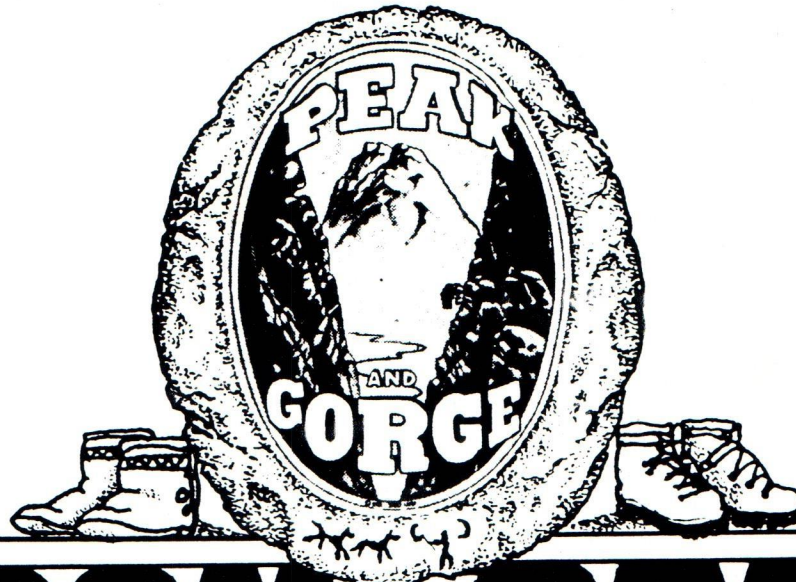


THE



# BOULDER

motherlode chapter-sierra club

ISSUE #31, June 1989

## THE CHAIR'S CORNER

**Peak and Gorge Election Results** - John Sarna was elected as Peak and Gorge's Chair at the April meeting. I am presently Acting Chair until John takes over, which will probably be in June when he completes his dissertation. I'd like to take this opportunity to offer my special thanks to some of you who have helped make my tenure manageable: Jackie, Charlie, John S., Terry, Camille, Boris, Ellen, Peggy and, in absentia, Preston. Many thanks to all of you!

**Club Election and Insurance** - the three petition candidates lost the election, placing 12th, 13th and 14th out of fourteen. The insurance task force report seems to have vanished into limbo at national. Jackie and I cornered Richard Cellarius at the Chapter banquet, but he claimed to have no knowledge of the report's status. Private trips by Peak and Gorge members are listed below.

**Dan Dobbins Award** - John Watters has reported that this year's awardees will be Barbara Hinkle's sons Andrew and Matthew. Their awards will be presented at the June meeting at Barb Beddows', so please attend and help recognize them. And thanks to John and Gene for their work on this year's search, and Roger for his prior efforts.

**May Meeting** - Kevin Tatsugawa presented an intriguing look at mountaineering in the Russian Caucasus, with interesting slides and anecdotes about the problems in bringing together a climbing team given the twin barriers of language and different approaches to the sport. We also considered the question of whether to change the Peak and Gorge meeting night either permanently or to a schedule of alternating nights. Please let John or me know if you have strong preferences in this matter.

**Injury Accident** - Don Mank, whom many of you know from his slide show at the April meeting, fell from 15 feet and broke his ankle while practicing at Cosumnes Gorge (private trip). As a result, he will be unable to undertake the Alaska trip he planned for this season, and has returned to New York. For the rest of us, his accident points out the potential for injury from bouldering and overconfidence. (I do not mean to point accusations at Don however - he was on lead, and that route is well within his abilities.)

**Boulder News** - At the May meeting, we discussed the need to publish and set deadlines on a regular schedule. While this new schedule hasn't been determined yet, I would like to remind you all that this newsletter, like the Section, is our own joint creation. **Contribute!** Also, I'd like to remind you that your only notification of when your subscription will expire is on the mailing label of your last issue. Check the label of each Boulder you receive.

