As we passed just to the east of the large horn below the ridge the snow gave out and we scrambled over rock and scree to a level spot on the ridge. We switched backed up the snow on the slope above the bowl east of the summit and were regaled with the superb vista of the snow covered central Sierra from the windy corniced summit at 2:00 p.m.. Hooting and hollering we scrambled and *glissaded* back to camp where we arrived at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday morning we set out for Trojan and Barnard at 6:15 a.m. with a well rested Robby out in front with Tom and Erik. The morning snow provided good climbing and we were soon on the large *couloir* leading up to the bowl between Trojan and Barnard. We stayed on snow to the top of Trojan and were all on the summit by 12:45 p.m. Serious SC and UCLA rivalry broke out when Keith pulled out a SC banner and a pennant which he tied to his ice ax for a photo opportunity. A UCLA graduate, who shall remain nameless, left a foil wrapped latex sex aid in the register. We *glissaded* back to the bowl, where we left our packs and snow boots. From there we climbed the talus and scree of Barnard's north east slope, which was completely bare of snow, and reached the summit by 3:30 p.m. The return to camp provided some of the best *glissades* of the trip. We had a 1,200 foot unbroken slide down the big *couloir*. Two more slides had us back in camp by 6:00 p.m.

Monday morning we left for the cars after breakfast and all had lunch in Lone Pine before returning to the Los Angeles area.

*Dan* 19

Mt. McAdie - Private Trip  
10-20-91

This end-of-season trip started quite nicely. First, we had a leisurely dinner in Mohave and then a pleasant surprise at Whitney Portal: the parking lot was deserted. We selected a spot a stone's throw away from the Whitney Trail and went to sleep.

By 5:00 AM Saturday morning, Paula Peterson and myself were meandering up the switchbacks of the Whitney Trail. It was eerie: no throngs of would-be Whitney summiters, no headlamps bobbing in the distance, no voices wafting through the darkness. Just silence and coldness, sheer and unrelenting. The early morning light revealed desolation at Outpost Camp. Not a single tent was present nor even a chipmunk. We heard nothing but our own breathing and footsteps. We snacked and pushed on farther into the abandoned wilderness, with only the towering spires above for company.

Halfway between Mirror Lake and Consultation Lake, we left the trail and headed southwest in order to skirt the east side of Consultation Lake. Arc Pass now beckoned us, and soon the steep loose slopes were behind. At the pass we found a long-missed friend: sunshine. Our route to this point had been in shadow, and even now in the sun the thermometer barely nudged 35 degrees. Paula basked while I clicked off a few pictures, souvenirs of this late October climb.

Next, we picked our way up the rocky slopes towards the middle summit of McAdie. Just before reaching it, we turned north and bypassed its final rocky crags. We then descended the exposed class 3 ledges into the notch between the middle and north summits. We found ducks here, which guided us around to the west side of McAdie and then east quickly to the 13,799' summit.

We had hungered for this Mountaineer's Peak, and now it was ours. Little did we know that the peak was hungry too . . . and we were the only guppies on it. I laid my camera on an apparently flat rock and dug into my pack for some food. Suddenly the camera was sliding, then clanging noisily down into the summit boulders. Certain it could be recovered, I spelunked down into those same large blocks. But it was hopeless, for the camera was 20 feet lower than I could get, hopelessly out-of-reach, and sitting on a block of ice. There it shall probably remain for a very long time. The peak had nibbled.

Disappointed but hungry, we made short work of lunch and retraced our route down to the notch. Just minutes before reaching the notch, the peak bit. As I walked across a ledge, there was a scream above and behind me. I whirled just in time to see Paula land on her back on a small ledge. I leapt to grab her before she fell further, but fortunately she didn't. Minutes later, the event was clear.

She was about to downclimb a short 3rd class pitch when her prime handhold broke. Her weight plunged her backward for a ten foot flight, but fortunately her pack took the brunt of the impact when she landed. She walked away with only bruises, scratches, and a sore neck. It was a lesson well-learned: test holds before committing your weight.

