

THE



BOULDER

motherlode chapter-sierra club

ISSUE NO. 32, Sept. & Oct. 1989

THE CHAIR'S CORNER

This is the time to thank two members of this Section for past contributions of time and energy to our organization. Doug Joy chaired this section and kept us together through some rather trying times, in particular, restrictions on Sierra Club mountaineering activities brought on by insurance problems at the national level. And, Charlie Smith kept this *Boulder* newsletter alive and well for the past two years. In spite of other obligations, they kept at it when replacements could not be had for several months.

Thanks also go to Robin Rutherford for donating a slide projector to the section.

And while we're at it, let's recognize some others who actively sustain our section's activities, and those people who recently accepted new responsibilities. Peggy Lehman, Camille Nahlovsky, and Ellen Van Fleet have and will continue to organize our monthly meetings. Boris Nahlovsky continues as our steadfast Treasurer. Brad Brooks, Roger Rollins, John Watters, and Pete Yamagata accepted joint responsibility for getting out the *Boulder*. John also organized the Dan Dobbins Award Ceremony in June (Barbara Hinkle's two boys were awarded enrollment in a climbing course in Yosemite). Ed Vandercook will coordinate future responses to the quagmire of mountaineering restrictions. And, training activities (and equipment) will remain in Doug Joy's capable hands until the insurance situation is clarified. Finally, too many leaders to mention here offer fine outings, the centerpiece of our section.

I'd like to share several of my goals for the next year which appear to reflect the needs of our membership. Three predominate:

- Promoting the *Boulder* as a forum for exchanging information and ideas.
- Sponsoring informative and interesting social meetings.
- Increasing the number and variety of outings we offer.

To achieve these, some work is inevitable (as is my requesting help from you on occasion), but it doesn't have to be dull or unrewarding. If everyone can pitch in a little, we can continue to provide good experiences for all, veterans and newcomers. All it takes is a little initiative and cooperation.

If you do feel like jumping into the black hole of volunteerism (or just being sucked in further), here's a few suggestions. Call Peggy (452-5057) to offer your home for an evening's social gathering. Call Ellen (927-9288) with ideas for new and interesting programs at our monthly meetings. Try your hand at creative writing for the *Boulder* (instructions on back page). And last but not least, become an outings leader (call Barb Miller at 925-5862 to sign up for the Oct 15 leadership training). Or, call me at 429-8024 and suggest a new role that could serve this section's activities (and please, someone suggest the old role of coordinating trip kits for outings leaders).

John Sarna

*** ANNOUNCEMENT ***
 PEAK AND GORGE QUALIFYING LISTS AND EMBLEMS

Our stockpile of NAS Emblem Patches (and booklets with qualifying information) has been sold out (there's still several SGS patches left though). Camille Nahlovsky has volunteered to order more patches for us; please call her at 677-4600 if you have any relevant comments or information on buying more emblem patches. As for the printed lists of (NAS, SGS, and OGUL) peaks and gorges, Boris Nahlovsky has offered to make Xerox copies as-needed by our membership until more are printed. However, any revisions should be contemplated *before* printing up a new batch. In particular, I suggest the booklets be shortened (only the typeset and verbiage, not the objectives) so they can be printed and sold as cheaply as possible. They could then be distributed to more people, promote more involvement, etc. If anyone opposes this idea, I'd like to know before revisions are made. Please call me (429-8024) with your reaction, or provide commentary for the next *Boulder*.

CONGRATULATIONS

Harry P. Ley	Awarded an NAS Emblem on 6-21-89
John Besbekos	Awarded an Ogul Emblem on 6-21-89
John Watters	Awarded an Ogul Emblem on 7-11-89
Marilyn Jouini	Awarded an Ogul Emblem on 7-15-89

PRIVATE TRIPS:

ANNOUNCING
 PETE YAMAGATA'S
TAHOE
 LIST FINISHER PARTY!!!

SOMETIME IN
 LATE SEPTEMBER -
 OCTOBER 1989
 ELLIS PEAK

FREE CHAMPAGNE ON TOP!!

FREE CHICKEN DINNER
 FOR ALL EMBLEM HOLDERS
 --- PETE'S TREAT!!!