**Good-Bye** - Well, I had to stop somehow. Hope to see you all soon.

D. Joy

### CALENDAR

**6/10-11 Northern Hoover Addition, Burt Cyn. Backpack,** several 11,000'+ Cl 2 peaks available, 5 mi. and minimal gain to camp. Limited. Ldr: Al Gutovsky, 457-3338.

**6/20, 6:30 pm Meeting/Gorge Clinic/Potluck.** Learn gorge scrambling basics, enjoy slide show. Dan Dobbins awards ceremony. Bring appetizer, salad or dessert (hot dogs and drinks provided). 2727 17th Street, Barbara: 444-7774 or Fred: 983-5607 for details.

**6/24 Peak 9441, Cl 2 via Wright's and Tyler Lakes.** Moderate trip. Meet at CSUS Arboretum, 7:00 am. Ldr: Al Gutovsky, 457-3338.

**6/30-7/4 Mono Creek Basin, multiday backpack,** several Cl 1-2 peaks possible. Limit: 12. Ldr: Al Gutovsky, 457-3338 call for details.

**7/8 Round Top (NAS OGUL 10380' Cl 3, 3C hike)** Chapter 50th Anniversary Climb from Woods Lake. Bring lunch, water; final 50' of Cl 3 optional. Meet 7:00 am at CSUS Arboretum. Ldr: Barbara Hinkle, 222-5466.

**7/14-16 Summit Lake, Virginia Canyon, Stanton (Cl 2 11695'),** Soldier Lake; Epidote (Cl 2 10880'+). Three mi, modest gain to camp. Limited. Call leader for details: Al Gutovsky, 457-3338.

**7/15-16 Deep Canyon (Gorge Scramble III, N Pk of M Pk of American)** - waterfalls, pools, ScrewAuger Cyn, old mines; rarely visited. Expect wading, swimming, a bit of Cl 3 rock. Meet at CSUS Goethe Arboretum, 6:00 am. Ldr: Jack Rankin, 457-0776.

**7/15-16 Mt Davis (12311' Cl 2)** John Muir style backpack/peak climb, strenuous 3BT loop to Kayopha's Thousand Island Lake basecamp from Agnew Mdvs. Limit 7. Send two large SASE, phone number, experience to Steve Thaw, 30 Woodside Drive, Moraga CA 94556. 415 376-3380

**7/18 6:30 pm Meeting/Potluck picnic,** at East Portal Park, M and 51st Sts. Call John Sarna 429-8024 or Doug Joy 452-7126 for details.

**7/21-23 Red Slate Mt. (NAS 13163' Cl 2)** backpack/peak climb. Requires good conditioning but no special climbing skills. Ldr: Terry Wenner, 444-7464.

**7/29-30 Blackhawk Mt (NAS 10348' Cl 2)** John Muir style backpack/peak climb, strenuous 3CT. Via Lunch Mdw in Emigrant Wilderness. Limit 7. Send two large SASE, phone number, experience to Steve Thaw, 30 Woodside Drive, Moraga CA 94556. 415 376-3380

**8/18-21 Tower Peak (NAS 11755' Cl 3),** Northern Yosemite. 12 mi, 5000' gained trailhead to summit over 2 days. Possible Monday climb of Sonora Pk (NAS 11462'). Lmt: 8. Ldr: John Watters, 383-6150.

**8/19 Peak 9331.** Trail from Wright's Lake to Rockbound Pass, short cross-country to 9331. Swim in Doris Lake on return. Meet at CSUS Arboretum, 6:30 am. Ldr: Al Gutovsky, 457-3338.

**9/1-8 Kaveah (NAS, 13802'); Triple Divide (NAS, 12634'),** Lippincott (12260'), or Stewart (12205'); all Cl 2 or 3; depending on party's abilities and preferences. Expect 3000-4000 feet gained each day. Lmt: 10. Call for details, Ldr: John Sarna, 429-8024; assist: Brad Brooks, 446-9442.

