

# The Sierra



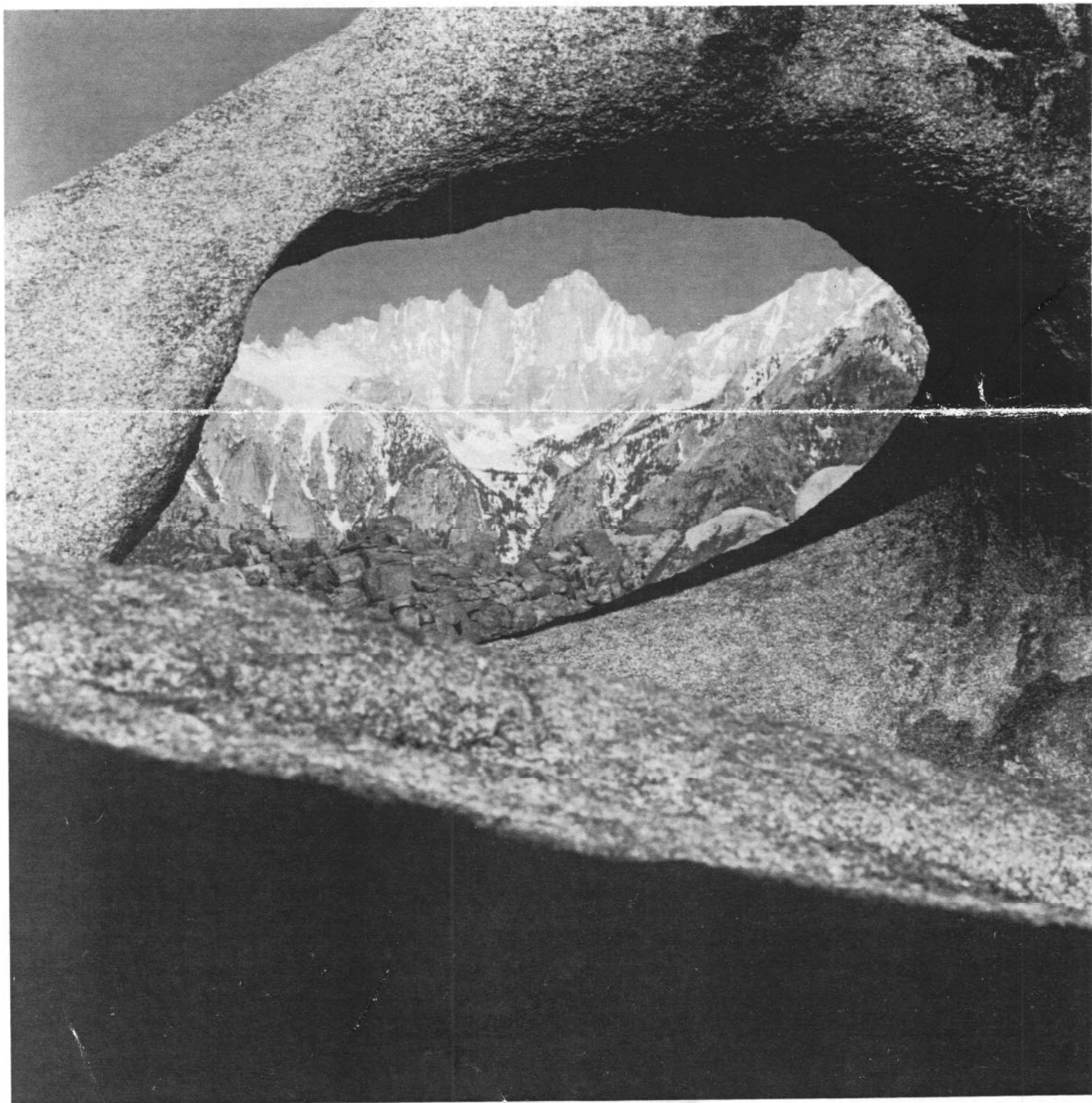
# ECHO

VOLUME 40

1996

MAY-JUNE

NUMBER 3



### **SPS MONTHLY PROGRAMS**

Sierra Peak Section meetings will be held in the Los Angeles room behind the cafeteria at the DWP, 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month.

Dept. W&P, 111 N Hope St., LA, Free parking on site.

JULY 10

**Dog Sledding in Canada** Linda McDermott will show slides of her rugged dog sledding trip in March of this year in Manitoba, Canada on the Hudson Bay. This is an unexplored area in Polar Bear Country.

AUGUST 14

**10th Mountain Division Training** Carleton Shay will show slides and share experiences teaching climbing with the Army Ski Troops, 10th Mtn Division during WWII.

SEPTEMBER 14

**Denali 1995** RJ Secor will show slides of his May 1995 climb of Mt McKinley with Brian Smith and Tom Randel.

OCTOBER 9

**Sierra Madre Search & Rescue** Jon Inskeep of Sierra Madre Search and Rescue will show how volunteer mountain rescue works for the victim.

**FRONT COVER**  
**Whitney Crest and the**  
**Desert Arch**  
**PHOTO BY**  
**DAVID VANDERVOET**

### **SPS T-SHIRTS**

Own your own SPS T-Shirt. Order Today Add \$2 for shipping, making a total of \$14 for mail order. Make a check payable to the Sierra Peaks Section. Send your order to Patty Kline, 20362 Callon Drive, Topanga Canyon, CA 90290.

### **PEAK INDEX**

**Mt. Baldwin**  
**Castle Peak**  
**Iron Mountain**  
**Kilimanjaro**  
**Mt. Lola**  
**Lookout Point**  
**North Maggie**  
**Moses**  
**Owens Point**  
**Pettit Peak**  
**Piute Mtn**  
**Red Top Mountain**  
**Revered Peak**  
**Round Top**  
**Sawmill Point**  
**Timosea Peak**  
**Volunteer Peak**  
**Wonoga Peak**

*In Passing*

**Richard Beach**

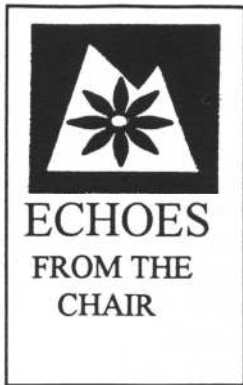
Died April 13, 1996 in an ORV accident in Saline Valley.

### **LATE ECHO DELIVERY**

No, it was not the Post Office. This issue of the ECHO was late in being completed and mailed. The editor apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused.

### **WANTED NEW ECHO EDITOR FOR 1997**

After four years Wayne Norman is stepping down as ECHO editor. (Wayne will finish out the current year.) The SPS needs a new ECHO editor to take over beginning in 1997. If interested, please contact Wayne Norman or Barbee Tidball.



**Sierra Climbing Season has begun!**.....at least for me on Black and Diamond over Memorial Day weekend. As I write these words my face is flaking off from sunburn and I have already made one trip to REI to replace equipment I should have trashed last year. The snow conditions in the Sierra were perfect. The weather (after a false start) was beautiful and it felt FABULOUS to be climbing in the Sierra.

Our Safety Committee had a successful Snow Check Out week end in April.....Thank you to Doug, Duane and all the leaders who helped with checkouts, as well as everyone who tried out their skills.

If you stopped at Lone Pine or any of the other Inyo National Forest Ranger Stations recently you may have noticed that the INF is considering revising their permit policy in regards to the No-Show permits holders and on the issuing of permits to Commercial/Outfitters. Please take time this summer to let Dennis Martin know how you feel the new permit system is working. Our comments will make a difference, and this year while the INF is trying to work out the kinks in their system, is the time to comment.

The new policy change proposals are as follows:

1. **No-Show Permits:** Based on historic no-show rates at each quota trailhead a certain number of permits will be available to the general public the day before and the day of the trip at ranger stations on a 1st come basis.
2. **Outfitter/Guide Permits.** The INF proposes issuing additional special use wilderness permits to commercial outfitter/guides for issue to their clients. These additional commercial permits are for commercial users whom have not historically had access to commercial permits. The number of service days allowed to an outfitter/guide will be based on the outfitter/guide's historic service day usage. (Or in simple terms guides like John Fischer will be able to get commercial permits like Red's Meadow Pack Station.)