444-6319 FOR RESERVATIONS

★ CERTIFIED AND
 CONFIRMED

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- Sept. 1 - 5, Fri. - Tues., Mt. Kaweaw, Triple Divide, via Mineral King in Sequoia Natl Park; CANCELLED, the 5-day permit for 12 is available for a group trip (or personal expedition if no group forms). Call John Sarna, 429-8024 or Brad Brooks, 682-3810.
- Sept. 2-4, Sat. - Mon. - Peak Climb/ Backpack, Class 2 - MTS FLORENCE (NAS, 12561') and SIMMONS (12053'). Friday evening departure for Lee Vining and usual breakfast stop Saturday, then drive up to Tuolumne Meadows trailhead. We'll hike Lyell Fork and Rafferty Creek trails to Tuolumne Pass, Vogelsang Lake and Lewis Creek to Bernice or Florence Lake. Peak objective will depend on camp location and group preference. Limited to eight. Leader: All Gutowsky, 457-3338.
- Sept. 2-4, Sat. - Mon. - LA Desert Peaks Section Trip - Boundary and Montgomery, Leader: Igor Mamedalin, (714) 786-3918.
- Sept. 9, Sat. - Gorge Scramble III - NEVADA POINT. Enjoy a short scramble on the Rubicon River from the Nevada Point Trail to the old washed out bridge. Met at 7:30 a.m. at the Bank of America in Roseville Square. Leader: Fred Fischietto, 983-5607.
- Sept. 9-11, Sat. - Mon. - LA Sierra Peaks Section Trip - Matterhorn Pk, Leader: Gerry Dunie, (818) 289-0555.
- Sept. 16, Sat. - Maidu Group Gr. 3D Day Hike - PYRAMID PEAK via Sylvia Lake. Not an easy hike. Meet at El Dorado Forest Supervisor's office, 100 Forni Road. Placerville (Forni Road exit from Route 50) at 6:00 a.m. Leader: Chuck Nagel, 622-6370.
- Sept. 19, Tues. - Peak and Gorge Social Meeting - KENYA AND MT. KILIMANJARO, a slide presentation by Boris Nahlovsky at 7:30 p.m. Bring a snack to share. Boris and Camille will host, 3276 Amethyst Lane, Cameron Park, 1-677-4600.
*** Note that our customary "BYO Summer Slides to Show" meeting has been moved to November 14 ***
- Sept. 23 - 24, Sat.-Sun. - Peak Climb/Car Camp - REYNOLDS PEAK from Wet Meadows. See the rich volcanic colors in route to this challenging 9690' OGUL peak (with a sharp Class 3 Summit Block). 2000' gain, 6 mi cross-country. Meet at 7 a.m. at CSUS Arboretum. Call for further details. Leader: John Watters, 383-6150.
- Sept. 23 - 24, Sat.-Sun. - LA Desert Peaks Section Trip - White Mtn, bristlecone pines. Leader, Sherry Harsh (213) 684-2120
- Sept. 30, Sat. - Cl. 3 Peak Climb - LITTLE PYRAMID PEAK. A moderately vigorous loop trip from Wrights Lake via Island Lake to this outstanding specimen of glacial sculpture, returning via Rockbound Pass. Great views of the Desolation Wilderness and a panorama of the western slope of the Sierras. Some cross-country travel and scrambling may be encountered. 15 miles and 3000' gain. Meet at CSUS Arboretum at 6 a.m. Leader: Jack Rankin, 457-0776.
- Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, Sat.-Sun. - Peak Climb/Backpack - CRYSTAL RANGE PEAKS, DESOLATION WILDERNESS. We leave Saturday morning from our trailhead at Wrights Lake for a base camp at Maud Lake. On Sunday we climb the 3 high points (9354', 9331', and 9400') north of Rockbound Pass. Contact leader for more details. Leader: Al Gutowsky, 457-3338.
- Oct. 14, Sat. - Class 2/3 Peak Climb - DICK'S AND JACK'S PEAKS from Fallen Leaf Lake. At least 3600' elevation gain and 12 to 13 miles. Pace may be reasonably brisk, but not without ample opportunities to enjoy the views. Meet at the Park and Ride just north of Hwy 50 and east of Hazel Ave at 6:30 a.m. Leader: Barney Jones, 487-3132, Co-Leader: Barbara Hinkle, 322-5466.
- Oct 14 - 15, Sat.-Sun. - LA Desert Peaks Section Trip - Pyramid, Corkscrew in Death Valley. Leader: Jim Kilberg (213) 874-9514
- Oct. 17, Tues. - Peak and Gorge Social Meeting - EASY ROUTES UP SOME TECHNICAL PEAKS (Humphreys, Cathedral, Star King, and Darwin), a slide presentation by Pete Yamagata at 7:30 p.m. Bring a snack to share. Peggy Lehman will host, 1041 Delores Way, Sacto 452-5057 (off J St between 36th and 37th St).
- Oct. 20-22, Fri.-Sun. - Class 2 Peak Climb - SWEETWATER PEAK CLIMBS. 4 hr drive Friday evening. On Saturday, climb Patterson (11,673') and Wheeler for a Gr. 3C dayhike, finishing with a climb of South Sister (11,339') on Sunday. Expect moderately paced hiking and a car camp base at Lobdell Lake. Leader: John Sarna, 429-8024, Co-Leader: Marlene Mirassou, 452-0714.
- Oct. 20-22, Fri.-Sun. - LA Sierra Peaks Section Trip - Foerster Pk, Leader: Barbara Reber (714) 640-7821.
- Oct. 28, Sat. - Class 2/3 Peak Climb - RED LAKE PEAK AND STEVENS PEAK (both 10,061') and fall colors below in Hope Valley are the objective of this Class 2 hike (with one Class 3 Summit Block). Meet at CSUS Arboretum at 7 a.m. Limited to 12. Call for reservations. Leader: Doug Joy, 452-7126.
- Nov. 14, Tues. - Peak and Gorge Social Meeting - Annual BYO Slide Show at 7:30 p.m. Show 15-25 of your best summer slides to new and/or old friends. Bring a snack to share. Ellen Van Fleet will host, 1105 Alamos, Sacto 927-9288 (Between Del Paso and Rio Linda, north of Arden).
- Nov. 1, Wed. - Time to finalize any Outings planned for Dec. 15 to Mar. 15 in order to have them published in the Bonanza; send your writeups to John Sarna, 12 Park Vista Circle, Sacto, CA 95831 (due dates for publication in the Boulder are on the back page).
- Nov. 25, Sat. - Mt. Vision at Point Reyes. Leader: John Besbekos, 348-3584.
- Dec. 12, Tues. - Peak and Gorge Social Meeting - Annual December Pot Luck Party at 6:30 p.m. Brad Brooks will host, 7500 Cottontree Way, Sacto, 682-3810 (near Power Inn Rd and Gerber Rd).