**9/2-4 Mts. Florence (NAS, 12561') and Simons (12053'),** Cl 2. Leave Fri eve, hike Tuolumne Mdvs, Lyell Pk, Rafferty Crk, Lewis Crk to Bernice or Florence Lake. Peak objective will depend on camp location and group preference. Lmt: 8. Ldr: Al Gutovsky, 457-3338.

### PRIVATE NON-SIERRA CLUB TRIPS

As a service to our readers, the BOULDER will continue to list private trips and/or persons seeking mountaineering/climbing partners. It must be stressed that the PEAK & GORGE Section assumes NO responsibility or liability for any incidents occurring on private trips and cannot

verify the accuracy of any statements made in these listings. Please use common sense when participating in any outing; ask the coordinator exactly what is involved in the trip you're interested in and be prepared for any contingencies. Unless otherwise specified, assume the coordinator is there to simply get people together via phone calls and meeting places. Waivers of personal liability on the part of the coordinator may be required, and in any case should be assumed.

Note: Specific climbs and dates will make this listing more useful to all involved.

<u>COORDINATOR</u>	<u>OBJECTIVE / DESCRIPTION</u>
Bruce LaBelle	452-5057 Gorge scramble: Devil's Thumb to Bake Oven Site (June or July)
Boris Nahlovsky	677-4600 This summer: Dubois & White Mtn Pk, Cathedral & Unicorn (Yosemite), Grey, Red, Triple Divide Pk (Yosemite), Stanford & Morgan (North), Ritter, Olancha, Grant (Nevada)
Robin Reed	948-2339 Matterhorn (Yosemite) this summer
Steve Richardson	483-8023 Partner(s) wanted to climb Mt. Ranier this summer
John Sarna	429-8024 Dayhikes to some OGUL peaks: Adams, Duane Bliss, Genoa, Jacks, Lola, Lookout, Phipps, Rubicon, Siegel, S. Sister, & Wheeler
Ed Vandercook	482-0113 Mt. Russell & Carillon in early Aug.
John Watters 383-6150	Mt. Shasta; Aug 4-6; Cl 3, 7000' gain A Sierra Club rite of passage; Ice Axe reqd, leave Fri Morn & camp at Sierra Club Hut; climb Shasta via Avalanche Gulch Sat & return to hut; Sun drive back to Sacto.
Terry Wenner 444-7464	Mt Abbot, Aug 18-20, via SE Buttress; Cl 4 A peak with remarkable challenges & rewards; Ice Axe, crampons, helmet, & harness reqd. You must be confident & competent in Cl. 4 climbing; the rope will be used sparingly to assure steady progress; limited to 8.
Pete Yamagata 444-6319	Strenuous one-day climbs: Cathedral Pk, Mt Humphreys, Mt Shasta, Starr King Mt Ritter, Granite Pk (Montana), Jeff Davis, Mt Abbot, Gannett Pk (Wyoming) Weekend ascents: Temple Crag, Mt Morgan (lower), Lone Pine Pk (May or June), Dragon Pk, Independence Pk, Rodgers Pk, Mt Davis, Highland Pk, Mt Lola, Tinkers Knob, Volcanic Ridge, Cleaver Pk, Mt Conness, & Leavitt Pk.

---

GORGE SCRAMBLING: What is it?

Gorge Scrambling is upside down mountain climbing. Instead of going to the top of a peak, we hike down a canyon and travel along the river. We rock hop, hike on rarely traveled trails, and get in the water (pack & all) and float/swim. At the end of the day, we climb back up, out of the canyon to the cars.

You may encounter falling rock, loose rock, wet rock, moss covered rock, poison oak, rattlesnakes, mosquitos, rain, lots of cross country type travel, bad roads, and sore muscles. You will enjoy waterfalls, smaller groups, exquisite scenery, a chance to visit remote, wild, scenic places where others seldom go, and an appreciation of your relationship to the natural environment. Join us!

Barb Beddow

## UPDATES TO MOUNTAINEERING RESTRICTIONS

**ELECTION RESULTS:** Jackie Stroud announced at the last Peak and Gorge meeting that none of the three candidates running for Sierra Club Board of Directors as a mountaineer in favor of lifting the restrictions won election to the Board. The candidates were Bruce Knudtson, Barbara Reber, and R.J. Secor, all from the LA area.