Gary Gunther has provided me with a very detailed collection of articles, letters and research on the permits issue. If you would like a copy please send a SASE with 2 stamps on it to Barbee Tidball, 3826 N.Weston Pl, Long Beach, CA 90807.

While hiking from the trailhead to camp there is already a wonderful variety of wildflowers in bloom. Lupine, Mariposa Lily, Thistle, Indian Paintbrush, a few varieties of Rose family flowers, Buckwheat etc. are already decorating our trails. I often wish we had more time on our climbs to slow down and enjoy the environment rather than pushing on for one more peak on the list. I get particularly concerned when I listen to SPS climbers make comments like "I need the peak.....it doesn't matter....." Too often as climbers we seem to think that peak bagging is an end that justifies any means. Is it justified to disregard what ever wilderness policy is in the way of our peak bagging? I have no doubt that some wilderness policies are overly strict, but breaking the policy to suit our peak bagging desires is not the way to work with the wilderness rangers. As Sierra Club members we are environmentalists and climbers.

## SPS 1996 OUTINGS SCHEDULE

### July

M	Jul 4-7	Thu-Sun	Red, Merced, Gray, more	Tidball/Tidball
M	Jul 4-7	Thu-Sun	Foerster Pk	Bradley/Reber
I	Jul 4-7	Thu-Sun	Newcomb, Chamberlin, Hitchcock	Mamedalins
R M	Jul 13	Sat	Mt. Mills	Knapke/Cohen
R E	Jul 19-21	Fri-Sun	Mt. Gardner, Mt. Cotter	Dykeman/Gordon
M	Jul 19-23	Fri-Tue	Petit, Piute, Volunteer, Tower	Mantle/Cohen
I	Jul 19-23	Fri-Tue	Trail Maintenance	Camphausen/Secor
M	Jul 20-21	Sat-Sun	Tinemaha, Prater	Mamedalin/Valkass
R M	Jul 20-27	Sat-Sat	Fiske, Huxley, Charybdis, Black Giant, Goode, Agassiz	Hoak/TBA
R E	Jul 26-28	Fri-Sun	Clyde Minaret	Richter/Mantle
M	Jul 26-28	Fri-Sun	Recess, Hilgard, Gabb	Hudson/TBA

### August

I	Aug 3-4	Sat-Sun	Muah	Norman/Fickle
I	Aug 3-4	Sat-Sun	Red & White, Red Slate	Richter/Waxman
M	Aug 3-4	Sat-Sun	LeConte	Holchin/Endres
M	Aug 9-12	Fri-Mon	Triple Divide, Glacier Ridge, Whaleback	Conrad/Amimian
R M	Aug 10-17	Sat-Sat	Giraud, McDuffie, Wheel, Observation, Sill	Hoak/Underwood
M	Aug 10-18	Sat-Sun	Glacier Ridge, Whaleback, N.Guard	Dykeman/Gordon
I	Aug 23-25	Fri-Sun	Kern Pk	Waxman/Beuermann
I	Aug 23-25	Fri-Sun	Hale, Young	Sholle/Cohen
R M	Aug 24-25	Sat-Sun	Mt. Lyell, Mt Maclure	Graff/Richter
R M	Aug 24-Sep1	Sat-Sun	Stanford, Ericsson, Genevra, Jordan, Thunder, Table, Keith	Roach/Knapke
M	Aug 31-Sep2	Sat-Mon	Red Pk, Merced	Wyka/Conrad
M	Aug 30-Sep8	Fri-Sun	Lippincott, Eagle, Scout, Steward, Lion Rock, Picket Guard, more	Tidball/Tidball

### September

I	Sep 7-8	Sat-Sun	Lamont Pk, Smith Mtn	Keating/Keating
I	Sep 7-8	Sat-Sun	Morrison, Bloody	Croley/Riley
I	Sep 7-8	Sat-Sun	Iron Mtn.	Epstein/Kline
I	Sep 7-9	Sat-Mon	San Joaquin, Volcanic Ridge	Schumacher/Macleod
M	Sep 13-15	Fri-Sun	Mt. Hooper, Senger, Gemini	Dykeman/Cohen
M	Sep 13-15	Fri-Sun	North Guard, Brewer, South Guard	Hudson/TBA
I	Sep 13-15	Fri-Sun	Alta Pk.	Waxman/Beuermann
M	Sep 14-15	Sat-Sun	Thompson	Talbert/Pond
I	Sep 14-16	Sat-Mon	Mt. Lamarck, Mt Goethe	Hoak/Kline
R M	Sep 14-16	Sat-Mon	Mt. Lyell, Mt MaClure	Aminian/Arnebold
I	Sep 21-22	Sat-Sun	Baldwin, Bloody	Roach/Roach
I	Sep 21-22	Sat-Sun	Clouds Rest, Dana	Hartunian/McMannes
M	Sep 21-22	Sat-Sun	Winchell	Rivera/Endress
M	Sep 28-29	Sat-Sun	Morgan and Morgan	Dykeman/Gordon
R M	Sep 28-29	Sat-Sun	Tehipite Dome	Roach/Richter
R M	Sep 28-29	Sat-Sun	Rock Checkoff/Bear Creek Spire	Mantle/McRuer
M	Sep 28-29	Sat-Sun	Abbot	Holchin/Endress
M	Oct 5-6	Sat-Sun	Iron Mt	Dykeman/Cohen
M	Oct 12-13	Sat-Sun	Temple Crag, Gayley	Keenan/Mantle
R M	Oct 12-14	Fri-Mon	Disappointment, Middle Palisade	Tidball/Jamison
I	Oct 12-17	Sat-Thu	Leavitt, Stanislaus, Disaster, Highland, Mokelumne, Patterson	Roach/Roach
I	Oct 19	Sat	Cartago	Norman/Tidball
I	Oct 19	Sat	Morgan (S)	Sholle/Cohen
I	Oct 19-20	Sat-Sun	Mt Henry	Mantle/Stough

**NEW TRIP - SPS**

R M: AUG 10 SAT Dragon Peak

Dayhike of Dragon Peak from Onion Valley. 9mi rt, 3700' gain. Restricted to Sierra Club Members. Send SASE, H&W phones, exper, cind to Leader: Keith Martin. Asst. Jim Murphy

**(As a service to our members, the SPS, DPS and HPS agreed at a joint management committee meeting to publish each others trip schedules.)**

Upcoming DPS Trips:

Jul 6	White Mtn	John and Carol McCully
Aug 3-4	Charleston Backpack	Dave Gardner/Barbara Reber
Sep 14	Boundary/Montgomery	Fred Camphausen/Barbara Reber
Sep 28-29	Telescope/Porter	George Toby/Ron Young
Sep 28-29	Boundary/Montgomery/Glass	Charlie Knapke/John Cheslich
Oct 5-6	Hayford/Stirling	Bill Bradley/Barbara Reber
Oct 12-17	Mokelumne/Leavitt/Stanislaus/Disaster/Highland/Patterson	Greg and Mirna Roach
Oct 26-27	Joint Rock Workshop	Dan Richter/Bill Bradley
Nov 2	Tram from Palm Springs	John and Carol McCully

Upcoming HPS Trips: - by David Eisenberg, Outings Chair.