NOTE: The Nov. and Dec. meetings are on the *second* rather than the third *Tues.* of the month.

Some trips carried by the Los Angeles Chapter are listed for your information - they typically require sending a self-addressed stamped envelop to the leader a few weeks before the trip, however, phone-ins are usually accepted if the trip does not fill up.

WILDERNESS PERMIT RESERVATION FEES Inyo, Sierra and Toiyabe National Forests

Several months after applying for a reserved permit I received notification from the Forest Service that beginning in 1990 all reservations at quota trailheads will require a \$3.00 per person non-refundable fee.

The Forest Service claims that one problem that has developed with the reservation system is the increasing rate of "no-shows". These are reservation holders that never show up, call or write to cancel their permits. This means that the space is unavailable for use by other reservation applicants.

The Mount Whitney Ranger District on the Inyo National Forest implemented a reservation fee two years ago and the results have been dramatic. Prior to the reservation fee charge, the "no-show" rate was 60%; after two years the "no-show" rate dropped to 10%. This enabled hundreds of people to get a confirmed reservation which was not possible under a free reservation system.

As a result of the success of the Mt. Whitney Trail program and the rising costs of administering their reservation system, the Inyo, Sierra and Toiyabe National forests are expanding their reservation fee program to all quota trails on these forests in 1990.

