

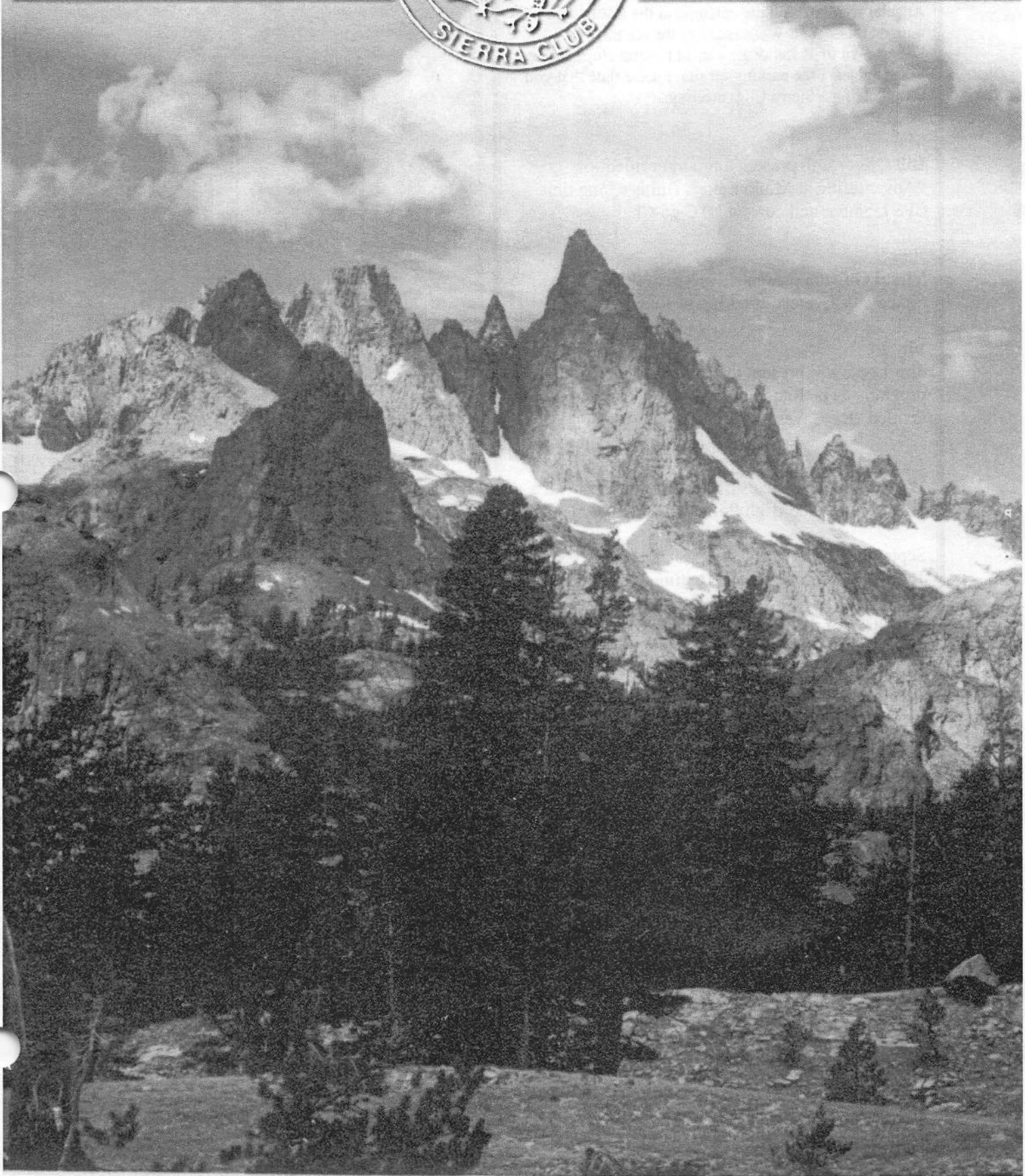
The Sierra

VOLUME 43 NUMBER 2



ECHO

MARCH - APRIL 1999



SPS MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Sierra Peaks Section meetings are held in the Los Angeles room behind the cafeteria at the DWP, 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month. Department of Water & Power, 111 North Hope Street, Los Angeles, Free parking on site. Please state that you are attending a Sierra Club meeting.

May 12

Bill Oliver will present a program titled "Adventuring at Mono Lake". Bill is a long time SPS member and current LTC co-Chair.

June 9

Vimal Gairola presents a program titled "In the Shadow of Everest; trekking in Nepal".

July 14

Jim Long will present the follow-up to his 1998 program, "The Range of Light". The new program is titled "Ice Caves of the Sierra Nevada."

August 11

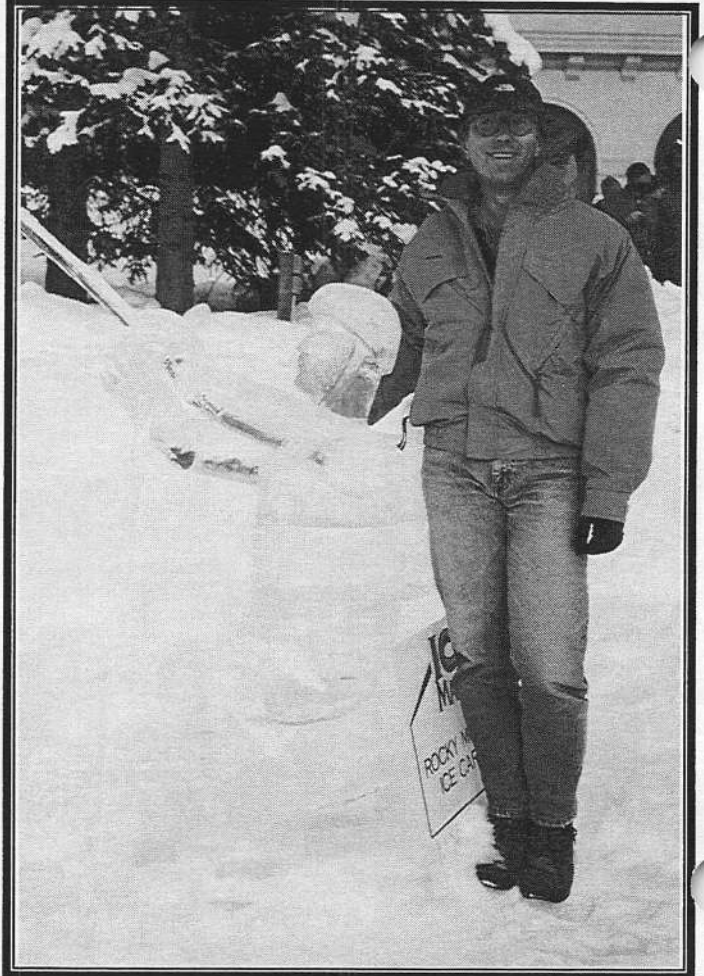
Wayne Norman takes us leisure climbing with a program on "The High Points of England".

September 8

John Robinson & Jerry Keating, founding members of the SPS will present a program on the early days of the SPS including pictures of the 1st SPS trip.

October 13

Mingo Morvin will present a program on Sierra Rock Climbing.



Frozen on belay is how Eric Siering found this climber at Chateau Lake Louise, Canada.

FRONT COVER

Clyde Minaret
July 1984

Photo by Tom Ross

ATTENTION ALL TRIP LEADERS:

Send in your trip write-ups and/or photos for the next publications of the *Echo*. We accept photos that accompany an article or tell a story without an article.

