

The Sierra



ECHO

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SPS MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Sierra Peak Section meetings will be held in the Los Angeles room behind the cafeteria still at the DWP. 7:30 pm Dept. W&P Meeting Room 1st flr/cafe., 111 N Hope St, LA, Free prkg on site.

FEBRUARY 8

"Climbs in the Palisades" Larry Tidball will present a program on the peaks of this classic Sierra climbing area.

MARCH 8

"Cho Oyu" R.J. Secor will present a program on his attempt to climb 26,900 foot Cho Oyu in in the Himalaya.

APRIL 12

"Nepal - climb of Dhaulagiri" Peter Green will present a program on the successful Southern California expedition's climb of Dhaulagiri, an 8167 meter peak.

MAY 10

"Experiences as a Backcountry Ranger" Gary Guenther will talk about his experiences as a backcountry ranger and give us some insights on how the areas we climb in are managed by the Forest Service.

JUNE 12

"Adventuring in Peru" Bill Oliver will present a program on trekking the Inca trail to Machu Picchu and trekking the jungle tree tops.

COVER PHOTO

Mt. Clarence King

Photo by Tom Ross

PEAK INDEX

Arrow Peak
Mt. Baxter
Diamond Peak
Glacier Peak
Mt. Florence
Florence Peak
Haleakala
Mt. Harrington
Kennedy Mtn.
Pyramid Peak
Vandever Mtn.
Vogelsang Peak

SPS T-Shirts

Don't miss out on ordering one of our great SPS T-Shirts. They are available in three colors: Ash, Yellow, & Fuchsia. The T-Shirts come in three sizes: Medium, Large and Extra Large.

The design features North Palisade on the front with the SPS List on the back. Buy them at the SPS meetings or you can order them through the mail, specifying color and size. Cost is \$14.00 by mail (\$2.00 to cover shipping). Make check payable to the Sierra Peaks Section. Send your order to Patty Kline, 20362 Callon Drive, Topanga Canyon, CA 90290

1995 SPS Spring Outings Schedule

March

- R 25 M,E: Rock Check-Out for Mountaineers List Doug Mantle, Duane McRuer

April

- R 8-9 M: Olancha Peak Barbee Tidball, Bill Oliver
22-23 I: Deer Mtn - SPS 40th Anniversary Ron Jones, Bill Oliver
R 22-23 M,E: Snow Check-Out for Mountaineers List Doug Mantle, Duane McRuer
29 I: Homers Nose Erik Siering, Asher Waxman
R 29-30 M: Dragon Peak David Underwood, Harry Freimanis

May

- R 13-14 M: Mt. Bradley Barbara Cohen, Dave Dykeman
21 I: SPS-LTC Adv. Navigation Noodle Harry Freimanis, Bob Talbert
R 20-21 M: Mt. Mallory, Mt. Irvine Dan Richter, Asher Waxman
20-21 I: Trail Maintenance, Shepherd Pass Fred Camphausen, RJ Secor
R 27-29 M: Merced Pk, Red Pk, Gray Pk. Larry Tidball, Scot Jamison

June

- R 3-4 M: Birch Mtn., The Thumb Ron Jones, Maris Valkass
3-4 I: Moses Mtn., N. Maggie Mtn. Dan Richter, Erik Siering
17-18 I: Florence Pk., Vandever Mtn. Evelyn Reher, Ron Jones
R 17-18 M: Perkins, Colosseum Barbee Tidball, Greg Roach
24-25 I: Olancha Peak Patty Kline, Julie Rush

July

- R 1-9 M: Milestone Basin Peakout Igor Mamedalin, Ron Jones
7-12 I: Trail Maintenance, Shepherd Pass Fred Camphausen, RJ Secor
22-29 I: Theodore Solomons Trail, North Ron Jones, Bill Oliver

- R Denotes Restricted Outings: Open to Sierra Club Members Only. For Climbing Qualifications required and additional Insurance Provisions, contact the leader.

1995 Wilderness Permit Information

by Greg Roach

There are no major changes for obtaining wilderness permits this year. Remember the earliest date to mail is March 1 and letters postmarked March 1 have the best chance of obtaining the requested entry date. It's a good idea to give a first, second and third choice for entry dates and trails when possible. A reservation fee of \$3.00 per head is required for wilderness permits obtained by mail from the National Forest Service. The National Park Service does not require a fee (to the best of my knowledge.) The Mt. Whitney Ranger District requires permit applications to be on their Mt. Whitney Ranger District Application Form **ONLY. OTHER FORMS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**

LATE WORD: Yosemite National Park is now charging a \$3.00 per person reservation fee on permits obtained through the mail. Checks should be made payable to the "Yosemite Association". (Editor)

ECHOES FROM THE CHAIR

During the spring of 1955 a group of climbers led by Frank Sanborn were forming a new section. Since the end of World War II modern cars and roads were making east side access for weekend trips to the Sierra much easier. The DPS, High Trippers, and Base Campers were leading trips to the Sierra but Los Angeles based climbers not finding enough scheduled trips were going in on their own "outlaw" climbs. By 1955 non-scheduled trips outnumbered the scheduled ones by 6 to 1. This new section that would be ratified that October would become the premier climbing section of the Sierra Club carrying the spirit and very soul of the club that was forged by John Muir seventy-five years before as he scrambled alone to the tops of our beloved peaks.

In the forty years that have passed, the SPS has led thousands of trips to the Sierra. Our members have climbed from the Sierra to the Himalayas accomplishing memorable feats from forging first ascents to climbing the Seven Summits.

We are now in a time of change. A time to look back with a respect for our past and hopefully with vision to our future. With the return of climbing insurance we have gone through a lot of change in the last year. This change has spawned talk about what the function of the SPS is and what our future may be. As I was descending a wash out in the desert last week I was surprised when a respected older leader said that the SPS was finished and would not continue. The next day at a dinner in L. A. some younger climbers were talking about combining the SPS and the DPS. I certainly don't know what the future will bring, but I do know all this discussion is good and I believe in the future of the SPS.

In this wonderful fortieth anniversary year we have the opportunity to honor and celebrate our past. With this in mind we are planning special issues of the Echo, anniversary climbs, a special banquet, and exhibitions. I hope all of you will have a chance to share in this celebration.

In line with the new Mountaineer's List and restricted trips, Duane McRuer and Doug Mantle will be leading check off trips for the Mountaineer's List. The Rock check off will be at Mt Rubidoux on March 25 and the snow check off will be held at Meysan Lakes on April 22-23.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce our new management committee. Elected positions are: Wayne Norman, Vice Chair/Echo; Mirna Roach, Secretary; Barbee Tidball, Banquet/Programs/Mailer; and Patty Kline, Treasurer/Sales. Appointments are: Greg Roach, Outings; Safety Co-Chairs, Doug Mantle and Duane McRuer; Tina Stough, Mountain Records; Harry Freimanis, Outreach Coordinator; Dave Underwood, Conservation; Julie Rush, Council Representative; Historian, Bill Oliver; and Ann Kramer, Special Projects.

Dan Richter 12/21/94

SPS Membership Report

by Dan Richter

New Members Welcome!