We continued the descent albeit more slowly and cautiously. But the peak still wanted one more nibble: an errant outcrop soon snagged Paula's trousers and tore open the hindquarters. I was ordered forthwith to stay in front the rest of the way down. And so I did.

We returned to the car with the slightest amount of twilight left. Another ten minutes and the flashlights would have been out. And so we left Whitney Portal with another "experience to remember", and a new season ahead to look forward to.

Bob Sumner

## FOUR GABLES, LOOKOUT & GROUSE MNTS.

Ursula Slager

June 1993

As of the middle of June there is still lots of snow in the higher elevations. For future similar snow years or early spring outings, some of the hikes we have been taking might be of interest to others. E.G.

### Grouse Mountain (8060 +) & Buttermilks

This is a nice peak on the south side of the Buttermilk region, which can be climbed by many routes from easy to technical. It is usually a good climb from the time when the Buttermilk road is snow-free until it gets too hot. There is a wide variety of rock climbs and scrambling in the immediate vicinity. (I like the "wall of 21 cracks" - see Bartlett & Allen's The Sierra, East Side. These cracks are readily top roped and range from low 4. to 5.10.) There is decent informal camping and seasonal wildflower displays, and the view from Grouse Mountain over the Humphreys basin is nice.

### Lookout Mountain (11,200) & Coyote Ridge

This is a fine view peak in the Coyote ridge region which we like to climb from Bishop Creek Lodge on the South Lake road. The old mining road, obvious on the east side of the valley, makes for easy hiking (or skiing) to near the 11,000 foot elevation, from which the mountain is a short cross country walk east to a great view of the Sierras. Good views actually start after less than an hour of hiking. It is also a great ski trip in a good snow year, such as this.

Even finer views can be obtained by taking the Baker Lakes trail from Glacier Lodge (out of Big Pine) up to the divide south of Coyote Flats. From here, views of the peaks at the heads of both the North and South forks of Big Pine creek are exceptional. Numerous small peaks to the west could easily be added. The road to Glacier Lodge is usually kept open, and the hiking has been fine since early May.

### Four Gables (12,700) & Desolation Rgn.

The Piute Pass trail has been easily passable since early June with a little snow climbing. We back packed in to what proved to be on June 15 the last nice, dry camps spot above Loch Laven Lake. From here over the pass to the final few hundred feet of Four Gables was completely snow covered, and all the lakes frozen. The arctic appearance of the Desolation region and the views of Glacier Divide and Humphreys Peak were striking. The route up the south side of Four Gables is rather dull, but the view from the summit down the cliffs to the Gable Lakes is awesome.

Burton A. Falk

Kebnekaise (6,973'), Sweden's highest peak, is located ninety miles north of the Arctic Circle in the massive chain of mountains, running southwest to northeast, which forms the backbone of Scandinavia. It is the second most northerly national high point in the world, Finland's modest 4,355' Haltia, 125 miles to the northeast, being the northernmost. Forty miles to the east of Kebnekaise lies Kiruna, a city noteworthy for its huge open pit iron ore mines. Daily rail and air service is available from Stockholm to Kiruna, thereby eliminating a tiring 785 mile two-day drive. During the summer, buses run on a regular schedule from Kiruna to Nikkaluokta, the trailhead for the Kebnekaise Fjallstation. For the impatient climber, helicopters fly daily between Nikkaluokta and the Kebnekaise Fjallstation (hut), twelve miles to the west; the price is steep, however (\$60 U.S.).

It had rained most of the night prior to our hike to the Fjallstation. When Charlie Winger and Rayne Motheral arose at 6 a.m. to begin their breakfastless trek to the hut--in order to secure accommodations on a first come, first served basis--it looked as if the downpour might begin again at any moment. That being the case--and because our big Dodge van was so warm and comfortable--my daughter, Kim, Mary Motheral and I pulled our sleeping bags over our heads and dozed off again. An hour and a half later, we awakened to find the sun streaming across the parking lot at the Nikkaluokta trail head. The storm had passed and the first day of August 1992 was clear and brisk. It would be a splendid day to walk to the hut.