Sep 7 Sat Hundred Peaks

**O: Cucamonga Pk (8859'), Etiwanda Pk (8662') from the east:** Strenuous 13 mile, 3400' gain hike on one of the most scenic trails in the San Gabriels. Permit limits size of group. 4WD welcome. Send Sase to leader. Leader: Carleton Shay. Assistant: Ella Pennington

**SEP 7 SAT HUNDRED PEAKS**

**I: Suicide Rock (7528'), Marion Mtn (10362'), Jean Pk (10,760'), San Jacinto (10,804'), Folly Pk (10,480):** Join us to explore the West side of Marion Ridge. Rough, strenuous hike: 13 mi, 5500' gain w much cross-country and car shuttle. Send Sase early to Diane. Leader: Frank Goodykoontz. Assistant: Diane Dunbar

**SEP 7-8 SAT-SUN HUNDRED PEAKS**

**I: Three Sisters (8080'), Onyx (9113'), Heart Bar (8332'), Sugarloaf Mtn (9952):** Sat hike 9 mi rt, 3000' gain to 3 Sisters, drive to Onyx. Carcamp. Sun rise early to bag other two peaks, 10 mi rt, 2400' gain. Send Sase to Maggie. Leader: Maggie Singleton Wilson. Assistant: Chuck Sale

**SEP 11 WED LOCAL HIKES-HUNDRED PEAKS**

**O: Mt Lowe (5603') from Eaton Saddle:** Moderate 8 mi loop; 1000' gain. Meet 9 am La Canada rideshare pt. Have water, lunch, boots. Leader: Al Martin. Assistant: Southern Courtney

**SEP 11 WED HUNDRED PEAKS**

**I: Sugarloaf Pk (6924') via Falling Rock Cyn:** Meet 9 am at Icehouse Cyn parking lot above Mt Baldy Village. 7 mi8 rt on trail and xc; 2000' gain, mostly on steep, loose terrain. Lugssoles mandatory. Also bring canteen, lunch, rain protection. Mandatory to call leaders week of trip as party size is limited. Leader: Jerry Keating. Assistant: Nancy Keating

**SEP 12 THU HUNDRED PEAKS**

**Annual Business Meeting:** All members welcome to discuss peak list additions, deletions, bylaws revisions, etc. After refreshments, long time SC member, **JACK BASCOM**, will give a slide show: "Early Use of the Mt Lowe Railroad." 7:00 pm, Griffith Park Ranger Station Auditorium, 4730 Crystal Springs Drive.

**SEP 14 SAT HUNDRED PEAKS**

**I: Galena(9330):** Dayhike this steep one in the San Bernardino Mountains. 8 mi, 3200' gain rt. Sase w recent conditioning, phone & rideshare information to Leader. Leader: Frank Goodykoontz. Assistant: Wynne Benti-Zdon

**SEP 21 SAT HUNDRED PEAKS/RIO HONDO**

**O: Throop Pk (9138'), Mt Hawkins (8850') Middle Mt Hawkins(8505') South Mt Hawkins (7783):** Meet 7 am Pomona Carpool or 8:30 am Pine Hollow (sase for directions), short car shuttle. Hike from Dawson Saddle to Pine Hollow approx. 15 miles 3000+ gain. Bring lunch, 3 qts water, lugs. Rain cancels Leader: Erich Fickle. Assistant: Luella Fickle

**SEP 21 SAT HUNDRED PEAKS**

**I: Mt San Antonio (10,064') to Lookout Mtn (6812):** Strenuous 9 miles, 4,000+ elevation gain w much steep cross-country, from Manker Flats up Mt. Baldy, down a ridge to Lookout Mtn, back via the village. Meet 6 am church parking lot next to Mt Baldy Ranger Station. Shuttle involved. Bring 10 essentials including at least 3 qts water. Leader: Diane Dunbar. Assistant: Frank Goodykoontz

**SEP 21 SAT HUNDRED PEAKS**

**Mt Hillyer (6162'), Hwy Cleanup** Easy beginners hike to this wooded peak in the San Gabriels. 2 mi rt, 500' gain. Lunch and tour at the nearby Visitors Center. Help clean up Angeles Crest Hwy after. Bring water, lunch, and treats to share on the summits. Meet 9 am La Canada rideshare pt. Leader: David Eisenberg. Assistant: Ruth Lee & Frank Dobos

**SEP 22 SUN HUNDRED PEAKS**

**I: Marion Pk (10,320')**: Repeat of 100 Peaks "game" hike led 50 years ago. Moderate hike in San Jacinto Wilderness St Park involves 14 mi and 4000' gain. Bring water, lunch, lug soles. For info send sase to Ron. Leader: Ron Young. Assistant: Edna Erspamer

**SEP 28 SAT HUNDRED PEAKS**

**O: Mt Islip (8250')**: 8 mi rt, 2400' gain hike up Windy Gap Trail; down via Cinega Loop Trail. Meet 7 am Azusa rideshare pt. Bring water, lunch, lugsoles Leader: Maggie Singleton Wilson. Assistant: Chuck Sale

**SEP 28 SAT HUNDRED PEAKS**

**O: Reyes Pk (7514'), Haddock Mtn (7431')**: Moderate 9 mi rt hike in lovely Ojai area of Los Padres NF with panoramic views. 1000' gain. Wear lugsoles; bring lunch, water, goodies to share on top. Meet 7:30 am Woodland Hills rideshare pt. Leader: Charlotte Feitshans. Assistant: Mike & Dotty Sandford

**OCT 5 SAT HUNDRED PEAKS**

**O: Mt. San Antonio (10,064')**: 7 mi, 3900' gain. Strenuous pre-Oktoberfest hike past ski hut, back via the Notch. Lugsoles, lunch, 2 qts water a must. No beginners. Meet 8 am Mt. Baldy rideshare pt. Leader: Don Westland. Assistant: Mary McMannes

**OCT 5 SAT HUNDRED PEAKS**

**I: Bighorn Pk (8441'), Ontario Pk(8693'), Sugarloaf Pk(6924') Oktoberfest Hike:** Strenuous 12 mile, 4200' gain hike on trail with some rough cross-country in the Mt Baldy area. No beginners. Meet 6:30 am at the Mt Baldy rideshare point. Bring 2-3 quarts water, lunch, lugsoles. Leader: Carleton Shay. Assistant: Edna Erspamer

**OCT 5 SAT HUNDRED PEAKS**

**O: Mt. San Antonio (10,064')**: Oktoberfest strenuous hike from Baldy Village with car shuttle. Some x-country. 11 mi rt, 5600' gain. Bring lunch, lug sole boots, 3 qts water. Back in time to attend Oktoberfest for those with reservations. Meet 7 am, Mt. Baldy rideshare pt. Leader: Patty Kline. Assistant: Frank Goodykoontz

**OCT 5-6 SAT-SUN HUNDRED PEAKS**

**C: Oktoberfest Annual Celebration:** Join us for a weekend of hiking, traditional German food, live entertainment in the Harwood Lodge. Sat evening dinner, beer, wine, non-alcoholic drinks, singing and dancing. Sun continental breakfast and more hike to choose from. Sleeping bags required. Limited, reserve early. Send sase with \$25 check payable to HPS to reservationist: **RUTH LEE DOBOS**. Overseers: Tom & Judy Boien

**OCT 6 SUN HUNDRED PEAKS**

**O: Thunder Mtn (8587'), Telegraph Peak (8985'), Timber (8303')**: Fast paced hike requiring good conditioning in Mt Baldy area of San Gabriel Mtns. 12 miles, 3600' gain. Send Sase with recent hiking experience to leader. Sase required, in part, due to wilderness permit limitations. Short car shuttle. Leader: Diane Dunbar. Assistant: Larry Hoak

**OCT 10 THU HUNDRED PEAKS**

**Peakbaggers Social Meeting:** Business meeting starts 7:00 pm. After refreshments, **CARLETON SHAY**, presents a slide show on his trip to China: The Great Wall, Tian'anmen Square, Forbidden City, Terra Cotta Warriors, Li River, etc. 7:30 pm, Griffith Park Ranger Station Auditorium, 4730 Crystal Springs Drive.