Daniel Zenk
325 East 6th Street
Long Beach, CA 90814
h310 438-0773 w310 948-7545

Linda James
304 Hoffman Street
Jackson, CA 95642

Mark Bender
3465 Catalina Drive
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(619) 434-7330

Address Changes

Frank Sanborn
5422 Portland Rd. N. E. #115
Salem, OR 97305-3463

Ken Olson
3150 Via de Caballo
Encinitas, CA 92024
619 756-0001

Paul E. Graff
P.O. Box 5050
Torrance, CA 90510-5050
(310) 370-7974

Pat Christie
365 S. Henning Way
Anaheim, CA 92807
(714) 921-0666

New Subscribers Thank you!

Leroy Russ
4225 Via Arbolada #557
Los Angeles, CA 90042
h213 227-4973 w714 778-7178

Steven Echert
1814 Oak Knoll Drive
Belmont, CA 94002
(415) 508-0500

Daryn Doge
1316 Cypress Lane
Davis, CA 95616
(916) 753-1095

Joseph Baker
7736 Loma Verde Ave.
Canoga Park, CA 91304
(818) 594-5995

Mark Day
14208 San Esteban Ave.
Bakersfield, CA 93312
(805) 589-8753

Tony Padilla & Elizabeth Poytress
21109 Alaminos Drive
Santa Clara, CA 91350
(805) 296-3656

Sustaining Members for 1995 Thank you!

Barbara and Howard Eyerly, Dan and Willie Richter, Steve Corona, Sid "San Jac" Davis, Gail Hanna, Jennifer Lambelet, Cindi Okine-Runyan, Don Slager, Bob Wyka, Linda James, Mark Bender and Carol Snyder, Bob Henderson, Kenneth Jones, Bob Sumner, Jane Edginton, Hal Browder, Rob Talbert, W. C Bradley, Donna O'Shaughnessy, Fred Camphausen, R. J. Secor, and Greg Gerlach.

Accomplishments Congratulations!

Emblem #536: Rob Langsdorf August 31, 1993 on Olancho Peak

Leadership Training Course Available

Registration is underway for the Angeles Chapter's Leadership Training Course, a program to prepare Chapter members to be qualified Sierra Club Outings Leaders. The course begins with an all-day seminar to be held at the Griffith Park Ranger Station on Saturday, March 18, 1995. All applicants must be Sierra Club members and have participated in at least five Club hikes or trips.

Club members wishing to enroll in the course should send a self-addressed stamped business-size envelope to Alice Danta, LTC Registrar, 12452 Woodlawn Ave., Tustin CA 92680-2435. Completed applications forms must be returned to the Registrar NOT LATER THAN March 4, 1995.

SPS Annual Banquet Minutes
December 14, 1994

One by one people started arriving for the SPS Annual Banquet. The Greek Orthodox Community Hall filled out with approximately 145 members by 7:30 PM. Once again Barbee did an excellent job in organizing this event. The dinner was excellent. The program started at 9 PM; Barbee opened the Banquet Ceremony welcoming those present.

Barbara Cohen chaired the meeting. She gave a brief reflection of her experienced as a SPS Chair and acknowledged each of the members of her Management Committee and welcome the incoming Management Committee Officers.

There were 11 items raffled and the winners were as followed: Christine Mitchell received a Pneumatic Jacket/Pullover from Patagonia; Lenora Wills received a \$25.00 Gift Certificate from A16 WLA; Diane Piskulic received a Fleece Jacket from Early Winters; Patty Kline received a \$50.00 Gift Certificate from Sports Chalet; George Toby received a Mountaineer's Calendar donated by R.J. Secor; Bill Gray received a pair of Gaiters from Outdoor Research; Bruce Morris received a book - titled "The High Frontier" by Mark Moffett from Mountain High; Jennifer Lambelet received a \$50.00 Gift Certificate from Sports Chalet; Roy Magnuson received a Synchronilla Pullover from Patagonia; Tom Sexton received a Bears Calendar donated by R.J. Secor; and David Campbell received a \$25.00 Gift Certificate from REI Northridge.

Duane McRuer presented the *Francis P. Farquhar Award* to Randall Danta and Doug Mantle for their accomplishments. This award was established in 1970. Norman Clyde was the first recipient who received this prestigious award.

Cal French presented the *Oliver Kehrlein Award* to Ron Jones. Ron Jones has done outstanding work for the Sierra Club. He has been very active in Outings and Management for SPS and DPS and has received numerous awards throughout the years. He is the second person who has received this award for the SPS.

Barbara gave recognition to the leaders who lead most trips this year in the following order: Barbee Tidball, Scot Jamison, Patty Kline, and R.J. Secor 3 trips, Greg Roach 4 trips, Nancy Gordon 6 trips, Barbara Cohen 7 trips, Larry Tidball 8 trips, Dave Dykeman 9 trips.

This year we have a number of accomplishments. A Big Congratulations to the following people:

Emblem holders: Steve Nardi, Neal Scot, Eric Siering, Asher Waxman, Keith Martin, Dan Richter, Mike Fredette, John Sarna.

Senior Emblem holders: Patty Kline, Mirna Roach, and Greg Roach.

List Finishers: Three list finisher this year: Joe Stevens, Sue Wyman-Henney, and Dick Henney.

List Finisher and Master Emblem 2 times: Dave Dykeman

Barbara read a poem by John Muir in remembrance to Dale Van Dalsem, Ursula Slager, and Vi Grasso and slides were shown of them.

Barbara thanked everyone from her Management Committee and introduced the new chair person: Dan Richter.

1994 Officers:

Barbara Cohen - Chair
Larry Tidball - Vice Chair
Dan Richter - Secretary
Patty Kline - Treasurer
Wayne Norman - Echo Editor

Barbee Tidball - Conservation/Program Coordinator
Bill Oliver - Historian
Vi Grasso - Mountain Record

1995 Elected New Officers:

Dan Richter - Chair/Membership/Archivist
Wayne Norman - Vice Chair/ECHO Editor
Mirna Roach - Secretary
Patty Kline - Treasurer
Barbee Tidball - Program Coordinator/Banquet/Mailer

Appointments:

Greg Roach - Outings
Doug Mantle/Duane McRuer - Safety Co-Chair
Bill Oliver - Historian
Harry Freimanis - Outreach Coordinator
Tina Stough - Mountain Records
E. Annie Kramer - Special Projects
Dave Underwood - Conservation
Julie Rush - Council Representative

After a 10 minute break Dan presented an autographed photo of Greg Child to Barbee. Barbee introduced Greg Child who was the featured speaker for this evening. Greg Child gave a wonderful slide presentation featuring his climbs of K2 & Triangle Towers in Pakistan and Denali & Mt. Hunter in Alaska. He is a truly world class mountaineer with a good sense of humor about his climbing. He is a unique individual with 9 lives.

The banquet adjourned at 11:00 PM. An overall success!

Minutes of the SPS Management Committee Meeting

December 5, 1994

Attendees: Dan Richter, Barbee Tidball, Patty Kline, Bill Oliver, Duane McRuer, Dave Underwood, Harry Freimanis, Ann E. Kramer, Tina Stough, Greg & Mirna Roach, Wayne Norman.

The meeting convened at 7:30 p.m. This was an informal general meeting held at Dan's house to introduce the new management committee and briefly discuss the upcoming events for 1995.

The goal for the 1995 management committee is to make the SPS 40th Anniversary a success. The preparation will get under way in January.

