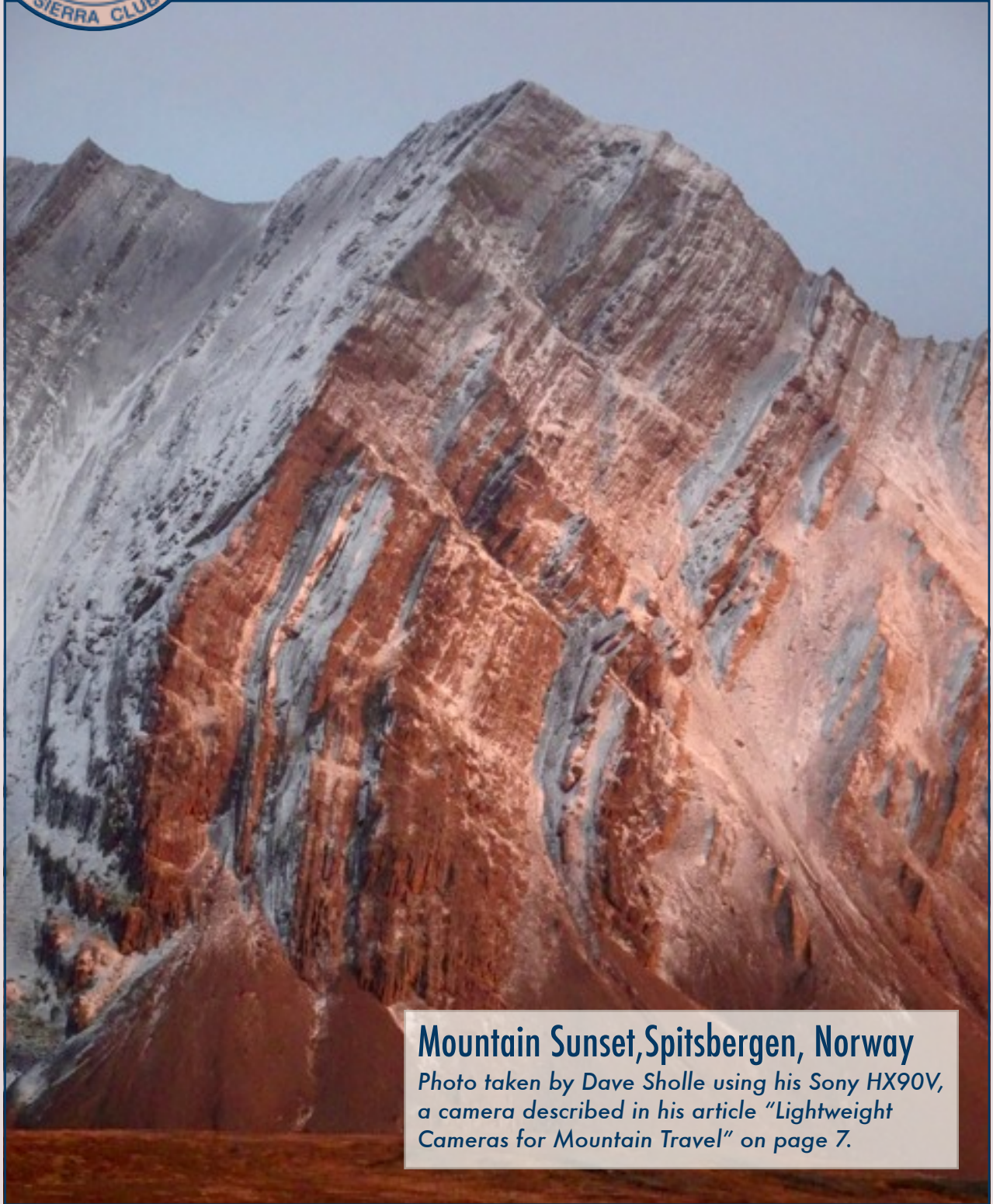




# ***The Sierra Echo***

Volume 60 ▲ Number 1 ▲ January-March 2016



## **Mountain Sunset, Spitsbergen, Norway**

*Photo taken by Dave Sholle using his Sony HX90V, a camera described in his article "Lightweight Cameras for Mountain Travel" on page 7.*



# Echoes from the Chair

By Tina Bowman

Recently, my husband, Tom, and I took the Wilderness First Aid Course put on

by Steve Schuster. It was our fourth time taking this particular course and our third

playing victims in the the very realistic scenarios. I strongly encourage not only leaders but everyone to take wilderness first aid. Although accidents and serious illness in the wilderness are rare, having more people with strong backcountry first aid skills can only be a good thing. Often first-time students feel overwhelmed by all the information, but the more one takes the class, the more the survey systems and information sink in.

With this promising start of a snowpack in the Sierra I hope we can have a number of snow climbs next season. Of course, we need a series of good snowpack years to end the drought, so let's all do a snow dance. We might finally be able to have great conditions for the snow practices and checkouts offered by *(Continued on page 6)*

## In this issue:

Chair's Column	Page 2
Doug Robinson	Page 2
Banquet Form	Page 3
Member News	Page 4-5
Bylaws Proposition	page 6
Trail Tech	Pages 7-10
SEKI & Registers	Page 11
Trip Reports	
Tunemah	Page 12
Palisade Crest, Temple Crag, Gayley	Pages 13-16
Florence & Vandever	Pages 16-17
Mt. Warren	Page 18
Stewart & Lion Rock	Pages 27-28
Vagmarken Finish on White	Pages 29-30
SPS list	Pages 19-26
High Places: New Zealand	Pages 31-35
Huayhuash Trek	Pages 35-36
Outings	Page s 37-39
Wilderness Permits	Page 39
SPS Treasurer's Report	Page 40
SPS Minutes	Page 41
Mystery Peak Challenge	Pages 42-43

# Doug Robinson: Speaker for the 2016 Banquet

By Tina Bowman

Some of you may remember the program "A Night on the Ground, a Day in the Open" given by Doug Robinson at the 1996 SPS annual banquet. Fortunately for the SPS, he will be returning to speak on "Mountaineering in the Palisades and the Whitney Massif" for the 2016 banquet.

Robinson lived in the Palisades for three years and about four months at Whitney. About his talk for the SPS, he wrote,

I've seen so much among the highest cirques of the Sierra that it will be a treat to share with you. Highlights include meeting Norman Clyde, guiding with Don Jensen and Smoke Blanchard, skiing from Whitney up the JMT to Yosemite, watching the Palisade glacier recede until the U-Notch jumped from 4th class to 5.7, and seeing Mt. Whitney rise eight feet since I started climbing it in the mid-1960s (the Sierra is alive!). Recent news includes climbing with Myles Moser and Amy Ness on their new route Umagumma, "the Royal Arches of Whitney Portal." Fun trivia will include sniffing out Norman Clyde campsites and disagreeing with Peter Croft on what's the finest third class in the Sierra. I'm looking forward to shining some alpine light into an evening of celebration.

The first president of the American Mountain Guides Association (AMGA) and one of the first AMGA-certified rock and alpine guides, Robinson has fifty years of experience as a guide, including twelve with the Palisade School of Mountaineering. He has been the chief guide and a member of the board of directors for the Southern Yosemite Mountain Guides *(continued on page 5)*.

## SPS Contacts

**Chair:** Tina Bowman [chair@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:chair@sierrapeaks.org)  
**Vice Chair:** Jim Fleming [vicechair@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:vicechair@sierrapeaks.org)  
**Secretary:** Paul Garry [secretary@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:secretary@sierrapeaks.org)  
**Treasurer:** Alexander Smirnoff [treasurer@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:treasurer@sierrapeaks.org)  
**Outreach:** Jeremy Netka [outreach@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:outreach@sierrapeaks.org)  
**Outings:** Gary Schenk [gary@hbfun.org](mailto:gary@hbfun.org)  
**Archives:** Dan Richter [dan@danrichter.com](mailto:dan@danrichter.com)  
**Webmaster:** Kathy Rich [webmaster@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:webmaster@sierrapeaks.org)  
**IT:** Greg Mason [admin@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:admin@sierrapeaks.org)  
 Matt Hengst [matthew.hengst@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.hengst@gmail.com)



2016  
Sierra  
Peaks  
Section

# Annual BANQUET



Dinner ▲ Drinks ▲ Discussion ▲ Good Cheer

**Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016**  
**Almanson Court**  
**700 S. Almanson St.**  
**Alhambra 91810**  
**626-570-4600**  
**5:00 Social Hour, 6:30 Dinner**

Come join fellow SPS members as we welcome Doug Robinson, author of A Night on the Ground, A Day in the Open and first president of the American Mountain Guides Association (AMGA) for a return appearance as keynote speaker. Doug will share his

thoughts, experiences and photographs in his presentation  
“Mountaineering in the Palisades and the Whitney Massif.”



©2009 Jim Herrington

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tickets:  = TOTAL DUE

@ \$45 / each if postmarked by January 21.  
Ticket price increases to \$50 each thereafter.

Make checks payable to “Sierra Peaks Section”

To order tickets, mail this form  
and payment to:

Alexander Smirnoff  
1701 Paloma St.  
Pasadena, CA 91104

— OR —

Entree choice:  
(Please indicate total number of each)

Fish

Vegetarian

Beef

You may order tickets electronically.

Log on to:

<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2474949>

(A \$2.57 service fee applies)

# Welcome new members!



## Aaron Wilcher

In 2016, I'm hoping to extend my experience climbing technical and non-technical peaks in the Sierra and beyond. I made a decision to change careers recently and am hoping to take the experience I had as a program manager in higher education to helping others access the outdoors through fundraising, program development, education/training, and supporting trips. I welcome partner connections and new friends for all these endeavors! Feel free to contact me at [aaronwilcher@gmail.com](mailto:aaronwilcher@gmail.com) or @outsideaaron at IG/ Twitter. I look forward to climbing with other SPS members soon!

## Charles Corbett

Charles' love of mountains may be the result of growing up in the Netherlands, spending as much time below sea level as above (without actually getting in the water). After moving to Los Angeles he did mostly local hikes, often with his faithful and inexhaustible border collie, but after being introduced to WTC (with eternal thanks to Linda Campbell) he is spending more time in the Sierra, while also breaking in his new Australian shepherd in the local mountains.



## Laura Newman

Having previously hiked only along the trails, Laura is fairly new to peakbagging but definitely bitten by the bug. She hopes to explore more of the Sierra by ticking off the SPS list over the next several years and looks forward to meeting new people, expanding her skills, and building her climbing experience along the way.

## Sandra Hao

Sandra started hiking and climbing in 2007/2008 with the Peak Climbing Section in the Bay Area. She first climbed with Kathy Rich and Daryn Dodge on an SPS outing back in 2010 and found them phenomenal climbers and trip leaders. Through them she came to know more SPS members. She is looking forward to more climbing with the SPS in the coming years.

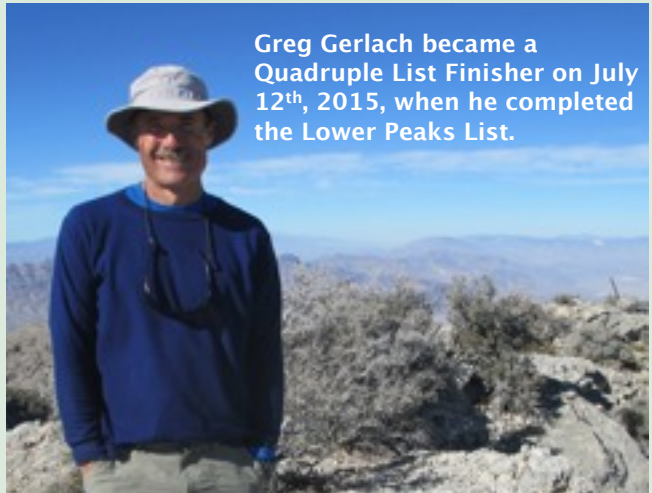




## Bart O'Brien

Bart O'Brien did his first official SPS peak in 1969 (Castle Peak), and not long after he joined the Sierra Club. During the ensuing forty plus years, he climbed extensively in the Sierra, throughout the western United States, and Canada. He has also climbed peaks in the Alps, Peru, Australia, and Africa. The Sierra has long been his favorite range, and he has done several first ascents, ranging from third class ridges to 5.10 faces. He has written about his climbs with articles in the *American Alpine Journal*, *Summit*, *Rock and Ice*, and *Climbing* magazines. He is currently working at completing the SPS list and has just under twenty summits left to climb. His goal is to take the longest possible time to complete the list. It is more about time in the mountains than summits (sort of!).

# Congratulations!



Greg Gerlach became a Quadruple List Finisher on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015, when he completed the Lower Peaks List.

We're pleased to announce that Jeremy Netka has earned his M-Rock leadership rating. Thanks for your leadership, Jeremy!



## **Doug Robinson Banquet Speaker** *(continued from page 2)*

His essay "The Whole Natural Art of Protection" sparked the clean-climbing movement, and his 1973 first clean ascent of the face of Half Dome with Galen Rowell and Dennis Hennek, the cover story of a *National Geographic* issue, really got this climbing revolution off the ground.

Robinson began climbing in Yosemite in the '60s, and he is especially associated with the Sierra, though he has guided and climbed internationally as well. Among his first ascents are "Dark Star" on Temple Crag, the longest alpine rock climb in the Sierra, and "Ice Nine," the hardest alpine climb in California. With Yvon Chouinard he put up first ice ascents "V-Notch" and "Lee Vining Icefall." He led the first continuous ski traverse of the John Muir Trail in 1970, has various

telemark first ski descents to his name (like Mt. Rainier), and has the current speed record for the Sierra High Route, having covered the fifty miles and 11,000' gain/loss in twenty-two hours.

The author of many articles, most recently Robinson has explored why people climb mountains in his 2014 book *The Alchemy of Action*. His first book, *A Night on the Ground, a Day in the Open*, a memoir, has been called "Lyrical, visionary (to use one of his favorite words), casual, poetic, elegant, unpretentious, mystical" by Allen Steck in the *American Alpine Journal*. Another article of particular interest to SPSers, the cover story of *Alpinist* magazine, issue 48 posted November 18, 2014, is his mountain profile about the Palisades.

See Doug's website [movingoverstone.com](http://movingoverstone.com) for more information.



the Leadership Training Committee and for aspiring M-Snow and M leaders to lead snow provisional outings.

Harry Langenbacher, our Mountain Records chair, is working on a Memorandum of Understanding with Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks about summit registers, fighting to keep registers on peaks. See more about this important issue on page 11.

We've wrapped up the speaker and slideshow series we cosponsored with the Caltech Alpine Club (CAC). SPS member Phil Bates gave a program about his climbs in the Alps this summer, and Sierra Club member Ayzel Geysik wrapped up the series about her climbs over 7000m in the Pamir and Tian Shan mountains. We're looking forward to more collaboration with the CAC and having their members join us on SPS outings.

I'm proud to have served on the management committee this sixtieth anniversary year of the SPS, working with a very strong committee. Thanks to Jeremy Netka with a lot of help from Kathy Rich, we've forged a strong link with the CAC and increased the presence of the SPS in the more general climbing, hiking, and outdoor adventuring public. We look forward to being a sponsor of the Banff Film Festival again at Caltech; thanks to Jeremy we have a very fine, professional banner for our table. With real gratitude, I say thanks to all who have served on the committee, whether elected or appointed, for doing an outstanding job and keeping the SPS strong and vibrant.

And a final note on the election—we have three proposals for bylaws changes on the ballot. The most recent of these is here on page 6. The other two can be found on page 3 of the April-June 2015 issue (59.2). The ballot mailing will include the full text of each proposal on an information page. Please vote not only for the candidates but also on these important changes to our bylaws.

Happy trails,  
Tina  
Tina Bowman, [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com)

The SPS management committee is looking for a volunteer with the time and talent to revamp the SPS website, especially the home page. Interested? Please contact Tina Bowman: [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com)

## Bylaws Proposed Change

Shall "Section 2: Membership" of the Sierra Peaks Section bylaws be amended to drop the requirement of climbing two of the six qualifying peaks on a Sierra Club outing? The proposed change is detailed below.

### Section 2: Membership

**1.4. Requirements.** The members of this Section shall be those members of the Sierra Club in good standing who

- (a) Subscribe to the Section newsletter
- (b) Climb any six mountains on the Peaks List maintained by the Section ~~At least two of these peaks shall be climbed on trips scheduled by a Sierra Club entity.~~
- (c) Make application for membership in writing to the Secretary stating peaks climbed ~~and~~ dates and ~~those climbed with the SPS and~~ giving Sierra Club membership number.

### Comments Regarding Proposed Change to Membership Bylaw

The ballot will have a proposed bylaws change to drop the requirement that six of a new member's qualifying peaks must be climbed on a Sierra Club outing. The chair sent an email to all members with email addresses on record with the text of the change and asking for comments on the proposal. These are the comments we received.

*From Barbee Tidball:*

This makes sense. There are limited leaders and a limited number of trips now days. At least the spirit of the Section and list will continue.

*From Alvin Walter:*

I like the change.

*From Guy Dahms:*

My two cents' worth. I would support the bylaws change, as it would enable me to become a member of the SPS. Though I have been climbing Sierra peaks for years, I am not an SPS member, for one (logistical) reason.

Since I live in New Mexico, my going on an SPS or Sierra Club trip is pretty slim. Most are weekend trips, and the longer ones tend to be filled up before someone like me ever hears about them (though I did get on a Louise Wholey PCS trip a few years back). Also, most trips (like Sierra Club National trips) tend to focus on the easier (class 1 & class 2) peaks, many of which I've already done. The harder peaks (which I usually have not done and would like to have help on) are usually private trips, which do not get publicized. Such is life.

This continues a series of brief articles contributed by SPS members who would like to share information about their favorite pieces of trail technology. For this issue Dave Sholle tells us about a piece of technical equipment that makes his life better in the mountains. How about you? Send your proposal or article to Tina Bowman at [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com)

## Small and Lightweight Camera Options for Mountain Travel

By Dave Sholle

I have found several cameras convenient for mountain and adventure travel that are above cellphones and below professional full-frame digital single-lens reflex cameras (DSLRs) in performance and features. I like to take a mix of photos and videos, and all of the cameras that I use do well at taking both high-definition video and, in some cases, 4K video. On photography forums, people sometimes ask a question like “What is the best camera . . . ,” and the answer is that there is no best camera. Any given camera will be a compromise of weight, size, complexity, performance, cost, etc.