**OCT 12 SAT HUNDRED PEAKS**

**O: Ken Pt (6423')**: The life and times of Vi Grasso will be recalled and honored on this memorial climb of her final ascent which took place 2 years ago. 15 mi rt, 2500' gain. Moderately strenuous. Send Sase with rideshare info to Gene. Leader: Gene Mauk. Assistant: Mary McMannes

**OCT 13 SUN HUNDRED PEAKS**

**I: San Bernardino Pk (10,649'), San Bernardino East Pk (10,691'), Anderson Pk (10,840')**: Repeat of 100 Peaks "game" hike led 50 years ago. Moderate hike in San Bernardino Forest involves 18 mi and 4800' gain. Possible addnl peak. Wilderness Area limits number of participants. Bring water, lunch, log soles. For info, send Sase to Carleton. Leader: Carleton Shay. Assistant: Diane Dunbar

**OCT 26 SAT HUNDRED PEAKS**

**Josephine Pk (5558') Moonlight Halloween Hike:** This is the night of the "Hunter's Moon." Climb Josephine while the sun is setting. Watch the sun set and the moon rise on the summit! Celebrate Halloween and hike back by moonlight. 1900', 5 mi rt. Bring Masks or other costumes, Halloween treats for the summit. Meet 4 pm La Canada rideshare pt. Leader: David Eisenberg. Assistant: Ruth Lee & Frank Dobos

#### MULE PACK SECTION TRIPS

- |   |                 |   |                                 |
|---|-----------------|---|---------------------------------|
| O | JULY 4-7        | Sequoia Natl Park Mule Pack (Camp at Mehrten Mdw) | Leaders: Ron & Adele Banner     |
| O | JULY 26-29      | Devil's Postpile to Minaret Lake                  | Leader: Bob Hiestand            |
| O | AUG 31 - SEPT 2 | Mule Pack to Piute Lake                           | Leaders: Alan & Jeanne Williams |

## SPS Membership Report:

### New Members - Welcome!

Nile Sorenson 4915 Yorba Ranch Rd, STE A Yorba Linda CA 92687-2549 714 777-4080	Wiley Wohlf 12361 Delta Street Garden Grove CA 92640 (W) 714 727-8431 (H) 714 534-0173
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### Address Changes

Melinda Bird 1306 Tremaine Ave Los Angeles CA 90019 (W) 818 546-1631 (H) 213 936-4377	Bill Lingle 605 Hampshire RD Westlake Village CA 91361	Rene Mevay 28710 N. Persimmon Lane Saugus CA 91350 (W) 818 831-5555 (H) 805 296-5744
John Oakden One Colgate Way Canton MA 02021-9983	Gus Ordonez P.O. Box 91918 Los Angeles CA 90009-1918	Heidi Zimmer 2500 Miramar Ave #306 Casto Valley CA 94546

### ECHOES FROM OUR MEETINGS

#### SPS Management Committee Meeting - April 10, 1996 - Wayne Norman

The meeting was attended by Barbee Tidball, , Patty Kline, Tina Stough, Harry Freimanis, Barbara Cohen, and Wayne Norman.

Treasurer and Secretary reports were not given. The management committee (MC) decided to book Doug Robinson as this years banquet speaker. The MC left the issue of links to other websites from the SPS Webpage to the discretion of the Internet Editor. Progress is being made concerning the SPS archive at UCLA. Brochures were handed out to MC members to be distributed to area retailers. Letters to the Access Fund concerning the bolting in the wilderness were discussed and were passed around to SPS members at the regular meeting for their signatures.

SPS General Meeting - April 10, 1996

Letters to the Access Fund concerning bolting in the wilderness were passed around for signatures. After the intermission Wayne Norman gave an entertaining slide presentation on his trip to the Canadian Rockies.

#### SPS Management Committee Meeting - May 8, 1996 - Wayne Norman

The meeting was attended by Dan Richer, Patty Kline, Tina Stough, Barbara Cohen, Doug Mantle, Duane McRuer.

Treasurer's Report was read. Doug Robinson was confirmed as banquet speaker. Mountain Records: a new canister was placed on Mt. Williamson. Outings; all trips were approved

#### SPS General Meeting - May 8, 1996

After the intermission there was a "Show & Tell" with slides and stories about sierra trips from SPS members.

**MARIO GONZALEZ WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR LEADERSHIP TO ASCEND THE FOLLOWING PEAKS: DARWIN, THUNDERBOLT, GARDINER, NORMAN CLYDE, PALISADE CREST, DEVILS CRAG, THUNDER, GLACIER RIDGE, HERMIT. (213) 614-2344**

From the Editor

### **Background Noise:**

Even the best editors make mistakes. Than there are the so-so editors like me who make them on an issue by issue basis. Some are harmless (did anyone notice the mistake on the mailing page of the Jan-Feb 1996 ECHO? Good.), others can cause someone to drive in from Bakersfield to come to a SPS meeting, only to find the information in the ECHO was off by a day. Last issue I misspelled someone's name and received a most interesting and enjoyable correction. (See below) It's nice to know our members have a sense of humor and take pity on the editor. (In my own defense, I did manage to spell John's name correctly 2 out of 3 times.)

I rarely recommend other publications or groups in this column, but this Background Noise is an exception. There is an organization composed of climber, working to protect the rights and interest of climbers. This organization is the Access Fund. The Access Fund works with government agencies, land managers, private citizens and climbers to protect climbing areas and our ability to access them.

I'm a member of the Access Fund and encourage other climbers to join this organization and support the fine work they do. If climbers don't stand up and defend our interests then who will? For more information, contact the Access Fund at 303 545-6772

**LATE ECHO.** I could offer all sorts of reasons (excuses) why the ECHO is late. The bottom line is it is late and I apologize for any inconvenience caused by this. I've received a few phone calls from people who said they haven't received their ECHO yet. Its nice to know people look forward to the ECHO.

### **NEW EDITOR NEEDED**

This is my fourth year as ECHO editor. It has been a fun and rewarding task. I've met some great people doing this newsletter and feel that I'm a small part of the rich SPS history. Four years is enough though and it is time to relinquish my post as editor effective January 1997. I hope to continue to be active in the SPS as a leader, member of the management committee and contributor of articles & trip reports for the ECHO. If you are interested in becoming the next editor, please contact either myself or Barbee Tidball.

### **ECHOES FROM OUR READERS**

Dear Mr. Norman:

Dod: a Danish word meaning 'little hill.' That's probably redundant, I doubt there are any big hills in Denmark. However, we Danes invaded and conquered parts of England in 600 or 700 AD. God only knows what the Brits did to the name or why. Perhaps the extra 'd' creates 'big hill.' Of course the 's' creates a plural. (Unless you're German: Vie eff an ess und die end, my sweet'). Anyway: 'big hills' seems appropriate for an SPSer.

I knew you were just dying to know all of the above, and now that you do, there should be no further errors as in the caption on page 15 of the March April ECHO.

John T. Dodds





## THE NEW PERMIT SYSTEM

*I've received several letters, e-mails and postings about the new permit system. Due to space limitations I only included the following posting:*

From Michael Luttrell

To all of you frustrated by trying to obtain Whitney and Inyo National Forest Permits:

On Friday, 12 April, I went by the reservations office for Mt. Whitney permits, and easily received two, once for the standard route and one for the Mountaineers route. I was able to look at the reservations log and find two workable dates, in early and late July.

Most of the dates for the standard route are filled, there are still openings for the Mountaineers route. The quota is 50 per day, based on entry date. Depending on how long people are in the area, there could be a hundred or more people summiting each day, which, in my view, certainly warrants some kind of reservation restriction system.

Most important, I found the people there exceedingly helpful and friendly. They are very frustrated that they are spending a considerable effort to make the best of a bad situation, and have had numerous organizational and technical problems, some of which still exist. Some of their problems should be made public. For example:

1. The reservations service is a private contracting business, started when some of the people in the Forest Service were laid off in government cutbacks. It was clear that the NFS did not have the resources or finances to organize a cohesive reservation service, so they contracted it out.

2. This system was supposed to go into service on 1 Feb, but due to government shut-downs over the budget battle, was not able to start until 1 April, when they were totally swamped.

3. This is an Interim Procedure, for this Year ONLY. Next year, you will be able to make reservations 6 months in advance. For example, for

July 10, you will be able to reserve on 10 Jan. So there is not much use in raising hell about this year; it is already scheduled to change.

4. Even though ATT and regional phone services were warned about a heavy phone burden, and claimed to be able to handle it, they could not, and as of last Friday, they were still having trouble with calls getting to them from the 310 area codes.

5. When I was there, three people were on the computers and phones, and they were on the phone only half the time. This was about 10 am. When they did get on the phone, they spent about half their time explaining and apologizing for the difficulty to skeptical and angry callers. They were patient and understanding, and it took a lot of time, and most callers still did not understand or believe the explanations!

6. The first few days, the ATT switchboard to their fax system frid from overload! Even though their fax machine was working, ATT lines were not. The service is located in Big Pine, and the phone service to the Eastern Sierras is, at best, marginal.