Leadership is the major key to the SPS. The SPS needs more new leaders in the higher levels, e.g. M and E rated leaders. There are check offs for rock and snow in the next schedule. For those who are interested in being checked off see Duane McRuer or Doug Mantle.

The SPS wants to recruit new members from WTC. Harry Freimanis will be our Outreach Coordinator and will speak with WTC leaders and students and give them an introduction to SPS outings.

One way of reaching out to new members is to have more "intro" trips. SPS brochures are another way to recruit new members.. These brochures have been placed at many of the backpacking and climbing stores in the area.

Bill Oliver will find out the latest information on the issue of insurance for leaders.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

CONSERVATION COLUMN

by David Underwood

As of this issue I will be writing the conservation news for the Echo. Thanks to Barbee Tidball the articles in this issue were left to me, saving me the effort of getting things together for the first of the year. Thanks Barbee!

For those of you who are concerned with conservation things do not look real good for the coming two years. The new congress has many members who have openly declared their dislike of the conservation movement and it looks as if we will have a fight on our hands just keeping the status quo. Your letters to your legislators are extremely important. It is estimated that each letter represents 10,000 voters. Your support of the various organizations that are active in conservation is needed now more than ever. We have seen the fight that the D.W.P. put up to keep the water from Mono Lake. Even after they had lost several rulings in the courts, and were guaranteed state resources to replace the lost water, they continued to file suit after suit in an attempt to break the Mono Lake Committee.

Now, with the Congress on their side, the opponents of conservation will become bolder and more active. If the conservation movement to continue it is imperative that we all take an active part. Let your Legislators know that you support the conservation movement.

I know that this is not exactly a conservation issue, however; the new congress seems to be very hostile to P.B.S.. For those of you who watch such programs as Nature and Nova I urge you to write your Legislators now.

The Endangered Species Act, passed in 1973 is under attack from extractive (mining) industries. With a new Congress in office now is the time to begin writing letters to encourage Congress to reauthorize the Act and to strengthen it by streamlining the listing process, providing more enforcement moneys, shifting away from efforts to protect individual species, to efforts to preserve endangered habitats and ecosystems, and setting deadlines for various actions. Help protect the Endangered Species Act from groups like Wise Use. Become active - express your views.

The Forest Service is currently studying and planning an Ecosystem Management project for the area from Mammoth Lakes to June Lake between 395 and 203. If you are interested in learning more about the project contact Bob Hawkins, Winter Sports Specialist, Inyo National Forest, 873 N. Main, Bishop, CA 93514.

In early 1994 the California Native Plant Society sued the Sierra National Forest for lack of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in their grazing program. NEPA requires federal agencies to analyze and publicly disclose the environmental impacts of their actions so that they and the public can make well-informed decisions on land management questions. Although the suit has not been settled, the Forest Service has begun preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) for grazing on the Dinkey allotment of the Sierra NF. The EIS will allow the public to have significant input into grazing management on the Sierra NF. And, in order to develop the EIS, the Forest will also have to collect much-needed information on the effects of grazing on Forest ecosystems. Many dedicated Forest Service personnel have been working for years to bring reform and to apply scientific principles to range management and are looking to the lawsuit to help give them the support (staff, budget, management direction) they need to improve range programs. From Bulletin of the California Native Plant Society Oct/Nov/Dec 1994. For more information contact Emily Roberson, 916-447-2677 or 510/649-0460.

ECHOS FROM THE PAST

Forty Years Ago in the Angeles Chapter

The Desert Peaks Section and the knapsack "committee" were the two major sponsoring entities for trips into the Sierra. The first spring Sierra climb I found listed in the Chapter schedule for 1955 was a knapsack trip led by Frank Sanborn in May. In January 1955 the Chair of the DPS was Parker Severson, the Vice Chair was Jerry Zagorites & Marion Dean served as Secretary-Treasurer. Parker Severson was a Sierra

climber of some note with several Sierra first ascents to his credit. The SPS was not founded until later in the year.

Twenty years Ago

Bill T Russell, SPS Secretary in 1974, listed the 312 emblem holders earned from the first one, Oliver Kehrlein, then John Robinson, Don Clarke, Bob Scheller, Pat Meixner & Bud Bingham, all earned in 1956. During 1974 14 emblems were earned, 29 emblems were earned in 1973, 24 emblems in 1972, 21 in 1971 & 26 in 1970. Up to that time the record for season was 42 emblems earned in 1967 and 32 emblems were earned in 1968. This is a good measure of the activity level of the newer members of the SPS (I think we get about 8 or 10 new emblem holders in recent years). Dennis Lantz and "Uncle Tom" Rosezweig led a rock climbing practice at Sheep Pass & Hidden Valley in Joshua Tree, with more than 100 names on the car pool list! On February 21, 1975 SPSer Barbara Lilley & John Otter climbed Chimborazo Pk in Ecuador.

Ten Years Ago

Mark Goebel & Lloyd Brown submitted their applications to become Senior Emblem holders #81 & #82. Andy Smatko was Senior Emblem holder #1 back in October 1964, Tom Ross became Sr. Emblem #2 in 1965 and Barbara Lilley was Sr. Emblem holder #3 in 1969. There was no Senior Emblem at that time so the dates are for their SPS list completion. Ron Hudson submitted an undated account of his trip to Ecuador where he climbed Cotopaxi twice, once with SPSers Mary Gyax, Donn Cook & Chris Yager. The four went on to also climb Mt Chimborazo.

Five Years Ago in the SPS

The main feature of the January 1990 ECHO was 10 letters covering 7 pages, all written on the controversy of the retention of Sierra Peak registers at the Bancroft library or to leave them on the peak. I think the "score" was 5 persons wished that they remain on the peak, 4 people thought that the originals should go to a permanent repository & the final letter was from the U.S. Department of the Interior commending the Sierra Club for retrieving & preserving the historic registers. Bill Oliver contributed an article for the ECHO entitled "Temporal Change in Declination." Jack Miller contributed an account of his New Year's Day climb of Orizaba Pk. He also climbed "Popo" & "Ixta".

One Year Ago

SPS list finisher & former Chair, Dale Van Dalsem, died on January 8, 1994 while mountain biking in the Santa Monica Mtns. --- RON JONES

Peak List Revision?

The current Peak List (16th edition) is dated October 1992 and it may be advisable to issue a revised edition. The editor, Bill T Russell, is soliciting suggestions for improvements, notice of errors and recommendations on climbing difficulty classifications. Page eight of the list gives the Lat/Long of the 7.5 min maps and a cross reference to the older 15 min maps. Is this useful to members? Should it be dropped in favor of notes for some of the peaks, e.g. the fact that the SPS recognized summit for Emerson and Powell is the high point and not the place that the 7.5 maps seem to designate.

Quick Tidbits

RENEW RENEW RENEW. Now is the time to RENEW your SPS Membership. (see form on last page.) Please consider renewing at the SUSTAINING Level. Sustaining memberships really help out the SPS. Sustaining members receive their ECHO via first class mail.

Pick up Climbing Magazine No 149 for a great article on Peter Croft's one day traverse of the Minarets.

Premier rock climber Bobbi Bensman will be at local A-16 stores presenting a show called "Women in Climbing". Call your local A-16 for time and locations. (Shows are in early February.)

IN HIGH PLACES: MAUI
Part I - Haleakala
Burton A. Falk

Arriving at the Kahului, Maui airport just after noon on a pleasant day in June, we collected our packs and hailed a cab.