PEAK INDEX

Deer Mtn.	Sawmill Pt.
Ed Lane Pt.	Candlelight
McGee Mtn.	Mt Aggie
Muah Mtn.	Cartago Peak

SPS Merchandise Available

Contact Patty Kline at the next SPS meeting or send your request to Patty Kline, 29362 Callon Drive, Topanga Canyon, California 90290.

T-Shirts \$12.00 plus \$3.00 shipping.
Colors – Ash, yellow, lt. Blue
Size – Med., Lar, X-Lar.

Achievement Pins \$15.00 each
SPS Patches \$ 2.00 each

Make all checks payable to the SPS.

SPS – Spring & Summer Trips 1999



See past editions of *The Sierra Echo* for detailed write-ups of trips without full write-ups. Trips previously described are listed without detailed write-ups in subsequent publications. Note all trips listed as MR or ER are restricted trips open to Sierra Club members only with the appropriate rock or snow skills.

MAY

M/R May 1-2 Sat – Sun Bloody Mtn (12,544') Ldr. Tim Keenan, Asst: Matthew Richardson

E/M May 2 SUN Horse Flats Workshop
Intermediate & advanced workshop. Rock requirements for E & M reviewed. Ldr. Virgil Shields Asst. Dan Richter

O May 12 Wed Climber's Social Hour See March write-up. Ldrs.: Ann Kramer/ Erik Siering

M-E/R May 15-16 Sat – Sun Snow Check-Off
Cancelled

I May 22-23 Sat – Sun Lamont Pk (7429'), Sawtooth Pk (8000'), Sirretta Pk (9977'), Taylor Dome (8802') SPS & K-9 Comm trip. Ldrs: Julie Rush, RJ Secor

May 22-23 Sat – Sun Olancha Pk (12,123') SPS & Wilderness Adventures trip. Ldr Patty Kline Asst Jason Lynch & Paul Graff

May 28 – June 4 Angeles Chpt. Fundraising trip Voyage of the Glaciers – Alaska, Ldr John Lajeuness Contact Montrose Travel 800/301-9673

Remember when sending your SASE for a trip always include your climbing resume, information on recent conditioning, H & W phones, Sierra Club membership no., and rideshare information.

JUNE

M/R June 5-6 Sat – Sun Middle Palisade (14,040')
Ldr. Brad Jensen, Asst: Beth Epstein

M June 5-6 Sat – Sun N Maggie Mtn. (10,234') & Moses Mtn. (9320') Ldrs.: Barbee Tidball & Larry Tidball

O June 9 Wed Climber's Social Hour See March write-up. Co-Ldrs.: Ann Kramer/ Erik Siering

M/R June 12-13 Sat – Sun Diamond Pk (13,127'), Black Mtn (13,291') Ldrs. Richardson, Waxman.
Possible date change or combine w/ Roach trip

M/R June 12-13 Sat – Sun Diamond Pk (13,126')
Ldr.: Greg Roach, Co-Ldr.: John Cheslick

M/R June 19-20 Sat – Sun Mt Ritter (13, 143') Ldr: Larry Tidball, Co- Ldr.: Barbee Tidball

M/R June 25-27 Fri – Sun Tower Peak (11,503)
Ldrs Doug Mantle, Tina Stough

I June 26 Sat Homer's Nose (9023') Ldrs: John Cheslick, Charlie Knapke

M/R June 26-27 Sat – Sun Temple Crag Ldrs Matthew Richardson and Tim Keenan

Jun 29 – July 6 Angeles Chpt. Fundraising trip Cast Off and Castaway to Fiji Ldr. Maya Hyams
Contact World Encounters 800/972-8996

JULY

I July 3-5 Sat – Mon Silver Pk (11,878') SPS & WTC trip. Ldr: Patty Kline, Co-Ldr: Joe Wankum

M/R July 9-11 Fri – Sun Mt Darwin & Mt Mendel
Darwin glacier to west ridge. Climb Mendel via east face. Cls 3 snow and rock, ice axe, crampons. Ldrs. Beth Epstein and Kim Gimenez

E/R July 17-18 Sat – Sun Clyde Minaret (12,281)
Sat hike 7 mi 4800' gain to camp at Cecil Lake. Climb Peak on Sun by Star or Rock route, class 4 rock, may be some snow. Return to camp & pack out. Send 2 SASE, exper. Resume, SC#, \$3.00 permit fee. Ldr Nile Sorenson Asst Randall Danta

I July 17-18 Sat – Sun Black Hawk Mtn. (10,348')
Moderate bkpk for class 2 pk north of Yosemite. Community gourmet happy hour Sat eve. Sat bkpk 7 mi, 2500' gain. Sun 6 mi rt, 2000' gain for pk, xc and blpk 7 mi out. Send 2 SASE w/ re cond/exper. H&W phones, Ldr. Patty Kline, Co-ldr Beth Epstein.

M July 17-18 Sat – Sun Mt Johnson (12,871') Mt. Gilbert (13,106') Sat bkpk 3.5 mi 1,400' gain South Lk to Treasure Lks. Climb Mt. Johnson 1.5 mi, 1,700' gain. Sun climb Mt Gilbert via Treasure col. 1.5 mi 2,000' gain. 3 cl rock and ice axe exper. req'd. Prov. lead Maria Roa, Asst Greg Roach

M July 17-19 Sat – Mon The Doughnut Peak aka Mt. Winchell (13,775') Ice Axe and exposed 3rd cl. Rock exper. req'd. Sat bkpk 7.5 mi, 4200' gain Camp Sam Mack Lk. Sun climb pk by east arete 3 mi rt, 2000' gain/loss. Ldrs will bring doughnuts for summit photo & party. Mon pack out. Send 2 SASE \$3.25 permit fee, Ldr. Paul Graff, Asst Keith Martin

I July 23 – 26 Fri – Mon Finger Pk (12,404') & Tunemah (11,894') Bkpk from Wishon Reservoir through Woodchuck country to Blue Cyn headwaters and bag these two fine (or at least remote) peaks. Good views of the Black Divide and Enchanted Gorge should make up for the 20 mi pack in and lots of gain on the trail. Send e-mail or SASE to Ldr. Steve Eckert, co-ldr. Erik Siering.

M July 24-25 Sat – Sun Mt Langley (14,026') Sat bkpk 5 mi, 1600' gain to Upper Cottonwood Lk. Sun climb pk by strenuous direct x-c, some 3rd cls. Rock, 4.5 mi rt, 2900' gain: packout. WTC or equiv. Req'd. Send 2 SASE. Ldr Paul Graff, co-ldr. Bill Oliver

I July 24-25 Sat – Sun Cloudripper (13,525') Sat bkpk 3 mi to Green Lk. Option climb Hunchback (12,311') in afternoon. Sun climb Cloudripper and out. 16 mi. rt, 5000' gain for weekend. Ldr. Wayne Norman, co-ldr. Barbee Tidball

I July 29- Aug 2 Thur – Mon Forester Pk (12,057'), Electra Pk (12,442'), Rodgers Pk (12,978') Mt Davis (12,311') Bkpk 35 mi, 7000' gain scenic and remote 5-day loop. Peak of wildflowers bloom. Devils Postpile via N Fk San Joaquin R, Twin Is Lks, x-c to Lk Catherine & cl 2 N Glacier Pass, Garnet Lk & PCT back to Postpile. Hike from camp addl 8 mi, 3700' gain for cl 2 Forester; 11 mi, 6000' gain for cl 2 Electra w/ cl 2-3 Rodgers, 3 mi, 1300' for cl 2 Davis. Iron (11,149') may be done too (+5 mi, 3000', cl 1). Fast pace; good conditioning req'd. Send SASE w/ \$4.00 fee (ck payable to SPS) Ldr. Ron Hudson, co-ldr. Sue Holloway

AUGUST

I Aug 7-8 Sat – Sun Iron Mt. (11,149') Sat bkpk 9 mi, 3500' gain to Iron Lk. Sun climb Iron & out. 24 mi, 5000' gain for weekend. Ldr. Wayne Norman, co-ldr. Luella Fickel.