7. As far as I could tell, phone, fax, e-mail, and walk-in traffic all got prioritized by arrival, and none received an advantage over the other.

Most important, and I want to emphasize, I found the people there concerned, committed and eager to make the system work. They are as frustrated as all of their callers, and are doing their honest best to make the best of a very difficult situation. And, after meeting them, they do not deserve the abuse and derogatory comments they are having to deal with continually. Let's give them a break, and see what happens for next year. Thought you would all like to know.

## INTERNET TIDBITS

### New Internet Web Site for Yosemite Association

Yosemite lovers can keep in touch with the park via "Yosemite Online" - the new Internet web site maintained by the Yosemite Association. Located at '<http://yosemite.org/>' the site features visitor information, news, a bookstore, outdoor classes, Yosemite Association membership data, even a live camera view of Glacier Point. Browsers will find digital maps, 3-D Quicktime VR movies from Yosemite Valley, the daily weather forecast, and much more.

### Sierra Peaks Section List on the Internet

The SPS list is available at the SPS web site: <http://www.edgeinternet.com/sp/>

**Obscure Objectives: Alternative Climbs in the Sierra**  
(Sawmill Pt., Timosea Pk., Owens Pt., Wonoga Pk., Reversed Pk., and Lookout Pt.)  
By Bob Sumner

Through the winter and early spring of 1996, Erik Siering and I made ascents of several Eastern Sierra peaks. We weren't seeking listed peaks or popular climbs; instead we sought both accessibility and obscurity to continue enjoying the Sierra during the off-season. We weren't disappointed with what we found.

**Sawmill Point, 9416'.** There wasn't much snow below 10,000' in early January which allowed for a dry ascent. This peak is accessed using the Sawmill Pass Trail, which we followed to elevation 7000'. From here go up the east ridge to about 9000' where the first steep rock is encountered. Here we contoured on to the brushy south slopes, choosing the left edge of the south buttress to go up. This yielded a loose class 3-4 zigzag route up ledges which ultimately led to ridgeline. Here a short scramble along the rocky ridge put us on top of this worthy point. The views of the higher snowy peaks and Owens Valley were superb. For descent, we took the gully just east of the summit which gave a short class 3 friction downclimb. A steep 1800' sand run dropped us southward to the Sawmill Pass Trail where it runs next to the North Fork of Sawmill Creek. *Stats: 7 miles rt, 5000 ' gain.*

**Timosea Peak, 8625'.** Having banged our heads against the wall the previous day doing an exploratory route on Keynot Peak, we opted for this pleasant surprise of a peak. We drove as follows: south of Lone Pine, leave Hwy 395 and go west on the Cottonwood Power Plant road for 0.1 mile, veer right and cross the aqueduct in another 0.1. Now follow the dirt power line road north for 1.5+ miles to a paved road on the left. Follow this to its end at 6000' at a microwave relay facility. Hike west straight up brushy/sandy slopes, eventually emerging onto a gentler rock and pinyon sprinkled ridge. Continue west until you get to a N/S running ridge; hang a left and go southwest to the top. On this warm March day, we were treated to superb views down into the Cottonwood Creek drainage. The long north ridge of Timosea leading to the Horseshoe Meadow Road beckoned us to return someday. The register was truly ancient - the first entry by Chester Versteeg in 1940. Sitting here looking across the valley to the Inyos, perhaps that was the day he pondered giving them a try. A year later he did, an event leading to the formation of the Desert Peaks Section. The next entry was not until the early sixties. For such an easy, accessible, enjoyable peak, it is quite surprising that it doesn't receive more visits - some years none, other years only a couple. We ran down the sand slopes back to the cars reaching them a scant 20 minutes after leaving the top. *Stats: 3 miles rt, 2600 ' gain.*

**Owens Point, 11,411'.** The consolidating snows of early April led to my ascent of this excellent peak. The north couloir is a tranquilized Southern Sierra version of San Jacinto's Snow Creek, and is visible from as far north as Big Pine. To get to the trailhead drive as follows: From Lone Pine, go up the Whitney Portal Road, then turn south on the Horseshoe Meadows Road. From the junction with the Lubkin Canyon Road, continue south another 0.9 miles to a dirt road on the right (this is just before the Horseshoe Meadow road veers to the left). Take this dirt road to its end at 6000'; any high-clearance vehicle should be able to make it. For the peak, go west along the left side of the North Fork of Lubkin Creek eventually contouring up and southwest through pinyon groves to the north gully of Owens. Continue south up the rocky gully until you get to the snow tongue. Then its several thousand feet of snow climbing straight up towards the summit. The snow level during the first week of April was 7500' which gave 4000 feet of snow climbing.

At around 10,000', you encounter a rock rib coming down from the summit which splits the couloir into left and right forks. For steep exposed climbing, which included some dicey mixed terrain, I chose the right chute. For a safer saner experience, go up the left chute to within 600 feet of the top, then cut left on any of several class 2-3 rock ribs that put you on ridgeline. Great views of the many Sierra peaks in the Whitney area. Descend the left chute route and then enjoy a big glissade! *Stats: 5 miles rt, 5500' gain.*

**Wonoga Peak, 10,371'.** An easy saunter from the Horseshoe Meadow Road. Drive up the road to about 9200' where there is a small parking area on the right (north) side of the road. Here pick up an old trail that follows Little Cottonwood Creek and go north for a third of a mile to a prominent drainage coming in on the right. From here head northeast up brushy slopes to the rocky summit. Impressive view of Owens Lake. *Stats: 2 miles rt, 1200' gain.*

**Reversed Peak, 9473'.** When viewed from the north, this conical shaped peak overlooking June Lake appears quite impressive. It can be done from just about any side since it is circled by roads, but when snow is present the best bet is to do it from the south. From June Lake Junction, drive south to just past the ski area where a dirt powerline road is on the right. Drive or hike in about a half mile, then go north up brushy slopes, sometimes picking up use trails (when snow-free), to a high plateau with a sometimes frozen lake. Head north toward the summit, either moving to the left to run along a rocky/snowy ridge or staying right through a pine grove to eventually scramble up the bouldery apex. When we did this in early April, much of the snow had already melted. Good views of Banner, Davis, and the Minarets. *Stats: 6 miles rt, 1800' gain.*

**Lookout Point, 10,144'.** This peak was another unexpected pleasure. If you like Cartago from the aqueduct, then you'll like this one. Drive as follows: From Hwy 395 between Big Pine and Independence, go west 0.8 miles on the Black Rock Springs Road. Then turn south and go 1.3 miles on the old Hwy 395. Turn right (west) on a dirt road just before a cattle guard. Go a half mile to an old corral and turn right on another dirt road, which is then followed for about 2 miles to another old corral near Harry Birch Springs. This is a nice place to camp. A high clearance 4WD is probably necessary for these last 2 miles. Hike: From the old corral camp spot, continue up the deteriorating road 1/4 mile, then go x-c southwest straight up a broad sand gully. After 2000' or so, get on top of the rocky/brushy northeast ridge of Lookout and follow it to the top. In mid-April, we had about 1500' feet of snow climbing along the ridge. We had great views of Indian Rock and Colosseum, but unfortunately found no register on Lookout's summit. While this steep ascent took us five hours up, we did not tarry in descent. We plunged-stepped and glissaded the snowy sections, then cut to the south a bit and ran down 3000+ feet of sand, returning to the cars just 1 hour 15 minutes after leaving the top. *Stats: 6 miles rt, 5500' gain.*

## ECHOES FROM OUR CLIMBS

### **Volunteer, Pettit and Piute**

September 2-5, 1995

Leaders: Al Conrad and Bob Wyka

Having misunderstood that we could secure parking tickets at the Mono Village Resort Cafe prior to the opening of the campground entry station at 7:30 am, the leader gathered the flock at 6:30 am. All this did was assure the cafe proprietor a few more breakfast

sales while we waited, pondering our fate under the canopy of scattered shafts of sunlight and darkening clouds. At 8 am we were leaving the west end of the campground headed for Barney Lake. Storm threats materialized into a heavy shower which lasted for 10

minutes around 9 am. Although overcast, the skies didn't shed their drops again until we were eating lunch at Peeler Lake. After that we entered Yosemite NP and enjoyed the rest of the trip in dry weather

Over Seavey Pass, we found a camp area on a bench to the east of the trail at about 8600'. Stayed there two nights Did Volunteer followed by Pettit on Day 2. The obvious basin leading to the SW slope of Volunteer worked well. This was reached via the trail to Rodgers Lake, heading south from the PCT just below the sheer face of Volunteer. We traversed south from Volunteer at about 10,100', not dropping to Rodgers Lake as some have done. The descent from Pettit to Rodgers Lake demanded some bush whacking and negotiating some snow fields. Our consensus was that doing the peaks in this order made a lot of sense because of the terrain and snow conditions. We were back at camp by 6 pm.