"Where to?" asked the friendly driver
"The top of Haleakala," I said. "And step on it."

He turned to take another look at our threesome. "Where?" he said.

And that was the beginning of my exploration of 10,023' Haleakala, the high point of Maui.

Out here, in the middle of the Pacific, a tectonic plate is sliding slowly over a hot spot in the Earth's mantle far below. During the past hundred million years or so molten rock has spewed from this hot spot, building a chain of volcanic islands, which, as the plate continued to move, drifted first to the north, then to the northwest.

The earliest islands formed were the Emperor Seamounts, now eroded down below sea level. Next, but not inclusively, came Midway, Laysan, French Frigate Shoals, Nihoa, Kauai, Oahu, the Maui-nui complex consisting of Maui, Lanai and Molokai, and the big island of Hawaii. Even today, a new island is in the process of being formed on the sea floor, southeast of Hawaii.

These mid-Pacific volcanoes were not the composite cone type, such as Fujiama, Shasta and Vesuvius, but rather shield volcanoes, which, because of the great fluidity of the lava involved, generally tended to form massive mountains with gentle slopes and enormous bases.

Haleakala, for instance, is the world's largest dormant volcano. This fact is not readily apparent, however, as the peak's true base lies three miles below the sea, while only seven per cent of its total mass rises above water level. It's been estimated that the Hawaiian peak contains one hundred times as much material as Fuji.

The Haleakala Crater, which is almost large enough to swallow Manhattan Island, is not a true crater at all but, rather, the remnants of two erosional valleys, now partially re-filled with lava and cinder cones from more recent volcanic activity.

Our driver let us out at the Visitor Center parking lot (9,745'), just below the actual Puu Ulaula (lit., "Red Hill")

summit, and did not linger to look for another fare. We hoisted our packs and, with no further adieu, headed down the nearby Sliding Sands Trail, hiking toward the 7,270' Kapalaoa (lit., "Bread") Cabin, one of three cabins maintained within Haleakala National Park by the Park Service.

Because these cabins are in such great demand, reservations are assigned by a lottery conducted by the Park Service two months in advance. For more information, contact Haleakala National Park, P.O. Box 368, Makawao, Maui, HI 96768.

Fortunately, we were the lucky winners of the mid "crater" Kapalaoa Cabin for one night and the eastside Paliku Cabin (6,400") for the next.

Arriving at our destination after a six-mile, mostly down-hill hike, we found a welcoming committee consisting of a pair of Nene Geese, the Hawaiian state bird, who apparently considered the cabin as their territorial imperative. After taking a few minutes to chase the pushy duo out of our lodgings, we started our

dinner preparations using some of the precious water that is collected from the cabin roof and stored in a nearby tank. (Talk about micro climates: although the windward slopes of Haleakala are very wet--up to 300" of rainfall per year--the valley floor, only a few miles

distant, receives only 40".) Later, as dusk fell--around 7:30 p.m.--we laid out our sleeping bags on three of the twelve bunks provided, climbed in, and, because of the three hour time difference between Los Angeles, our starting point that morning, and Maui, fell asleep almost immediately.

The following morning we explored the geological curiosities of the crater floor, including the Bottomless Pit, the Bubble Cave and Pele's Pig Pen. We then climbed the long south ridge, site of the 8,201' peak, Haleakala (lit., "House of the Sun"), for which the entire mountain is named, looking unsuccessfully for a heiau--an ancient Hawaiian ceremonial site--that was mentioned in our hiking guide. Returning to Kapalaoa, we fixed lunch, cleaned and locked the cabin, then set off on the four-mile hike eastward to the Paliku Cabin.

The sun was shining brightly that afternoon, and as we walked across fields of fractured aa, the crossword puzzlers' favorite lava, we could feel, but not see, pinpricks of an icy mist drifting down from the clouds hanging along the steep



pali to the north and east. It was magical.

The Paliku (lit., "vertical cliff") Cabin, although a structural duplicate of the Kapalaoa Cabin, is located in a pleasant grove of trees, a much more inviting site than the barren setting of its counterpart. Reaching our destination about 4 p.m., we dropped our packs and set out up the unmaintained 2.3 mile Lauulu (lit., "lush") Trail, toward Kalapawili (lit., "twisting") Ridge to the north.

Less than an hour later we were on the ridge top enjoying the spectacular vistas. To the east stretched the splendid Hana Coast; to the south, the Kaupo Gap and the shining Pacific, and, looking west, the entire seven-mile length of the "crater." Directly below lay the Kipahulu (lit., "fetch from exhausted gardens") Valley, in which, 8,000' below, are located the misnamed Seven Sacred Pools. Although this valley looks inviting, it is a dense jungle and the National Park Service wisely prohibits hiking in its upper confines.

That evening, back at Paliku Cabin, we fixed dinner, enjoyed a dessert consisting of ripe *akala*, a Hawaiian raspberry, which were growing nearby, and crashed once again into our sleeping bags.

The following morning, a Sunday, we hiked down the 7.7 mile Kaupo Gap Trail, ending up at a small parking lot located in a sugar cane field, just above the tiny coastal village of Kaupo.

If you study a road map of Maui, you'll discover that there are major logistical problems involved with hiking from the top of the Sliding Sands Trail to the bottom of the Kaupo Gap Trail. To set up a shuttle between the two points--without outside help--requires two cars and almost one full day of driving. That's why we took the cab to the top, and that's why we planned to hike along the road from Kaupo to Hana, where we would catch a plane back to Kahului.

Things don't always work out as planned, however. Upon reaching Kaupo, one of our party complained that her boots were killing her and that no amount of moleskin was likely to remedy the situation. Since her only other footwear was a pair of light sandals, we decided we'd better try to hire someone drive us into Hana.

Unfortunately, not one of the few locals we could find was interested in giving up the beautiful weekend day in order to make a few bucks. Listlessly then, one of us wearing sandals, we began

to hike along the dirt road toward Hana, hoping to thumb a ride from one of the few cars passing in our direction. An hour and a half later, while we were still walking, it began to rain--and rain hard. At that point, our sandaled companion decided it was time to take matters into her own hands. She stood in the middle of the road and virtually commandeered the next car that came along to stop and pick us up. And thanks to her, we all enjoyed hot showers and clean sheets in a Hana motel that night.

This was a wonderful trip, one which I would highly recommend to anyone. After finishing it, however, I didn't feel satisfied. There was more to be learned about Haleakala and, additionally, I wanted--no, I needed--to climb its summit.

And so, on a June day two years later, I was back again at the Haleakala Observatory parking lot, this time with my own rental car and a set of different hiking companions. I left them, two mountaineers from Colorado, off at the Sliding Sands Trailhead, and I drove back down the winding summit road to the Halemauu Trailhead at the 8,000' level. Our plan was that the two of them would hike down to the car, while I, in the meantime, would hike to the summit, where they would pick me up. My expectations for the trip were: 1. I'd complete hiking all trails within the crater, 2. I'd see for myself the third cabin, the Holua, and the Silversword Loop, and 3. I'd climb to the volcano's summit from the crater floor.