I Aug 13-16 Fri – Mon Mt. Pickering (13,474'), Cirque Pk (12,900') Moderate bkpk for 1st and 2nd cl pks out of Cottonwoods, east side Sierra. SPS Intro Trip geared to new and prospective SPSers. and WTC students. Fri bkpk 12 mi, 2000' gain to Mitter Basin. Fri, Sat & Sun eve community gourmet happy hrs. Sat do 2nd cl Pickering, 6 mi, 2500' gain, xc. Sun retrace route 8 mi to Chicken Spring Lk, dropping packs for 1st cl. Cirque Pk, 2 ½ mi, 1500' gain, xc. Mon. bkpk out 5 ½ mi. Send SASE with \$3.25 permit fee. Ldr. Patty Kline co-ldr. Jim Fleming

I Aug 21-22 Sat – Sun Iron Mt. (11,149') Sat bkpk 6mi, 2500' gain to fern Lk. Sun climb pk via SE ridge, 2.5 mi 2150' gain. Ldr. Bob Bruley Co-ldr Asher Waxman

I Aug 21-22 Sat – Sun Pilot Knob #2 (12,245'), Four Gables (12,720') Sat bkpk over Pine Creek Pass to Moon Lk (9mi, +3600'). Climb Pilot Knob (cl2, 5 mi rt, + 1250'). Sun climb Four Gables (cl1, 5 mi rt, +1700') and return to cars. Expect 2 long days. Ldr. Allan Conrad Co-ldr Bob Wyka

MR Aug 21-29 Sat – Sun Mt Kaweah (13,802'), Black Kaweah (13,720'), Red Kaweah (13,720') Week long bkpk and climb of listed pks and others as conditions permit. Climb of Black Kaweah will be restricted to exp SC members. Spend 1-2 days hiking 22 mi from Crescent Meadow to Big Arroyo Junc. 5 days climbing from base camp. Hike out and drive home Sun. Ldr Barbee Tidball Co-ldr Keith Martin

M Aug 27-29 Fri – Sun Tehipite Dome (7,708') Restricted to SC members w/ 3rd cl Rock exp. Strenuous 28 mi rt, 4,000' gain trip to enjoy great view from Sierra's biggest dome. Fri pack in via Crown Valley Trail. Sat hike to Tehipite Dome, climb peak by North Ridge, return to camp in Crown Valley. Sun pack out. \$3.00 permit fee. Send 2 SASE Ldr. Matthew Richardson co-ldr Bill Oliver

SEPTEMBER

I Sept 4-6 Sat – Mon Arrow Peak (12,959) Beautiful cl 2 Mountaineers Peak is the reward for a long strenuous hike. Sat bkpk 6 mi 6000' gain from cars to vicinity Taboose Pass. Sun dayhike 15 mi rt 1300' gain and climb Arrow (2600' gain) Mon return to cars. Ldr Carlton McKinney Co-ldr Igor Mamedalin

MR Sept 4-6 Sat – Mon Round Top (10,380'), Freel Pk (10,881'), Pyramid Pk (9,983') and More Tahoe Basin bash. Come help Asher get his Senior Emblem. Sat Round Top (1,800', 7mi rt) and Freel (2,500' 3 mi rt), Sun Pyramid (3,400' 10 mi rt). Monday leader's choice. In case of snow on Round Top this is a restricted trip. Ldrs. Dan Richter & Asher Waxman

MR Sept 10-12 Fri – Sun Tower Pk (11,755') Climb northern most Mtnrs Pk (border of Yosemite, SW of Bridgeport, CA). Bkpk in Fri (approx 10 mi, 3000' gain), camp below 10,000', look forward to campfire. Sat climb Tower (cl 3 summit). Sun pack out, enjoy Buckeye Hot Springs. Ldr Asher Waxman Co-ldr Dan Richter

I Sept 11-12 Sat – Sun Smith Mtn. (9515'), Sirretta Pk (9977') Intro trip. Moderately paced xc ascents (brief cl2) of 2 Kern Plateau qualifying peaks. Enter via Ninemile Cyn, exit via Kernville. Smith 4 mi rt, 1100' gain; Sirretta 7 mi rt, 1300' gain from Mosquito Mdw. Send SASE *after August 1* to Ldr Jerry Keating co-ldr Sid "San Jac" Davis and Nancy Keating.

I Sept 18-26 Sat – Sun Joe Devel Pk (13,327'), Mt Gould (12,300'), Mt Hitchcock (13,186'), Mt Young (13,176'), Mt Hale (13,494'), Kern Point (12,730'). A 9-day bkpk over Cottonwood Pass then north on PCT to climb peaks in the Mt Whitney area. Bkpk out Whitney Portal. Good conditioning required. Send 2 SASE Ldrs Mirna & Greg Roach

<p>E/MR Sept 25-26 Sat – Sun Church Dome Rock/Potluck Intermediate and advanced workshop based on rock requirements for E & M leadership and the SPS Mountaineers List. Sat bkpk from Big Meadows to Manter Meadows for Workshop. Potluck Sat evening. Ldr. Virgil Shields Asst Pat McKusky</p>	<p>C Oct 2-3 Sat – Sun Yosemite Volunteer Project Work under direction of Park Rangers on conservation and restoration projects. Limited camping space available. Possible project involving overnight bkpk. Sen 2 SASE, whether interested in BKPK, conservation or restoration experience. Ldr Keith Martin, Asst Virgil Talbot</p>
<p>OCTOBER</p>	<p>M Oct 16-17 Sat – Sun Clouds Rest (9050') and more. Risk of snow on this 14 mi , 2,500' trek to finish things off. Leader's choice on Sun. Ldrs Doug Mantle & Tina Bowman.</p>
<p>I Oct 2-3 Sat – Sun Kern Pk (11,510') SPS List Finish! Help the leader celebrate finishing the SPS Peaks List in grand style. The 9 mile pack in, over almost-flat terrain with uncrowded camping, should give rise to a nice party Saturday. A quick 7 mi romp to the peak on Sunday and we're back in camp for the stroll back to the cars. Reserve a spot early and pack the good stuff (for the mother of all happy hours)! Ldr Steve Eckert Co-ldr Erik Siering</p>	<p>Oct 4-13 Angeles Chpt. Fundraising trip Ten Days in Paris Ldr. Maya Hyams Contact World Encounters 800/972-8996 (Note slide show introduction of trip May 16 call Maya 818/761-4924)</p>
<p>Trip leaders – after each of these great trips remember to send The Echo write ups and photos of your adventures.</p>	<p>Oct 12-19 Angeles Chpt. Fundraising trip Ancient Art & History of Egypt Ldr. Maya Hyams Contact World Encounters 800/972-8996</p> <p>Oct 18-27 Angeles Chpt. Fundraising trip Rob Roy's Scotland Ldr. Roxana Lewis, Contact Charter Travel 310/670-3884</p>



SPS Member Honored with Angeles Chapter's Lifelong Service Award.