Having been warned of the snow conditions by a couple of people who had been in the area recently, the trip went private and ice axes were carried. The leader got teased a bit about that requirement. The snow conditions must have changed dramatically in the two weeks prior to the trip because the trip would have gone well without them. We carried our ice axes to

Piute as well on Day 3. On this day, all but one of us pulled them out for crossing the snow basin, we had carried them and we were going to use them! ! Mine came in handy as a crutch descending the steep vegetated slope below the prominent pine-tree-in-the-notch landmark we had used in ascending toward the ride from camp.

The route to Piute has been well-described in the literature...about as well as one can do in words. Some trial and error was required for us to find the downslope to the snow basin. The left-heading and then right-heading slopes leading to the ridge NW of the summit climaxed the best ascent of this trio of peaks. Since one couple felt obligated to be with their employers on Tuesday, but still wanted Piute, they just committed themselves to being back at their vehicle by dark on Monday. And they were. The rest of us enjoyed the evening at Peeler Lake and were back at our cars around 9:30 am on Tuesday.

Our route covered about 46 miles and about 10,000' of elevation gain. Stream crossings were not a problem. Participants were: Scott Sullivan, Elena Sherman, Dan Richter, Asher Waxman and Tom Randel. Strong and experienced, these people made this trip a great success.

## Iron Mountain, Red Top Mountain

Sept. 16-19, 1995

Gordon MacLeod

Co-leaders Gordon MacLeod and Dave Underwood and one participant (Barbara Lilley) met at Devils Postpile on a beautiful September day. (One potential participant had to cancel due to injury; another "fell through the crack" because the schedule misidentified who to contact.) The trio backpacked to a camp near the trail crossing of the stream coming from Anona Lake, where King Creek descends in spectacular cascades. En route, a side trip was made to climb the Granite Stairway. The devastation caused by the big forest fire west of Mammoth Mtn. a couple of years ago was still in evidence.

Sunday, we headed for Iron Mountain. Upon discovering that our chosen route via Anona Lake would require both ice axes and crampons (which Just happened not to be available, we crossed the ridge south of Anona Lake (near Pt. 10,101') and descended 700'. After a long tedious talus climb near the ridge crest (north of Pt. 10,821'), we finally reached the summit. On the descent, a better route was found about 300' below the ridgeline. A long contour was made to the trail west of Granite Stairway which we followed back to camp, arriving Just after dark.

Monday, we backpacked north and east along the trail that crosses the outlets of Holcomb and Beck

Lakes to a saddle a mile SE of recently named Red Top Mtn., which is shown as Pk. 10,532' on the Devil's Postpile 15' topo. The 712' map has placed the name on the wrong peak!. After climbing the peak, we chose a cross-country route via Lost Dog Lake to a camp on Minaret Creek which was fortuitously crossed on a large log Jam.

Tuesday, we hiked the old road/trail to the Minaret Mine and beyond to a point where we Judged that our chosen route to the high point of volcanic ridge would, alas, require ice axes and crampons. Since alternate routes also seemed likely to require the aforementioned devices, we punted and backpacked out to the cars. In spite of the fact that this was the opening of deer hunting season and a number of hunting parties were in the area, only one gun shot was heard during the four day period.

No register or cairn was found on the summit of Iron, so we left both. Register thieves are apparently cruising the Sierra; SPS climbers might consider carrying register containers and notebooks on their peak climbs. Summit registers have proved useful, even lie saving, in search and rescue operations.

## **Mt. Baldwin**

Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, 1995

By Patty Kline

There were 5 participants on this co-sponsored SPS/WTC trip led by Beth Epstein with Patty Kline assisting -- Mary Ann Kiely, Chuck Tribbey, Kim Gimenez, Barbara Allen and Mel Burns. Our group of 7 left the backpackers parking lot at the northeast corner of Convict Lake at 9:15 am on Saturday. It had been bitterly cold and windy at Convict Lake the preceding week, but we had great weather; winter seemed as delayed as summer had been; the aspens had barely turned and the first dusting of snow hadn't arrived yet in the Sierra.

The trail departs from the backpacker's parking lot and goes around the north side of Convict Lake to a stream crossing 3 miles from the roadhead. Only the concrete buttresses remain of a washed out bridge to testify to how tricky the crossing can be even in medium water because it occurs where the stream tumbling steeply down from Lake Genevieve joins the main stream of Convict Creek. Early in the season the crossing is supposed to be particularly difficult, and would have been especially so in this record snow year, the heaviest since 1969.

After an additional 1400 feet and two miles, we had a late lunch at Mildred Lake. The north face of Red Slate Mountain with its class 4 snow and ice coulour dominated the southern horizon, a reminder of why it is a mountaineers peak, despite usually being done from McGee Pass as a class 1 climb.

From Mildred Lake the route follows a well-established use trail along the east side of the meadow. We went 1 mile south of Mildred Lake to the first stream crossing from the east. Here the use trail turns east on the south side of the stream at UTM coordinate 349557 and gains a few hundred feet over a hill. It is easily possible to miss this turn. R.J. Secor in *The High Sierra Peaks, Passes and Trails* says go to UT M

35155, a little further to the south, then gain elevation cross-country over talus. The use trail provided an excellent route all the way to Bright Dot Lake, and beyond, and we guessed that it was probably the access to the calcite mine on the northwest slopes of Baldwin, which was formerly known as Calcite Peak.

Bright Dot Lake is aptly named. There are nice level camping spots on the sandy, grassy south side. We had great views to the north of the colorful slopes of Morrison, Bloody and Laurel. Baldwin was in clear view to the south, a swirl of smooth gray and white walls against the red rock around it.

Saturday night we had our happy hour contest, with the best contribution winning a prize. It was won by Barbara Allen, who brought a huge bag of fresh frozen cooked shrimp from Trader Joe's, plus sauce. There was hardly any reason to cook dinner after the happy hour.

On Sunday the group left about 8 am for the peak. Our route led south from Bright Dot Lake to the class 1-2 northwest slope. There was some minor class three unavoidable because of snow. The use trail ended at the abandoned calcite mine. This rock looks like translucent quartz but has more distinct, symmetrical fracturing into rhomboidal crystals. At the mine there were many large and beautiful fragments on the ground. After a long lunch on top with magnificent views on a warm, cloudless day, the six of us who went for the peak returned to camp. We packed out and headed to the cars.

Two WTC students, MaryAnn Kiely and Barbara Allen, qualified for graduation on this trip. Chuck Tribbey graduated three years ago. This was Mary Ann's second SPS peak! Thanks to all the participants -- everyone had a great time on this late season backpack.

## **North Maggie and Moses**

October 21-22, 1995

Doug Mantle and Tina Stough, leaders

This last scheduled trip of the season was a great success. Fifteen (our permit limit) met at the Shake Camp trailhead in Mountain Home State Forest and began hiking at 7:05 on the Summit Lake trail. We established camp at Long Meadow and soon started out for North Maggie behind Doug, fighting our way up brush soon after leaving the trail just several minutes north of our camp (we left the trail about the M in Middle on the Moses Mtn 7 1/2 map. Eventually the

brush gave way to less vicious terrain as we went up the drainage west and a bit north of N. Maggie (north of false summit 10,113'). We spent an hour or more on the summit, enjoying the sunshine and the register placed in 1963 by John Robinson and congratulating John Dobbs on his fiftieth Sierra peak and R. J. Secor on his five hundredth Sierra summit. Our return route followed the drainage, generally on the south side, but switching to the north and then the south again closer

to the bottom. We crossed the Tule River to the west side to pick up the trail again and soon were back in camp.

what. Gathered around a fine campfire, we shared memories of Vi Grasso doing her Tina Turner imitation on this same trip of ten years ago and other reminiscences of our friend.