The Halemauu (lit., "Grass Hut") Trail was built in the 1930's by the Civil Conservation Crew. It begins at a parking lot north of Haleakala's high point, just off one of the sharp turns in the summit road, State Highway 377. Contouring first along an outer slope of the volcano, the trail then wends it's way along a crest overlooking the crater before steeply descending some 1,400' to the floor of the Koolau Gap below.

Although the weather had been threatening all morning, it wasn't until I'd reached the Holua Cabin, 3.9 miles from the trailhead, that it actually began to rain. The light precipitation didn't seem much of a threat at first, however, so I slipped on my Gortex jacket and trudged on another mile to the Silversword Loop.

The Silversword (*Argyroxiphium sandwicense*), although it looks very similar to a yucca, is actually a member of the sunflower family. Under the bright

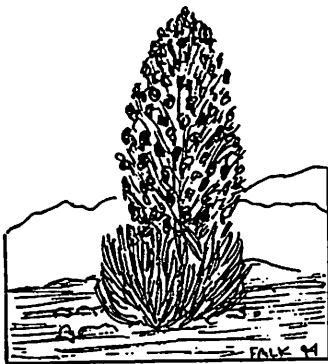
high-altitude sun, its stiff, stiletto-shaped leaves glow an iridescent silver (although that wet morning they looked gray). The plant is endemic only to the mountains of Maui and the big island of Hawaii. It normally lives between ten and twenty years, at which point, sometime between June and October, it sends up a single stalk of purple blossoms, one to nine feet high. After this flowery show the plant withers and dies, leaving its seeds scattered on the mountainside. The Silversword is arguably Haleakala's most renowned feature and, fortunately for non-hikers, a colony of the plants can be found near the Red Hill Observatory parking lot.

After passing the Silversword Loop and entering the main crater, the intensity of the rain began to increase. A few minutes later, as I spotted my friends coming down the trail, it began to pour. I thought briefly about slapping on a face mask and fins and continuing, but, after more rational consideration, I decided to turn around and return to the car with my companions. Bummer. Still no ascent of the peak.

Fast forward another year and a half. The time is 9:45 a.m. on a fine Maui morning in late October. The site is the southwestern ridge of Haleakala, 6,200' above the Wailea/Makena beach resort area.

Two Southern California mountaineers and I stood at the Polipoli (lit., "mounds, bosom") trailhead, deep in a grove of redwood, Monterey cypress, ash, sugi and cedar, ready to begin our nine mile, 3,800' elevation gain hike to the true Red Hill summit. Clouds of mist swirled about us and the fragrance of the wet forest quickened our pulses.

We climbed approximately a mile up the footpath, leaving the clouds behind, until we came to a well-graded dirt road, the Skyline Trail. After a short walk through a eucalyptus forest (most of the trees--all non-indigenous--on the western slopes of Haleakala were planted during a massive reforestation project in the late 1920's and early 1930's.), we crossed a saddle and began switchbacking up the prominent Southwest Rift. To our right lay the arid southern slopes of Haleakala, dropping at a 17-degree angle to the sea below. To our left were the fertile, six degree western slopes of the volcano, which incline to the isthmus between Haleakala and the West Maui Mountains, the geographic feature from which Maui derives



its nickname--the Valley Isle.

As we hiked upward that sunny morning, the vegetation thinned and we grew increasingly aware of the line of small craters pock-marking the ridge to our right, leading in a remarkably straight line to the summit above. At the 8,200' level we came to a locked gate, beyond which point, and continuing all the way to the summit, all vehicular traffic is barred.

At 9,000', low-lying shrubs gave way to occasional tufts of grass, and, still higher, as the cluster of scientific equipment located near the summit came into view, the vegetation ceased entirely. At this point it seemed as if we were walking on the moon.

Jack London described this climb in his book, *The Cruise of the Snark*. He reported that the higher he climbed, the more of the earth's surface became visible, and that the effect on him was that the horizon began to seem uphill. Although I can't say I experienced this illusion, I can say the views from the ridge were breathtaking. Seventy-five miles to the south east, on the big island of Hawaii, stood the 13,000' summits of Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea. To the west lay uninhabited island of Kahoolawe; Lanai, the pineapple island, and the cloud-covered West Maui

Mountains. In the valley below, fields of lush green sugar cane glistened under the mid-day sun.

We passed a sprinkling of antennae, microwave receivers and observatories just below the summit, and reached the 10,023' top of Maui at 1:10 p.m. In the summit observatory, looking out over the sea of clouds filling Haleakala's crater, I began to feel the warm glow of that comes after bagging an elusive peak. We started down at 1:30 p.m. and reached the car at Polipoli at 4:30 p.m.

Later that evening, while driving along the seaside road on our way back to Kaanapali, the sun slipped below the western horizon. As it did, the ocean's smooth surface turned a luminescent silver. Stands of graceful coconut palms stood silhouetted along the shoreline. Gentle waves lapped on the beach. The air was balmy and redolent of island flowers. It was enough to make you cry.

There is an old saying on this island, "Maui no ka OI!" It means, "Maui is the best." You'll get no argument from this climber.

ECHOES FROM OUR CLIMBS

GLACIER PEAK, WASHINGTON

July 1994

by David Campbell

Mary Ann and I met Dick Searle at the White Chuck roadhead (2300 ft. elevation) in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest on Saturday, 7/30/94. He had driven from Sedona, AZ. Within an hour Wendell Dang drove up; he had come from Simi Valley. We had planned to hike in the next day and climb Glacier Peak (10,541 ft.) on Monday. We decided to use the Sitkum Glacier route, which ascends from the west side of this volcanic mountain. Since it was early, we decided to start Saturday afternoon. We got underway by 4 p.m. and followed the forested White Chuck trail, along the east side of the churning White Chuck River. Some parts of the trail had been badly damaged by flooding, but bypasses were there when needed. After 5.2 miles and about 3 hours we got to the Kennedy Hot Springs area which had camping sites and a ranger hut and numerous flowers and berries! There were a lot of huckleberries in the area, but better tasting were the thimble berries. Salmon berries were the most colorful, but only a few were ripe yet. Near the hut is a nice spring.

Sunday we got a leisurely start at 8:40, continuing up switchbacks on the White Chuck Trail another 1.4 miles to its intersection with the Pacific Crest Trail. We turned north on the latter for 0.4 miles. At 4100 ft. we left it and found a (well used) "path" leading up a narrow ridge between Sitkum Creek and another creek south of it. The path climbed very steeply (sometimes we used tree roots for handholds) to "Boulder Basin", just below timberline at 7700 ft. where we were to camp. We got there at 12:15. The scenery was beautiful with fir and hemlocks, flowers, waterfalls, and snow-covered peaks in the background. All that kept it from being idyllic were the biting flies! Coming in we had passed quite a few climbers on their way out, but while we were camped there the only others present were two climbers and two friendly forest service rangers, who were digging a new pit toilet.

Monday Dick, Wendell and I started climbing at 5:50 (the two other climbers had left camp at 5:00). We followed a steep, loose use trail over pumice and rocks to 7,000 ft. where we reached the lower part of the Sitkum Glacier. A little higher we put on

crampons (though we carried a rope and other glacier equipment, we never used it). The glacier is divided into three sections by a cliff band and a rock cleaver. We saw the two climbers ahead of us get onto the cleaver, but they apparently had some difficulty and returned to the glacier. When we reached the cleaver (about 8200 ft.), we turned left and went up a corridor between it and the cliff band, which led onto the upper Sitkum Glacier. We passed a few small crevasses, but no problem. Our next objective was a 9300 ft. snow saddle in the west summit ridge, just above "Sitkum Spire".