A fee of \$3.00 will be charged per person for each confirmed reservation. For example, if a party of four applies for a permit, the application must include a check or money order for \$12.00. For applicants that cannot be confirmed due to full quotas on the dates requested, the fee will be refunded. This fee is required for all reservation; no fee is required for first-come, first-served permits obtained during the quota period. This fee is non-refundable once the reservation has been made.

The impact of this new Forest Service policy will be considerable to Sierra Club outings. Leaders will be required to put money up front in hopes their trips will later fill up or risk simply showing up at the trailhead early in order to obtain a permit with no guarantee of availability. Alternatively, leaders will have to require commitments backed up with cash early in the year in order to obtain permits.

I have provided this background for your information and I encourage members to contribute suggestions as to how our section might respond to these new policies. My suggestion is that leaders fill their rosters to 70% with paid reservees prior to mailing in their permit applications and that they pay for the other 30% of the reservations costs in anticipation that the remaining slots will fill up as the outing date approaches.

John Watters

Fonda turns to Peak-Bagging

Actress Jane Fonda spent the night alone on a mountain in Sequoia National Park after becoming separated from her companions while backpacking, park officials said on Tuesday. Fonda hiked ahead of her six companions and apparently took a wrong turn during a Sunday hike. Her companions notified park officials when she failed to show up at Moose Lake, their destination, or at their Pear Lake base camp. A helicopter crew found Fonda on top of a mountain early Monday morning, and reunited her with her friends at base camp. The group hiked out together later Monday, park officials said.



Four Sweet Peaks, Sweetwaters

The objective of this trip was to bag Desert Creek Peak, East Sister, and Middle Sister in the Sweetwater Mountain Range, a prominent feature along the east side of Hwy 395 in route to Bridgeport, dominated by Mt. Patterson on the north. Unlike the others, Desert Creek Peak on the southern end looks like a desert on top as well as below.

Only two weeks before, I got a glimpse of the two sisters from Mt. Siegal and found them well wrapped in snow. Wishing for a warm spell to melt the snow apparently did little good. An unusual (midwestern-type) storm system appeared to center itself over the Sweetwaters for an entire week before the trip. Every day the weather forecasters predicted it would move east, and every morrow it again appeared on their weather maps.

Refusing to be deterred by potentially foul weather, nine of us met in Sacramento on Friday evening and drove four hours to an exquisite meadow where we car-camped below Desert Creek Peak, following Malcomb B's wet dinner-plate signs in the dark. The camp was two miles east of Desert Creek Road on Risue Canyon Road. Our arrival woke Malcomb, who said it had poured rain when he retired earlier in the evening. But we saw the stars poking through the dark sky (at 11PM).

The next morning we found Ellen and Camille as scheduled near the trailhead up a small dirt road toward Rickey Mine, a few miles East on Risue Canyon Road. We all proceeded up the trail, quickly climbing 1300' to a wide open saddle. To my surprise, there was little snow seen on the peak; Carolyn C. suggested that it was washed away by the rain. As we left the trail going east, though, clouds began to accumulate, threatening to prevent our ascent as we reached the saddle between East and Middle Sister. Camille had already climbed East Sister, so we opted to first attempt the higher Middle Sister while the weather held up, climbing the class 2 north ridge, except Pete Y, who decided to stay at the saddle to take pictures, having already done both peaks. I'm certain it was as dramatic for his camera as it was when the rest of us gained the summit. No lightning or rain greeted us, just clouds swirling through blue sky, which eventually hit us with a burst of sunlight. The Sierras stuck out their white noses that a few of us attempted to name. Unfortunately the PVC register can had leaked and the book inside was sopping wet. Another can and book was left atop as we returned down the ridge to connect with Pete.

The weather no longer threatening, we found a new problem on the south ridge of East Sister, *thick brush*. A discussion ensued as to the best approach, evolving into whether to keep to the left or right of the ridge. A race was declared, John B taking one group up and myself the other. One group located Bill H ambling through the brush on his way down and over to Middle Sister, having decided to sleep in rather than meet us at the trailhead. Future peak-baggers may take heed that the left (west) side of the ridge is much easier, although still voted to contain the most brush-whacking of the weekend. From the top, we saw the trail winding through the valley 2000' below, and in groups of twos, threes, and fours, we followed the north ridge down to a long and gentle scree-run to wait below. There were a few large snow drifts that, depending on one's perspective, either blocked the way down or offered a short series of glissades. But that was the only significant snow we came upon. In any case, we were soon back at the cars where camping and dinner plans were made, while Bill P. caught his one butterfly of the trip.