Despite a lot of grumbling about the early hour, the group set off Sunday morning at 7:00 for Moses, going north on the trail again to the meadow where we had picked up the trail after our climb of N. Maggie. We went up the slope to a false summit where we rested while Donna Cheslick professionally cared for a razor-like cut inflicted on Bob Bruley's leg by a rock.

Bruley, John and Donna Cheslick, Barbara Cohen, John Dobbs, Terry Flood, Bob Latter, Dan Richter, R.

Doug tried to shame us into waiting at least till 5:00 to begin feasting on all of the goodies, but some of us couldn't resist the temptation, no matter

Then we traversed south to the true summit with some nice scrambling. To return, we went back to the false summit immediately north of the true one and went east down into the drainage, angling south somewhat through the forest in the lower portion. We crossed the river and hiked back north on the trail briefly to arrive in camp. Back on trail about 12:50, the last of us reached the cars about 2:10. All fifteen made both summits. Participants were Mark Adrian, Bob and Steve

J. Secor, Dave Sholle, and Pete Yamagata. Thank you, Doug, for a fine lead of our hiking and climbing.

## KILIMANJARO (part 2)

September 1994

by Dave Hammond

Next morning we were off to Kilimanjaro National Park arriving at the Park Entrance, and were met by our guide, cook and porters. We got going before midday, hiking up 3000' through the forest to our first camp at 9000'. The way up this main East Side approach is quite civilized with huts all the way. Each site has a large hut or room for eating, the food being cooked in small huts over wood fires, and brought to the eating place

Onward next morning we finally left the forest and got a great view of Kilimanjaro and nearby Mawenzi Peak. Both mountains are volcanic in origin, older Mawenzi having been eroded into rugged peaks. Continuing across moorland we arrived at the next hut 12300', where we were to spend two nights. This was for acclimatization and we spent the day hiking up to the saddle between Mawenzi and Kilimanjaro to see what lay ahead. On again the next day over open country with sparse vegetation to the last hut below the summit. By the time I reached the lunch place it had started to rain and I was handed sandwiches by our ever patient leader. It was one of the few times I can recall eating on the move. At the hut at 15400' that evening the rain turned to snow not surprisingly. We all went to bed early for an 1 am rise. We had brought headlamps, but the night was clear and with the full moon they were switched off soon after starting. The group of fifty or so climbers made their way up, the trail zigzagging seemingly endlessly up a long steep scree slope. The reason for leaving so early was that the scree would remain frozen during our climb. It seemed ages before light finally came up the rocks below the rim of the crater. On the rim is Gillman

Point (18,700'), a turn around point for some. However I felt fine, though lacking energy, and plodded on with our leader. Later we met the other two in our little group on their way down from the summit. I was glad they made it, as the highest they had been before was in the Rockies, and wondered where they got energy to get so far ahead! By now there was a cold wind, so we sheltered for a quick snack before going on to the exposed summit. At the very top of the African continent (19,340') distant views were obscured by the clouds below. However I could look down into the enormous ice filled crater which was about 2 to 3 miles across, and in the center was an icy dome looking nearly as high as the summit.

About ten climbers were there and photos were happily taken, fresh snow hiding the bleak volcanic rock. It was then back round the rim to Gillman Point, and down the scree to the hut for lunch. By that time other climbers were coming in, including quite a few from Britain. So myself and our slightly tired leader had to be on our way to the next hut where we had rest day on the way up.

After spending our last night on the mountain it was the hike out to the park entrance, where we had a late lunch and bade farewell to our guide and hard working cook and porters. Our minivan took us to a most pleasant lodge near Arusha. On the last day of the trip we drove to Arusha for some shopping, and then to the Kenya border, where we changed vehicles and drivers again for the drive to Nairobi. At the Norfolk Hotel I enjoyed the pool while the other two got ready for departure that evening after the farewell dinner.

## Castle Peak, Mt. Lola, Round Top

October 28-29, 1995

Pete Yamagata

Kathy Price and Jim Adler flew up Friday night to Sac Metro in the hopes of securing Kathy's Senior Emblem and doing some more Northern Sierra peaks. For Saturday, I enlisted Rich Gnagy to take all of us to the end of the dirt road up Castle Valley in his 4WD. We hiked, then scrambled to the top of the class 3 climber's summit, which is the southeasternmost of the three crags that comprise the peak. We saw that Patty Kline had carried up an ammo box register just weeks previous. We quickly returned to the Jeep, and drove around to the Jackson Meadow Road off Highway 89 north and then to White Rock Lake, which is -southwest of Lola. This is definitely a 4WD road! We found and took the trail to the summit of Lola, and enjoyed the nice feeling and a beautiful sunset while hiking back down to the Jeep. We celebrated in Truckee at O.B.'s Board with a great prime rib and shrimp dinner.

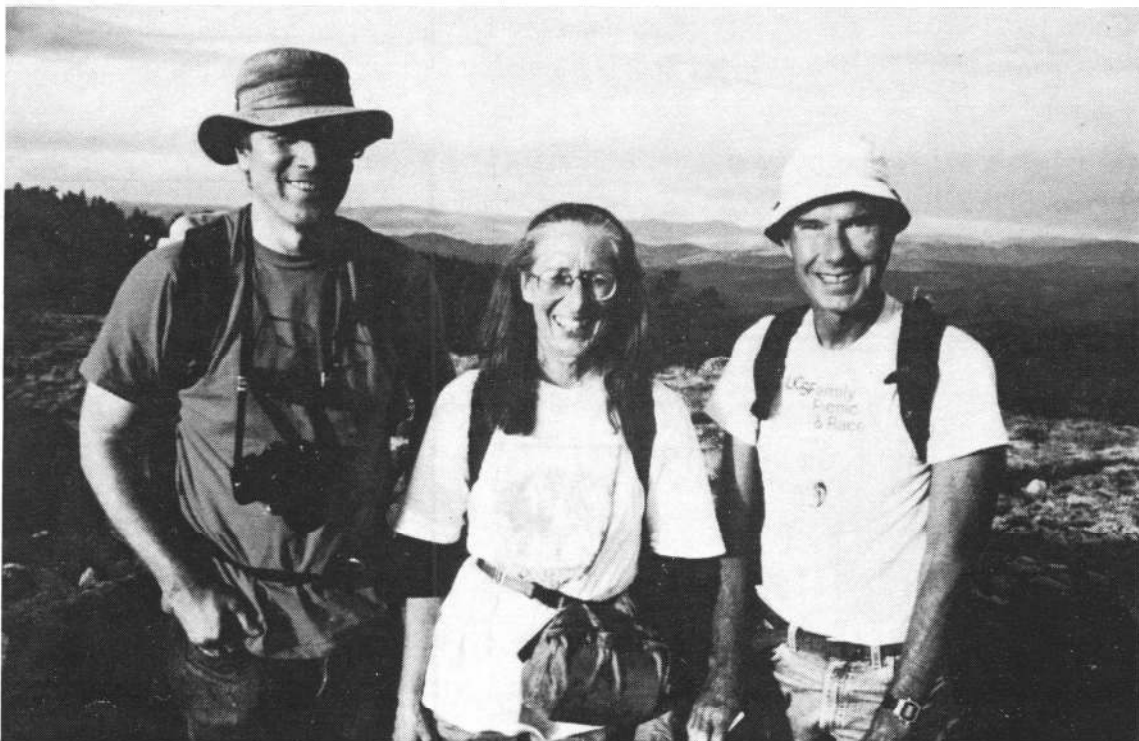
The next day, Kathy, Jim, and I motored up to Carson Pass and took the PCT and then to the north side of the peak. I noticed a little cloud build-up, but chose to ignore it aside from a brief mention, as Kathy and Jim had come such a long way for these peaks. Remarkably, on the ascent, I talked to a colorfully equipped local mountain shop employee who had turned around, seemingly stating some difficulty(?). We then passed a group having lunch on the summit ridge, and then completed the ascent of the easy class 3 summit block. We signed in, then heard a loud rumble above. "Let's go!" I shouted, and

we left the summit. While proceeding along the summit ridge, the crackling and buzzing began. "Run, run," I yelled, with all of us being at the worst possible place during a lightning storm. Kathy could only manage a slow walk, recovering from the flu as well as a knee-grinding peak season. Jim stayed back with her, while I figured better just them than all three of us!