**Sensor size and megapixels** The sensor size typically (but not always) determines which category a digital camera falls into. A digital camera has a digital sensor with electronic sensor pixels, also known as sensels. A typical digital camera might have twenty megapixels (Mp), meaning that the sensor contains twenty million sensels. Consumers commonly believe that the number of megapixels determines the quality of a camera, and manufacturers find it an easy number to promote in their sales literature. Number of megapixels is certainly one feature that has a bearing on the quality of a camera, but arguably a much larger factor is the sensor size, meaning the area of the sensor. Some highly regarded pro-level cameras have forty-to-fifty-megapixel sensors, while others might have only twelve-megapixel sensors, far fewer megapixels than a typical point-and-shoot camera. However, a large-area sensor camera with twelve megapixels will have excellent low light



Above: Front view and top view of five cameras. Top row: Panasonic ZS40 and ZS50, Sony HX90V. Bottom Row: Sony RX100 IV, A6000. Note that the A6000 has the “kit” lens, but other lenses could be fitted and could be much larger. (Photo by Dave Sholle)



performance with very little noise in the image. Professional-level DSLRs typically have full-frame (FF) sensors, meaning that the sensor is the same 36 mm X 24 mm rectangular size and shape as a negative or slide taken with a traditional 35 mm film camera. These cameras have a flip-up mirror tilted at 45 degrees that sends light from the lens up to a prism and out through an optical viewfinder (OVF). When a photo is taken, the mirror flips up out of the way, allowing all of the light from the lens to reach the digital sensor. In addition, the camera back will

typically have a liquid crystal display (LCD) that allows the photographer to compose and review photos. Because of the reflex mirror and the large sensor, such FF DSLRs tend to be large, heavy, and expensive. The advantages of a FF sensor are excellent low-light performance, greater immunity to noise, greater dynamic range (the ability to capture a wide range of brightness levels), and ability to control depth of field (DOF), among other advantages. The disadvantages of cameras with full-frame sensors are cost, weight, and size of not only the camera bodies, but also the additional interchangeable lenses used with such camera bodies. Professionals who need to do high-quality advertising photography or who make gigantic prints put up with these disadvantages. For the rest of us who want to share photos on the web, view photos on an HDTV or computer, or make modest-size prints, there are more reasonable and versatile camera choices.

**Point-and-shoot cameras** Usually small and lightweight, the point-and-shoot cameras have a small sensor. Small sensors might have approximately 1/30 of the light-collecting area of a FF sensor, which means that their images will be far noisier in poor lighting. Even on an overcast day in the mountains, however, there is plenty of light available for photography. Cameras with small sensors can range in performance from mediocre to quite good. It is much easier to build a lens to image



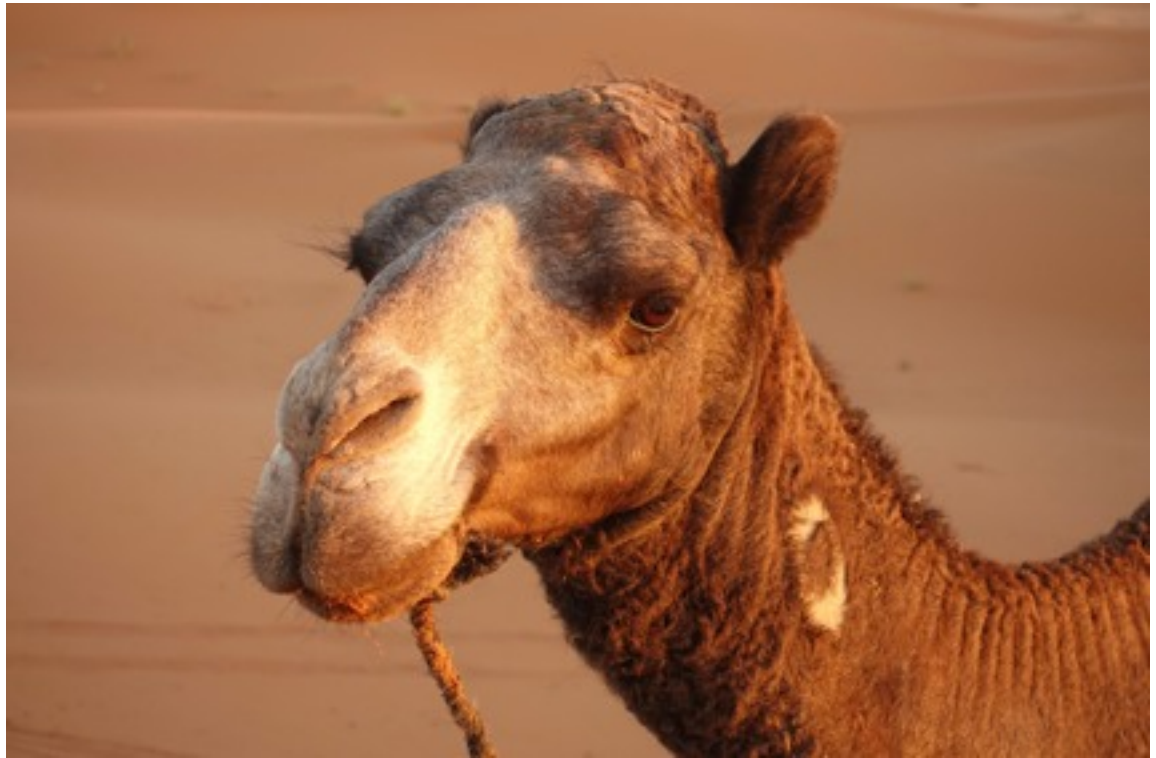
*Sierra Club international trip to Morocco shot with Sony RX100 IV (Photo by Dave Sholle).*

onto a small sensor, and the lenses can be much smaller and lighter than lenses used in FF cameras. Very small and lightweight cameras can be built with impressive wide-range zoom lenses. I have used the Panasonic DMC-ZS40, the DMC-ZS50, and the Sony DSC-HX90V, all of which have a 30X zoom lens, an LCD, and an electronic viewfinder (EVF) and all of which can shoot HD 1080/60p video, which is high definition video made up of 1920X1080 video frames captured sixty per second. These three point-and-shoot cameras are the only really small point-and-shoots that have both an EVF and a 30X zoom. For example, the Sony HX90V zooms from 24 mm (a focal length that gives a fairly wide angle of view) to 720 mm (a strong telephoto focal length). Although all three cameras have LCD screens, the EVF is very useful when shooting in bright light or on snow, when the LCD screen is difficult to view, and holding the EVF up to your eye helps stabilize the camera. In addition, all three of these cameras have a combination of optical and electronic image stabilization (OIS and EIS, or just IS), which is really useful when trying to hold a small, lightweight camera and shoot at telephoto focal lengths. When I say that the HX90V zooms from 24 mm to 720 mm focal length, I mean that it behaves (in terms of the field of view) equivalent to a FF camera zooming from 24



mm to 720 mm. The actual focal length of the HX90V is a much smaller number, as the sensor is much smaller. I find that the three point-and-shoots I listed here are very useful and versatile for carrying in the mountains, as long as I am aware of their limitations as small-sensor cameras. The HX90V is my current favorite, as it has more ability to customize and manually control image capture, compared to the two Panasonic models. The two Panasonic models, however, can shoot RAW or JPEG images, while the Sony can shoot only JPEG images. Also, the ZS40 and the HX90V can tag photos with GPS coordinates, while the ZS50 does not have that feature. A RAW image contains the uncompressed and largely unprocessed information raw from the sensor, which then needs to be processed and manipulated with a computer program into a final image after transferring the RAW image to a computer. RAW image formats are largely proprietary by manufacturer and even camera model, so are less than ideal for general sharing. JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) is a lossy compressed-image format that is widely compatible for sharing and viewing images. Although the images are compressed, if done properly, they are visually lossless. Most cameras create JPEG images. They are created internally in the camera quickly by processing the raw data and applying white balance settings, noise reduction, sharpness corrections, etc. and are usually very high quality. Some cameras can create RAW images or can shoot both a RAW and a JPEG image. Professionals (and some hobbyists) often like to use RAW images, as the images can be processed and manipulated into JPEG images on their computers with total control. However, this takes additional time and effort, and for many situations the JPEG images straight from the camera are excellent. I personally shoot JPEG images instead of RAW images, but I do generally realize under what conditions (often camera dependent) it might be better to shoot RAW.

**Enthusiast point-and-shoot cameras** The cameras in this category usually have a somewhat larger sensor, combined with a zoom lens with less range, to keep the



*Camel in Sahara shot with Sony RX100 IV (Photo by Dave Sholle).*

size and weight under control. The sensor might have four times the area of the cameras discussed in the previous paragraph. In addition, these cameras typically have a “faster” aperture. The amount of light collected by a portion of a sensor while taking a photo depends on the shutter speed (the amount of time that the shutter is open, for example, 1/500 second) as well as the aperture of the lens. Lenses have an iris or aperture, which can open wider to let in more light or close down to let in less light. Aperture is measured in f-stops, and a typical progression of aperture settings might be f/1.4, f/2, f/2.8, f/4, f/5.6, f/8, etc. Each jump in the progression is referred to as one f-stop, and represents the iris decreasing in diameter by a factor of the square root of 2, meaning the area of the iris decreases by a factor of 2, letting in half the amount of light. An f/2 aperture is said to be a “faster” or a more open aperture, while an f/5.6 aperture is said to be a “slower” or a more stopped-down aperture. There are three f-stops between f/2 and f/5.6, so that means that an f/2 aperture will allow  $2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$  times the amount of light to reach the sensor compared to an f/5.6 aperture. Enthusiast point-and-shoot cameras typically have a “faster” aperture lens, which, combined with their larger sensors, allows much better performance in poorer lighting conditions. My enthusiast point-and-shoot camera is the Sony DSC-RX100 IV, which has a 24 mm-to-70 mm lens that can open up to f/1.8 at 24 mm and f/2.8 at 70 mm. Compare this to the HX90V, which can open up only to f/3.5 at 24 mm and f/6.4 at 720 mm. This means that the RX100 IV can collect far more light than does the HX90V because of its faster

f-stop combined with its larger sensor. Also a zoom lens with a shorter zoom range can be built to higher optical standards, so the RX100 IV can substantially outperform the HX90V in terms of resolution of the captured image. The RX100 IV can also shoot 4K video as well as HD (high definition) video; 4K is a misnomer as the RX100 IV actually shoots UHD video (Ultra high definition video, which contains 3840x2160 images captured at 30 frames per second), but almost everyone simply refers to it as 4K video. Note that HD video has about two megapixels per frame, while UHD video has about eight megapixels per frame. When sitting close enough to an UHDTV, 4K video looks substantially superior to HD video. The disadvantages of a camera like the RX100 IV compared to the HX90V are cost and limited zoom range, as well as slightly larger size and weight.

Probably the most impressive enthusiast point-and-shoot camera on the market now, as well as the most expensive, is the Sony DSC-RX1R II (Sony is the undisputed leader in developing new sensor technology but could use some help with naming their cameras). The RX1R II has a full-frame sensor with forty-two megapixels and a 35 mm focal length f/2 aperture lens and produces extremely high-quality images in a camera ridiculously smaller in weight and size compared to a FF sensor DSLR.

**Mirrorless cameras** The cameras in this category use a wide variety of interchangeable lenses in the same manner as DSLRs, but they don't have the flip up reflex mirror that the DSLR has. In a mirrorless camera the LCD displays what the image sensor sees. Mirrorless cameras do not have an OVF, and if they have an EVF, it live displays what the sensor is seeing. The advantage of the mirrorless camera over the DSLR is smaller size and weight due to the removal of the reflex mirror. Canon and Nikon dominate in the DSLR camera market, both at

the consumer and professional level, but the Panasonic, Olympus, and especially Sony (as well as others) mirrorless camera offerings are beginning to provide strong competition to the traditional DSLR segment. Mirrorless will probably one day overtake DSLR, but that is a long way off because of inertia. Sony makes a group of very impressive (and expensive) FF mirrorless cameras, but I have more modestly and recently experimented with a Sony Alpha A6000 cropped-sensor mirrorless camera. A cropped-sensor camera (whether mirrorless or DSLR) has a sensor smaller in size than a FF sensor. In the case of the A6000, the sensor is a 1.5X crop, meaning that both the horizontal and vertical dimensions of the sensor are 1/1.5 the size of a full frame sensor, or 2.25 times smaller in area. A 1.5X cropped sensor, when used with an actual 50 mm focal length lens, will be equivalent in its field of view to a 1.5x50 = 75 mm lens used on a FF camera. Although such a cropped sensor is smaller in size than a full-frame sensor, it is substantially larger in size than the sensor found in the HX90V, or even the RX100 IV. However, the RX100 IV has a fast aperture lens, and the kit lens (the typical lens sold with the camera) of the A6000 is a much slower lens, so that mitigates some of the advantage of the A6000's larger sensor. Faster lenses for the A6000 are available, but they add cost and weight and size. I'd say in my preliminary tests that the RX100 IV performs as well as or maybe even outperforms the A6000 with kit lens, but the A6000 with more expensive lenses outperforms the RX100 IV. Certainly the A6000 with extra lenses is far smaller than the Canon DSLR and lenses that I sold a long time ago.

**Summary** On some recent overseas adventure trips, I carried both the HX90V and the RX100 IV, and the combination was still far less weight and size compared to a DSLR or even the A6000. I generally shot all video

(4K) and photos with the RX100 IV, except when I needed extended zoom range, such as when shooting distant polar bears on Spitsbergen, in which case I used the HX90V for photos and HD 1080 video. If I were forced to choose only one camera to take on a trip, I would generally choose the RX100 IV, except if the trip involved distant wildlife or other distant subjects, then I would choose the HX90V. I am enjoying playing with the A6000, but despite being much smaller than a DSLR, it is not in the same weight and size category as the HX90V or RX100 IV. There are many other categories of cameras, and many other brands. Some useful sources for camera reviews and information are:

<http://www.dpreview.com>

<http://www.imaging-resource.com>

<http://www.cameralabs.com>

<http://camerasize.com/compact/>



Sahara Bedouins shot with Sony RX100IV by campfire light (Photo by Dave Sholle).



# SEKI Summit Register Reduction Redux

By Harry Langenbacher,  
Mountain Records Chair

Earlier this year I wrote about the SEKI (Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks) Wilderness Stewardship Plan (WSP) that would “continue to allow SRs [summit registers] in those areas where they have a documented history” and “seek to reduce the number of registers.”

In his initial contact to me, the SEKI Wilderness Coordinator said “we will continue to allow SRs . . . where they have a documented history. . . . We are also hoping to be able to put the responsibility for the upkeep and maintenance of the SRs on the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club.”

There was absolutely no mention of summit registers in the draft WSP published on their web site in June 2014. In the first contact with me in November 2014, there was no mention of register removal.

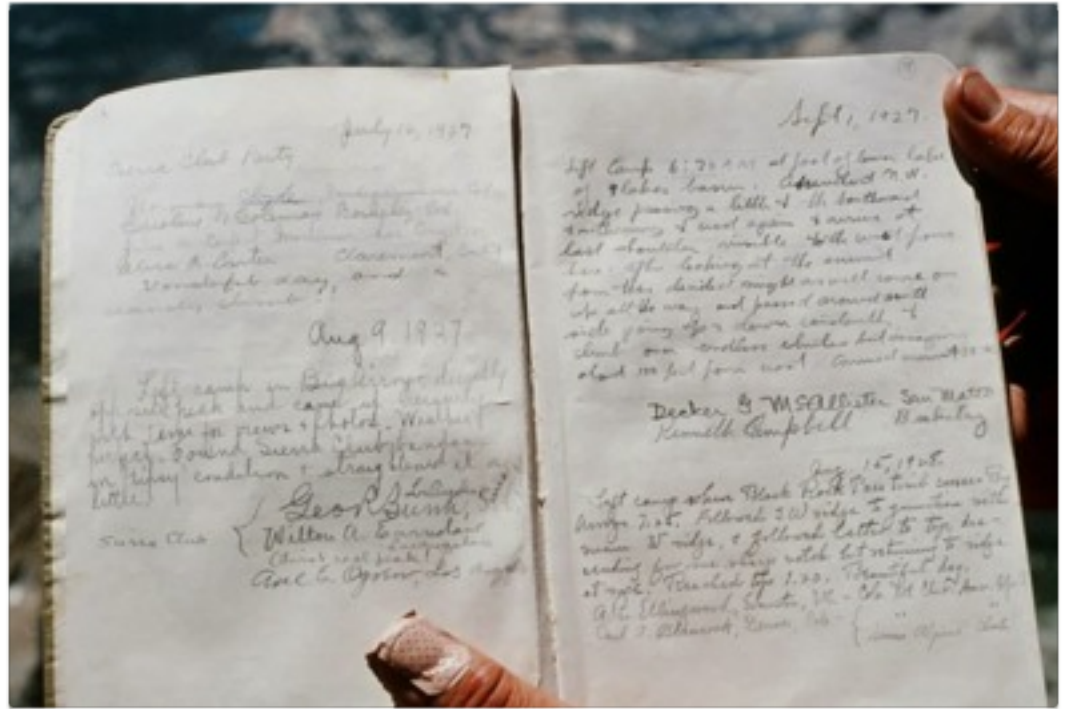
I assumed that when they published the new policy including management of registers, that there would be a call for public comment, as there was for the draft WSP.

Since then, they published the “final” WSP in April 2015 with no call for public comment. A new section of the plan for control of summit registers appeared out of nowhere.

More recently SEKI sent us a “Memorandum of Understanding” to be signed by us, requiring the SPS to remove up to 42% of registers on SEKI’s list of 164 peaks and any peaks not on their list. Their removal list includes peaks with a documented history of up to 116 years of continuous register presence and an old register dating back to the beginning of the SPS list.

Tina Bowman and I have replied to this proposal, and SEKI has made some minor changes. But they are insistent on removing about seventy registers. We will discuss this in the next SPS management committee meeting on December 2, and formulate another reply to SEKI.

I would like to identify any summit registers on SEKI’s list that we could do without (such as Acrodictes



Norman Clyde register entry on Black Kaweah, July 7, 1972 (Photo by Ron Bartell).

or peaks where the register disappears too often) and prioritize the ones we want to keep. I have a list of peaks with surviving Sierra Club aluminum boxes. And I suppose we should prioritize peaks on the SPS list (Emblem, Mountaineers, others), but I am sure that a 40% reduction will cut into anything we might prioritize. If we can come up with anything to justify a reduction in the overall mortality rate, that would be great.

I would appreciate any comments from the SPS membership.

See <http://summitregister.org> for links to the official WSP and further developments.

## 60th Anniversary Banquet DVD

A very exciting video taken at the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet is still available on a DVD. Relive or experience for the first time this milestone occasion! It includes many captured moments of you and your favorite people both during the social hour and following the main program. You'll hear again the outstanding speeches by emcee Alexander Smirnoff and our favorite keynote speaker, Doug Mantle. There are music and tons of photos both by photographer Rouben and roving reporter Mary Mac. Order your copy now! Send your check for \$12 made out to the SPS to the treasurer, Alexander Smirnoff, at 1701 Paloma St., Pasadena, CA 91104.

## Tunemah (11,894'), Finger (12,404'), Reinstein (12,586'), and Three Sisters (10,612'):

Four peaks in Four days in Mid-August

By Nile Sorenson

Tunemah Peak is one of the most remote peaks on the SPS list, and its register is pretty much a catalog of list finishers. It is seldom climbed due to the long approach and probably because the peak itself is not very interesting. In fact, it may best be described as a slag heap. As long as you are there, you might as well climb several other peaks in the area. Depending on your route, you could pick up Tehipite Dome and Spanish Mountain or, farther north, Reinstein and Finger. Three Sisters is just up the road from the trailhead and is an easy morning hike.

After looking at maps, I inquired from several friends who had climbed Tunemah what route they had used. Most said they started at Rancheria Trail following the creek into Crown Valley, crossed Crown Creek, dropped down into Blue Canyon, then followed Blue Canyon north through Big Meadow and camped at some lakes four or five miles west of Tunemah. I mapped this route out on my National Geographic topo maps program and found that this route is twenty-two plus miles with 7,300' of gain and a whopping 3750' of LOSS. This still leaves you about four miles of cross country to get to Tunemah. It also requires crossing Crown Creek, which can be difficult until late in the year.