The SPS's own, Duane McRuer received in March the Lifelong Service Award for his dedication to the Sierra Club and Angeles Chapter outings and conservation goals since 1964. This Angeles Chapter achievement is added to an impressive list of recognition awards that Duane has received for the Club. In 1973 he received the Phil Bernay's Service Award, in 1981 the Chester Versteeg Award and last year he received the Sierra Club's highest outings award the Oliver Kehrlein Award

We all know Duane as the SPS Safety Co-Chair. Duane began his efforts in leadership training more than 25 years ago when he helped get the Leadership Training Program started. In addition Duane is currently on the National Mountaineering Oversight Committee.



April 21, 1999 the *Los Angeles Times* reported that the Fish and Wildlife Service has declared the Sierra bighorn an endangered species. Only about 100 adult bighorn currently live in the Sierra, and most of these animals are near Yosemite and Sequoia-King Canyon. The remaining sheep are threatened most by disease from domestic stock and the mountain lion. This listing will allow the hunting of mountain lions to protect Bighorn sheep.



Leadership Training Committee

Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter

Scheduled Outings

<i>Skill & Date</i>	<i>Sponsors</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Leader/Contact</i>
Navigation (Chair: Harry Freimanis)				
May 22	LTC/HPS	O: Beginning Navigation Clinic	O,I	Diane Dunbar
May 23	LTC/WTC	I: Grinnell Ridge Navigation	I,M,E	Harry Freimanis
Sep 26	LTC/WTC	I: Grinnell Ridge Navigation	I,M,E	Harry Freimanis
Oct 24	LTC/WTC	I: Warren Point Navigation	I,M	Harry Freimanis
Nov 13-14	LTC/WTC	I: Indian Cove Navigation Weekend	I,M	Harry Freimanis
Dec 12	LTC/WTC	I: Warren Point Navigation	I,M	Harry Freimanis
First Aid (Chair: Steve Schuster)				
May 15-17	LTC/WTC	C: Wilderness First Aid Course, Harwood Lodge (\$130)		Steve Schuster
Oct 29-31	LTC/WTC	C: Wilderness First Aid Course, Harwood Lodge (\$130)		Steve Schuster
Environmental Awareness (Chair: Sherry Ross)				
May 1-2	NSS	O: Eaton Cyn to Idlehour Camp Backpack		Ginny Heringer
May 1	NSS	O: Talbert Nature Preserve		Margot Lowe
Jun 4-6	NSS	O: Nature Knowledge Workshop (\$100)		Sherry Ross
Jul 24-25	NSS	O: Bristlecone Pines Mtn Workshop		Claude Wezeman
Aug 6-8	NSS	O: Twenty Lakes Basin Backpack (\$20)		Carolyn Greene
Aug 28	NSS	O: Carpinteria Marsh		Bob Cates
Oct 2-3	NSS	O: Cedar Creek Backpack		Carolyn Greene
Oct 9-10	NSS	O: Rose Valley Carcamp		Avis Keedy
TBD	Earth Skills	Commercial seminars (\$), call 508-245-0318 for dates, info		Sherry Ross
Snow (Chair: Nile Sorenson)				
May 15-16	LTC/SPS/DPS	E: Snow Checkoff, location TBA	M,E	Virgil Talbot
Jun 12-13	LTC	E: Snow Safety Skills & Rescue Course, Rock Creek (\$75)	M,E	Nile Sorenson
Jan 15, 2000	LTC/SPS/DPS	E: Snow Refresher, location TBA	M,E	Bill Bradley
Feb 5, 2000	LTC/SPS/DPS	E: Snow Refresher, Mt Baldy	M,E	Bill Bradley
Rock (Chair: Virgil Shields)				
May 2	LTC/SPS/DPS	E: Rock Workshop, Horse Flats	M,E	Virgil Shields
Jun 6	LTC/SPS/DPS	E: Rock Workshop, Horse Flats	M,E	Virgil Shields
Sep 25-26	LTC/SPS/DPS	E: Rock Workshop, Church Dome/Domelands Wilderness	M,E	Virgil Shields
Classroom Seminar (Registrar: Don Creighton)				
Oct 2	LTC	Leadership Training Seminar, Griffith Park		Don Creighton
Apr 8, 2000	LTC	Leadership Training Seminar, Griffith Park		Don Creighton

Please note- These Club activities have been scheduled for the practice or checkoff of the skills required for qualifying as a rated Angeles Chapter leader.

- 1) Most outings require a SASE (self-addressed stamped envelope) reservation in advance to the leader. Outings with a fee are denoted by (\$) and their approximate cost. Refer to the hardcopy Chapter *Schedule of Activities and Outings* for full details and leader mailing addresses.
- 2) Commercial courses and seminars are listed only as alternatives, with no monetary benefit to the Club. Phone directly for information and enrollment. It is advised to arrange prior accreditation approval of equivalent courses or experience with the respective skill Chairs.
- 3) M/E Rock and Snow outings are restricted to Sierra Club members; SASE/waiver/membership# are to be submitted to the leader prior to participation. Technical checkoffs are generally limited to the workshop dates and must also be coordinated in advance with the examiners.
- 4) Current leadership qualification requirements, evaluation forms, and this schedule are available online at the LTC website: <http://angeleschapter.org/ltc>



ECHOES FROM THE CHAIR

Congratulations to Erik Siering and Matthew Richardson, who climbed Aconcagua in February this year. Matthew is the SPS Secretary and Erik, closing in on the SPS List, is on the Angeles Chapter Safety Committee and coordinates the outings for the Leadership Training Committee (LTC).

On March 6, 1999 2 of our members got married. I'm sure some of you attended one of these weddings. At 6:00 am Doug Bear, recent list finisher, married Shang Lee in a sunrise ceremony at Joshua Tree National Park. At 3:00 pm in Yorba Linda Ron Grau, former Echo mailer, married Ellen Senior. Congratulations to Doug and Shang and Ron and Ellen.

On March 27 at the Chapter Awards Banquet Ron Hudson and Pat and Gerry Holleman were honored with Outings Service Awards. Ron is known for leading those SPS death marches and Pat and Gerry Holleman are known for leading for the SPS as well as for the Ski Mountaineers. A hand of applause goes to all 3 of them.

Soon to be published is a new edition of the SPS Peaks List with 7 name corrections, for example Coyote Peak to Coyote Peaks. Also there will be 17 elevation corrections. Perhaps most important will be changes in ratings of 9 peaks including one of our emblem peaks, North Palisade, from class 3 to class 4. See it all in our new SPS Peaks List to be included in the Echo. Doug Bear carefully went over all this comparing the SPS list to current maps and reviewed the peak ratings. Tina Stough Bowman as Keeper of the List concurred. The SPS Management Committee approved of the changes at the March meeting.