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT [Richard Cellarius] TO THE SIERRA CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS** (reprinted from the May/June 1989 *Hundred Peaks Lookout*, care/of Pete Yamagata), in particular, consider the second item:

The Sierra Club is moving forward in many ways, ways that know no boundaries, as our recently completed Annual Report suggests. I want to report briefly on a few recent news items, and then reflect on four events of the past few days here in the nation's capital.

First, we are in sound financial shape and the budget is on track.

Second, the Mountaineering Insurance Review Task Force has completed its deliberations and is preparing its report and recommendations for circulation. I believe acceptance of their recommendations will have a high probability of returning mountaineering and mountaineering training to Sierra Club outings schedules.

In the meantime, thanks to the Task Force, I have been able to revise the current restrictions to allow trip leaders to carry ropes and ice axes for safety purposes, an issue of major concern to many leaders who were not dealing with mountaineering-type activities on their trips.

I need to reiterate, however, that the restrictions on mountaineering activities continue until the Board acts on the Task Force's report in May.

Third, you should know that the Sierra Club is not universally admired as an environmentally extreme organization, as we are sometimes accused of being. In the past few months, I have been personally lobbied that Sierra Club policies and actions are not doing enough for the ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest... [remaining two thirds of report does not apply to mountaineering activities]

**REPORT ON THE MARCH 11, 1989 MEETING OF THE MOUNTAINEERING TASK FORCE**  
by John Sarna:

Jackie Stroud, member of the task force, asked me to sit in on this meeting because it conflicted with her already-scheduled vacation plans. While I'm certain she had a better time, the meeting itself was certainly informative. In attendance was Cal French (Mountaineering Task Force Chair), John Cheslick (chair of LA Mountaineering Training Committee), Robert Howell (responsible for obtaining insurance for the Sierra Club), Bruce Knudtson (running for Sierra Club Board of Directors as a mountaineer in favor of lifting the restrictions), Richard Fiddler (from Washington state), and myself. The purpose of the meeting was to formulate one or more recommendations that the task force could bring before the Sierra Club Board of Directors at their May meeting. Five options were considered:

1. Obtain mountaineering insurance effective October 1989, whatever the cost, and go on as before.
2. Form a subsidiary organization, legally separate from the Club but with its name (e.g., Sierra Club Outings, Inc.), and obtain insurance for fiscal year 1990 (with lower coverage). This subsidiary could either:
  - a. Conduct all existing National Outings and all "hazardous activities" such as mountaineering, water craft, etc. or,
  - b. Conduct only "hazardous activities" such as mountaineering, water craft, etc.

3. Add mountaineering to the existing Outings Committee organization as a Subcommittee, obtain insurance for fiscal year 1990, implement certain Mountaineering Policy Recommendations (explained below), and create a staff position to handle mountaineering administration tasks.
4. Determine that mountaineering is not financially viable, in which case we maintain the present situation - no climbing or mountaineering at or above 3rd class
5. Postpone making a recommendation pending further study

Based on discussion, option 3 was selected, and it was assumed that Cal French would present it to the Board in May. Option 2 was considered viable in the long-term, and perhaps the best, but impossible to initiate until October 1990. Option 1, 4, and 5 were dismissed as unacceptable.

The Mountaineering Policy Recommendations were described as including a \$25 per member annual fee that would be assessed to members of the club who wish to participate in outings involving restricted activities. This and a signed liability waiver would be sent to Sierra Club Headquarters in San Francisco and, in return, a card would be issued to each member which identified them as a (card-carrying) mountaineer. Also, leaders of such outings would have to be certified through some yet-to-be-determined process that assures the club that they are capable of leading the specific restricted activity involved.