I discovered a write-up by Larry Tidball about a trip in August of 1992. He had done Tunemah by coming in from Wishon Reservoir, going over Crown Pass, then dropping down to the north fork of the Kings River. He followed it east and camped at Portal Lake. This looked a bit shorter and avoided the crossing of Crown Creek. I mapped this out on my trusty topo program—about 19.4 miles and only 5450' of gain with 1790' of loss. I liked this much better.

Another variation of this approach is to start at Courtright Reservoir, go up Maxson Meadow to Big Maxson Meadow, then continue up to Portal Lake. Mapping this route showed 21.9 miles to Portal Lake with 3946' of gain and 1,836' of loss. So—2.5 more miles but not quite as much gain.

**Day 1** I decided to start at Wishon at 6:30 am, hiking along the Woodchuck trail and heading for Crown Pass. It took me about six hours to reach the pass and another forty-five minutes to Half Moon Lake. This is a beautiful lake with lots of good camping. It is a good spot to camp if you get a late start due to permit issues.

From Half Moon Lake there are two trails, one going north and dropping down to Maxson Meadow and a second, more obscure trail going east to a spring (9200') on the north fork of the Kings River. This is the preferred trail. It is a bit hard to find and follow, so make sure to do this part during the day. About three miles east of Half Moon Lake, this trail converges with

the trail coming up from Big Maxson Meadow. From here it is only about 3.5 miles to Portal Lake. I pulled into Portal Lake just after 6:00 pm—a big day.

**Day 2** The main objective of the trip is Tunemah. Just before 6:00 am, I left Portal Lake, going up easy slopes into the cirque at the east end of Crown Basin and crossed Kettle Ridge 0.75 miles east of Finger. From the top of this pass one can see the upper reaches of the southwest slope of Finger Peak. About five miles to the southeast you can see Tunemah. Since number one priority is Tunemah, I avoided the temptation to do Finger and figured I would get it on the way back. I headed straight for Tunemah, going down to the lakes then up through the pass located about a quarter mile NNE of peak 11,646'. This is a mistake! Once you go through this pass you must drop way to the south to get on the slopes leading up to Tunemah. It also gives you more gain and loss.

From Kettle Ridge it is better to head for the saddle between peaklet 11,646' and the first small knob about a half mile to the south of 11,646'. This will put you exactly where you need to go to start the climb on the south slope of Tunemah in a gentle diagonal toward the summit. I signed in on Tunemah just before noon. I went back by crossing the saddle just south of peaklet 11,646' and found this to be much preferred. When I reached the slopes of Finger, I was too tired to do it. I know it was just right there in front of me, but I had no energy, so I crossed Kettle Ridge and went back to camp at Portal Lake.

**Day 3** I left camp just before 6:00 am and headed for Reinstein. I crossed Pearl Lake at a narrow isthmus and climbed up to Regiment Lake. This is a beautiful area. Above Regiment Lake there are lots of nice slabs leading up to the tarn just south of Reinstein. Signed in at 8:45 am. Going back, I decided to take a short cut over to get Finger Peak. I crossed a small saddle just south of Pearl Lake, went by the west shore of Chapel Lake and the east shore of Midway Lake, then headed into the cirque of Crown Basin and Kettle Ridge. This is the same route described by Larry in his write-up. I climbed Kettle Ridge for the second time in two days and then climbed Finger Peak. It was a bit tricky, and I was glad that I had not tried it coming back from Tunemah. I made the summit at 1:50 pm and headed for camp, arriving there just before 4 pm. I packed up and headed down the trail to the trail junction just below 9200' where it splits off toward Half Moon Lake. It would have been nice to make it up to Half Moon Lake, but because the light was starting to fade, I stopped for the night. I didn't want to risk the obscure trail leading up to the lake. It was a nice camp near the junction, but I slept lightly since there was bear sign everywhere.

**Day 4** I got an early start and headed for the car. In about 7.5 hours, I made the car and still had lots of daylight left, so I drove up to Courtright Reservoir and climbed Three Sisters in 5.5 hours round trip. I was too tired to start the drive home, so drove to Shaver Lake.

Many variables on this trip could be modified, depending on how the permit and drive situations go. Lots of places to camp are along this whole route, and it is a beautiful area.



# *A Big Loop: Palisade Crest, Gayley, and Temple Crag*

## *September 4-7, 2015*

*By Tina Bowman*



After a shuttle of people and packs to the end of the road, co-leader Nile Sorenson, participants Corrine Livingston and Amin Faraday, and I took off up the South Fork of Big Pine Creek trail before 6:30 Friday morning of Labor Day weekend. I was surprised that the hiker parking lot was fairly empty; perhaps the smoke from the Rough Fire was keeping people away. We saw no one else until we were on the North Fork trail on Monday afternoon. I had seen a fine meteor that appeared to be about to crash into the Sierra as I drove to the hiker parking lot; I took it as a good omen for our outing.

This trip would be a loop going up the South Fork to Willow Lake and on to Elinore Lake. After climbing Temple Crag we would come out over Contact Pass to connect with the North Fork trail and hike back to the cars.

Nile led till we left the trail near Willow Lake. I managed to find the use trail heading up toward the cirque below Sill, Gayley, and Temple Crag and more use trail, at least some of the time, when we turned up the outlet stream from Elinore Lake. Despite taking a number of breaks and not pushing it, we were at the lake before noon. The clear morning gave way to smoke as

Norman Clyde and Sill turned very fuzzy. We enjoyed the relaxing afternoon.

Saturday we were off at 5:50, heading south from the lake and up to a saddle in the ridge that leads to Scimitar Pass. On the other side of the saddle we were soon toiling up the moraine, eventually getting on an easy section of the ridge and then onto the broken face leading to the "pass." Here we donned helmets and harnesses and started up the fin-like ridge that leads towards Palisade Crest. Nile led us, staying mostly on the ridge, never dropping more than a few feet until we had passed a notch with a bit of a grunt to get up to the south side. From here we dropped down on the east side, following several ducks, and then came back up to the crest to where we were looking down at the notch and across at the slab leading to the summit area. Here the route wasn't obvious. Nile climbed down the big boulder, and we other three went along the top of it and down

*Above: Palisade Crest and its chockstone as seen from the moraine on the approach to Scimitar Pass (Photo by Tina Bowman).*



which went fine.

We soon recrossed the chockstone and had a quick lunch in the sun on a ledge. It had been rather chilly and windy, so the sun felt good. With some route finding and one very short belay, we were back on top of the fin, making good time back to Scimitar Pass at 2:45. Being very careful with all of the loose rock, we were back in camp by 5:30, getting back to camp from the pass an hour faster than we had come up despite the poor footing.

Sunday we started up towards

*Above: Palisade Crest summit and slab. At right: Nile Sorenson, Corinne Livingston and Amin Faraday on Palisade Crest (Photos by Tina Bowman).*

between it and another rock, working our way down the sides of a chute. Nile, Corrine, and Amin went a bit to their right while I stayed on the rib to the left, meeting where we went right to the notch and airy chockstone.

Once on the summit side of the gap at about 11:00, Nile set up the rope and led off while I belayed. He was soon on top of the fourth-class, fun slab (great hand and footholds) and belayed Corrine and Amin at the same time on the same rope with Corrine clipped in about seven feet ahead of Amin and with Amin trailing the second sixty-meter rope. I came up last on the second rope and paused to throw the other one farther down the face. While I was coming up, Corrine and Amin climbed the third class to the summit, signed in, and came down. Nile and I then went up and signed in about 12:05.

Soon I was rappelling and untangling ropes. Amin and Corrine came down more or less together on separate strands of thin-diameter rope while I gave them some extra friction with a fireman's belay. Though they had started out quite separate, the ends of the rope somehow twisted around one another. I untangled that mess just before Nile ended his rappel. Unfortunately, the end of one rope about fifty feet up caught on a flake when we pulled the rappel. Nile then climbed unbelayed to retrieve the rope,





the cirque below Mt. Gayley with full packs at 6:30, following use trail and some ducks on slabs and talus. The worst was coming around the lip of a moraine, where the wind blew away Nile's visor and bandana (we found only the red bandana), and dropping above a lake where we left our backpacks. We went on to Gayley, reaching that summit at 10:35. We started down before 11:00 and were back at the packs at noon for lunch. From here slabs and talus led us eventually to the small lake below Temple Crag where we decided to camp. Because it was only 1:30, Corrine, who didn't need Temple Crag for the second time, headed off to Contact Pass with a plan to camp at Third Lake or Sam Mack Meadow and climb



*Above: North Palisade and the Palisade Glacier in the haze of the Rough Fire as seen from Gayley. At left: Descending the crack at Contact Pass, Amin Faraday on rappel (Photos by Tina Bowman).*

## A Big Loop, continued:

Winchell on Monday. After the tough cross-country with the backpacks, the other three of us were happy to have the afternoon off. Strong gusts of wind made setting up the tents a bit problematic, and we spent a fair amount of time in our tents because it was so windy and chilly. The smoke really came in again this afternoon.

Monday saw Nile, Amin, and me heading on to Contact Pass at 6:15, making short work of that from the lake. Nile was soon leading the crack above the pass and then belaying Amin and me up. I flailed about a bit, dangling my daypack from the end of the rope a short distance below my tie-in and sometimes pushing it ahead above me. I remembered pushing my pack the last time I was there also. Tight fit!

We were soon on the summit of Temple Crag (no register) and then returned the same way with a rappel back to the pass and a nice break once there. With a deep breath, we started down the use trail on the north side of Contact Pass. As Nile would say, soon the honeymoon was over, use trail giving way to some footprints in the sand, weaving among the boulders, and then very large talus. Eventually we picked up some ducks as we continued to drop toward Third Lake and then angled toward Second Lake and the old bit of roadway with rails in it for building the dam at the outlet. Having had lunch at Second Lake, we were soon back on real trail for the first time since Friday morning, dropping down to Cienega Mirth, where we took a break at Lon Chaney's cabin in a lovely spot by the stream. We were back to the cars about 3:40, the lot being even emptier than on Friday morning. We said our goodbyes and headed off into the jam of Labor Day traffic that began a few miles north of Olancho and killed an hour of our time. At least we could reflect on three good climbs with good company.

## Smoke 'Em If You Got 'Em: Florence and Vandever, September 12-13, 2015

By Gary Schenk

through Three Rivers. Nevertheless, Saturday morning found blue skies and participants at the Franklin Lake trailhead.

The hike in was relaxed and uneventful, and we soon reached Franklin Lake. We passed the bear locker near the dam and proceeded up, looking for our campsite. The first likely spot, a ways below the trail, looked like it was it, so down we went. However, despite our best efforts we could not find the locker. We knew there was one somewhere. Fortunately we felt we had enough cans to fit everyone's food, so we set camp then set off for Florence.

It was a beautiful day and the hike to the pass went easily. On the way, not far from our camp, we saw another good spot, this one with a bear locker. In this fourth year of drought we still found some water on trail. We kept a pretty relentless pace, but did take a break at the pass. The climb went well and was fun class 2 scrambling to the top. There was some discussion about which point was the highest, but there was little difference, so we settled for the one with the register. We headed back down, following as best we could RJ's route description.

We had plenty of daylight left for dinner. There was some excess food that would not fit in the cans. Ron Hudson took care of that problem by hauling the surplus to the locker. Thanks, Ron!

We were up at dawn the next day to break camp and head for Vandever. The view down canyon had me worried; the smoke was here! It was a heavy smoke, too. We reached the trail junction for Vandever, and went a bit up the trail, then changed out packs for the climb. Vandever is a very straightforward climb. Go up. Tina went up and the

In this, the year of the Big Smoke, it seemed that Mineral King was one spot free of smoke. Things were looking good for our trip to Florence and Vandever. At least until we drove



Above: Franklin Lake. Page 17, top: On the summit of Florence, back row, left to right: Christine Riley, Laura Newman, Gary Schenk, Ron Hudson, Karen Anderson, Mary Jo Dungfelder. Front: Steve Donmyer, Charles Corbett, Pat Arredondo Below: Florence from Franklin Pass (Photos by Tina Bowman).



rest of us did our best to keep up. One participant was on the verge of stopping due to the smoke, but persevered. Not much of a view on this day from the top.

Fortunately, as we headed down, the wind shifted and started blowing the smoke back to the fire. So we had a pleasant hike back to the cars. We ran in to lots of folks on the trail this day, including Jorge Estrada and friend who were headed for Vandever. Seemed like people were trying to avoid the smoke and had converged on Mineral King.

We made the cars and then the long drive out. Most stopped at the Pizza Factory in Three Rivers for salad, pizza, and drinks. It was a good, if smoky weekend and a nice group of folks.

Thanks to participants Karen Anderson, Pat Arredondo, Charles Corbett, Steve Donmyer, Mary Jo Dungfelder, Ron Hudson, Laura Newman, and Christine Riley and to Tina Bowman for another nice lead.



## *The Rough Fire*

Started by lightning on July 31, 2015, the Rough Fire was enormous: 151,623 acres, the largest in California in 2015 and the thirteenth largest ever in the state. Four structures were destroyed and twelve firefighters injured, and it burned for well over three months. Starting 2.5 miles southwest of Spanish Mountain, the Rough Fire eventually burned about 9,300 acres in Kings Canyon NP, over 82,500 acres in Sequoia National Forest, over 58,500 acres in Sierra National Forest, six acres of state land, and almost 1,100 acres of private land. The privately owned Kings Canyon Lodge was burned to the ground (remember the signs for ice cream?), and Cedar Grove was closed to the public. The hope is that Cedar Grove will open again in 2016.

The Lewis Creek trail, which we use to climb Mt. Harrington and Kennedy Mtn., was burned, and farther north, the fire prevented Shane Smith from completing the list on Tehipite Dome, which was planned for September 26<sup>th</sup>. For most of us, the issue was smoke, which blanketed much of the Sierra, affected Fresno and Clovis, and sometimes filled the Owens Valley. Wind and daily currents up and down drainages caused shifts in smoke so that one place might be clear in the morning and heavily smoky by noon.





# Mt. Warren, August 29-30, 2015

By Beth Epstein



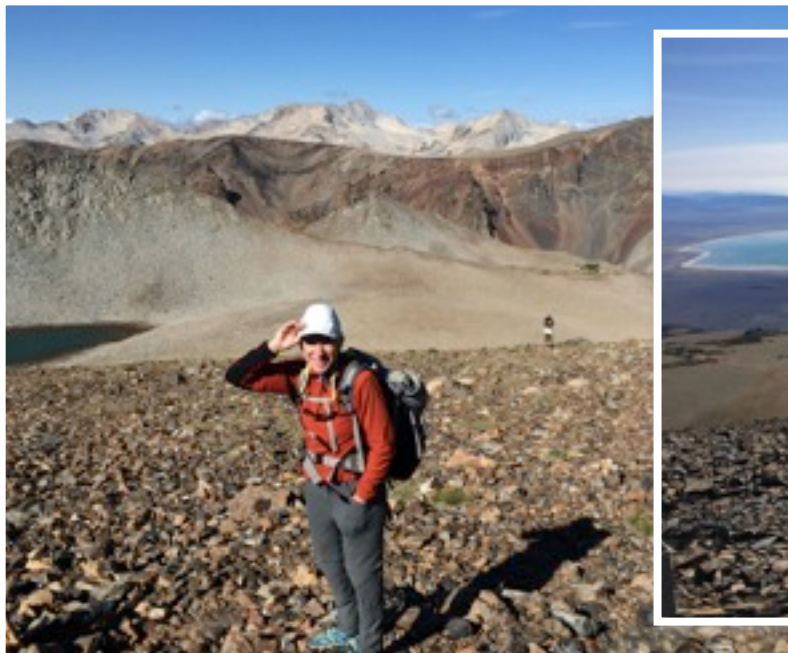
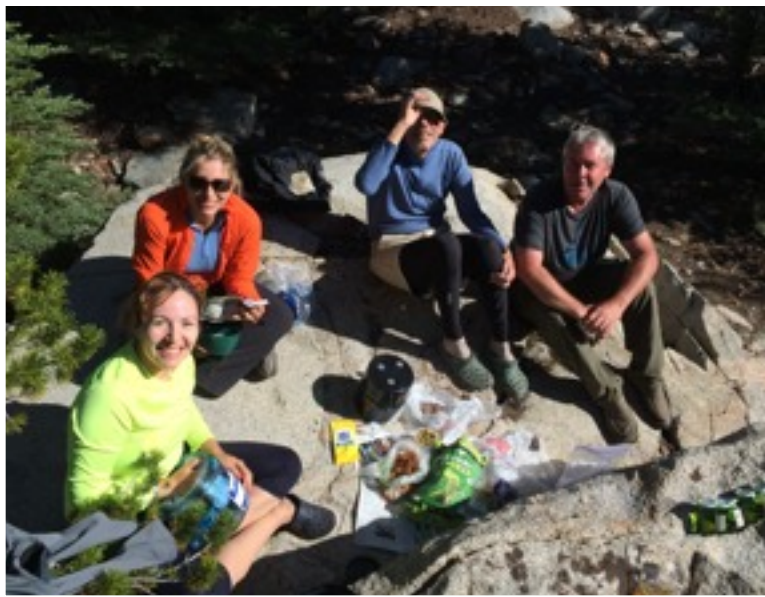
Mat Kelliher and I had scheduled a long trip over Taboose Pass for Arrow and Ruskin, but when almost everyone bailed and the smoke

continued to roll in, we opted for two easy days and fall color climbing Mt Warren from Lundy Lake. Joining us were by Jazmin Ortega, Bill Kells, and Julia Tock. We all found each other Saturday morning in the byways of [Lundy Canyon Campground](#) and caravanned to the Lake Canyon trailhead. It was an easy backpack to Oneida Lake mostly on historic mining road through fall color and steep multi-hued canyon walls, passing old mining ruins and relics along the way. We enjoyed a lazy afternoon, a marvelous happy hour, and the last full moon of the summer, then hit the talus at first light for a climb of the southwest slopes described by Gordon Macleod in the SPS archives. Mat posted his [GPS track](#) on Peakbagger. The rock was loose in the gully we ascended, so we chose to descend on more open slopes. It was a slow 3,000' of talus, but the group was both

enthusiastic and patient, and with clear skies (okay, high winds!) we enjoyed the views west to Yosemite and east to Mono Lake. Thanks as always to Mat for a fun weekend and a strong lead.