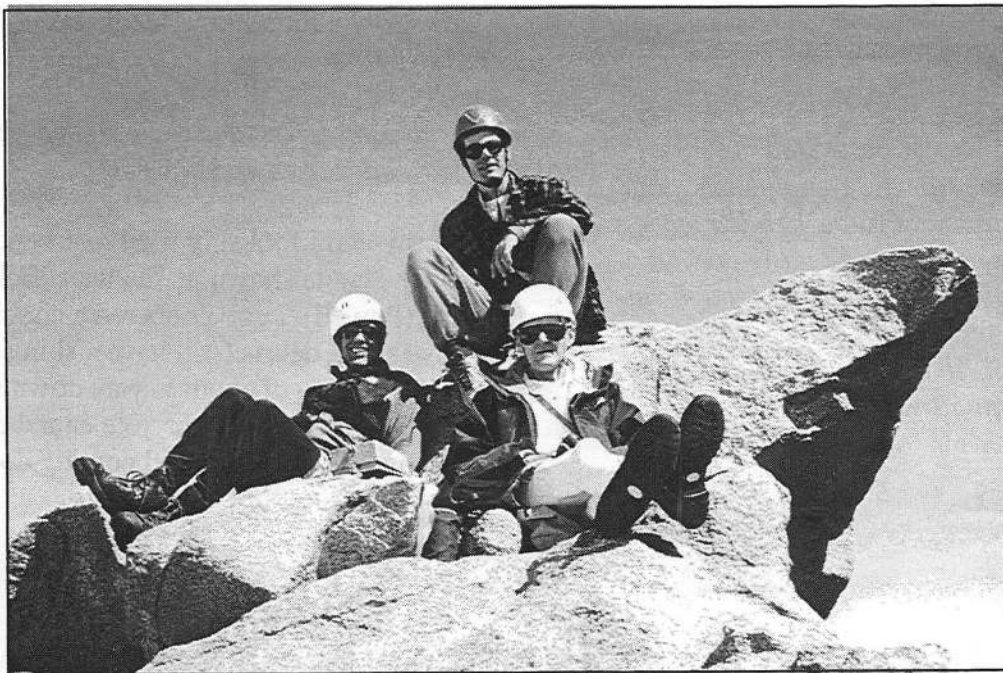
Bill Oliver is the new Chair of the National Mountaineering Oversight Committee. Also on the committee are Dan Richter, Larry Tidball, Tina Stough Bowman and Duane McRuer. Doug Mantle is serving as consultant. It is nice to see a national committee made up of entirely SPS members. Coincidentally these dedicated, hard working people are all SPS past chairs.

Check to be sure if you renewed your Echo subscription for 1999. If you haven't, do it now, or otherwise this is your last issue. I know you wouldn't want to miss one. A regular subscription is \$12 and \$25 is sustaining. Sustaining gets it to you first class rather than third class and helps the SPS with our climbing activities.

Tim Keenan, Vice Chair and Outings, has prepared a nice summer season of climbing in the Range of Light for us. It is not too early to sign up.

Happy climbing,

Patty



NORTH PALISADE

Doug Mantle,
Doug Bear,
Nile Sorenson

Enjoying the
view and posing
for the camera.
Summer 1998

We Get Letters

Dear Barbee and Barb,

I just received my "The Sierra ECHO", Vol 43, No. 1, and want to compliment you for the quality of the photos throughout the publication.

I said to myself, "I can't believe my eyes." Something has changed and I bet it is in your department, not the photographers. Thank you very much.

I, if not the membership at large, would like to hear to the tools which permitted you to improve the quality on the shoestring budget I know you work with!

I would weigh in with Barbara Lilley on the subject of an alternate month for the Banquet if that would lend itself to finding some more alternatives as a site. Being here in CO, I don't imagine that this would have a direct impact on me, but I just thought her somewhat novel idea was worthy.

Has anyone got any direct experience with the Bear Kan? Seven less ounces sure seems like a benefit, but does it really keep the bears out of the canister? Maybe some follow up on that topic could be considered.

I just had a communication with Scott regarding the erroneous 'new' phone number I must have given to you in the fall. Sharon teases me about my inability to get our CO number correct until I finally moved here. I do have it right now. It is 970-256-0155. Maybe an update is in order.

The article by Wynne Benti-Zdon was a jewel!

Thanks for all you work to serve the membership of this great organization.

Allan Conrad

Editors note: Thanks for the compliments...but we haven't really found any new publishing tricks, just the same old cut and paste and swearing at the computer! One note though we do not scan the photos when ever possible. Giving the originals to the printer always produces the best quality.



To: Barbee

Thanks for the opportunity to express suggestions regarding the SPS banquets. While I was unable to attend in 1998, I did drive up for (and brought 5 others from San Diego) the banquet in 1997. In consideration of those of us who live SOUTH (specifically Orange County and San Diego County), the Long Beach location is certainly much more attractive than a city further north. While I realize the SPS is a section of the Angeles Chapter, I know a banquet in a more southern LA area city makes it easier for those few (?) of us who live in O.C. and SDC to attend. I notice that 2 climbing sections (DPS and SPS) have their banquets on Wednesday nights. From my perspective (again living in San Diego) a gathering on a THURSDAY night would be perfect as I could attend and then proceed on to enjoy a 3-day weekend. Of course, I realize the logistics can't be perfect for everyone! Just my \$0.02 worth.

The price (\$25.00) is quite reasonable based on what I pay for similar banquets so I don't think under \$30.00 is at all unreasonable. With regard to the prices for wine and beer, you're right, the days of cheap drinks are long gone. Wherever I go, if I want a glass of wine, I pay the price (albeit 'inflated'); if I think it's too expensive, I don't order one. It's not like it's one of the ten essentials.

Again, thanks for seeking feedback.

Sue Holloway

Mark Adrian sent us an idea to help keep track of member's addresses and this note....

Sue Holloway and I foolishly tried to ascend that avalanche chute shown on the latest Echo's front cover (Powell). I got clobbered a couple of times by falling debris (still have a shin scar from that one). We got about 1/2 way down and it got too muddy/icy/dangerous. We ended up going back up to the summit and coming down our ascent route from the southwest.

Mark Adrian

Obscure Objectives: Alternative Climbs in the Sierra, Part II

Deer Mtn, Sawmill Pt, Ed Lane Pt, Candlelight Pk, McGee Mtn, Mt Aggie

By Bob Sumner

Through the fall of 1996 and winter/spring of 1997, Erik Siering and I continued our explorations of some of the Sierra's less-visited peaks.

Deer Mtn, 9410'. Deer was the first Sierra peak led as an SPS trip, when Frank Sanborn and John Robinson led an intrepid group there in May 1956. While they had some mighty adventures crossing the Kern in spring, our November ascent was much more pleasant. From Hwy 395 south of Olancho, go west on the Haiwee Canyon Rd for about 2.6 miles to a good flat parking/camping spot near an old foundation. (4wd's can go another 0.4 of a mile, but it's hardly worth the effort.) Go up the road to where the brushy Haiwee Canyon Trail begins. The trail crosses the swampy creek 8 times in the first mile or so. After that, it switchbacks up sage and sand slopes that yield to pretty pinyon terrain well before reaching Haiwee Pass at 8160'. Just before the pass, good views are had to the Haiwee Reservoirs below in the Owens Valley, and to Telescope Pk off to the east. We continued descending east, dropping 800' to the South Fork of the Kern River. With the low fall water level, we easily located a series of boulders to hop across the river. Next we headed x-c northwest to pick up the east ridge of Deer. This was a brushy route, but we were treated to the sight of 3 deer on Deer Mtn. Atop the summit, Erik discovered the well-concealed tiny glass jar containing the entries from the original 1956 SPS group. We signed in and enjoyed the views of Olancho, Langley, and Whitney to the north. We descended south then east across Dutch John Flat, a less brushy and more pleasing route. After recrossing the Kern, we retraced our route back to the cars. *Stats: 16 miles rt, 6000' gain.*

Sawmill Pt, 9416'. As originally reported in *Obscure Objectives Part I* (Echo, May-June 1996), Erik and I had ascended via an "original" route on the left edge of the south buttress. I returned in early spring to saunter up this beast again, and was pleased to discover the proper direct route. Take the Sawmill Pass Trail to 7000', then go up the east ridge to where it tops out at a small notch 150 yards east of the summit. Go towards the summit, first staying on the north side of the ridge then immediately climbing back onto the ridge. Scramble and crawl along until you get to an 8 foot overhang. Then move left onto a bypass ledge on the south

side. Once back on the ridge (underneath the overhang) descend 50 feet down class 3 ledges on the north side. Then follow the ledges along the north face to get to the second notch (which is the normal descent point). From here the rest is an easy scramble, though for extra style and grace points, you can stay exactly on the ridge. It is bouldery, exposed, and knify but the rock is solid and the climbing enjoyable. *Stats: 7 miles rt, 5000' gain.*