**MOUNTAINEERING ROLL CALL** (reprinted from the May/June 1989 *Hundred Peaks Lookout*, care/of Pete Yamagata)

A survey conducted of all 57 Chapters [in the Sierra Club] showed the following results:

Only 15 Chapters will have to curtail their activities due to the insurance restrictions

The total number of participants affected by the restriction is 2,600 nationwide - of which 1,740 reside in LA

There were a total of 18,000 "participant days" nationwide during 1988, of which the LA Chapter accounted for 9,000. [Compare this to the approximately 100 "participant days" within the Mother Lode Chapter in 1988, as calculated from statistics compiled by Doug Joy and Ed Vandercook]

compiled by John Sarna

## FACTORY OUTLET SALES

May 1, 1989

Northern California is blessed for its number of mountaineering dealerships--- unfortunately, none of the major ones are located in the Sacramento area. However, with a group carpooling either on a weekend or even after work, a number of people can save enough on the sales to merit the drive.

Here is a listing of some of the major dealerships:

**NORTH FACE FACTORY WAREHOUSE**--Fifth and Gilman, Berkeley. Drive I-80 to Berkeley and the Gilman Street off ramp...the factory is a few blocks into town on the left.

**ROBBINS SHOP**--1508 10th Street at Needham. Take Kansas Avenue in Modesto off U.S. 99 and proceed left (east) across the railroad tracks and make a left turn to a few blocks down on the right. Open only during sales.

**PATAGONIA** --770 North Point. Take Van Ness off I-80 north till almost to the Bay. Turn right on North Point and proceed several blocks where the store is hard to miss on the left (north). San Francisco, of course.

Other sales may be at **MARMOT**, **SIERRA DESIGNS** (Berkeley), **ALPENGLOW MOUNTAINEERING**, and **SPORTS CLEARANCE** (Truckee), or **THE OUTDOORSMAN** (South Lake Tahoe).

Please phone me at (916) 444-6319 to list your number to receive notices or invitations on sales. It is feasible to carpool to Berkeley after work (1½ hour drive each way) or even Modesto (90 miles). We can go party-atmosphere and have a nice meal on the way, too. Summer sales and fall clearances will be coming!

Pete Yamagata

THE BOULDER:

Published every other month by the Peak and Gorge Section, Mother Lode Chapter, Sierra Club.

EDITOR:

Charles Smith  
3962 "E" Street, Sacramento, CA 95819  
(916) 454-3375

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

\$5.00 per year (6 issues). Address labels will note when it is "Time to RENEW!" Send checks, payable to "Peak and Gorge," to Boris Nahlovsky, 3276 Amethyst Lane, Cameron Park, CA 95682.

SUBMISSIONS:

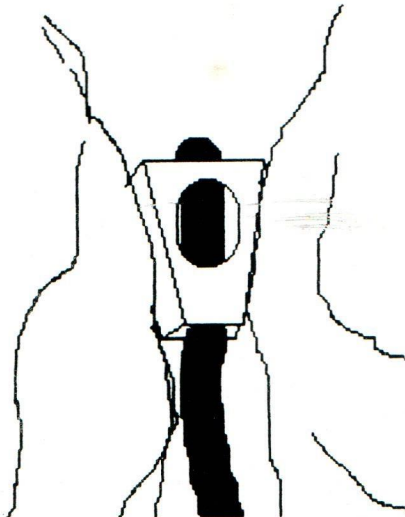
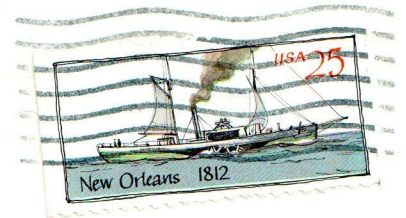
We are interested in articles, letters, fiction, poetry, and artwork that would be of interest to the Peak and Gorge Section. Copy should be typed, single-spaced on 8½ x 11" paper. Materials will not be returned unless accompanied by SASE.

DEADLINE:

One week prior to the first of odd-numbered months. The next deadline is August 1, 1989.

THE BOULDER

Charles Smith, Editor  
3962 "E" Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819



John Sarna  
12 Park Vista Circle  
Sacramento CA 95831