There we encountered a moderately strong cold wind. We choose to go up the top part of the Scimiter Glacier, left of the loose pumice ridge rather than stay on the ridge itself, gaining a little shelter from the wind. This part was fairly steep. Upon reaching the base of the summit rocks (10'000 ft.), we circled up and around to the left on the hard ice of the upper edge of the Scimiter Glacier. We finished the climb on the north slopes leading to the summit crest. It was 11:30 and we visited with the other two climbers. Soon a third group arrived, having come up the "White Chuck Glacier route" from the south. The weather was sunny and we could see Mts. Baker and Shuksan to the northwest and Rainier to the south. However, there was a lot of distant "haze" due to large forest fires. The one near Lake Chelan was creating it's own huge cumulus clouds. After 45 minutes we left, going down the same way. (At one point we almost went too far right of the corridor beside the cleaver, but Dick recognized the mistake and we corrected our course.) We were back in camp at 3:30.

Tuesday we left Boulder Basin at 7:30; we were at the hot springs around 10:00 and the roadhead at 1:45. There we found Dick's car had been broken into and quite a few items stolen from his trunk, the most expensive being a laptop computer. We reported the theft to the forest service in nearby Darrington. Fortunately he was well covered by insurance and the only car damage was to the door lock. The climb had gone so quickly we had plenty of time left on our trip and Dick, Mary Ann & I went on to visit the San Juan Islands.

ARROW and PYRAMID PEAKS from the West

In the ECHO Vol 38 #4, July-August of 1994 Igor & Suzanne Mamedalin report on their climb of Arrow & Pyramid from Paradise Valley in the west. They outlined their 4 day trip going up Window Creek & descending Arrow Creek. Back in August 16-17, 1960 Don Anderson writes of his scheduled trip to these peaks done in two days (ECHO Vol 13 #8). I was on this trip.

Don and a party of 8 left Kings Canyon at 7:45 am, packed to Paradise Valley and up Window Creek, reaching a camp at 10,000 ft at 4:30. At 6:30 the next morning we started for Pyramid & reached the summit via the class 2 west ridge before 9am. They then went for the east class 2 ridge of Arrow Pk a little after noon. Camp was regained at 3pm and the cars at Kings Canyon by 11pm.

Elton Fletcher and I backpacked to the lower end of Window Ck in Paradise Valley on the trip we made together. The next morning we packed up Window Ck to about 10,000 ft & climbed Arrow. The third day we climbed Pyramid, returned to camp & packed out via Window Ck late that night. Another time, years later, I repeated the backpack

from Kings Canyon up Window Creek. It's not the hardest backpack in the SPS, only 5500 feet and about 14 miles.

The final account I found of these climbs from Paradise Valley is a climb by Jerry Keating & Barbara Lilley on June 1-2, 1968 & reported in ECHO Vol 12 #6 in 1968. They packed to Paradise Valley & mistakenly packed up Arrow Creek (Window Creek is 2-1/2 miles beyond the Woods Creek trail crossing). Dick Beach also has reported that the brush is very dense around Arrow Ck. Jerry Keating in his article reports an even earlier climb (1967?) which Gordon MacLeod made up Window Ck. Anyway, after camping at 9,900 ft, Jerry & Barbara climbed Arrow Pk first on Sunday morning arriving there at 10:30, then over to Pyramid arriving there at 3:30. They reached camp at 5:15 and were out to their cars 45 minutes after midnight for a hard 2-day round trip.

I mention these trips because Arrow & Pyramid Peaks aren't scheduled too often from the west & yet they make a very nice three day trip. HAPPY TRAILS -- Ron Jones.

KENNEDY MTN.-MT. HARRINGTON

AUG. 28-29, 1994

By David L. Underwood

Co-leader Steve Thaw

Thanks to a new policy in Kings canyon and Mineral King this year I was able to pick up our entry permit after noon the day before the hike. This allowed us to get an early start and beat the heat of the day. Going to the Canyon a day early gave me some time to bicycle and to see the area from a different perspective, it is a good way to see the kings and if you have the time it is a great way to tour the area. I can not recommend the food at Cedar grove however. the best that I can say for it is that it furnishes calories. Also if you plan to stay in the camp grounds be assured that the bears are vigilant to the point of wandering through the grounds all hours of the day and night.

Following the advice of Barbee Tidball I called all the participants and moved the starting time to 6:00 a.m. as she told me that her trip on Aug. 6-7 was very hot. Fortunately the heat had subsided by the 27th. but the early start helped.

We started at a leisurely pace from Deer Cove

and reached Frypan Meadow by 11:30 stopping frequently to drink and take in the view on the way up. The camping at Frypan is much better than at Wildman but as usual the first campsite you come to is not always the best. Continue on for about 200 yards and you will find a much better site. If you cross the small creek you will find two more nice secluded sites among the trees. There does seem to be a problem with Hornets in this area. I was stung at the camp and another climber was stung coming down from Mt. Harrington.

We set up camp and proceeded on to Kennedy Mtn. a total of 7200' for the day and about 14 miles. At the top of Kennedy Pass we met a party of Dutch hikers who were completing a hike of several days. They camped near us at Frypan and were quite hospitable which made for a nice social hour after dinner.

Sunday morning we got off to a late start but had no trouble reaching Mt. Harrington. we started

up the south buttress due to some misinformation that I had and found that we had to traverse the west side of the peak to the north ridge where we made our final ascent to the summit. We were fortunate to have an excellent group of climbers in our party and experienced no trouble in gaining the summit.

Also participating were John Cheslick whose guidance is much appreciated, Linda James who has

been hiking with Steve this summer and is developing into a good strong hiker, Lisa Boehmer one of our newest SPS members and a real tiger, and Duncan Livingston who was on his first SPS trip and is a fine climber who I hope to see on other trips.

Lastly I would like to thank Steve for helping to make this a successful enjoyable climb.

VANDEVER MTN. FLORENCE PK.

Sept 17-18 93 By David Underwood

Three of us met at the Franklin Lakes trail head on Saturday morning at 7:45 P.M. Al Conrad co-leader, Peter Rosemarin, and me. As usual it took more time than we would have liked to get the permit so we were 15 minutes late getting to the trail head. We started at a leisurely pace and arrived at Franklin lakes at 12:45 p.m.

This is a nice time of the year to do this area as the bugs are gone and the summer hiking crowd is gone. However there are still enough backpackers in the area to make for crowded camping at Franklin Lakes. Even though we had a reasonably early start we found the obvious sites occupied when we arrived at the lower lake. There is a nice looking spot below the dam that was taken. Just above the dam there is a trail that leads to an obvious site where several tents were already set up. We found enough room to set up our own tents but not on level ground.

There is one bear box at this site and it was full. we had to jamb our food in the box as some other campers had filled it up with bowls, pots, and other containers. I had a suspicion that we might find another site up the trail but it was decided that we would rather go for Florence Peak than look for a better space. Also there were other hikers behind us and we could have lost out on the space that we had. We started for Florence about 1:30 P.M. and as I suspected there are some more spaces a short way up the lake from the first site. There is a large granite ledge with another bear box and below that can accommodate three or four tents and there is a space below it that can handle a couple more. The one disadvantage to all the sites is the distance to the water. A collapsible water jug is well worth carrying in this area.