*Top: Lundy Lake from trailhead. Left: Happy hour, L to R: Jazmin Ortega, Julia Tock, Bill*

*Kells, Mat Kelliher. Above: Mining ruins below Oneida Lake (Photos by Beth Epstein). Bottom left: Beth Epstein on NW shoulder of Warren, Bill Kells behind (Photo by Julia Tock). Bottom right: View southeast from the summit to Mono Lake and Rough Fire haze (Photo by Mat Kelliher).*





## Sierra Peaks Section—Angeles Chapter—Sierra Club

## SPS PEAKS LIST

22nd Edition October 2015 247 Peaks

**CHANGE** Main change from the 21<sup>st</sup> Edition (July 2011): Adds the requirements for the Geographic Emblem

## PEAK INDEX

Abbot - 17.9	Crag - 1.9	Goodale - 10.9	Lola - 24.5	Piute - 22.12	Striped - 10.8
Adams - 24.9	Dade - 17.8	Goode - 14.8	Lone Pine - 4.9	Powell - 15.2	Table - 7.6
Agassiz - 14.7	Dana - 21.8	Gould - 9.4	Lyell - 21.5	Prater - 12.3	Tallac - 23.11
Alta - 6.1	Darwin - 15.7	Granite Chief -24.1	Maclure - 21.4	Pyramid (N) - 23.9	Taylor Dome - 1.7
Angora - 2.2	Davis - 19.5	Gray - 20.3	Mallory - 4.3	Pyramid (S) - 10.6	Tehipite Dm. - 11.7
Arrow - 10.7	Deerhorn - 8.5	Guyot - 3.6	Marion - 11.2	Recess - 17.5	Temple Crag -14.1
Bago - 9.6	Devils Crags - 13.3	Haeckel - 15.4	Matterhorn - 22.9	Red and White -18.3	Thompson - 15.1
Baldwin - 18.7	Diamond - 9.12	Hale - 5.2	McAdie - 4.5	Red Kaweah - 6.9	Thor - 4.8
Banner - 19.4	Dicks - 23.10	Half Dome - 20.6	McDuffie - 13.5	Red Peak - 20.2	Three Sisters-11.9
Barnard - 5.6	Disappointment - 12.7	Harrington - 11.6	McGee - 15.11	Red Slate - 18.4	Thumb - 12.6
Basin - 16.4	Disaster - 23.4	Henry - 15.13	Mendel - 15.8	Reinstein - 13.10	Tunemah - 7.7
Baxter - 10.1	Dragon - 9.10	Hermit - 15.10	Merced - 20.1	Ritter - 19.3	Thunderbolt - 14.5
Bear Crk. Sp.- 17.7	Dunderberg - 22.5	Highland - 23.5	Merriam - 17.1	Rixford - 9.5	Tinemaha - 12.2
Birch - 12.5	Eagle Scout - 6.5	Hilgard - 17.4	Mid. Palisade-12.8	Rockhouse - 1.6	Tinker Knob - 24.2
Black Giant - 13.6	East Vidette - 8.6	Hitchcock - 3.11	Midway - 7.5	Rodgers - 19.6	Tom - 16.6
Black Hawk - 23.1	Eisen - 6.3	Homers Nose - 2.6	Milestone - 7.4	Rose - 24.4	Tower - 22.13
Black Kaw. - 6.10	Electra - 19.7	Hooper - 16.11	Mills - 17.10	Round Top - 23.7	Triple Divide - 7.1
Black Mtn. - 9.11	Elwell - 24.8	Humphreys - 16.3	Mokelumne - 23.6	Royce - 17.2	Trojan - 5.7
Bloody - 18.9	Emerald - 15.12	Huxley - 15.61	Morgan (N) - 18.6	Ruskin - 11.1	Tunemah - 13.12
Bolton Brown -12.4	Emerson - 16.2	Independence - 9.2	Morgan (S) -17.11	Russell - 5.3	Tunnabora - 5.5
Bradley - 8.10	English - 24.6	Iron - 19.1	Morrison - 18.8	San Joaquin -19.9	Twin Peaks - 22.7
Brewer - 7.9	Ericsson - 8.3	Irvine - 4.4	Moses - 2.5	Sawtooth (N) - 2.9	Tyndall - 5.8
Caltech - 8.12	Excelsior - 22.4	Izaak Walton-18.2	Muah - 3.3	Sawtooth (S) - 1.5	University - 9.1
Cardinal - 10.10	Finger - 13.11	Joe Devel - 3.7	Muir - 4.6	Scylla - 13.8	Vandever - 2.7
Carillon - 5.4	Fiske - 15.5	Johnson - 14.10	Needham - 2.10	Senger - 16.10	Virginia - 22.6
Cartago - 3.2	Florence Mtn.-21.3	Jordan - 8.1	Newcomb - 3.10	Seven Gables -16.9	Vogelsang - 21.2
Castle - 24.3	Florence Peak - 2.8	Julius Caesar-17.3	No. Maggie - 2.4	Sierra Buttes - 24.7	Volunteer - 22.11
Cathedral - 21.1	Foerster - 19.8	Junction - 8.8	No. Palisade - 14.4	Sill - 14.3	Wallace - 15.3
Center - 8.11	Four Gables - 16.5	Kaweah, Mt - 6.8	Norm. Clyde - 12.9	Silliman - 6.2	Warren - 22.1
Chamberlin - 3.9	Freel - 23.8	Kearsarge - 9.3	North Guard - 7.10	Silver - 18.1	West Vidette - 8.7
Charybdis 13.7	Gabb - 17.6	Keith - 8.9	North Peak -22.3	Sirretta - 1.8	Whaleback - 7.3
Cirque - 3.4	Gardiner - 9.7	Kennedy - 11.5	Observation - 13.1	Smith - 1.10	Wheel - 13.4
Clarence King - 9.9	Gayley - 14.2	Kern Peak - 2.1	Olancha - 3.1	South Guard - 7.8	Whitney - 22.8
Clark - 20.4	Gemini - 16.8	Kern Point - 6.12	Owens - 1.2	Spanish Needle-1.3	Whorl - 22.8
Cloudripper - 14.9	Genevra - 8.2	Koip - 21.6	Palisade Cr.-12.10	Spanish Mtn. -11.8	Williamson - 5.9
Clouds Rest - 20.7	Gibbs - 21.7	Lamarck - 15.9	Perkins - 10.3	Split - 12.1	Winchell - 14.6
Clyde Mina. - 19.2	Gilbert - 14.11	Lamont - 1.4	Pettit - 22.10	Stanford (N) - 18.5	Wynne - 10.4
Colosseum - 10.2	Giraud - 13.2	Langley - 3.5	Pickering - 3.8	Stanford (S) - 8.4	Young - 5.1
Conness - 22.2	Glacier Ridge - 7.2	Leavitt - 23.2	Picket Guard - 6.11	Stanislaus - 23.3	
Corcoran - 4.1	Goat - 11.4	LeConte - 4.2	Pilot Knob (N)-16.7	Starr King - 20.5	
Cotter - 9.8	Goddard - 13.9	Lion Rock - 6.7	Pilot Knob (S)-1.1	State - 11.3	
Coyote - 2.3	Goethe - 16.1	Lippincott - 6.4	Pinchot - 10.5	Stewart - 6.6	

## PEAKS

The peaks are grouped into 24 geographical areas that are listed in a south to north direction. The names of the 15 emblem peaks are capitalized and marked with \*\*. The names of the 35 mountaineers peaks are marked with \*. As noted below, UTM coordinates are given for summits with a questionable location. The cartographer of the 7.5 min. maps seems to have shifted the summit location of Mt Powell and Mt Emerson, but the SPS continues to recognize the nearby older and higher location. The 7.5 min. Mount Whitney map has the spelling Mt Chamberlain, but the correct name is probably Chamberlin, which is used on the older 15 min. map.

## MAPS

The listed principal map for each peak is the exact title of the USGS topographic map (Calif.) where the peak is located. The auxiliary map column gives maps that are adjacent to the principal map and that are needed for the approach by a frequently used route. The location of the auxiliary map relative to the principal map is shown in parentheses. For peaks that are near the corner of a map, such as Olancha Peak, additional maps may be needed. These additional maps are not named in the list, but their relative locations are shown with

additional capital letters after semicolons. The USGS has published a useful pamphlet "CALIFORNIA--Index to Topographic and Other Map Coverage," which locates and identifies maps and gives their position codes.

All of the maps are of the 7.5 min, 1:24,000 series. Most have 40 ft contour intervals, but a few have 80 ft intervals. A number of maps in the central Sierra dated in the early 1980s have 20 meter contours and elevations in meters. These maps are identified with the symbol ^ after the name. Elevations from these maps have been converted to feet by dividing by 0.3048 m/ft.

Each topo map carries a code number that identifies the geographic coordinates of its SE corner. The 7.5 min maps in the Sierra cover an area of about 7 by 8.5 miles; therefore these code numbers permit locating peaks on small scale maps to that precision. An alphabetical list of principal maps with code numbers is given on page 8. The older 15 min maps are sometimes preferred; these are identified in the map list.

## CLIMBING DIFFICULTY

The climbing class indicates the difficulty of the easiest, but not necessarily the most usual, route on the peak. The classes are

- class 1: Hands-in-pockets hiking on trails or easy cross country.
- class 2: Rough cross-country travel, boulder hopping, and use of hands for balance.
- class 3: Handholds necessary for climbing. Some climbers may want belays.
- class 4: More difficult climbing with considerable exposure. Ropes are used.
- class 5: Technical rock climbing.

Some of the peaks have a summit block classification that is higher than the principal part of the climb. These are shown with the letter *s* followed by the number.

## UTM COORDINATES

UTM (Universal Transverse Mercator) coordinates are useful for specifying locations on a map: peaks, campsites, or points on a climbing route. The UTM grid is defined by fine black lines on recent maps and by blue tick marks along the edge of older maps. The lines are one kilometer apart and have a two digit identifying number. A location to the nearest 100 meters is given by a six-digit number. The first two digits are the eastward coordinate obtained from the top or bottom edge of the map, and the third digit is the number of tenths of a kilometer to the east of the grid line. The fourth and fifth digits are the northward coordinate obtained from the left or right edge of the map, and the sixth digit is the tenths of a km to the north of the grid line. For example, Cartago Peak (012203) is about 200 meters (third digit) east of the north-south grid line that is numbered "01" on the map edge and about 300 meters (sixth digit) north of the east-west grid line that is numbered "20" on the map. A location can be given to a precision of 10 meters by using an eight-digit number where the third and fourth digits and the seventh and eighth digits give the fraction of a km to one percent. For example, Cartago Peak is the highest rock pile out of several nearby; its location to a precision of 10 meters is 01152033. A memory aid for the order of the digits is "read right up," i.e., eastward then northward.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the SPS is available to current Sierra Club members who climb six peaks on the Peaks List, two of which must be climbed on a Sierra Club trip. The peaks and dates should be listed on an SPS application form and sent to the SPS Secretary with the subscription fee for the section newsletter, *The Sierra Echo*.

## RECOGNITION

Recognition, including emblem pins, is awarded to those members who meet the following requirements and who submit a list of peaks climbed and dates to the SPS Secretary. Also, the emblem and senior emblem have membership time requirements.

**Emblem:** Climb 10 of the emblem peaks and 15 additional peaks on the Peaks List and be an SPS member for one year.

**Senior Emblem:** Climb 100 peaks on the Peaks List, including all of the emblem peaks, 15 or more of the mountaineers peaks, and 2 or more peaks from each of the 24 geographic areas and be a member one year beyond achieving emblem status.

**Master Emblem:** Climb 175 peaks on the Peaks List, including all of the emblem peaks, 25 of the mountaineers peaks, and 4 or more peaks from each of the 24 geographic areas.

**List Completion:** Climb all the peaks on the current Peaks List and be an SPS member for at least two years.

**Additional list completions and emblems** earned after list completions.

**Geographic Emblem:** Climb 2 peaks from each of the 24 geographic areas and be an SPS member.



KEY: \* = Mountaineers Peak \*\* = Emblem Peak ^ = metric contours and elevation

	<b>Peak</b>	<b>Elev</b>	<b>cl</b>	<b>UTM</b>	<b>Prin Map</b>	<b>Aux Maps</b>	
<b>1. SOUTHERN SIERRA</b>							
	<u>SUSPENDED</u> 1.1	Pilot Knob (S)	6200+	2		Onyx	
	1.2	Owens Peak	8453	2		Owens Peak	
	1.3	Spanish Needle	7841	3	096589	Lamont Peak	Ninemile Canyon (E)
	1.4	Lamont Peak	7429	2		Lamont Peak	
	1.5	Sawtooth Peak (S)	8000+	2		Ninemile Canyon	Lamont Peak (W)
	1.6	Rockhouse Peak	8360+	2	892735	Rockhouse Basin	Sirretta Peak (W)
	1.7	Taylor Dome	8802	2s3	824686	Cannell Peak	
	1.8	Sirretta Peak	9977	1		Sirretta Peak	
	1.9	Crag Peak	9480+	3		Crag Peak	Long Canyon (E)
	1.10	Smith Mtn	9533	2		Monache Mtn	Crag Peak (S);W;SW
<b>2. MINERAL KING AND KERN RIVER</b>							
	2.1	Kern Peak	11510	1		Kern Peak	Casa Vieja Mdws (S)
	2.2	Angora Mtn	10198	2		Kern Lake	Hockett Peak (S)
	2.3	Coyote Peaks	10892	2		Kern Lake	Hockett Peak (S)
	2.4	North Maggie Mtn	10234	1	530157	Moses Mtn	Camp Wishon (S)
	2.5	Moses Mtn	9331	3		Moses Mtn	Camp Wishon (S)
	2.6	Homers Nose	9023	1	441278	Silver City	Case Mtn (W);SW;S
	2.7	Vandever Mtn	11947	1		Mineral King	
	2.8	Florence Peak	12432	2		Mineral King	
	2.9	Sawtooth Peak (N)	12343	2		Mineral King	
	2.10	Needham Mtn	12520+	2s3		Mineral King	
<b>3. OLANCHA TO LANGLEY AND WEST</b>							
	3.1 **	OLANCHA PEAK	12123	2		Olancha	Haiwee P.(S);W;SW
	3.2	Cartago Peak	10480+	2s3	012203	Olancha	
	3.3	Muah Mtn	11016	2		Bartlett	Cirque Peak (W)
	3.4	Cirque Peak	12900	1		Cirque Peak	
	3.5	Mt Langley	14026	1		Mt Langley^	Cirque Peak (S)
	3.6	Mt Guyot	12300	1		Mount Whitney^	Johnson Peak (S)
	3.7	Joe Devel Peak	13327	2		Mount Whitney^	Johnson Peak (S)
	3.8	Mt Pickering	13474	2		Mount Whitney^	Johnson Peak (S)
	3.9	Mt Chamberlin	13169	1		Mount Whitney^	Johnson Peak (S)
	3.10	Mt Newcomb	13422	2		Mount Whitney^	Johnson Peak (S)
	3.11	Mt Hitchcock	13186	1		Mount Whitney^	Johnson Peak (S)
<b>4. CORCORAN TO WHITNEY</b>							
	4.1	Mt Corcoran	13714+	2		Mt Langley^	Mount Whitney (W)
	4.2 *	Mt LeConte	13930	3	880446	Mount Whitney^	Mt Langley^ (E)
	4.3	Mt Mallory	13845	2		Mount Whitney^	Mt Langley^ (E)
	4.4	Mt Irvine	13780+	2		Mount Whitney^	Mt Langley^ (E)
	4.5 *	Mt McAdie	13799	3		Mount Whitney^	Mt Langley^ (E)
	4.6	Mt Muir	14012	3		Mount Whitney^	Mt Langley^ (E)
	4.7 **	MT WHITNEY	14491	1		Mount Whitney^	Mt Langley^ (E)
	4.8	Thor Peak	12306	2		Mount Whitney^	Mt Langley^ (E)
	4.9	Lone Pine Peak	12943	2		Mt Langley^	
<b>5. WHITNEY TO WILLIAMSON</b>							
	5.1	Mt Young	13176	1		Mount Whitney^	Mt Langley^ (E)
	5.2	Mt Hale	13494	1		Mount Whitney^	Mt Langley^ (E)
	5.3 *	Mt Russell	14088	3		Mount Whitney^	Mt Langley^ (E)
	5.4	Mt Carillon	13517+	2		Mount Whitney^	Mt Langley^ (E)
	5.5	Tunnabora Peak	13563	2		Mount Whitney^	Mt Langley^ (E)
	5.6	Mt Barnard	13990	2		Mt Williamson^	Mount Whitney^(S)
	5.7	Trojan Peak	13947	2		Mt Williamson^	
	5.8	Mt Tyndall	14019	2		Mt Williamson^	
	5.9 **	MT WILLIAMSON	14370+	2		Mt Williamson^	
<b>6. KAWEAHS AND WEST</b>							
	6.1	Alta Peak	11240+	1		Lodgepole	
	6.2	Mt Silliman	11188	1		Mt Silliman	
	6.3	Mt Eisen	12160+	2		Mineral King	
	6.4	Lippincott Mtn	12265	2		Triple Divide Peak	Mineral King(S)
	6.5	Eagle Scout Peak	12000+	2		Triple Divide Peak	Mineral King(S)
	6.6	Mt Stewart	12200+	2	609481	Triple Divide Peak	Lodgepole(W)
	6.7	Lion Rock	12360+	2		Triple Divide Peak	Lodgepole(W)
	6.8 **	MT KAWEAH	13802	1		Mt Kaweah^	Triple Divide Pk(W)