Ed Lane Pt, 11,295'. This seldom-sought peak is about a mile south of Olancho Peak. It is worthy in that it can be hiked in spring when its neighbor to the north is still layered in white. From Sage Flat, go up the trail to Olancho Pass. Then go north along the crest avoiding some early brush as best as possible. Before long the brush thins and pines prevail. Occasional notches along the ridge provide views of the Owens Lake thousands of feet below. Of interest just below the crest was an abandoned hunter's camp with garbage, bow and arrows, and even a rusty old crampon strewn about. After about 3 miles you top out on the broad barren summit plateau, with the highpoint located to the northwest. A small but empty container was present. The views included Crag, Smith, & The Domelands to the south, Whitney, Langley, the Kaweahs, and Great Western Divide to the north, and of course, many Desert ranges to the east. Return by descending south along the crest to the first notch, then performing a straightforward sidehill traverse to the southwest to Beartrap Meadow. From here follow the creek back to the old corral at Summit Meadows, then follow the trail eastward, up and over the pass and down to Sage Flat. This mountain can easily be combined with Olancho Peak for a longer outing. *Stats: 16 miles rt, 5800' gain.*

Candlelight Pk, 12,160+' This peak was first climbed by Chester Versteeg in August 1940. While it is often ignored by those favoring the nearby higher summits of Irvine, Mallory, and LeConte, it is an enjoyable and easy dayhike. We took the Meysan Lake Trail to the vicinity of the Big Meysan Lake, then angled northward toward the saddle between it and Mt. Irvine. As it was late May, we had to cross several large snowfields before attaining the saddle. We then turned right and walked northeast to the summit of Candlelight. The views of the Mt. Whitney area were very rewarding

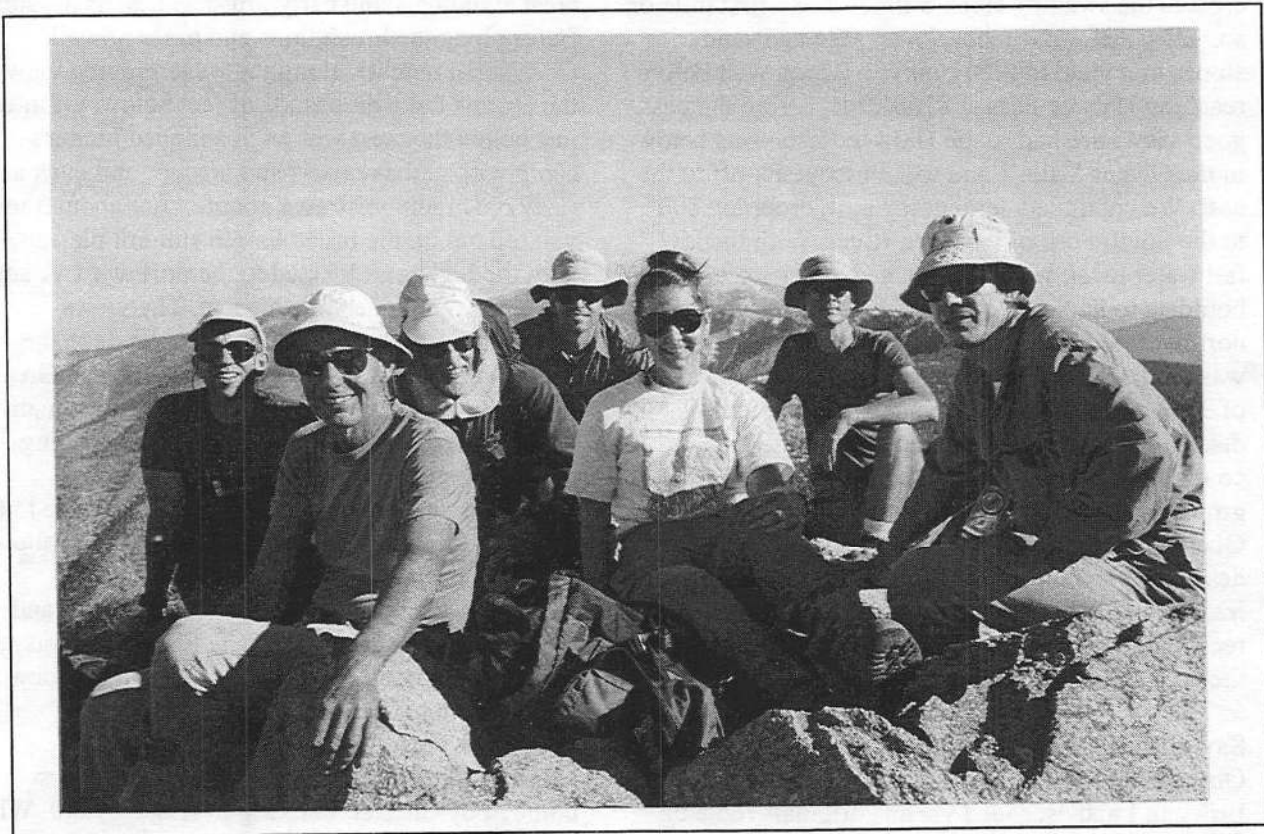
on this cool but clear day. There were several interesting register entries dating well back into the 60's. *Stats: 11 miles rt, 4500' gain.*

McGee Mtn, 10,871' & Mt Aggie, 11,561'. These two peaks are just east of Mt. Morrison and are clearly visible from Highway 395. One exits the 395 at the signed Mt. Morrison Road, then turns left shortly at a small graveyard. This spur takes you to a powerline road which is followed southeast to the Tobacco Flat Road. The road is pretty good down low, but we ultimately parked at 9000' as the road beyond was very eroded and dubious. We then went straight up to the McGee plateau at 10,000' and

headed south to the summit. A frigid wind was blowing so we didn't stay long. The ridge connecting McGee to Aggie goes west then bends southward. Just before Aggie, we bypassed Pt 11385 on its western margin. We did not find registers on either peak, but just below Aggie's summit we found a nice spot out of the wind to stare at mighty Morrison towering above. We retraced our route to the low point between the peaks, then descended the old switchbacks down to the car. *Stats: 10 miles rt, 3200' gain.*

MUAH MTN & CARTAGO PEAK

July 4-6, 1998 , by Patty Kline



Summit of Muah July 4th – Bill Siegal, Rich Gnagy, Mars Bonfire, Ron Norton, Patty Kline, Will McWhinney, Jim Fleming. Photo by Bonnie Harvey

I led this hike over the 4th of July weekend with Jim Fleming. Jim joined the SPS in the early 80's and is one of those animal hikers who politely held back his pace for the mixed crowd of this trip.

Our group of 11 started hiking at 8:30 am at the very end of the Horseshoe Meadow Road about 25

miles above Lone Pine. This road head is at 10,000 feet with plenty of level tree covered areas. We started on a trail common to both Cottonwood Pass and Mulkey Pass, turning left or south in less than 2 miles to cross Horseshoe Meadow towards Mulkey Pass. There was some snow on the north slopes of

Mulkey Pass, but nothing like outdated ranger reports of 5-6 feet of snow in 200% normal snows we had in the winter of 1998. We continued on the undulating forested trail, which became the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) at Mulkey Pass. We turned left or east into Ash Meadow after 7 miles from the road head to look for a campsite. About 1 mile into the meadow was a strongly flowing stream entering the meadow from the north, which probably only exists in early season in a moderate to heavy snow year. There were lots of level, dry camp spots away from the meadow and under trees.