The hike to the base of the peak is straight forward, just follow the trail to the top of the pass. Just before the pass traverse below the ridge toward

the peak to a saddle to the right of the pass. You can not stay on the ridge leading to the peak but must drop below it to the left and work your way up the large boulder field to a shoulder about 200 feet below the summit. At this point I followed a ledge to the left for a short way but found it to be leading into more difficult climbing than the class two that this trip called for. The map shows the gentler slope to the right of the ridge but it is somewhat deceptive. To get to the summit one has to scramble over and through a jumble of large boulders there is no straight forward or obvious route to the top and you have to wander amid the boulders until you top out. Coming down the first 200 feet or so is the same and it seems like one can not find the same rout down as was used going up. Once you reach the shoulder of the peak the rest of the way down is obvious.

We made it into camp just at dark. Left camp at 0700 on Sunday morning and went to the junction of the Bullfrog Lake trail. About a Quarter mile up the trail we saw a place to the right about 300 yards below the trail near the creek gully. The creek was dry but there was a place to leave the packs where they could not be seen from the trail. Fill your water bottles up at one of the stream crossings below Franklin Lakes as water is scarce for an hour or so. After leaving the packs we followed the trail to the top of the pass. There are a couple of small rills where water can be obtained on the upper trail. We climbed the obvious ridge to the summit of Vandever and had a leisurely lunch enjoying a great view. The trip to the parking lot from here is uneventful. I did not get this trip scheduled as early as I should have so there were only the three of us. I wish to thank Allen Conrad for Co-Leading this trip for me and Peter Rosemarin who came along and helped to make this a pleasant trip.

VOGELSANG PEAK, MT. FLORENCE

SEPTEMBER 9-11, 1994

by Patty Kline

This was a really nice trip. Originally Ron Young was to be the assistant. He was ill, so Jim Raiford substituted. Unfortunately a mile into the trip Jim's leg was bothering him so much he had to turn back. I appointed "Superman" Doug Jones as assistant leader. Doug had climbed solo about 80 peaks so far out of his 106 SPS ascents at the time of this outing.

We met at 7:15 am on Friday September 9th at the Tuolumne Meadows Kiosk. We were supposed to pick up our reserved permit at 7:30 am when it opened, per information given me by the Yosemite Back Country Desk the week before. Unfortunately there was a sign saying the station wouldn't open until 8:00 am, and the line was substantial by 7:00 am. I finally got my permit at 8:40 am due to bureaucratic procedures. So much for an early start.

Based on my 2 previous years of parking in the long term lot without bear incident, I had everyone park in the long term lot at the John Muir Trail about 1 mile east of the kiosk. Nobody had a bear break in during the trip. Between 6 of us we had 3 bear resistant containers. Only one person hung his food. Nobody was bothered by the bears. I highly recommend these containers in serious bear country. The only disadvantage is they weigh just under 3 pounds, but it is worth a good night's sleep and food to eat the next day.

It was a cool windy day as we walked the 8 miles to Vogelsang High Sierra Camp. About 1/2 mile beyond the camp is the outlet to Vogelsang Lake intersecting the trail. Less than 1/4 mile south of the outlet, still on the trail, started the easy route we used for Vogelsang- Peak. It followed a faint gully to the northeast of the lake. When it met the north ridge of the peak, we followed it south top the top at 11,493'. Most of the way there was a use path on this class 1/class 2 peak. Doug Jones carried up an official SPS ammo box to replace our over stuffed cast SPS cylinder. The cylinder was returned to Vi Grasso so she could use it for another peak. Vi is in charge of the registers. I found a fresh yellow golf ball just below the summit. It must have been a tourist from Yosemite Valley going high for thrills.

Because of our late start we camped about 1 mile below Vogelsang Pass at 10,000'. We wanted to

camp lower on the Lewis Creek drainage to be closer to Mt. Florence. The total mileage for the day counting 1 mile round trip to peak was 12 miles and 3,000' of gain.

The next day we started at 7:30 am for Mt. Florence. There are many 2nd class ways to do it. We chose the route just below the sign saying 12.6 miles to Tuolumne Meadows on the Isberg Pass Trail. This was 4 miles from camp. We left the trail where an intersecting creek (occasionally disappearing) led us east to a great lakelet, complete with a view of Half Dome. The group ate lunch here. Pat Christie and Doug Jones found a dead hummingbird being eaten by leaches. What a strange zoological curiosity. Then we continued east just below the ridge line to the false summit of Mt. Florence. The group continued east to Mt. Florence at 12,561' and about 3 miles from the trail. The views of Lyell and Maclure were striking.

On the way back we took a shorter route. It was 2 miles back to the trail instead of 3 and intersected the trail 2 miles closer to camp. This is the route we used. First we dropped into a saddle 1 mile west of the peak. From this saddle we went down the 2nd class talus to Lake #10,541. Then we followed the stream west to Florence Lake. From there we went through forest to a series of 4 small lakes fed by Florence Creek. This took us to a drop off of 400' of easy slabs, stream being in the middle. 1/4 mile below the slabs was the Lewis Creek Trail. This route is a good way up if you want to save time from Vogelsang Pass. The views of Mt. Florence in pinkish peach alpine glow from Florence Lake were priceless. The group got to the trail just in time to use our head lamps for the 2 miles back to camp. The total mileage for the day including the peak was 11 miles and 4600' of gain. All in all it was a fantastic day.

The group backpacked out leisurely on Sunday. Doug and Rheta went off to dayhike Gibbs, while the rest of us went home.

Everyone had a great time. Doug Jones became eligible for membership in the SPS on Florence. Congratulations Doug! Thank you to Doug for a very excellent assist. The other trip members were Pat Christie, Bill Lawrence, Ron Eckelmann and Rheta Schoeneman.

Mt Baxter & Diamond Pk

October 2-3, 1993

Leaders: Ron Jones & Terry Flood

The Baxter Pass trail was the only named pass which I had not hiked. The trail was a favorite of Jim Hinkley's and Maris needed Diamond Pk, so we scheduled it. Then Maris had a personal conflict and couldn't come, so at the trailhead I asked Terry Flood of Carlsbad to assist. Terry is a rated leader in the San Diego Chapter and has led National trips.

Jim had an extra day so he repeated his several ascents, from Boy Scout days, of Baxter Pass and came in on Thursday, recovered on Friday.

Mark Adrian had asked for permission to bring his short wave radio, and he joined Gary Vance, Terry & me on the hike in from the Oak Creek roadhead. The Baxter Pass trail is in the same bad condition it has been for several years (stock unable to negotiate the washouts) and Saturday we made an uneventful backpack to camp at the lower end of Baxter Lake, where we were met by Jim.

Sunday we had an uneventful climb of Mt Baxter but on the return to west saddle, Gary when approaching the saddle at 12,500 ft, stepped on a small loose rock, twisted and broke his ankle. Terry and Mark had gone ahead for a fast try at Diamond Pk and I had to run down 1500 ft and then up

several hundred feet to catch Mark and his radio. Thank God for the radio, this at a time when any sort of radio was banned by the SPS unless the leader gave prior approval. This left Jim Hinkley with Gary, to wrap his ankle and to try and help him down to Baxter Lake. After I caught them Mark & Terry descended to the flats above Baxter Lake where Mark called a Ham operator in Mammoth Lakes who relayed the call to Sequoia-Kings Canyon Park (where we were). The EMT rangers soon flew in by chopper & airlifted Gary out to the hospital at Bishop.