	<u>Peak</u>	<u>Elev</u>	<u>cl</u>	<u>UTM</u>	<u>Prin Map</u>	<u>Aux Maps</u>
	6.9	Red Kaweah	13720+	2	Triple Divide Peak	Mineral King(S)
	6.10 *	Black Kaweah	13720+	3	Triple Divide Peak	Mineral King(S)
	6.11	Picket Guard Peak	12303	2	Mt Kaweah^	Triple Divide Pk(W)
	6.12	Kern Point	12730+	2	Mt Kaweah^	Triple Divide Pk(W)
<b>7. GREAT WESTERN DIVIDE</b>						
	7.1 *	Triple Divide Peak	12634	2	Triple Divide Peak	Lodgepole (W)
	7.2	Glacier Ridge	12360+	2s4	606534 Triple Divide Peak	Lodgepole (W)
	7.3	Whaleback	11717	3	632547 Sphinx Lakes	Triple Divide Pk(S)
	7.4 *	Milestone Mtn	13638	3	Mt Brewer^	Mt Williamson^ (E)
	7.5	Midway Mtn	13665	2	Mt Brewer^	Mt Williamson^ (E)
	7.6 *	Table Mtn	13632	3	Mt Brewer^	Mt Williamson^ (E)
	7.7 *	Thunder Mtn	13517+	3s4	Mt Brewer^	Mt Williamson^ (E)
	7.8	South Guard	13232	2	Mt Brewer^	Sphinx Lakes (W)
	7.9 **	MT BREWER	13570	2	Mt Brewer^	Sphinx Lakes (W)
	7.10	North Guard	13327	3s4	Mt Brewer^	Sphinx Lakes (W)
<b>8. KINGS KERN DIVIDE</b>						
	8.1	Mt Jordan	13320+	3s4	Mt Brewer^	Mt Williamson^(E)
	8.2	Mt Geneva	13054	2	Mt Brewer^	Mt Williamson^(E)
	8.3 *	Mt Ericsson	13583+	2	Mt Brewer^	Mt Williamson^(E)
	8.4	Mt Stanford (S)	13973	3	Mt Brewer^	Mt Williamson^(E)
	8.5 *	Deerhorn Mtn	13281	3	Mt Brewer^	Mt Williamson^(E)
	8.6 *	East Vidette	12356	2s3	Mt Brewer^	Mt Williamson^(E)
	8.7	West Vidette	12533+	2	Mt Brewer^	Mt Williamson^(E)
	8.8 *	Junction Peak	13845+	3	Mt Williamson^	
	8.9	Mt Keith	13976	2	Mt Williamson^	
	8.10	Mt Bradley	13264	2	Mt Williamson^	
	8.11	Center Peak	12730+	2s4	Mt Williamson^	
	8.12	Caltech Peak	13832	2	Mt Brewer^	Mt Williamson^(E)
<b>9. KEARSARGE PASS VICINITY</b>						
	9.1 *	University Peak	13589	2	Mt Williamson^	Kearsarge Peak^(N)
	9.2	Independence Peak	11742	3	Kearsarge Peak^	
	9.3	Kearsarge Peak	12618	1	Kearsarge Peak^	
	9.4	Mt Gould	13005	1s3	Mt Clarence King^	Kearsarge Peak^ (E)
	9.5	Mt Rixford	12887	2	Mt Clarence King^	Kearsarge Peak^ (E)
	9.6	Mt Bago	11870	1	Mt Clarence King^	Kearsarge Peak^ (E)
	9.7 *	Mt Gardiner	12907	4	Mt Clarence King^	Kearsarge Peak^ (E)
	9.8	Mt Cotter	12713	2	Mt Clarence King^	Kearsarge Peak^ (E)
	9.9 **	MT CLARENCE KING	12907	4s5	Mt Clarence King^	Kearsarge Peak^ (E)
	9.10	Dragon Peak	12927+	3s4	Kearsarge Peak^	Mt Clarence King^W
	9.11	Black Mtn	13291	2	Mt Clarence King^	Kearsarge Peak^ (E)
	9.12	Diamond Peak	13127	2	Mt Clarence King^	Kearsarge Peak^ (E)
<b>10. BAXTER PASS TO TABOOSE PASS</b>						
	10.1	Mt Baxter	13136	2	784802 Kearsarge Peak^	
	10.2	Colosseum Mtn	12451	1	Aberdeen^	
	10.3	Mt Perkins	12566	2	Mt Pinchot^	Aberdeen^(E)
	10.4	Mt Wynne	13179	2	Mt Pinchot^	Aberdeen^(E)
	10.5	Mt Pinchot	13494	2	Mt Pinchot^	Aberdeen^(E)
	10.6	Pyramid Peak (S)	12779	2	Mt Pinchot^	Aberdeen^(E)
	10.7 *	Arrow Peak	12959	2	Mt Pinchot^	Aberdeen^(E)
	10.8	Striped Mtn	13179	1	Mt Pinchot^	Aberdeen^(E)
	10.9	Goodale Mtn	12772	2s3	Mt Pinchot^	Aberdeen^(E)
	10.10	Cardinal Mtn	13396	2	Mt Pinchot^	Aberdeen^(E)
<b>11. WESTERN MID-SIERRA</b>						
	11.1 *	Mt Ruskin	12920	3	Mt Pinchot^	Aberdeen^(E)
	11.2	Marion Peak	12719	2	Marion Peak	The Sphinx(S)
	11.3	State Peak	12620	2	Marion Peak	The Sphinx(S)
	11.4	Goat Mtn	12207	2	The Sphinx	
	11.5	Kennedy Mtn	11433	1	Slide Bluffs	Cedar Grove(S)
	11.6	Mt Harrington	11009	3	Cedar Grove	
	11.7 *	Tehipite Dome	7708	2s3	Tehipite Dome	Rough Spur(W)
	11.8	Spanish Mtn	10051	1	Rough Spur	
	11.9	Three Sisters	10612	1	Dogtooth Peak	Ward Mtn(E);SE



	<u>Peak</u>	<u>Elev</u>	<u>cl</u>	<u>UTM</u>	<u>Prin Map</u>	<u>Aux Maps</u>
<b>12. SOUTH PALISADES</b>						
	12.1 **SPLIT MTN	14042+	1		Split Mtn^	Fish Springs (E)
	12.2 Mt Tinemaha	12520	2		Split Mtn^	Fish Springs (E)
	12.3 Mt Prater	13471	1		Split Mtn^	Fish Springs (E)
	12.4 Mt Bolton Brown	13491	2		Split Mtn^	Fish Springs (E)
	12.5 Birch Mtn	13602	2		Split Mtn^	Fish Springs (E)
	12.6 The Thumb	13356	2		Split Mtn^	
	12.7 Disappointment Pk	13917	4		Split Mtn^	
	12.8 * Middle Palisade	14012	3		Split Mtn^	
	12.9 * Norman Clyde Peak	13855	4		Split Mtn^	
	12.10 Palisade Crest	13553	4		Split Mtn^	
<b>13. MT GODDARD VICINITY</b>						
	13.1 Observation Peak	12362	2		North Palisade	Mt Thompson (N)
	13.2 Giraud Peak	12608	2		North Palisade	Mt Thompson (N)
	13.3 * Devil's Crag #1	12400+	4	567001	North Palisade	Mt Thompson (N)
	13.4 Wheel Mtn	12774	3		Mt Goddard	North Palisade (E);NE
	13.5 * Mt McDuffie	13282	2		Mt Goddard	Mt Darwin (N);NE
	13.6 Black Giant	13330	1		Mt Goddard	Mt Darwin (N);NE
	13.7 * Charybdis	13096	3		Mt Goddard	Mt Darwin (N);NE
	13.8 Scylla	12956	2		Mt Goddard	Mt Darwin (N);NE
	13.9 ** MT GODDARD	13568	2		Mt Goddard	Mt Darwin (N);NE
	13.10 Mt Reinstein	12586	2		Mt Goddard	Blackcap Mtn(W);NW
	13.11 Finger Peak	12404	2		Mt Goddard	Blackcap Mtn(W);NW
	13.12 Tunemah Peak	11894	2		Slide Bluffs	Tehipite Dome(W)
<b>14. NORTH PALISADES</b>						
	14.1 Temple Crag	12976	3		Split Mtn^	
	14.2 Mt Gayley	13510	3		Split Mtn^	
	14.3 * Mt Sill	14153	2		North Palisade	Split Mtn^ (E)
	14.4 **NORTH PALISADE	14242	4		North Palisade	Split Mtn^ (E)
	14.5 * Thunderbolt Peak	14003	4s5		North Palisade	Split Mtn^ (E)
	14.6 Mt Winchell	13775	3		North Palisade	Split Mtn^ (E)
	14.7 Mt Agassiz	13893	2		North Palisade	Mt Thompson (N)
	14.8 Mt Goode	13085	2		North Palisade	Mt Thompson (N)
	14.9 Clouddripper	13525	2		Mt Thompson	
	14.10 Mt Johnson	12871	2		Mt Thompson	
	14.11 Mt Gilbert	13106	2		Mt Thompson	
<b>15. EVOLUTION AREA</b>						
	15.1 Mt Thompson	13494	2		Mt Thompson	
	15.2 Pt Powell	13360+	2	557115	Mt Thompson	Mt Darwin (W)
	15.3 Mt Wallace	13377	2s3		Mt Darwin	Mt Thompson (E)
	15.4 Mt Haeckel	13418	3		Mt Darwin	Mt Thompson (E)
	15.5 Mt Fiske	13503	2		Mt Darwin	Mt Thompson (E)
	15.6 Mt Huxley	13086	3		Mt Darwin	Mt Thompson (E)
	15.7 **MT DARWIN	13831	3s4		Mt Darwin	Mt Thompson (E)
	15.8 Mt Mendel	13710	3		Mt Darwin	Mt Thompson (E)
	15.9 Mt Lamarck	13417	1	518176	Mt Darwin	Mt Thompson (E)
	15.10 *The Hermit	12328	2s5		Mt Darwin	Mt Thompson (E)
	15.11 Mt McGee	12944	3		Mt Darwin	Mt Henry (W)
	15.12 Emerald Peak	12546	2		Mt Henry	Ward Mountain (W)
	15.13 Mt Henry	12196	2		Mt Henry	Ward Mountain (W)
<b>16. HUMPHREYS BASIN AND WEST</b>						
	16.1 Mt Goethe	13264	1		Mt Darwin	Mt Thompson (E)
	16.2 Mt Emerson	13204	2	534229	Mt Darwin	Mt Thompson (E)
	16.3 ** MT HUMPHREYS	13986	4		Mount Tom	Mt Darwin (S)
	16.4 Basin Mtn	13181	2	531289	Mount Tom	
	16.5 Four Gables	12720+	1	499299	Mount Tom	
	16.6 Mt Tom	13652	2		Mount Tom	
	16.7 Pilot Knob (N)	12245	2		Mt Hilgard	Mount Tom (E)
	16.8 Gemini	12880+	2	389292	Mt Hilgard	Mt Henry (S);SW
	16.9 * Seven Gables	13080+	2		Mt Hilgard	Mt Henry (S);SW
	16.10 Mt Senger	12286	2		Mt Hilgard	Mt Henry( S);SW
	16.11 Mt Hooper	12349	2s4		Florence Lake	Mt Hilgard (E);SE;S

	<u>Peak</u>	<u>Elev</u>	<u>cl</u>	<u>UTM</u>	<u>Prin Map</u>	<u>Aux Maps</u>
<b>17. BEAR CREEK SPIRE AREA</b>						
	17.1 Merriam Peak	13103	2		Mt Hilgard	Mount Tom (E)
	17.2 Royce Peak	13280+	2		Mt Hilgard	Mount Tom (E)
	17.3 Mt Julius Caesar	13200+	2		Mt Hilgard	Mount Tom (E)
	17.4 Mt Hilgard	13361	2		Mt Hilgard	Florence Lake (W)
	17.5 Recess Peak	12813	2		Mt Abbot	Mt Hilgard (S);SW
	17.6 Mt Gabb	13680+	2		Mt Abbot	Mt Hilgard (S);SW
	17.7 * Bear Creek Spire	13720+	3s4		Mt Hilgard	Mt Abbot (N)
	17.8 Mt Dade	13600+	2		Mt Abbot	
	17.9 **MT ABBOT	13704	3		Mt Abbot	
	17.10 Mt Mills	13451	3		Mt Abbot	
	17.11 Mt Morgan (S)	13748	2		Mt Morgan	
<b>18. MONO CREEK TO MAMMOTH</b>						
	18.1 Silver Peak	11878	2		Sharktooth Peak	Graveyard Peak (E)
	18.2 Mt Izaak Walton	12077	2		Graveyard Peak	
	18.3 Red and White Mtn	12816	2		Mt Abbot	Convict Lake^ (N)
	18.4 * Red Slate Mtn	13123+	1		Convict Lake^	Mt Abbot (S)
	18.5 Mt Stanford (N)	12838	2		Mt Abbot	Mt Morgan (E)
	18.6 Mt Morgan (N)	13002	2		Convict Lake^	Mt Abbot (S);SE
	18.7 Mt Baldwin	12615	2		Convict Lake^	
	18.8 * Mt Morrison	12277	2		Convict Lake^	
	18.9 Bloody Mtn	12552	2		Bloody Mtn^	
<b>19. RITTER RANGE AND VICINITY</b>						
	19.1 Iron Mtn	11148	1		Cattle Mtn^	Mt Ritter^ (N)
	19.2 * Clyde Minaret	12264	4	083702	Mt Ritter^	Mammoth Mtn (E)
	19.3 **MT RITTER	13143	2		Mt Ritter^	Mammoth Mtn (E)
	19.4 Banner Peak	12936	2		Mt Ritter^	Mammoth Mtn (E)
	19.5 Mt Davis	12303	2		Mt Ritter^	Mammoth Mtn (E)
	19.6 Rodgers Peak	12978	2		Mt Lyell	Mt Ritter^ (E)
	19.7 Electra Peak	12442	2		Mt Lyell	Merced Peak (W)
	19.8 Foerster Peak	12057	2		Mt Lyell	Merced Peak (W)
	19.9 San Joaquin Mtn	11598	1		Mammoth Mtn	
<b>20. CLARK RANGE AND VICINITY</b>						
	20.1 Merced Peak	11726	2		Merced Peak	Half Dome (W)
	20.2 Red Peak	11699	2		Merced Peak	Half Dome (W)
	20.3 Gray Peak	11573	2		Merced Peak	Half Dome (W)
	20.4 * Mt Clark	11522	3s4		Merced Peak	Half Dome (W)
	20.5 * Mt Starr King	9092	5		Half Dome	
	20.6 Half Dome	8840+	2		Half Dome	
	20.7 Clouds Rest	9926	1		Tenaya Lake	
<b>21. MT LYELL AND NORTH</b>						
	21.1 * Cathedral Peak	10911	3s4		Tenaya Lake	
	21.2 Vogelsang Peak	11493	2		Vogelsang Peak	
	21.3 Mt Florence	12561	2		Mt Lyell	Vogelsang Peak (N)
	21.4 Mt Maclure	12880+	3		Mt Lyell	Vogelsang Peak (N)
	21.5 **MT LYELL	13114	3		Mt Lyell	Vogelsang Peak (N)
	21.6 Koip Peak	12962	1		Koip Peak	Mount Dana (N); NW
	21.7 Mt Gibbs	12773	1		Mount Dana	Tioga Pass (W)
	21.8 Mt Dana	13057	1		Mount Dana	Tioga Pass (W)
<b>22. TIOGA PASS TO BOND PASS</b>						
	22.1 Mt Warren	12327	1		Mount Dana	
	22.2 Mt Conness	12590	2		Tioga Pass	
	22.3 North Peak	12242	2		Tioga Pass	
	22.4 Excelsior Mtn	12446	1		Dunderberg Peak	
	22.5 Dunderberg Peak	12374	2		Dunderberg Peak	
	22.6 Virginia Peak	12001	2		Dunderberg Peak	MatterhornPk(W)N; NW
	22.7 Twin Peaks	12323	2		Dunderberg Peak	MatterhornPk(W)N;NW
	22.8 * Whorl Mtn	12033	3		Matterhorn Peak	Dunderberg Pk(E);N;NE
	22.9 **MATTERHORN PK	12279	2		Matterhorn Peak	Dunderberg Pk(E);N;NE
	22.10 Pettit Peak	10788	2		Falls Ridge	Matterhorn Peak (N)
	22.11 Volunteer Peak	10481	2		Matterhorn Peak	Piute Mtn (W);N
	22.12 Piute Mtn	10541	2		Piute Mtn	Matterhorn Pk (E); NE
	22.13 *Tower Peak	11755	3		Tower Peak	Pickel Meadow



	<u>Peak</u>	<u>Elev</u>	<u>cl</u>	<u>UTM</u>	<u>Prin Map</u>	<u>Aux Maps</u>
<b>23. BOND PASS TO LAKE TAHOE</b>						
	23.1	Black Hawk Mtn	10348	2	Emigrant Lake	Sonora Pass
	23.2	Leavitt Peak	11569	1	Sonora Pass	
	23.3	Stanislaus Peak	11233	1	Disaster Peak	Sonora Pass (S)
	23.4	Disaster Peak	10047	2	Disaster Peak	Dardanelles Cone (W)
	23.5	Highland Peak	10935	2	Ebbetts Pass	Dardanelles Cone (S)
	23.6	Mokelumne Peak	9334	2	Mokelumne Peak	Bear River Res (W)
	23.7	Round Top	10381	3	Carson Pass	Caples Lake (W)
	23.8	Freel Peak	10881	1	Freel Peak	
	23.9	Pyramid Peak (N)	9983	2	Pyramid Peak	
	23.10	Dicks Peak	9974	2	Rockbound Valley	Emerald Bay (E)
	23.11	Mt Tallac	9735	1	Emerald Bay	
<b>24. NORTHERN SIERRA</b>						
	24.1	Granite Chief	9006	1	Granite Chief	Tahoe City (E)
	24.2	Tinker Knob	8949	1	Granite Chief	Tahoe City (E)
	24.3	Castle Peak	9103	2s3	Norden	
	24.4	Mt Rose	10776	1	Mt Rose (Nev)	
	24.5	Mt Lola	9148	1	Independence Lake	
	24.6	English Mtn	8373	2	English Mtn	
	24.7	Sierra Buttes	8591	1	Sierra City	
	24.8	Mt Elwell	7818	1	Gold Lake	
	24.9	Adams Peak	8197	2	Constantia	Frenchman Lake (W)

### Change to the SPS List

The twenty-second edition of the Sierra Peaks Section list adds the requirements for the Geographic emblem and corrects several typographical errors. The change has the approval of the Keeper of the List and SPS Management Committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tina Bowman  
Keeper of the List

### LIST OF MAPS

The code number, which appears on the newer maps below the map name, gives the geographic coordinates of the southeast corner of the map. The first two digits give the latitude, and the next three give the longitude, in degrees. The capital letter designates the latitude, in steps of 7.5', from A at 0.0' to H at 52.5'. The last digit designates the longitude in 7.5' steps from 1 at 0.0' to 8 at 52.5'. For example, the SE corner of the map ABERDEEN (36118H3) is at 36° 52.5' N, 118° 15' E. Note that this ordering of northward, then westward, differs from that for UTM coordinates. A table of these indices for minutes is

	LAT	LONG	MIN	LAT	LONG	MIN
	A	1	0.0	E	5	30.0
	B	2	7.5	F	6	37.5
	C	3	15.0	G	7	45.0
	D	4	22.5	H	8	52.5
Prin map	code	15 min map		Prin map	code	15 min map
Aberdeen^	36118H3	Mt Pinchot		Mt Brewer^	36118F4	Mount Whitney
Bartlett	36118D1	Olancha Peak		Mt Clarence King^	36118G4	Mt Pinchot
Bloody Mtn^	37118E8	Mt Morrison		Mt Darwin	37118B6	Mt Goddard
Cannell Peak	35118G3	Kernville		Mt Goddard	37118A6	Mt Goddard
Carson Pass	38119F8	Markleeville		Mt Henry	37118B7	Blackcap Mtn
Cattle Mtn^	37119E2	Devils Postpile		Mt Hilgard	37118C7	Mt Abbot
Cedar Grove	36118G6	Marion Peak		Mt Kaweah^	36118E4	Mount Whitney
Cirque Peak	36118D2	Olancha Peak		Mt Langley^	36118E2	Lone Pine
Constantia	39120H1	Chilcoot		Mt Lyell	37119F3	Merced Peak
Convict Lake^	37118E7	Mt Morrison		Mt Morgan	37118D6	Mt Tom
Crag Peak	36118A2	Monache Mtn		Mt Pinchot^	36118H4	Mt Pinchot
Disaster Peak	38119D6	Sonora Pass		Mt Ritter^	37119F2	Devils Postpile

Prin map	code	15 min map	Prin map	code	15 min map
Dogtooth Peak	37119B1	Huntington Lake	Mt Rose (Nev)	39119C8	Mt Rose
Dunderberg Peak	38119A3	Matterhorn Peak	Mt Silliman	36118F6	Triple Divide Peak
Ebbetts Pass	38119E7	Markleeville	Mt Thompson	37118B5	Mt Goddard
Emerald Bay	38120H1	Fallen Leaf Lake	Mt Williamson^	36118F3	Mount Whitney
Emigrant Lake	38119B6	Tower Peak	Ninemile Canyon	35117G8	Little Lake
English Mtn	39120D5	Emigrant Gap	Norden	39120C3	Donner Pass
Falls Ridge	37119H4	Tuolumne Meadows	North Palisade	37118A5	Mt Goddard
Florence Lake	37118C8	Mt Abbot	Olancho	36118C1	Olancho Peak
Freel Peak	38119G8	Freel Peak	Onyx	35118F2	Onyx
Gold Lake	39120F6	Sierra City	Owens Peak	35117F8	Inyokern
Granite Chief	39120B3	Granite Chief	Piute Mtn	38119A5	Tower Peak
Graveyard Peak	37118D8	Mt Abbot	Pyramid Peak	38120G2	Fallen Leaf Lake
Half Dome	37119F5	Yosemite	Rockbound Valley	38120H2	Fallen Leaf Lake
Independence Lake	39120D3	Donner Pass	Rockhouse Basin	35118H2	Lamont Peak
Kearsarge Peak^	36118G3	Mt Pinchot	Rough Spur	36118H8	Tehipite Dome
Kern Lake	36118C4	Kern Peak	Sharktooth Peak	37119D1	Kaiser Peak
Koip Peak	37119G2	Mono Craters	Sierra City	39120E6	Sierra City
Lamont Peak	35118G1	Lamont Peak	Silver City	36118D6	Mineral King
Lodgepole	36118E6	Triple Divide Peak	Sirretta Peak	35118H3	Kernville
Mammoth Mtn	37119F1	Devils Postpile	Slide Bluffs	36118H6	Marion Peak
Marion Peak	36118H5	Marion Peak	Sonora Pass	38119C6	Sonora Pass
Matterhorn Peak	38119A4	Matterhorn Peak	Sphinx Lakes	36118F5	Triple Divide Peak
Merced Peak	37119F4	Merced Peak	Split Mtn^	37118A4	Big Pine
Mineral King	36118D5	Mineral King	Tehipte Dome	36118H7	Tehipte Dome
Mokelumne Peak	38120E1	Silver Lake	Tenaya Lake	37119G4	Tuolumne Meadows
Monache Mtn	36118B2	Monache Mtn	The Sphinx	36118G5	Marion Peak
Moses Mtn	36118C6	Mineral King	Tioga Pass	37119H3	Tuolumne Meadows
Mount Dana	37119H2	Mono Craters	Tower Peak	38119B5	Tower Peak
Mount Tom	37118C6	Mt Tom	Triple Divide Pk	36118E5	Triple Divide Peak
Mount Whitney^	36118E3	Mount Whitney	Vogelsang Peak	37119G3	Tuolumne Meadows
Mt Abbot	37118D7	Mt Abbot			



# Mt. Stewart and Lion Rock, August 20-23, 2015

By Tina Bowman

A group of five met at Crescent Meadow to start our hike in on the High Sierra Trail to Hamilton Lakes the first day, about sixteen miles. I had given the start time at 6:00, but everyone else took that for 6:30. Sigh. We were still on the paved bit of trail, not even a hundred yards from the parking lot, when we spotted two cubs just off the trail, who quickly took to the tree trunks. Mom looked up from grazing in the meadow and went back to eating. Unfortunately, it was so early that the photos were blurry. In total, we saw six bears on the outing.