After arriving at camp at 3:00pm and setting up tents, 8 of us left for Muah, 1,000 feet above the meadow and 3 miles round trip. it was basically class 1 with a little class 2 near the 11,0161 top. Pleasant thoughts came to mind of Dave Dykeman, who had finished the SPS list on this peak on July 18, 1987 in honor of his 55th birthday. There were 66 people on top for that joyous occasion. We got back to camp at 6:45 pm in time for a mosquito attack and my traditional community happy hour with prizes for the best appetizers.

Sunday morning we left about 7:30 am for Cartago, in retrospect too late for our group. We got the legendary Cartago the easy way; avoiding a 7,000 foot grunt that fought brush from the desert floor. It named by John Baptiste Daneri, who probably had in mind the town of Carthage. The city was defeated by the Romans in the Punic Wars. They completed their pillage of the city by sowing salt in the soil so nothing would ever grow there again. This is indeed reminiscent of Cartago, the town.

The totals for the day were 14 miles on and PCT trail and 6 miles cross country. We started at 10,000 feet with Cartago at 10,480+ with a lot of ups and downs. After hiking about 7 miles south on the PCT, we cut off the trail when we could easily see the floor of Death Canyon 200 feet below. We then dropped down to the maw of this forbiddingly named canyon and headed N15 to climb out of its eastern end, following the the stream of Death Canyon. It, was still quite a trot to Cartago Peak. It is the south most pinnacle, and away from the big one. You can barely make it out one the horizon. There are many pillars of rock 100-150 feet high, set in sand and surrounded by beautiful golden barked trees. Jim Fleming got the peak on the first try, no GPS used. Jim found a route on the west side with some high third class. He shouted for the rest of us to come, and within minutes all 8 of us were on top. The UTM for the summit is 012203. No rope was necessary or worth taking. Those enjoying the summit, in addition to the leaders, were Will

McWhinney, Bill Siegal , Rich Gnagy, Bonnie Harvey, Mars Bonfire and Ron Norton. All of us knew we had a long hike back and would get to camp after dark. Sufang Chen, a very strong hiker, was having foot problems and waited for us where we cut off from the PCT into Death Canyon. When we got back there at 6:00 pm she was gone. Fortunately she drew arrows in the trail pointing her way back to camp. Rich and I were in the back, letting Jim and Will take the rest back when we found Sufang waiting for us on the trail. She said her feet were killing her, and she would go back to camp on her own. I, of course wouldn't hear of this in the biting cold of the frozen Sierra night and told smutty jokes to keep her going. I thought the embarrassment would drive her on. The next day on the hike out she had the whole group laughing with her Chinese smutty jokes, which by the way use no profanities. We laughed for about 4 hours straight. I guess I didn't embarrass her at all the night before.

Nine of us had a great dinner at The Pizza Factory in Lone Pine after the trip was over. Those on the trip were, besides the leaders, will McWhinney, Bill Siegal, Sufang Chen, Rich Gnagy, Bonnie Harvey, Mars Bonfire, Ron Norton, Ray Soucy and Kathy Cheever. It was a fun trip and a great group.

Principles of Leave No Trace

Tips for minimizing climbing impacts.

- Plan Ahead and Prepare.
- Camp and Travel on Durable Surfaces.
- Pack It In , Pack it Out.
- Properly Dispose of What you Can't Pack Out.
- Leave What You Find.
- Minimize Use and Impact of Fires.
- Minimize Climbing Impacts.

Sawtooth Peak, Needham Mountain

September 12-13, 1998

By Patty Kline & Beth Epstein

Saturday morning eight of us assembled to pick up our permit at the Mineral King Ranger Station as it opened at 7 am. The ranger likes to see everyone together as a group for the bear and conservation talk, which is very informative. The license numbers of cars to be left at the roadhead were noted so that rangers can be alerted in case vehicles are in the parking lot past the return date. Across the street from the ranger station was a spacious shed for storage of all food which isn't packed in. We were told not to leave any in the car because of the bears. This time of year the marmots pose no threat to car engines -- they only eat radiator hoses, electrical wiring, etc when the snow melts and they come out of hibernation. The leaders of this trip were Patty Kline and Beth Epstein, and the participants were Dan Bovee, Kim Gimenez, Jason Lynch, Carlton McKinney, Suzanne Mulzer and Peter Veregge.

We drove the few minutes up the road to the Sawtooth Pass/Monarch Lakes roadhead at 7,800 feet. We took an easy pace for the 6 mile, 2600 foot gain to Lower Monarch Lake. There were two conveniently placed bear boxes set near many level campsites a few hundred yards from the lake. After setting up our tents and storing our food where only the mice could nibble, everyone set off for Sawtooth except Carlton, who already had the peak. We took the deteriorated trail toward Sawtooth Pass. It went through lots of sand and had many branches, many ducked, which makes it confusing. We worked our way southeast just below the Pass en route to the peak. Sawtooth is rated class two but has some easy third below the summit block. The views from the top of this 12,343 foot peak were great, and after much picture taking we descended to camp. The sandy uphill made a great run down. The statistics from Lower Monarch Lake were 2000 feet of gain and 4 miles round-trip.

Back in camp we quickly got ready for our community happy hour in the chilly evening air. There was an appetizer competition with prizes awarded. Jason got first place for his pita bread stuffed with tomato humus. Peter Veregge won second place for his freshly popped popcorn.

--Patty

As our Sunday morning 7:00 am start time approached, our participant list began to thin with the prospect of a late drive home down Mineral King's winding road. Carlton, Kim, Jason and I began hiking at 7:30 and headed up the pleasant green gully toward Sawtooth Pass as we had the previous day, but as we were planning to traverse below Sawtooth on use trails, we began to cut southeast across through the sand where the prominent use trails began to ascend -- a mistake, as everyone has said before; better to gain the ridge, or near it, at Sawtooth Pass where the footing is more solid. We eventually ended up that high anyway, and made our way below Sawtooth toward the south ridge.

If, like us, for some strange reason you decide to bypass Sawtooth on the way to Needham, you'll miss the scree descent from Sawtooth's summit down the southeast face to the Amphitheater Lake drainage. Instead, we used a break in the south ridge which Carlton spied about 200' above the saddle. There is a distinctly smooth, red, flat flake standing on end which marks a class 3 gully down, into which we traversed after entering slightly south of it through a keyhole. This deposits you atop the giant slabs a couple of hundred feet above the lake basin. We traversed these northeast and down toward Needham, then began the miserable sandy slog up the southwest face. There is a faint ridge which goes a little better than the rest for a few hundred feet from about the 11,200' level. We were on Needham's 12,520 foot summit at 11:30.

We wanted to return to our camp at lower Monarch Lake via Upper Monarch Lake to avoid the gain and traverse of the morning (we also eliminated the possibility of criss-crossing the ridges in and out of the Crystal Lake basin, in part because it would necessitate crossing the steep snow lingering above upper Monarch), so we headed across the meadows to the south end of the saddle between Amphitheater and Monarch Lakes, where it looked like the wall might go third class. On closer inspection, the darkly prominent southernmost crack was too vertical, and the reddish ledges to the right looked a little thin, but there was a zigzag ledge and crack system slightly further right that looked possible. (It started vertical, moved right horizontally, and became vertical again, like a "Z" turned counterclockwise on its nose). In the last 25 feet or so the exposure increased, but everyone was game and climbed well to the notch. I was so giddy with relief when we had all topped the ridge that when Kim pointed out the well-trodden trail angling toward Upper Monarch just below us, I said, "But that goes UP!" Of course, gravity being what it is, it

also took us down through sandy ledges to upper Monarch Lake, which we circled, picking up the trail to the lower lake on the northeast side of the dam, and arriving back at camp at 3:30. We packed up and took the main trail down, reaching the cars about 5:30.