Mark & Terry went on to climb Diamond Pk, Jim and I packed out to the Oak Ck roadhead. Gary had car pooled with me so I drove up to Bishop to pick him and his cast up to drive back south to his car and his home in San Juan Capistrano.

This weekend made a real good case for carrying emergency radios on climbs as long as the ham operator lets the leader know and also avoids making frivolous social calls while near the party of climbers. - RON JONES

Fish Creek (and Long Valley) Hot Springs

Oct 8-9, 1994

Private Trip, Erik Siering & Ann Kramer

Bob Sumner and I had scheduled this Sierra backpack and soak to close the climbing summer. We had only one goal: to party and relax. The weather did not cooperate. Earlier in the week, a stormfront had dumped enough snow to enable the Mammoth Mtn ski area to run its T-bar! Friday morning, the local ranger declared that the icy road over Minaret Summit to the trailhead would remain closed through Tuesday. I canceled the listed SPS trip, after briefly toying with the idea of taking the group directly over snowy Mammoth Pass.

Since Ann and I were already packed, we still set off Friday afternoon for the Mammoth area. Life somehow seems empty without spending nearly every weekend driving through Mojave. Long Valley is a geologically active area, the center of an old volcano, and full of hot springs. We camped overnight at Shepherd's and enjoyed a moonlight soak in the brisk midnight air. The next morning, we drove to Hilltop Pool (aka Pulkey's), the newest

improved hot spring, where we enjoyed breakfast with the panorama of snowcapped mountain ranges around us. Our thoughts were of the Roachs' DPS group as we viewed a really White Mtn (they made it).

As we soaked, we were dive bombed three times by a trained falcon in search of its handler. The falcon was wearing bells on his ankles, which jingled faintly as he flew, trailing jesses. We were concerned that he was abandoned, until we saw the tiny radio transmitter on his tail. This magnificent bird finally landed next to us and made meeping noises, clearly expecting a response of some sort. The falcon then soared away towards a truck, and its owner, parked far down the road. Ann and I moved on to Wild Willy's and then the Hot Tub hot springs.

Having soaked in four hot springs by midday, we were now quite clean, and decided to go into Mammoth. We learned at the NFS station that they had just opened the Minaret Summit road at noon

(surprise!), so we got our permit and raced to the snowy trailhead to start hiking by 2:00. The trail begins at the Rainbow Falls parking area, crosses Crater Creek and winds deeply down into Fish Valley. We arrived at the hot springs at dark, and had the lower, largest pool to ourselves. This pool has a nice sandy bottom, and is situated across a soggy meadow from fine camping sites. Another soak that evening achieved the difficult hot springs

list emblem. We lazily hiked out in the morning, making a worthwhile tourist stop to view Rainbow Falls.

While there were no peaks on this trip, the scenery was stunning. Plenty of creeks and waterfalls, interesting dome and hexagonal column rock formations, and wildlife (in and out of the hot springs). Merits a scheduled return trip next year, perhaps to kickoff the summer.

From the Editor:

Background Noise

Welcome to the 40th year of the SPS (and the 39th year of the Sierra ECHO). The SPS will be celebrating its fortieth year with special events, including a special 40th anniversary ECHO, hikes and programs culminating with our 40th anniversary banquet in December. The management committee is committed to make this a year to remember and will be working hard to achieve this goal.

In future ECHO's there will be feature articles on mountaineering literature, music for the mountains, book reviews, and articles & cartoons from the early days of the SPS. To ensure receiving these great future ECHO's, RENEW your SPS Membership Today. It's only twelve dollars for a year. Please consider renewing at the SUSTAINING Level. Sustaining members receive their ECHO via first class mail, receive recognition in the ECHO and really help out the club financially.

In the Sept-Oct 1994 ECHO, there was an inspirational poem submitted by George Toby - A

Mountaineer's Blessing. After reading the poem I thought of some special short poems and psalms that bless me and strengthen me on my climbs.

It occurred to me that many of you have your own favorite poems that you take on hikes or have memorised and keep inside of you. If you would like to share a special poem with other members, please send a copy to me (my address is on the back of the ECHO. I will print these in a future ECHO. Please follow the following guidelines. 1) Maintain a mountain/outdoor theme. 2) If possible send your input on a computer disk. I can access either Mac or IBM formatted disks and have MS Word for Windows 2.0. (I can convert Word Perfect 5.1 and earlier along with most other word processing programs.) 3) There is a size limit to the ECHO, so please keep the submissions under 200 words. 4) Send your submissions by March 31. Call me if you have any questions.

cram•pon (krām'pŏn', -pŏn) *n.*
1. Often **crampons**. A hinged pair of curved iron bars for raising heavy objects, such as stones or timber. 2. An iron spike attached to the shoe to prevent slipping when walking on ice or climbing. In this sense, also called *climbing iron*.



crampon

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Mark this box for address or phone change or correction

IMPORTANT REMINDER: EVERYONE MUST FILL IN THEIR CURRENT SIERRA CLUB MEMBERSHIP NUMBER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE ON MOUNTAINEERING TRIPS

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I am renewing my SPS membership as an 'active' member. My section activity this past year was _____ (e.g., climb, program). Only 'active' members may vote in the section elections held in October.

Other SPS members residing at the above address are listed below. (Fill in this section if you wish to receive just 1 ECHO; otherwise fill out a separate application for each ECHO subscription desired).

NAME _____ S.C.# _____ ACTIVITY _____

NAME _____ S.C.# _____ ACTIVITY _____

I am renewing my SPS membership as an 'inactive' member.

I wish only to subscribe to the ECHO; I am not an SPS member.

After March 31st or a 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:

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

**SECTION III
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Make checks payable to SIERRA PEAKS SECTION. Mail this form and a check for \$12.00 or \$25.00 to the section Treasurer:

Patty Kline
 20362 Callon Dr.
 Topanga Cyn, CA, 90290

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- EDITOR:** Wayne Norman, 436 Flower St., Costa Mesa CA, 92627, (714) 646-8588. ECHO copy deadlines are the third Saturday of odd numbered months. Priority is given to legible, typed, single spaced copy. Laser-printed or other high quality copy is preferred. Floppy Disks IBM/MSWORD-WIN 2.0 are especially appreciated. Use letter quality setting on dot matrix printers. If you would like your submission returned to you, please enclose a SASE.
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- ADDRESS CHANGES:** Send address changes to the section Chair: Dan Richter, 808 4th Street #107, Santa Monica, CA 90403. The ECHO is mailed via 3rd class mail and will not be forwarded by the post office.
- PEAKS LIST:** Copies of the SPS peaks list can be obtained by sending \$1.00 and a SASE to the section Secretary: Mirna Roach, 4547 Viro Rd., La Canada CA 91011-3763
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- AWARDS:** All prices include sales tax. Emblem pins (\$16.50), senior emblem pins (\$12.00), list finisher pins (\$15.00), and section patches (\$2.00) are available from the Section Treasurer: Patty Kline, 20362 Callon Dr, Topanga Cyn, CA, 90290. Make all Checks Payable to the SIERRA PEAKS SECTION
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