We had breakfast at the lodge at Nikkaluokta and started our hike about 8:30 a.m. Because so much rain had fallen the previous night, the broad trail leading west through a birch forest was a maze of puddles, causing us on numerous occasions to jump or detour into the forest to keep our boots dry. Ladtjovagge, the glacial valley up which we were walking, was broad--perhaps two and a half miles wide at the trail head, and the grade was gentle. Three miles out we came to Laddjujarvi, a lake on which, during the summer months, a boat ride is available, cutting about four miles off the hike--cost \$20 U.S. Cheapskates that we were, we opted to walk the full distance, stopping only once in a delightful green bracken for a lunch of apples, cheese and bread.

Kim and I pulled into the Fjallstation about 2:00 p.m.--Mary having outdistanced us--and we were surprised to find that the "hut" was a complex of five dormitories, a reception/office/cafe/teria, and a sports shop/bath house/sauna. The place was huge, sleeping 150. Even though we'd already lunched, the aroma wafting from the cafeteria was tempting, and soon we were in the pleasant blonde wood dining room, enjoying a bowl of shrimp bisque and an English ale. Later that afternoon, after stowing our gear in the four-man dormitory rooms, we made good use of the bath house and sauna. That evening, following a fixed menu meal (\$28 U.S.), we attended a slide show, which described (in Swedish) the splendors of back-country winter skiing in the area.

The following morning, as the four of us--Kim, not being a true (i.e., obsessive) peak bagger, opted to take it easy that day--prepared to leave on the non-guided western route on Kebnekaise, we found twenty-five or so Swedes gathering for a guided attempt on the eastern route--a route, which, although more direct, involves a crossing of the Bjorlings Glacier. We began hiking west at 8:30 a.m., continuing up the main valley, Ladtjovagge, under a moody, Ingamar Bergman-like sky. About a mile and a half from the Fjallstation the guided party, which had been at our heels, turned north up an ancillary valley, leaving us to continue alone another mile to next side valley. As we began working our way up the steep glen, the Kebnekaise massif loomed directly in front of us. A line of cliffs, however, prevented a frontal assault, so we turned left (west) to climb over a snow-covered peak, Vierranvarri, before dropping down 500 ft into another small valley, at which point stood at the base of Kebnekaise.

As we started up the massif's southern slopes, heading for the Toppstugan hut 900' above, the wind began to pick up and the cloud cover began to lower, eventually concealing the top of our mountain. When we reached the shelter about 1:00 p.m., we paused only to drink and, as some returning climbers assured us the summit was only 30 minutes away, shed our packs. Leaving our packs was not a good idea, however, as the higher we climbed and the more exposed we became, the fiercer the wind blew.



Kebnekaise

Charlie Winger, out in front in the swirling, wind-driven snow, decided to turn back to the hut for additional clothing. I was about to do likewise, when, during a brief pause between gusts, the summit ridge became visible, and it seemed too close to make the return worthwhile. Thanks to my topo map, I knew that, though Kebnekaise's summit ridge has several false peaks, the true high point was on the near, southern end.

Mary, Rayne and I climbed the final steep slope, plowing through deep snow, arriving at the heavily corniced, picture postcard perfect summit at 1:45 p.m. Looking down on the Bjorling Glacier, site of the guided route, it was apparent that one had crossed it that day. The guided party had had to turn back--too much new snow covering the crevasses. As a matter of fact, the glacier route wasn't climbable for at least four consecutive days just prior to and during our stay. The western route, although longer and involving more gain, is the most reliable option, especially if one has only limited time in the area. As we turned to begin our descent toward the Toppstugan, Charlie, accompanied by a lone Swede, came chugging up the final slope.

We consolidated forces at the shelter, ate our lunches, then dropped back down in the small valley, only to have to re-climb Vierranvarri. From there, thanks to a nice long glissade, the return hike was easy. We reached the Fjallstation about 5:30 p.m., where we enjoyed another relaxing hot shower and sauna before dinner.