Co-leader Paul Garry led the way with Keith Christensen, Michelle Gomes, and Corrine Livingston sandwiched between Paul and me. The streams were flowing better than I had hoped, so we took some nice breaks at several of the crossings. To balance that positive note, we had smoke from the Rough Fire bothering us for much of this four-day trip and ruining a number of photo opportunities.

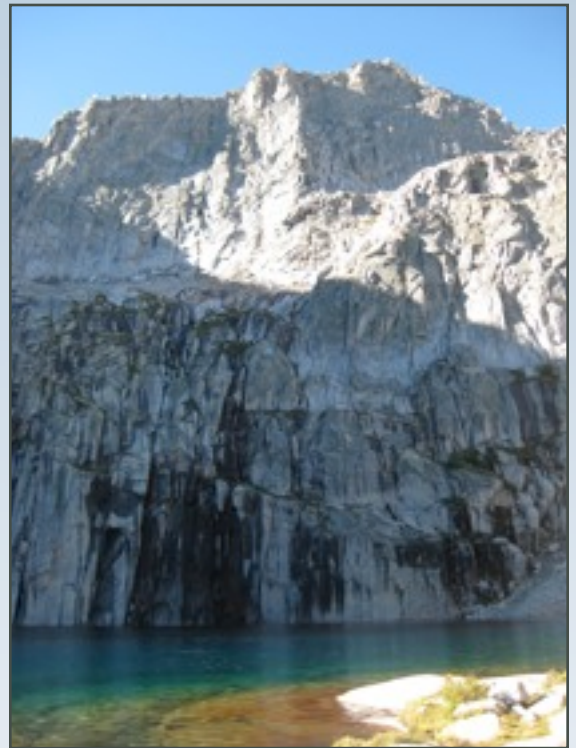
We had lunch at the Bearpaw Ranger Station, chatting with both the Bearpaw and Little Five Lakes rangers. On we went up to Hamilton Lake, finding only a father and son camped there. After setting up camp, we all went in the lake and dried in the sun on the granite shore. A doe and two fawns cruised by near us, and we saw a young (yearling?) bear near the outlet of the lake.

Friday morning we packed up and headed over Kaweah Gap and down to the lowest lake in Nine Lakes Basin, where we met Jonathan Bourne, who joined us for both climbs and night two. He had come over Pants Pass the previous day to meet us this morning. After setting up camp, off we went to Stewart, again following Paul. We watched as the smoke rose in the drainage, making even nearby Black Kaweah not much more than an outline. We all went in the lake upon our return from the peak.

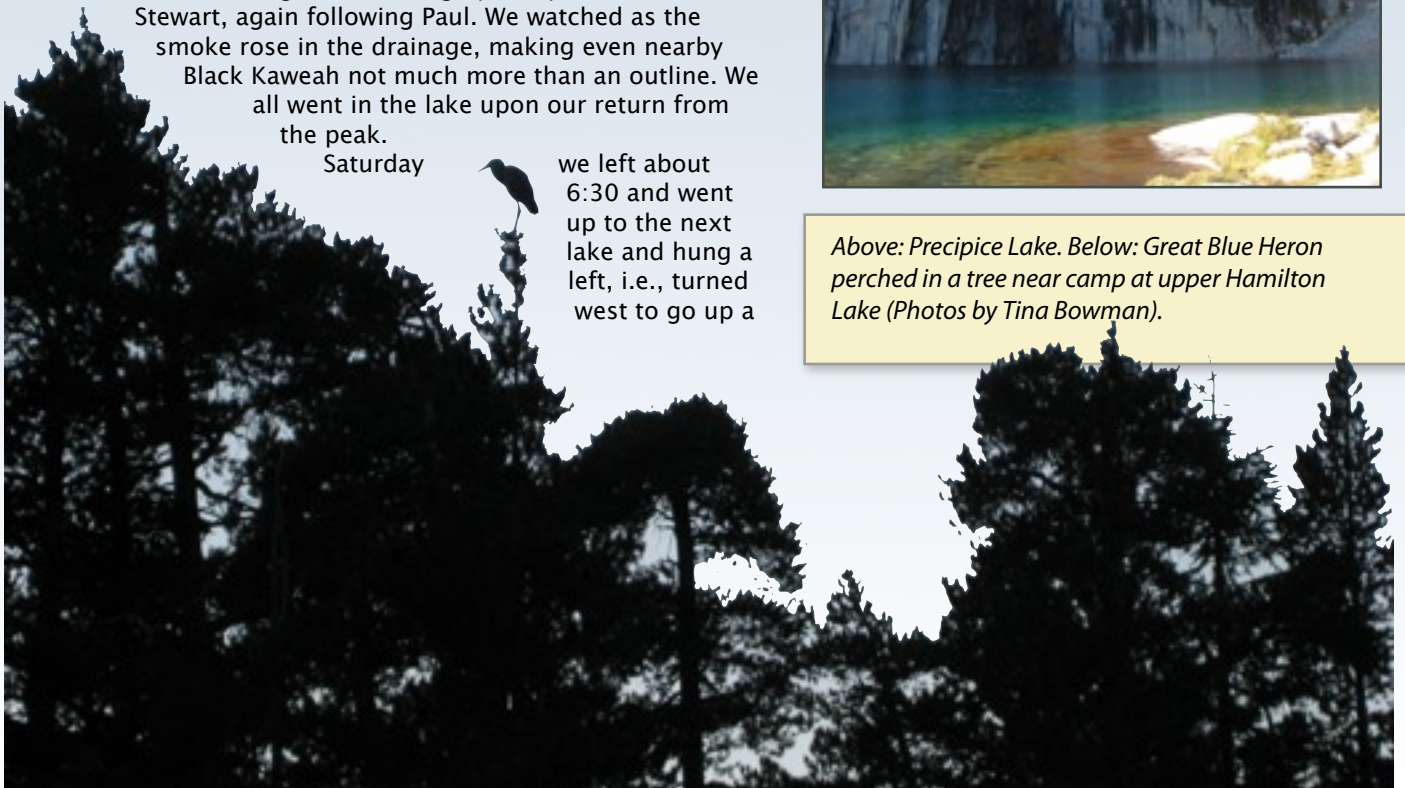
Saturday

we left about 6:30 and went up to the next lake and hung a left, i.e., turned west to go up a

chute to get to the saddle on the south ridge of Lion Rock. I was leading this time and stopped where a chockstone forced us onto a small face on the left, a rather smooth face. Jonathan helpfully gave my butt a boost and helped out Michelle and Corrine too. Another somewhat awkward move put us back on the usual rock and sand up to a place where we went left on a small face with good little ledges. From there we were home free to the saddle. We dropped down into the cirque and soon were at the base of the SSW face. The broad chute of class 2-3 slabs and ledges seemed the best bet, so off we went up this to the top. I went around the corner and found that we were just a short, easy climb below the



Above: Precipice Lake. Below: Great Blue Heron perched in a tree near camp at upper Hamilton Lake (Photos by Tina Bowman).



north (higher) summit. Hooray! While we were on top, another climber joined us, a fellow on a one-hundred-day trip. We could see two other people at Lion Rock Pass, but they didn't come up. This fellow had come up the NE chute, which is the way we went down, traversing to Lion Rock Pass, and then heading down the



Above: Keith Christensen, Paul Garry, Corinne Livingston and Michelle Gomes at the tunnel on the High Sierra Trail. Center: Buck at Hamilton Lakes. Right: Lion Rock summit, Keith Christensen, Corinne Livingston and Michelle Gomes in front, Jonathan Bourne and Paul Garry behind (Photos by Tina Bowman).

people coming in for the day or on a backpack. Four guys on their way to Mt. Whitney really stood out for us: they all had enormous packs. Two men were quite overweight, a third looked fit enough, and the fourth was his grown son. The fit guy boasted that his pack weighed seventy-three pounds. When we asked why he carried so much, his reply was that he could. He had a big solar panel dangling from the top of his pack to below the bottom, a good three-foot long. We wondered amongst ourselves how long their trip would last. When they took off after their break, Mr. Seventy-Three was hiking fast, but perhaps that was to impress us till he soon was around the corner.

We were back to the parking lot and shuttle-bus loads of tourists at 2:15. We held our debriefing at the Pizza Factory in

Three Rivers before seriously hitting the road home. Totals for the trip were about forty-six miles and 12,500' gain for the four days. We had a good, strong group. Thanks to Paul for leading the majority of the time.



lake basin to camp. The smoke wasn't as bad this day. Jonathan signed out on the summit and took off before we did, heading to Triple Divide Peak and starting on his way out over Shepherd Pass.

We packed up and went the short distance over Kaweah Gap and down to Hamilton Lakes again. Unfortunately, this time ten people or so were already camped there by the time we arrived at 5:20. I had spotted campsites just below and north of the outlet of the upper lake, so we camped there and avoided the crowds. A government job box was there but no signs that anyone would be coming back then. Though it was later, we did clean off in the lake. A doe came very close to us in camp; later three does were in the nearby small meadow.

We were on the trail home at 6:25 on Sunday, seeing a bear just ahead of us on the trail till he bolted off it and across the outlet of the lower lake into thick bushes. That morning a great blue heron flew to the top of a tree in our small meadow and roosted there till we left camp. That was a surprise. We stopped for various breaks on the way out, including at the ranger station again. As we hiked out, we saw more and more





## Vagmarken Sierra Crest List Finish, August 29th, 2015

By Leaders Kathy Rich and Daryn Dodge

On the morning of Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, a group of fifteen enthusiastic peakbaggers assembled at the parking area of the Sawmill walk-in campground for a hike to White Mtn. (12,057'), which is located on the Sierra crest about two miles south of Mt. Conness. The occasion was to celebrate the one hundredth and final peak on the Vagmarken Sierra Crest List for Greg Gerlach, Daryn Dodge, and Ron Bartell. While Greg and Daryn had been methodically ticking off the peaks over the past few years, Ron made a last minute dash to the finish line, climbing fourteen Vagmarken-listed peaks over the past few months.

These one hundred named peaks on the crest of the Sierra Nevada stretch from Olancho Peak in the south to Sonora Pass (Leavitt Peak) in the north. (For a map showing the location of the peaks, click [here](#)). The Vagmarken, a Swedish term for trail marker or cairn, were the climbing club of Rockwell International. Long-time SPS member and two-time SPS List Finisher, Greg Vernon, was a member. Ron Bartell had also climbed with club members back in its heyday. The list, which was developed in the late 60s, contains seventy-three peaks on the SPS list and twenty-seven additional named peaks on the Sierra Crest. In keeping with the intent of the Sierra Crest List, the named Mt. Powell located just south of Echo Col is not the peak named Point Powell currently on the SPS List, so be sure to bag both peaks while you are out there!

We were very fortunate to have Greg Vernon (the Lone Yeti) join us for the climb. Greg is close to finishing the Vagmarken List himself and was instrumental in helping to write the article on the Vagmarken Sierra Crest List that was published in the *Echo* a few years ago (and is also posted on the SPS website for those that want to check it out—click [here](#)). From the trailhead near

Saddlebag Lake, we hiked through the Sawmill campground and then west on a dirt road leading to the Carnegie Institute Experimental Station. From there we went cross-country, heading southwest towards the peak via Big Horn Lake. We took a break at the lake, but it was very windy and quite cold. A couple members of the group decided to forgo the peak and hang out there.

Because most climbers seem to approach White Mtn. via the west side, we had little information on climbing the peak from the east side. We were determined to find a class 2 route from the east, which is the shortest approach to the summit. Our initial plan was to climb to the ridgeline about half a mile southeast of the peak. But when we got to Big Horn Lake, we could see that the slope below this ridge was ice-covered from a shrinking glacier and had a fifty-foot cliff at the top. Next we considered Plan B, which would involve climbing a steep sandy chute just south of the White Mtn. highpoint. Entering the large bowl east of the peak, Ron spotted an ascending route from right to left that crossed the steep sandy chute and looked easier. It was likewise very sandy, however, and would make for a tedious, exhausting climb up a sandy slope. Plan C turned out



Rest break on the NE ridge of White Mtn. The summit is the little point on the skyline near the center of the photo. (Photo by Kathy Rich)





*Left: The three list finishers (Ron Bartell, Greg Gerlach, and Daryn Dodge) reaching the summit of White Mtn.*

*Below: Long-time SPS member Greg Vernon (the Lone Yeti) enjoying a glass of champagne on the summit. (Photos by Kathy Rich)*

to be the winner, which was the northeast ridge of White Mtn. We easily attained the northeast ridge, then followed it to the east face of White Mtn. From there we traversed under the east face on a broken series of sandy ledges and boulders about five hundred feet to where we could climb a short class 2 chute just north of the summit rocks.

The summit was a little windy, but the views of the surrounding area were fabulous. Several bottles of champagne emerged along with an assortment of treats, which were shared by all. Despite the relative unknown of the Vagmarken list, we attracted quite a diverse group on the climb, with participants hailing from both northern and southern California as well as from Nevada. The occasion also marked Paul Garry's fiftieth Andy Smatko Explorer Emblem peak, so we had another round of champagne to celebrate that.

Three of our group then left to follow the ridgeline north to Mt. Conness. Using the sandy chutes just to the south of the summit, the rest of us returned to Saddlebag Lake. The easiest way down was crossing the White Mtn. plateau about six hundred feet south of the summit and past the main sand chute to the next sandy chute. This chute descended down several hundred feet back into the main sandy chute, which was too steep and loose for our group to continue descending. So we traversed down and across the main chute to an obvious ledge sparsely covered with grass. We then followed the ledge north to another, much nicer, class 2 sandy chute which descended down into the bowl below the peak. Stats for the day: 7.5 miles round trip with 2200' of total gain.

Thanks to Jim Morehouse and John Ide (who had joined us from Las Vegas and Reno respectively), we were able to secure a few campsites at the Saddlebag Lake campground for the evening festivities. A hearty potluck helped stave off the cool evening air, and several bottles of wine, including a few bottles of Viognier and Tannat wine from Corrine and Bill Livingston's winery in Paso Robles, rounded out the celebrations. Next day, various private climbs took participants to nearby peaks, including Cathedral Pk., and Mt. Dana, Mt. Gibbs, and Mt. Lewis.



# In High Places: New Zealand

By Burton "Galoshes" Falk

During the summer of 1987, my old friend and climbing partner Jim Scott and I spent three weeks making an unsuccessful attempt on Pik Kommunisma, the 24,590' highpoint of the then USSR. During our stay at the Soviet-run Fortambeck Glacier Base Camp, below the peak, however, we made friends with Gary Ball\*, an affable climber from New Zealand, who was a walking, talking advertisement for mountaineering in his home country.

Gary told us that the best time to climb 12,218' Mt. Cook, New Zealand's highest, would be in late February. He also explained that his company at the time, Alpine Guides, Mount Cook, Ltd., operated on a one-guide-per-client basis and that each client was obligated to a hire a guide for an entire week. Like hungry trout, we rose to the fly. After returning to the United States, we made reservations for a week-long, February 1988, climbing expedition in Mount Cook National Park, South Island, New Zealand.

But before describing our adventures in New Zealand, consider a few facts regarding the country's unique geology and history.

Consisting of two large land masses—North Island and South Island—plus numerous smaller islands, New Zealand was so isolated from the rest of the world that it remained one of the last places to be settled by humans and other land animals. This separation allowed the development of a distinct biodiversity, including several species of flightless birds such as the now virtually extinct kiwi and the huge, definitely extinct moa.

First to populate the islands were the Polynesians who arrived in waves during the middle 1200s. Those first settlers, now known as the Maori, named the islands [Aotearoa](#) (often translated as "land of the long white cloud"), and they dubbed Mt. Cook Aoraki, often mistranslated as

"Cloud Piercer."

The first [Europeans](#) to reach New Zealand were Dutch explorer [Abel Tasman](#) and his crew in 1642, and thus several of the country's place names are eponymous, i.e., Abel Tasman National Park, Tasman Sea, Tasman Glacier, and Tasman Bay. Dutch [cartographers](#) named the islands Nova Zeelandia after the [Dutch province](#) of [Zeeland](#), but it was the English who named New Zealand's highest in honor of one of their own, Captain James Cook, who first surveyed and circumnavigated the islands in 1770.

At 6 a.m. on February 21, 1988, following an overnight flight from LAX, Jim; Jim's wife, Gail; and I landed in Auckland, where we caught a mid-morning



Hyperlinks and research information courtesy of Wikipedia

Map courtesy of [threeweeksonesuitcase](#)



flight bound for Christchurch, South Island. Later that afternoon it was on to Queenstown where, transferring to a small plane, we bucked and snorted through stormy weather before bouncing down at 6 p.m. on the grass runway of the Te Anau Airport.

Te Anau, at the south end of Lake Te Anau, is the starting point for the thirty-three-mile Milford Track, touted as "the finest walk in the world." As long as we were going to be in New Zealand, Jim, Gail, and I decided we should include a trek on the famous trail as well.

That first evening at the Hotel Te Anau, managed by Tourist Hotel Corporation (THC), the company which also operates the huts along the Milford Track, we attended a meeting explaining what to expect on our upcoming five-day adventure. Among other things, we learned that our group of thirty-seven trekkers was the ninety-first of the season, that men sleep in one bunk room and women in another, and that hair dryers and make up should be left behind.