This was an interesting time to be in the mountains -- snow banks lingering and melting, flowers blooming, summer and spring and fall all converging and edging each other aside.

Thanks to Patty and all the participants, who made it a fun trip.

-Beth

CONSERVATION 2 LINERS

By Barbee Tidball

□ **BOLTING/FIXED ANCHORS IN JOSHUA TREE**

An agreement has been reached in Joshua Tree between climbers and other environmental groups and the Park Service. While the Sierra Club continues to re-examine their own fixed anchor policy, passed by the Board in May of 1998, the management at Joshua Tree National Park has found a solution.

A compromise agreement was reached after over a year of discussion between The Park Service, Wilderness Society, National Parks & Conservation, Access Fund, Wilderness and Conservation Assn., local Joshua Tree climbing groups and other environmental groups. The Sierra Club was not part of the climbing compromise crafters -- in fact the Southern California/Nevada Regional Conservation Committee raised many strong objections to the compromise plan.

□ **California Native Plant Society and Access Fund work together.**

The two groups have joined hands to work with climbers on project Vertical Vegetation. The aim is lessen the impacts on native vegetation.

□ **Sierra Club positions**

Ever wonder how to find out what the Sierra Club's position is on an issue in California? If you have a current question contact Megan Mullin at 916-557-1100 x102 or megan.mullin@sierraclub.org. To view past issues see LegAlert at <http://diablo.sierraclub.org/archives/calif-alters.html>

□ **Salmon, Rivers & Streams Committee**

The committee is sponsoring a workshop at the LA Zoo on Saturday, June 12 from 9:30 to 4pm. Register by sending your name, address, phone number and e-mail address to Kevin Finney, 1528 Euclid St., #6, Santa Monica, CA 90404. E-mail finney@ucla.edu.

□ **Anheuser-Busch Grazing Allotments**

Inyo NF will conduct a NEPA analysis for the grazing allotments even though one of the permits does not expire until 2001. This is encouraging news as it mean there could be stepped up opportunities for protection of the watershed areas in Anheuser-Busch's grazing allotments. The NEPA will be open for public comment from approximately March 30, 1999 to May 30, 1999. If interested in reviewing the proposed action and public scoping letter contact Ron Keil, Resource Staff Coordinator, Inyo National Forest, rkeil/r5_invo@fs.fed.us.

□ **\$1.35 Still the grazing fee for 1999**

The Interior Department and Agriculture Department announced that the \$1.35 grazing fee per animal unit will continue for another year on Forest Service and BLM lands. The formula for grazing fees depends on the price of beef, the cost of raising livestock, and grazing fees on private lands. The 1999 fee is unchanged because beef prices are down.

□ **Hetch Hetchy Valley**

The Sierra Club's Hetch Hetchy Restoration Task Force is spearheading a renewed effort to restore Hetch Hetchy Valley and they need your help. You can help by:

1. Lead an outing to the area, take photos, write trip reports for *The Echo*, and the *Southern Sierran*.
2. Encourage others to become interested in restoring the valley.
3. Contact Ron Good, Chair of the Task Force at P.O. Box 289, Yosemite, CA 95389, (209)372-8785, e-mail rongoood@inreach.com. Visit the website to learn more. <http://www.sierraclub.org/chapters/ca/hetchhetchy/>
4. Send money, tax deductible to the Sierra Club Foundation designated for Hetch Hetchy Restoration Project. See address above.

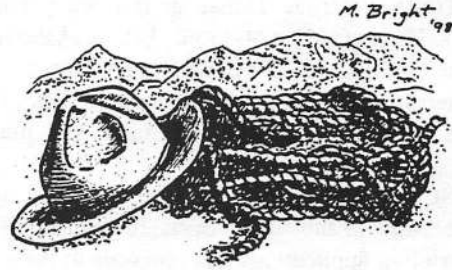
"Dam Hetch Hetchy! As well dam for water-tanks the people's cathedrals and churches, for no holier temple has ever been consecrated by the heart of man." John Muir

"Twenty-Five Letters from Norman Clyde - 1923-1964"

by Dennis Kruska

A BOOK REVIEW

by Bill Oliver



We've all heard much about, and have been awed by, Norman Clyde's unmatched mountaineering accomplishments - the numerous first ascents throughout the High Sierra, the notable search and rescues, "the pack that walked like a man." Although he supported himself largely by selling mountaineering articles, he revealed virtually nothing about the inner person. And he wanted it that way. Who then was this man behind the legend - the guy in front of "the pack"? Was he just a solitary old curmudgeon? What could reading 25 basically random and unconnected letters tell us?

Well, award-winning author Dennis Kruska has applied considerable scholarship and his great devotion to the subject in bringing these disparate letters alive - in telling a coherent story. Glen Dawson originally suggested the book project, and historian and SPS pioneer John Robinson further encouraged the author. The 75-page volume begins with the best Clyde biography I've seen to date. It traces the man from his forebears and follows his formal education, his coming West, and his later settling happily married in Pasadena. Some nine years later, in 1928, came the "infamous Halloween incident" at Independence High School in Owens Valley. Principal Clyde resigned five days later - the last full-time job he ever held.

Each Clyde letter is accompanied by brief background material that handily sets the scene. The majority of the correspondence was sent to Chester Versteeg - a fellow gnarly mountaineer who avidly mined Clyde's intimate Sierra lode. I knew Norman had been a grad student in the classics at UC Berkeley, but I never knew that he later had also attended a semester of graduate work at USC. I was amused to read that in 1923 he declined a nomination for election to the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter Executive Committee. I was surprised at the consistent thread that bespoke of his considerable disdain for Owens Valley folks.

This handsome volume concludes with a selected list of Clyde writings, an enumeration of first ascents in the Sierra Nevada, and a chronology of his life [1885-1872]. There are many pertinent photos and numerous carefully crafted line drawings original to this work, including a stunning oblique view of the High Sierra at the book's endpapers. This is a good read and a wonderful addition to the Clyde literature. Go for it.

Published by Dawson's Book Shop, 1998 - in a limited edition of 500 cloth-bound copies. \$60. Drawings reprinted with permission of the author, are by Mark Bright.



Norman Clyde Peak

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

EDITORS: Barbee Tidball & Barbara (Cohen) Sholle. Mailing Address 3826 N. Weston Place, Long Beach CA, 90807, Phone (562) 424-1556. E-Mail: bsholle@aol.com. Echo cover layout by David Sholle. ECHO copy deadlines are the third Saturday of odd numbered months. Please send trip reports, photos, slides, articles, jokes or any other item of interest for publication. Computer Disks IBM format/MSWORD-WIN or Word Perfect are appreciated. If you would like your submission returned to you, please enclose a SASE.

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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: Matthew Richardson, 333 Sycamore Ave., Claremont, CA 91711.

MISSING ISSUES: Inquiries regarding missing issues should be directed to the section Mailer: Elena Sherman, 11277 Ryandale Drive, Culver City CA 90230. 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.

AWARDS: All prices include sales tax. Emblem pins (\$15.00), senior emblem pins (\$15.00), master emblem pins (\$15.00), 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 SPS

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SIERRA PEAKS SECTION
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