The following morning, we left the Fjallstation just after 9 a.m., each hiking at his own speed. Rayne, the fastest, reached Nikkaluokta in 3-1/2 hrs., while Kim and I took 4 hrs and 20 minutes for the 19 km hike.

**The Sierra Club Mountain Registers & Records Collection**  
**The Bancroft Library, U.C. Berkeley**  
Bill Oliver

My last article on this topic appeared in the Jan-Feb '92 *ECHO*. I have since visited The Bancroft twice more - July of last summer and this past April. Fantastic news: The Collection is now stored **on-site** in The Bancroft Library. It is no longer necessary to call two days ahead to access the materials. [However, one should still call to be sure the Library is open. It is closed, for example, during semester breaks: (510) 642-6481. Regular hours are Mon - Fri, 9 am-5 pm; Sat, 1-5 pm. The catalog number is 71/293c.]

The possibility of an inter-campus loan of the Collection from the Berkeley campus to UCLA is no longer realistic. A few years ago when I first accessed the SCMRRC, it appeared to be stored in only a few cartons. Recently benefiting from a special Federal grant, the materials are now much more comfortably spread among 19 cartons - and thus far less transportable. A new 25-page Index of the Collection was created last year. It identifies the carton holding each register and the time period covered. The grant also made possible extensive, special conservation treatment of many fragile items. It's very interesting to peruse the Records sections, as they include a fair amount of correspondence between earlier SPSers and the Sierra Club Library relating to the retrieval of historic registers. (The Club deposited its extensive archives with The Bancroft in 1972.)

On my last visit, I was particularly interested in the folder labeled: Cerro de la Encantada (aka El Picacho del Diablo). It was found to contain original material from only a single ascent - the 1932 climb by Norman Clyde, Bestor Robinson, Glen Dawson, Nate Clark and Dick Jones. Wow! The folded fragments were in quite poor condition and not entirely legible. At my request, The Bancroft's Head of Manuscripts, Dr. Bonnie Hardwick, has tasked their preservation specialist to make this item a top priority. (NB. The Collection is not limited to the Sierra Nevada, e.g., it also contains a few materials of special interest to DPSers and HPSers.)

In looking through the Black Kaweah folder, I came across a note which compels me to correct my "Climbing the Black Kaweah" story in the Nov-Dec '91 *ECHO*. I had written: "A possibly dubious summit register entry on 9/1/35 has the name Onis Imus Brown." Recall, he was the packer's cook who made the first ascent in 1920 with Hutchinson and McDuffie. It just seemed weird to me that he wouldn't have noted his premier climb. Aha! The Bancroft has an original 8.5 x 11 sheet (letterhead: Onis I. Brown - Packer and Guide) with the roughly handwritten note: "I climbed this peak first with Duncan McDuffie and James Hutchinson in 1920. Onis I. Brown. Sept. 1, 1935." He was accompanied by a gentleman who added that there was snow and lightning.

My earlier offer is still good: send me a sase (2 oz. postage) with \$1.00 for a copy of the previous (1988) SCMRRC Index plus details on The Bancroft's procedures/rules, a campus map and other archival trivia. If you want the new Index, make that 5 oz. and \$3.00. If you don't have it, be sure to first ask to see the Index at the Reference Desk. Then you'll know which cartons to specify on the Request Forms. It takes about 20 minutes for the appropriate cartons to arrive. You need two IDs (one photo) to enter the Reading Room. Don't expect to get Xerox copies (25¢/page) while you wait. It's easy to have material mailed to your home. Also, some material may be too fragile to photocopy. The Berkeley campus is easily reached from San Francisco or Oakland via BART. Although not easily reached from Los Angeles, a trip to The Bancroft Library will be uniquely and richly rewarding. Trust me!  
[When in Berkeley, be sure to also check out the large REI, North Face and Sierra Designs stores and the Wilderness Press's The Map Center.]

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