The following morning, February 22, we left Te Anau by ship, the Tawera, built in 1899, to cruise through a steady rain to the north end of Lake Te Anau. That afternoon, after a short hike, we reached our first overnight stop, Glade House, described as, "a little lodge tucked back in the forest, surrounded by meadows with the gin-clear waters of the Clinton River flowing by."

The observations below, excerpted from my journal, provide an idea of the four damp days that followed:

Feb. 23, Glade House to Pompolona Hut "Awake at 6:30 to discover it's still raining. After breakfast, the hut-keeper informs us that the trail to the next hut, the Pompolona, is flooded and impassable; that we will have to be transported there in groups of five by helicopter."

February 24, Pompolona Hut to Quintin Hut "Lights on at 6:30 a.m. —to the accompaniment of continued rain. Our hike to 3,785' Mackinnon Pass is wet and uneventful until we reach the timber line, where there is snow on the ground and a mixture of snow and rain in the air. The surrounding glacial valley walls are awash with waterfalls too numerous to count."

February 25, Quintin Hut to Milford Sound Hotel "Today, (during a thirteen-mile hike) many in our

party are suffering aches and pains. . . . Moss hangs from the beech trees, vines creep and crawl through their branches, giant tree ferns thrust their primitive heads toward the sky. Indeed, this is a rain forest. We reach Giant Gate Falls at 2 p.m. where clouds of voracious sand flies set upon us. Thanks to a generous application of Jungle Juice, life becomes worth living once more. At 4 p.m., embarking at the aptly-named Sand Fly Point, we cross



*Top: Tasman Glacier from the air.*

*Bottom: Mt. Cook from Tasman Glacier. (Photos by Burt Falk)*



Milford Sound by boat, arriving at THC's Milford Sound Hotel in time for long hot showers before dinner."

February 26, Milford Sound to Queenstown "Boarding the ship Pembroke this morning, we set off on a three-hour cruise of Milford Sound. The rain falls in squalls, as scores of surrounding waterfalls gush at full capacity. We spot one lone penguin who seems to be enjoying the downpour." Later that day we bus from Milford Sound, via Te Anau, to a THC hotel in Queenstown. We are now on our way to climb Mt. Cook.

February 27, Queenstown to Mt. Cook Village "We catch an early morning Mount Cook Airlines flight, which, although scheduled to land at Mt. Cook Airport, due to high winds, lands instead at the Lake Pukaki Airport, some thirty-six miles from Mt. Cook Village.

After checking in at, you guessed it, another THC hotel, The Hermitage, in Mt. Cook Village, we contact the folks at Alpine Guides, who inform us that the weather report for the next few days is not promising. We spend the afternoon sorting out our equipment, then, braving gusting winds and scattered showers, we walk to Kea Point overlooking the broad Tasman River Valley."

February 28, Mt. Cook Village "Awake at 6:30 a.m. to find that rain and gale force winds continue. At 7:30 a.m., Russell Braddock, one of our two guides—Kevin Boekholt, being the other—calls to inform us of the obvious: there will be no flight to the glacial plateau below Mt. Cook today. This afternoon Russell and Kevin drive us to the Lake Pukaki Valley, where the weather is better. Stopping at a farm house, we ask for and receive permission to hike up a grass-filled valley which is not only beautiful, but—even better—dry."

February 29 (Leap Year Day), Mt. Cook Village "The weather remains appalling, still much too gusty to attempt to fly to the Plateau Hut below Mt. Cook today. Our problem is that tomorrow is the last day we'll be able to fly to the base of the peak, bag it, and get back in time for our scheduled March 4 departure from Mt. Cook Village. Itching for some kind of action, we decide to attempt an ascent of 6,288' Mt. Ollivier, a mile or two east of the village. Once on the trail, as if to taunt me, a fierce gust blows my new strapped-on Gortex hat away. At noon we reach the ridge top, offering spectacular views of the Mt. Cook Range, and twenty minutes later we reach the Mueller Hut, where we down a quick lunch. We then follow the ridge to the summit of Mt. Ollivier, where Russell informs us that the peak was Edmund Hillary's first ever ascent."



*Glare ice below Mt. Walter. (Photo by Burt Falk)*

March 1, Mt. Cook Village to Tasman Saddle Hut "The first thing we do this morning is check the weather, which seems to have changed for the better. Although a few clouds still cling along the range, Mt. Cook is clearly visible. After checking out of the hotel, we stash our valuables and other non-climbing gear at the Alpine Guides office and then, with Russell and Kevin, head for the Mt. Cook Airport, where an 8:20 a.m. flight bound for the plateau below Mt. Cook has been scheduled.

"To our disappointment, however, we find that high winds continue to buffet Mt. Cook, and that landing on the plateau below the peak at present is not possible. We wait it out until noon, at which time, after a conference with Russell, Kevin, and our pilot, we decide to fly instead to the north end of the Tasman Glacier where the winds are meant to be less daunting. Our hope is that we'll be able to climb a peak in the afternoon and another tomorrow before we have to head back to Mt. Cook Village on March 3.

"Taking off at 12:30 p.m., our pilot, aware that our primary interest is climbing Mt. Cook, first overflies the area. As we near the mountain, the small aircraft begins rocking and rolling, and it becomes clear that attempting to land on the plateau would be

*Jim Scott and guide Russell Braddock atop Hochstetter Dome. (Photo by Burt Falk)*



foolhardy. We continue north up the Tasman Glacier and, about 1 p.m., make a smooth landing on the icy surface.

"After the plane departs and we've downed a quick lunch, Jim, Russell, and I, leaving our big packs on the glacier, start off for a climb of 9,258' Hochstetter Dome. Gail and Kevin opt to spend the afternoon at the nearby Tasman Saddle Hut.

"Our route up the northeast ridge of the Dome is narrow and exposed, made even more intimidating by the fact that Jim and I, Sierra Nevada-bred climbers, are unaccustomed to using rope, crampons, and ice axes. We reach the summit at mid-afternoon, take the requisite photos, and then head down the glacier to retrieve our packs. At 6 p.m., we fall into the Tasman Saddle Hut in time for dinner."\*\*

March 2, Tasman Saddle Hut "Arise at 3:30 a.m., have breakfast, and at 5 a.m. leave the hut as quietly as possible, attempting not to awaken Gail, who is opting out of today's attempt of 9,525' Mt. Walter. First downclimbing the crag upon which the hut is perched, we then begin weaving our way through a maze of crevasses, gradually ascending the giant Tasman Glacier. By first light, we're roughly half way to the base of Mt. Walter, psyching ourselves to begin the ascent and traverse of a narrow, icy ridge. Pausing briefly to restore our nerves at the ridge's far end, we cross an icy plateau between Mt. Green and Mt. Walter, then drop into and climb out of a large crevasse.

"From there, front-pointing up a steep glare-ice slope, we reach the summit at 10:40 a.m., where, at 9,525', we're higher than the summit of 9,321' Mt. Green to the southwest, but lower than 10,225' Elie de Beaumont to the north. The weather remains clear and the views are spectacular.

"Russell decides we should downclimb by a slightly different route which includes a double-rope rappel into the large crevasse. Next, we re-cross the narrow ridge, which, now covered with sun-softened snow instead of the hard ice of the morning, makes the traverse even more nerve-wracking. We downclimb the ridge's steep nose employing a series of rappels, none of which would be necessary for an expert climber such as Russell.

"At 4:30 p.m., dog-tired, we arrive at the Tasman Saddle Hut. Shedding our coats, boots, and crampons, we doze deliciously until dinner at 6 p.m. That evening I use a half a roll of film photographing a technicolor sunset, and by 8 p.m. we're all snug in our sleeping bags."

March 3, Tasman Hut to Mt. Cook Village "Another early start as today we need to hike twelve miles down the Tasman Glacier to our pick-up point at the end of the road leading up the Tasman River Valley. Returning to our Mt. Cook lodgings that afternoon, we take long showers, and then, wafted by a surprisingly warm evening breeze, we stroll over to the hotel for dinner."

And thus ends our New Zealand hiking and climbing adventures. But wait! There's more.

On March 3rd, Jim, Gail, and I bussed from Mt. Cook Village to Christchurch, where we met my wife, Jo, who had just arrived. We rented a car and that afternoon began a three-day exploration of South Island. On the morning of March 7, in Picton, at the north end of the island, we boarded a ferry bound across the Cook Strait for Wellington on the south end of North Island. The three-and-a-half-hour crossing was so rough that it worried even the crew. In fact, while we were below in the galley having coffee, the vessel began rocking so violently that great piles of

dishes began crashing to the floor. (In 1968, in New Zealand's worst maritime disaster, fifty-one people lost their lives when the ferry, Wahine, on the same route, sank during one of the worst storms in New Zealand history.) That afternoon, heading west to the Stratford Mountain House below Mt. Egmont, our Wellington-rented minibus shuddered and shook as much as did our plane while flying over Mt. Cook. On the lodge's TV that night we learned that a giant cyclone was churning in the Tasman Sea, west of New Zealand, and that we could expect atrocious weather in the area for the next few days. Our next morning's proposed climb of Mt. Egmont's beautifully-symmetric cone was scrubbed, and that afternoon, while driving through nearby New Plymouth, we had to dodge large sheets of roofing material flying lethally through the air.

Fortunately, the weather gradually improved during the rest of our trip, and we were able to visit the Glow Worm Caves of Waitomo, the geothermal area of Rotorua, the Bay of Islands, and, finally, the modern city of Auckland without getting drenched further.

In summary, were I one of the first Polynesians to arrive in New Zealand I wouldn't have named the islands "Land of the Long White Cloud." More appropriately, I would have named them "Land of the Ominous Dark Clouds" or, better still, "Land of, Hey, We Should Have Brought Galoshes."

\*Gary Ball made climbing news in 1990 when he and his climbing partner, Rob Hall, another Kiwi, bagged the high points of all seven continents in just seven months. Sadly, in 1993, Gary died of altitude sickness while on Nepal's 26,725' Mt. Dhaulagiri, after which his body was wrapped in a sleeping bag and lowered into a crevasse to await future retrieval. Gary's partner, Rob Hall, tragically lost his life in May 1996, during a climb of Mt. Everest, the best-selling account of which can be found in [Jon Krakauer's \*Into Thin Air\*](#).

\*\* Have you heard the story about the man who, when asked the time, explained how to build a watch? A similar incident occurred this evening, when Kevin, who was preparing dinner, asked Jim how the liquid crystal display of his watch functioned. Jim, with an undergraduate degree in physics, a PhD in seismology, and a career spent explaining leading-edge technology to industry leaders, took the next forty-five minutes, well into dinner, detailing the concept. The string theory, anyone? Got a couple of days?

## Trekking in Cordillera Huayhuash, Peru, September 5-16, 2015

By Wasim Khan

The Cordillera Huayhuash lies in the Andes of Peru, located within the boundaries of the Ancash Region, Lima Region, and Huanuco Region. This area is renowned for its knife-edged 20,000' peaks that attract mountaineers and trekkers from around the world. I did the trek called Huayhuash Circuit, one of several trekking circuits available, and used G Adventures (<http://www.gadventures.com>), which assigned a local guide for the trek. One of the new treks recently opened, it is rated at Level 5 (very strenuous). Most hiking was between 12,000' and 17,000' with several passes over 15,000' to cross and one pass of 16,400'. For the most part hiking was on trail, and the average day hike was about seven to eight hours with much up-and-down hiking (often 2,000-3,000' gain or loss in elevation). In a few areas we had to be on our hands and knees and crawl up the mountain. The scariest part of the whole trek, however, was the drive on the mountain roads and to the trailhead because the roads are not well maintained and definitely require four-wheel drive. Also the shuttle/van was not in the best of condition. Most of the days were sunny, but nights were always cold. All along the trek I saw lots of green, lakes, and glaciers.

This is a very remote area. Once in a while we saw a house or a hut in the distance and went there to meet the people. Everybody was very curious and wanted to know



Mountain pass at elevation 15492' above Lake Mitucocha, Peru, September 11, 2015. (Photo by Wasim Khan)



where we came from and what we were doing. Offering us the "coca tea," they invited us into their homes to talk to us, and our local guide translated for us. Most of the people had never met anybody from another country. Speaking English very well and taking very good care of all the trekkers, the guides had incredible knowledge about the history, culture, and geology of the land. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner were all very tasty and satisfying, and almost everyday we had lunch near the lakes, a wonderful experience. For me the remoteness, scenery, surrounding mountains, and the glaciers were breathtaking and very memorable.

**Day by day activity:**

September 5: Flew into the capital city of Lima.

September 6: Eight-hour drive via the local bus to the town of Huaraz. Huascarán (22,205'), Peru's highest peak, is located in this region.

September 7: Tour the town of Yungay located next to Huascarán National park, via private van. This town was completely destroyed by the 1970 Ancash earthquake, which caused part of the north side of Huascarán to collapse, sending an avalanche of ice, rock and mud eleven miles, burying Yungay and killing 20,000 people there and more than 66,000 total.

September 8: Two-hour drive from the town of Huaraz to the town of Los Nogaes. Needed a good night sleep to get ready for the start of actual trekking the next day.

September 9: Early morning drive to the town of Januacocha Lagoon and to the Trailhead at Pocpa Pass (15,124'). Hiked down to Lake Quartelhuan (13,582') and camped there at night. Total distance was about eleven km.

September 10: Early morning start with ascent to Cacanamunta Pass (15,420') and then hike down to camp at 13,861' near the lake. Total distance hiked was about fourteen km.

September 11: First ascended up to 15,492', then down to Lake Mitucocha and camped at Janca (14,163'). Total distance hiked was about eleven km.

September 12: Started the hike with ascent to Alcaycocha (15,813') and then hiked down to camp at Carthuacocha (13,953'). Total distance hiked was about sixteen km.

September 13: Early morning ascent to Siula Pass (16,010') and then then hiked down to camp at Huayhuash (14,619'). Total distance hiked was about sixteen km.

September 14: Ascended to Trapecio Pass (17,060'), hiked around glacier, and then hiked down to camp at Cuyo (15,229'). Total distance hiked was about thirteen km.

September 15: Hiked down to Guanacpatay (12,467'), and then had a three-hour van ride to the town of Cajatambo. Total distance hiked was about twenty km.

September 16: Drove back to the Lima airport to head back home.



Map courtesy of [sudamerikatrekking](http://sudamerikatrekking.com)

**Exalted Canyon**

Eons of water massaged smooth the  
Rugged fissure punched into the mountain

Boulders majestically sweep its course  
Detained in awkward postures along the way

The sun hovers over the canyon rim and drops its  
warmth  
While rocks crumble from granite walls

Mossy waterfalls plentiful and pristine  
Trees in the watercourse bombard the eye  
With rich green, promiscuous growth

Winds whip the leaves sounding like sizzling bacon  
The canyon gods exult

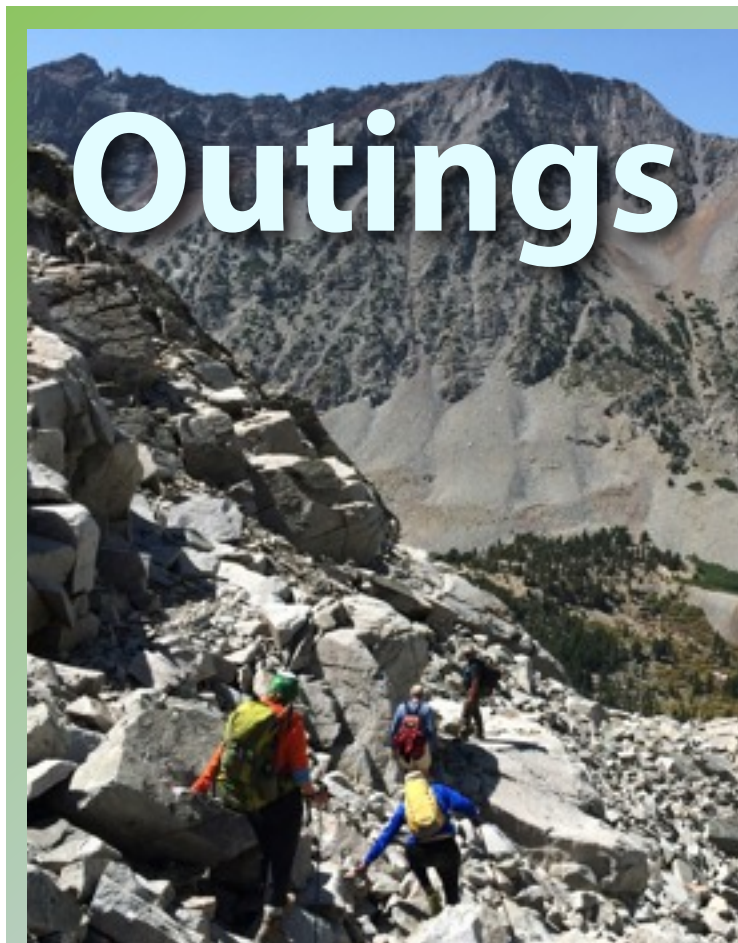
*SPS member Augie Medina  
2013*

**Jan 9–10 | Sat–Sun** LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS  
**I: Navigation: Indian Cove Navigation Noodle:** Navigation noodle at Joshua Tree National Park to satisfy the basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. Sat for practice, skills refresher, altimeter, homework, campfire. Sun checkout. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Ann Shields. Note: Early (at least two weeks prior to the event) sign-up for all navigation checkoffs and practices is recommended. These outings require substantial pre-outing preparation work, including completion of both a comprehensive written exam and a route planning assignment that will be mailed to you prior to the checkoff. See Chapter 6 of the *Leader's Reference Book* for more information. Send contact information (including mailing address) and your qualifications to the leader as soon as possible.

**Jan 31 | Sat** LTC, SPS, DPS, HPS  
**M/E–R: Snow: Local Baldy Snow Practice:** Come review snow climbing, rope travel, ice axe, and snow anchors. Practice your skills or brush up on new techniques. Especially for aspiring M and E leader candidates. Restricted to SC members with prior experience with the ice axe. Lack of snow may cancel. Email SC#, climbing resume, email address, phone # to Ldr: Nile Sorenson. Co-Ldrs: Neal Robbins, Tina Bowman.

Visit the new address of the SPS website for an even more up-to-date listing of upcoming trips at [www.sierrapeaks.org](http://www.sierrapeaks.org)

Also, please check at [summitregister.org](http://summitregister.org) whether a peak needs a register book or pencil before you go on a climb.



*Descending Warren on August 30, 2015(see p. 18). (Photo by Beth Epstein).*

*We've chosen the photo above showing Mat Kelliher leading a group down Mt. Warren to represent the outings section. Do you have a photo you would like to see here? If so, please send your submission as an email attachment to [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com) or via USPS to Tina Bowman.*

**Jan 31 | Sun** SPS  
**Annual banquet:** Doug Robinson will be the speaker at our banquet to be held again at Almansor Court in Alhambra. Social hour at 5:00, dinner at 6:30.

**Apr | Date TBD LTC Leadership Training Seminar:** Become a qualified Sierra Club leader. For information, see the LTC website (<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/>). Next seminar: Fall 2016

**Apr 9–10 | Sat–Sun** LTC, SPS, DPS  
**M/E–R: Snow: Sierra Snow Checkoff/ Practice:** For M & E candidates wanting to check off leadership ratings. We welcome others who wish to practice new techniques. Restricted to SC members with some prior basic training with the ice axe. Send SC#, climbing resume, email, H&W phones to Ldr: Nile Sorenson. Co-Ldrs: Doug Mantle, Neal Robbins.