Fortunately, nothing else happened but this good scare. Lower down, we talked with the other group, who, it turned out, was a State Park Ranger-led group out of Grover Hot Springs State Park. I queried them as to the liability risk of leading a group and exposing them to the lightning hazard (they didn't do the final class 3 summit scramble), but they didn't think much of it!

We enjoyed the fall colors while driving through Hope Valley, and finished the daylight hours dining at the Forest Buffet ("voted the best") at the top of Harrah's in Stateline. I dropped off Kathy and Jim with an hour to spare for their flight home.

I was abuzz for days about "nearly being electrocuted!" Kathy sent me a SPS banquet ticket in appreciation, but my plans didn't work out. I continued to do some hikes and peaks in the Sierra up until the end of November, after which the snows came. I celebrated the end of my "peaks recession" with steadily falling numbers since 1992 till this season!



Jim, Kathy, and Rich on the summit of Mt. Lola

## To our fellow California Sierrans:

The Sierra Club Preserve Bolsa Chica Task Force of the Angeles Chapter was recently asked by high-ranking national Sierra Club officers what the club and its members could do to help us promote the goals of the Bolsa Chica Land Trust. The three year old Land Trust was formed to prevent the Koll Real Estate Group from building 3300 housing units on the Bolsa Chica wetlands and mesa in Huntington Beach, California. The Land Trust is committed to the mission of acquiring, preserving, restoring and maintaining the total 1700 acres of Bolsa Chica, including historic wetlands, lowlands, mesas and uplands, as open space.

Bolsa Chica is the largest unprotected coastal wetland south of San Francisco and is located in a highly populated urban area. It provides vital habitat along the Pacific Flyway to at least five endangered bird species. California has already lost 93 percent of its coastal wetlands. Neither California nor the planet can afford to lose any more!

The Bolsa Chica Land Trust is offering each of us the opportunity to respond to this challenge by purchasing a beautiful Honorary Grant Deed certificate from the FOOT-BUY-FOOT fundraising campaign. Over \$25,000 has already been raised. Please cut out the order form below and mail it with your contribution (no amount is too small). You must include postage and handling to have your certificate mailed. For more information on Bolsa Chica issues, call or write to: Sierra Club, Preserve Bolsa Chica Task Force, 1077 Pacific Coast Hwy, Suite 136, Seal Beach, CA. 90740. Tel: (310)430-8495. Thank you from Bolsa Chica.

----- C U T -----

### FOOT-BUY-FOOT CAMPAIGN

Raising grass-roots donations through the sale of Honorary Grant Deed certificates for Bolsa Chica. Your total gift will be deposited in a bank account to be used only to acquire, restore and maintain the wetlands!

Each square foot is \$10, plus \$2 postage and handling for each Honorary Grant Deed certificate mailed (up to 10 per envelope). You may specify multiple feet on one certificate. Calligraphy is \$1 extra per certificate. For information, call Nancy Harris at (714) 846-0916. Bolsa Chica Land Trust is a 501(c)(3) group endorsed by the Sierra Club Preserve Bolsa Chica Task Force. Send check to Bolsa Chica Land Trust-FBI, P.O. Box 2353, Huntington Beach, CA 92647

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Dear SPS Member:

In addition to being one of our section members, if you are also a Sierra Club member (which we hope you are) the following petition is of concern to you.

The environmental influence enjoyed by our Angeles Chapter of the Club flows directly from its size. At 50,000+ members, it is by far the largest in the Club. Many feel our size flows directly from our outings program which has become one of, if not *THE*, largest and diverse such program in the world. Our section's activities are just a small part of this program. In addition to the events sponsored by our section, there are many other sections and committees that sponsor events focused on specialties from our to the Lower Peaks folks, mule packing, canoeing and even soaking in hot springs. The chapter's *Schedule of Activities* is the glue that binds the whole program together, with over 3,000 activities each year.

Until last year, for the entire 85 year history of our Angeles Chapter, The *Schedule* was sent to all chapter members free as a part of their Club membership benefits. But last year the chapter Executive Committee decided to distribute the schedule only to those members who paid an additional \$9 subscription fee, in addition to their \$35 yearly dues.

So far, only 3,500 or 7% of the membership has enrolled. No one estimates these numbers will ever increase above 8 to 10%. The problem is, that for many section's events to be successful, they require broader exposure than only in newsletters like ours. They need the 50,000 member audience the *Schedule* used to provide.

The new policy has been controversial from the beginning over 18 months ago. It was the major issue upon which 3 new ExCom members were elected last year. Money is not truly part of the issue as the 1994 chapter budget clearly shows it only cost 34¢ that year to send the schedule to each/all of its members. As the petition states, its purpose is to bring this issue before the entire membership for them to decide in traditional democratic process. Please sign it and mail to the SOS Committee. If you would like to circulate petitions of your own, SOS would be happy to send you larger forms.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Restore the Free Schedule. Sign This Petition.

If you agree that the Angeles Chapter *Schedule of Activities* is crucial to the welfare of our Chapter and must be freely available to all of our members again, please sign the petition below.

*To the Executive Committee of the Angeles Chapter:*

We hereby petition, in accordance with Paragraph 1.7 of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Bylaws, to place the following question to a vote of the Angeles Chapter's membership:

**Shall the following become Chapter policy?**

**A comprehensive Schedule of Activities shall be made available to all Chapter members at no extra cost as part of their membership.**

You must be a member of the Sierra Club in good standing *and* a member of the Angeles Chapter to sign this petition. Joint Members may sign separately, but please sign this petition only once. Your membership number is a ten-digit number which appears on your membership card or on mailing labels on the *Southern Sierran* or *Schedule*.

Name—Please Print	Signature	Address	Phone Number (Not required)	Membership Number (If available)

Return completed petitions to: Save Our Schedule Committee, c/o Ann Kramer  
Box 71773  
Los Angeles, California 90071

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- EDITOR:** Wayne Norman, 4147 Del Mar Ave, Long Beach CA, 90807, (310) 426-5388. E-Mail: wknorman@earthlink.net 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 6.0 are especially appreciated. Use letter quality setting on dot matrix printers. If you would like your submission returned to you, please enclose a SASE.
- SUBSCRIPTIONS:** \$12.00 per year, due by March 31st. Subscribing to the ECHO is a requirement for active membership in the SPS. Sustaining membership is \$25.00 per year, and includes first class postage. Submit new subscription applications and renewals to the section Treasurer: Harry Freimanis, 256 Kauai Ln, Placentia, CA 92670-6062, and include your Sierra Club membership number. New applications received after October 1 are credited for the subsequent year. Only one ECHO subscription is necessary for multiple members of a family residing at one address. Contributions or gifts to the Sierra Club or the SPS are not tax-deductible.
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- PEAKS LIST:** Copies of the SPS peaks list can be obtained by sending \$1.00 and a SASE to the section Secretary: Wayne Norman, 4147 Del Mar Ave, Long Beach, CA 90807
- MISSING ISSUES:** Inquiries regarding missing issues should be directed to the section Mailer: Barbee Tidball, 3826 Weston Place, Long Beach CA 90807. Extra copies of the 30th Anniversary ECHO are available by sending \$4.50 per copy to the section Mailer. Copies of the Tribute issue (Nov/Dec 89) are also available from the Mailer for \$2.00. Prospective new members: For a one time complimentary copy of the ECHO, send 52 cents in stamps to the Mailer.
- AWARDS:** All prices include sales tax. Emblem pins (\$26.00), senior emblem pins (\$12.00), master emblem pins (\$26.00), list finisher pins (\$15.00), and section patches (\$2.00) are available from Patty Kline, 20362 Callon Dr, Topanga Cyn, CA, 90290. Make all Checks Payable to the SIERRA PEAKS SECTION

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