**Apr 13 | Wed** LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC  
**M/E–R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP12): Basic Safety System:** First of four climbing workshops open to Sierra Club members with prior roped climbing experience. Today's indoor evening workshop of four hours reviewing ropes, harnesses, helmets, and basic climbing gear will take place in Pasadena. As space is

### Leaders in this issue's schedule:

Steve Botan [ltcregistrar@hundredpeaks.org](mailto:ltcregistrar@hundredpeaks.org)  
Tina Bowman 562-438-3809 [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com)  
Doug Mantle 818-362-5132 [dmantle@mantlezimmer.com](mailto:dmantle@mantlezimmer.com)  
Patrick McKusky 626-794-7321 [pamckusky@att.net](mailto:pamckusky@att.net)  
Robert Myers 310-829-3177 [rmmyers@ix.netcom.com](mailto:rmmyers@ix.netcom.com)  
Dan Richter 818-970-6737 [dan@danrichter.com](mailto:dan@danrichter.com)  
Neal Robbins 310-540-5089 [neal.robbins@L-3com.com](mailto:neal.robbins@L-3com.com)  
Ann Shields 818-637-2542 [apedreschi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:apedreschi@sbcglobal.net)  
Nile Sorenson 714-996-5683 [nsorenso@pacbell.net](mailto:nsorenso@pacbell.net)

# OUTINGS

## Call for Outings!

It's never a bad time to plan outings! What's on your SPS wish list? What peaks are your friends anxious to climb? Don't forget about day hikes; there are plenty of possibilities and no permit needed.

We need trips, and trips need leaders. Why not consider upgrading your leader rating or getting one? The next leader-training seminar will be held in April (check the Leadership Training Committee website for details: [http://www.angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc\\_leadership\\_seminar](http://www.angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc_leadership_seminar)). A particular need is for intro trips for newcomers. After all, getting newcomers into the Sierra is one of our main callings as a section. The easier snow and third class rock routes make for great introductory trips for rookies with the appropriate training.

Email your write-ups to [gary@hbfun.org](mailto:gary@hbfun.org). That's also the go-to address for any outings or OARS questions you may have. -Gary Schenk, SPS Outings Chair

space is limited, priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send email or sase, phones, resume to Ldr: Dan Richter. Asst: Patrick McKusky.

**Apr 23-24 | Sat-Sun LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC**  
**M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP12): Rappelling:** Third of four climbing workshops open to Sierra Club members with prior roped climbing experience. Today, at Stoney Point in Chatsworth, focus is on rappelling. As space is limited, priority will be given to

limited, priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send email or sase, phones, Sierra Club number, resume to Ldr: Dan Richter. Asst: Patrick McKusky.

participants who commit to all four workshops. Send email or sase, phones, resume to Ldr: Dan Richter. Asst: Patrick McKusky.

**Apr 16 | Sat** LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC  
**M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP12): Belaying:** Second of four climbing workshops open to Sierra Club members with prior roped climbing experience. Today, at Stoney Point in Chatsworth, focus is on belaying and principles of anchor building. As

**Apr 23 | Sat** LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS  
**I: Navigation: Warren Point Navigation Noodle:** Navigation noodle at Joshua Tree National Park to satisfy the basic (I/M). Saturday for practice, skills refresher, altimeter, homework, campfire. Sunday checkout. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training,



## Dare to Lead!

### Fall Leadership Training Seminar Set for April 2016

Becoming a Sierra Club outings leader starts with curiosity and a love of the outdoors. What better way to step up and lead than by taking advantage of the training opportunities that the Angeles Chapter's Leadership Training Committee provides each year?

As home to one of the largest outings programs on the planet, the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter's many groups, sections, and committees sponsor thousands of trips ranging from beach barbecues to mountaineering expeditions. You can take the first step toward becoming a leader by attending a class offered this April (date and location TBD).

The seminar covers all the basics of leadership. Experienced leaders will tell you how to plan a trip, prevent problems on the trail and make sure that everyone—including you—has a great time. They'll also explain good conservation and safety practices. And they'll give you tips for getting your "O" rating quickly and then, if you choose, pursuing more advanced ratings.

The all-day class costs \$25. The application is on-line at [angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc](http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc). At this same site, you can pore over more of LTC's upcoming offerings, which are also on the Schedule of Activities page.

Mail the application and check, payable to Sierra Club, to Steve Botan, LTC Registrar, 18816 Thornwood Circle, Huntington Beach 92646. You also can reach Steve by email ([lrcregistrar@hundredpeaks.org](mailto:lrcregistrar@hundredpeaks.org)) or by phone (714-321-1296).

Scholarships are available for those with financial need. Apply to LTC Chair Anne Marie Richardson [AMLeadership@gmail.com](mailto:AMLeadership@gmail.com)



# OUTINGS

any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Ann Shields. Note: Early (at least two weeks prior to the event) sign-up for all navigation checkoffs and practices is recommended. These outings require substantial pre-outing preparation work, including completion of both a comprehensive written exam and a route planning assignment that will be mailed to you prior to the checkoff. See Chapter 6 of the [Leader's Reference Book](#) for more information. Send contact information (including mailing address) and your qualifications to the leader as soon as possible.

**Apr 30–May 1 | Sat–Sun LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC M/E–R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP12): Rock climbing techniques and anchors:** Fourth of four climbing workshops open to Sierra Club members with prior roped climbing experience. This weekend completes the series of AMP workshops at Joshua Tree National Park and focuses on climbing and anchors. As space is limited, priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send email or sase, phones, Sierra Club number, resume to Ldr: Dan Richter. Asst: Patrick McKusky.

**SPS outings can always be viewed online on the electronic Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activities:**

<http://angeles2.sierraclub.org/activities>  
<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sps/outingsAwesome.asp>

**Sep 18 | Sun LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS I: Navigation: Mt. Pinos Navigation Noodle:** Navigation noodle in Los Padres National Forest for either checkout or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Ann Shields. Note: Early (at least two weeks prior to the event) sign-up for all navigation checkoffs and practices is recommended. These outings require substantial pre-outing preparation work, including completion of both a comprehensive written exam and a route planning assignment that will be mailed to you prior to the checkoff. See Chapter 6 of the [Leader's Reference Book](#) for more information. Send contact information (including mailing address) and your qualifications to the leader as soon as possible.

## Wilderness Permit Info

In addition to the permit information described below, most reservations for the Inyo National Forest and the Desolation Wilderness up to 48 hours in advance of entry can be handled at: <http://recreation.gov>

### INYO NATIONAL FOREST

Web site: [www.r5.fs.fed.us/inyo](http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/inyo)  
Pick up permit closest to departure trailhead.

Eastern Sierra InterAgency Visitor Center, Lone Pine, CA  
(760) 876-6200

White Mountain Ranger Station, Bishop, CA 93514  
(760) 873-2500

Mammoth Lakes Visitor Center, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546  
(760) 924-5500

Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center, Lee Vining, CA 93541  
(760) 647-304

### KERN PLATEAU

Web site: [www.r5.fs.fed.us/sequoia](http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/sequoia)

Cannell Meadow Ranger District  
105 Whitney Road  
P.O. Box 9  
Kernville, CA 93238  
Phone: 760/376-3781 fax:  
760/376-3795

Tule River Ranger District  
32588 Highway 190  
Springville, CA 93265  
Phone: (559) 539-2607

### YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Web site: [www.nps.gov/yose](http://www.nps.gov/yose)  
Reservation requests for summer trips (mid-May through September) are accepted from 2 weeks to 24 weeks in advance on-line or by writing to  
Yosemite Association  
PO Box 545  
Yosemite, CA 95389

By phone: reservations for summer trips are accepted by calling (209) 372-0740.

Obtain your free permit from the Wilderness Permit Station nearest your departure trailhead. Call (209) 372-0200 for permit station locations.

If entering park from Cherry Lake in the Stanislaus National Forest to

Kibbie Lake and Lake Eleanor in Yosemite, you must get your permit from the Stanislaus National Forest Ranger Station on Highway 120 in Groveland. Call (209) 962-7825. If entering the park from Chiquito Pass in Sierra National Forest, permits for the whole trip must be obtained from the forest Service in North Fork. Call (559) 877-2218

### SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NP

Web site: [www.nps.gov/seki](http://www.nps.gov/seki)  
47050 Generals Highway  
Three Rivers, CA. 93271-9599  
Phone (559) 565-3766 for permit & trail info. Fax (559) 565-4239

### SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST (WESTSIDE) ENTRY

Web site: [www.fs.fed.us/r5/sierra](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sierra)  
Ansel Adams Wilderness–North Bass Lake Ranger District  
57003 Road 225  
North Fork, CA 93643  
Phone: (559) 887-2218

Ansel Adams Wilderness–South John Muir, Kaiser and Dinkey Lakes Wildernesses  
Pineridge/Kings River Ranger District  
29688 Auberry Road  
Prather, CA 93651  
Phone: (559) 855-5355

# SPS Income Statement 12-11-2015

	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	Final	Final	Final
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2012	2013	2014
<b>INCOME</b>												
Echo Subscriptions	1,550	780	370	170	80	30	20	20	10	1,835	1,360	1,560
Banquet Income	4,110	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,800	2,940	4,610
Donations	646	325	160	45	45	0	0	0	0	340	440	575
Merchandise Sales	350	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	27	276
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6,656</b>	<b>1,105</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5,014</b>	<b>4,767</b>	<b>7,021</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>												
Postage	643	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	609	(4)	14
Printing	607	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	578	898	640
Merchandise	213	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	196
Raffle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250
Banquet Expenses	4,772	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,216	4,206	5,640
Bank Fees	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	2	10
Website	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	268
Charitable contributions	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	400	0	0
Outreach	899	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>8,633</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,821</b>	<b>5,103</b>	<b>7,019</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>												
	(1,977)	(895)	530	215	125	30	20	20	10	193	(336)	2

Wear 'em! Give 'em!

# SPS TEES



**Front: NORTH PAL  
Back: FULL SPS LIST**

By geographic area with Mountaineer & Emblem peaks highlighted

M, L & XL in Sand & Ash

\$12 plus \$3.50 shipping

(\$4 shipping when ordering 2 or more shirts). Send your order to:

Patty Kline, 20362 Callon Drive

Topanga, CA 90290

Make check payable to SPS

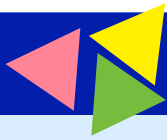
CST 2087766-40

**Minutes of SPS Management Committee Meeting, October 7, 2015  
at Caltech—Beckman Institute**

- 1) Call to order: present were Tina Bowman, chair; Jim Fleming, vice-chair/banquet; Paul Garry, secretary; Alexander Smirnoff, treasurer; Jeremy Netka, Outreach; Kathy Rich, Emblem Committee
- 2) Standard business and reports
  - a) Approval of minutes. May and August minutes previously approved.
  - b) Chair. No report
  - c) Vice Chair—banquet planning
    - i) Banquet Checklist. \$1,000 deposit sent to venue and contract signed. The task list was distributed for committee review. It was agreed to keep ticket price the same as last year. The committee discussed including a rare book sale and silent auction. Kathy to talk to Tony Yeary about AAC silent auction. Jeremy will prepare banquet program. It was also agreed to post 2015 Banquet DVD online after 2016 banquet.
    - ii) SPS Leadership Award. Nominations for Leadership award were made. Other possible new awards were discussed such as a lifetime achievement award.
  - d) Outings. No report.
  - e) Treasurer's Report—\$9,899.66 balance in the bank.
  - f) Emblem Committee Report. Discussed committee membership and committee agreed to invite Ron Bartell to join Emblem Committee. Deferred discussion on Smatko Explorer Emblem criteria.
  - g) Outreach
    - i) Outreach items—Jeremy unveiled new SPS banner and distributed new stickers to committee. It was agreed to send a sticker to every new member with a welcome letter. Committee agreed to provide table at Reel Rocks show at Caltech. No outreach at Climb Smart.
    - ii) Facebook page—It was agreed that more content is needed for Facebook page. We need to encourage more people to post pictures and captions. Jeremy to research who the administrators are of the Facebook page.
  - h) Archivist. No new report.
  - i) *Echo*. Next deadline November 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - j) Mountain Records. No report.
  - k) IT. No report.
  - l) Website. It was suggested that we advertise in the *Echo* for a webpage designer to freshen up the SPS webpage. CAC/SPS presentation events should be publicized on webpage.
  - m) Conservation. No report.
  - n) Safety Chair. No report
- 3) New business
  - a) New member requirements—Committee agreed to place on the ballot a bylaw change to drop the prerequisite of climbing two peaks on Sierra Club outings. If approved, a new member would not have to have climbed two of six qualifying peaks on Sierra Club outings. Tina to request pro and con statements through email to membership listserv.
  - b) Election/Management Committee—
    - i) It was agreed to ask Ron Bartell to serve on nominating committee.
    - ii) We still need two more candidates than number of positions filled for the ballot.
  - c) Review Policies and Procedures. It was agreed to allow new member acknowledgement by email as well as by letter by either the secretary or treasurer.
  - d) Review Revised SPS List (22<sup>nd</sup> edition). The committee approved minor changes to list related to geographic emblem, numbering of Mt Rixford in the index, and correction of typographical errors.
  - e) Outings Service (Chapter) Award. The committee agreed to nominate two members for chapter award.

Next meeting on December 2 at Alexander's house.





## Mystery Peak Challenge Answer



We have a winner for the Mystery Peak Challenge in the last issue! Ron Bartell correctly identified the photo as having been taken from Observation Peak, looking toward Palisade Crest to Disappointment and Balcony and on to the Thumb. Bart O'Brien also correctly identified Observation and the view of the peaks.

*Check out the SPS website if you have not visited in a while—the puzzle also appears there!*

[www.sierrapeaks.org](http://www.sierrapeaks.org)

*Last issue's puzzle, the photo above by Bob Burd, was submitted by our Eastern Sierra Rep, Shane Smith.*

## The Sierra Echo



is a quarterly publication of the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter. For more information, see the back of this newsletter. All questions, copy, and photo submissions should be directed to **Tina Bowman, Editor, *The Sierra Echo***, preferably via email at [tina@bowmanchange.org](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.org). Refer to the SPS Roster for mailing address. The *Echo* will also be available as a PDF download at the SPS website and via a link sent to all SPS members opting for this method.

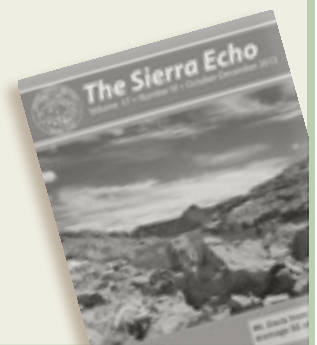
Don't forget to renew your *Sierra Echo* subscription! The annual \$10 subscription is due each year by January 1st and delinquent after March 31st.

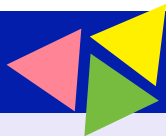
For more information, see the back cover of this issue. Please make out checks to the Sierra Peaks Section and mail to the treasurer:

SPS Treasurer  
1701 Paloma St.  
Pasadena, CA 91104

### REGARDING DISTRIBUTION OF THE *ECHO*

Please contact this email address [newsletter@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:newsletter@sierrapeaks.org) for any problems with distribution of hardcopy or email versions.





## Mystery Peak Challenge

This occasional just-for-fun puzzle is for you to figure out which Sierra peak or peaks are featured in the image. If you have a fine mystery peak puzzle to challenge *Echo* readers, please send it to [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com). We welcome any mountain images, including those from popular culture—imagery used and abused in film and print.



This issue's Mystery Peak Challenge is an oil painting by Richard Coons. Identify the peaks and get extra credit if you can name the lake!

Born in Los Angeles, Richard Coons was the son of William Coons, a hydrographer for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and a surveyor on the construction of the Tioga Road on Yosemite's east side. Richard started painting when he was forty-seven years old and was trained in the plein-air tradition by Robert Clunie (California Art Club, 1930-1958), Larry Kronquist, and marine painter Bennett Bradbury at Laguna Beach Art School. Inspired by the sea, the desert, but mostly by his beloved Sierra Nevada, he lived in Bishop, California. An artist member of the California Art Club, Richard participated in many exhibitions, including several California Art Club Gold Medal Shows as well as a joint exhibition with Robert Clunie at the Ventura County Historical Museum. He won many awards and placed in the National Parks Art For the Parks Top 100 competition before his untimely death from cancer in 2003. He was married to SPS member Wynne Benti.

Not only will we have the answer for you—and the winners of the challenge—in our next issue, but we'll have more information about Richard Coons and his uniqueness among outdoor painters. Stay tuned!

Please send your answers to Tina at [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com).



# *The Sierra Echo*

Volume 60 ▲ Number 1 ▲ January-March 2016

*The Sierra Echo* is published quarterly by the Sierra Peaks Section (SPS) of the Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter.

Publication dates are Mar 15, Jun 15, Sept 15, and Dec 15. All text submissions for publication, including trip reports, articles, etc., can be submitted in electronic format such as MS Word (preferred), WordPerfect, email (electronic format is preferable), or through regular U.S. mail. Photos may be submitted as electronic files (jpeg, tiff or Photoshop in a resolution high enough for print media) or submitted as prints or slides. If submissions are to be returned to you, please include a return envelope with sufficient postage. **All submissions should be sent to Tina Bowman or emailed to [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com)**

**Deadline for all submissions is three (3) weeks prior to the publication date, i.e., Feb 22, May 25, Aug 25, and Nov 24.**

*The Sierra Echo* is the property of the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter. All rights reserved. The Sierra Peaks Section maintains a website at <http://www.sierrapeaks.org/>

**Subscriptions** \$10 per year, due by January 1, delinquent after March 31. Subscribing to the *Echo* is a requirement for active membership in the SPS. A suggested donation to the section is \$25.00, which includes the \$10.00 subscription and a \$15.00 donation to the SPS operating fund. Thank you for your support of the SPS. Submit new subscription applications and renewals to the SPS Treasurer, 1701 Paloma St., Pasadena, CA 91104; include your Sierra Club number. New applications received after Oct 1 are credited to the following 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 SPS are not tax deductible.

**Advertising** Private activity announcements and advertisements are accepted at the following rates: \$1 for the first four lines and \$1 each additional line. Other announcements and product/service advertisements are \$1 per line or \$25 for half-page space. Send copy and check to the *Echo* Editor, payable to SPS.

**Address Changes** Send to the treasurer via email [treasurer@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:treasurer@sierrapeaks.org)

**Peaks List** Copies of the SPS Peaks List can be obtained by sending \$1 and a SASE to the SPS treasurer, 1701 Paloma St., Pasadena, CA 91104.

**Missing Issues** Inquires regarding missing issues should be directed to the section mailer at: [newsletter@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:newsletter@sierrapeaks.org).

**Awards** Send notification to Secretary Paul Garry: email [secretary@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:secretary@sierrapeaks.org) Awards merchandise is available through Patty Kline at 20362 Callon Drive, Topanga, CA 90290 and include emblem pins (\$15) and SPS section patches (\$5). Make checks payable to SPS. All prices include sales tax.

**Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter  
Sierra Peaks Section  
3435 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 660  
Los Angeles, CA 90010-1904**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**