The next morning found everyone but Ellen V. and Camille N. ready to start for Desert Creek Peak. Dire warnings of memorable encounters with thick brush were voiced, probably originating from the west side ascent Boris N. did a couple years back. After some grumbling about the route, we started along a 4x4 dirt road leading north from the Risue Canyon Road high point. It died out after a few hundred yards, but easy walking prevailed up to the top of Black Mountain (8158'). Regards go to Bill H for offering to buy Pete a dinner for leaving one of his register cans atop Black with all our names preserved for posterity. Calling it a day, John B. accompanied Bill back to camp for some R&R. The rest of us found lots of rock, but little brush on the way to a small bare saddle about a mile before (and 1000' below) Desert Creek Peak. At that point, we were treated to a sight of some thunderheads gathering about Middle Sister, where we had just been the day before. That saddle was an excellent spot to survey a route through patches of sage-covered ground so as to avoid tree and brush filled thickets along the way. A scant hour later we found the top sporting a small microwave relay station, a large rock cairn, and a register dating back to 1981. Without haste, we effectively doubled the number of entries. While Pete and Jim went down the west side, trying what looked to be a good long scree-run, the rest of us wound back to the bare saddle with John W. in the lead. From there, we dropped down by navigating straight toward Black Mountain for 1/4 mile, and following a drainage to the right (South).

Our decent uncovered the best route up Desert Creek Peak. It was easy to follow the dry creek bed, which eventually became a 4x4 road, all under a canopy of conifers. We exited on Risue Canyon Road only 200 yards west of our camp where we had conveniently left two cars, saving the drivers a two mile walk. Somewhat later, Pete and Jim joined us, having found the scree-run a little too rocky and the 4 mile trek back to camp a little long.

All in all, it turned out to be a splendid trip. While the storms remained in the distance, their clouds provided cool hiking and some splendid light for pictures.

by John Sarna

Tower Peak, Northern Yosemite
N.A.S. C1 3, 11755'

August 18-21, '89

It's always nice to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.

D. Joy

This quote by Doug Joy on our recent trip to Tower Peak in northern Yosemite pretty much sums up the cascade of misfortune that unbelievably led to a successful climb.

Beginning with a phone call from Terry Wenner just hours before our Friday departure the possibility of accomplishing our goal of climbing Tower Peak looked quite remote. By evening of the first day after hiking 12 miles we were still four miles from base camp at Tower Lake; it was raining and several members of the group were exhausted. I instructed Doug to locate a suitable campsite as quickly as possible and within minutes we were pitching camp in the rain on the only level spot short of Tower Lake.

The rain stopped several hours after we established camp and we began our climb the next morning under hazy skies. It was cloudy and warm at Tower Lake however by the time we reached the ridge above the lake dark clouds were moving in and countless lightning strikes were bombarding the adjacent ridges. The sky was black and filled with lightning in an arc from Mt. Lyell northeast to Sonora Peak. The Sawtooth Ridge periodically illuminated as though we were on a ride in Disneyland and then just as quickly went black. Whole mountain ranges appeared before us like giant projections only to vanish appearing somewhere else to the north or south.

As we approached the final plateau I was making decisions on a minute by minute basis whether or not to proceed. Finally when a pocket of clear sky moved over we made for the peak. Isolated clouds enveloped the summit for several minutes at a time before moving on and sporadic hail stung our faces as we quickly signed in on the register.

Descending rapidly to the plateau we paused for a few pictures and enjoyed several minutes of sunshine. Our reprieve was only brief and soon the storm broke directly over us on the ridge above Tower Lake. We returned to the lake in a driving hail storm that changed slowly into a miserable soaking rain. Back at camp John, Doug and Bob sat under a tree in their soaked clothing to cook an early dinner while the sky cleared and the sun set. We had made it to Tower Peak and now all that remained between us and the trailhead was four wet tents and fifteen bone jarring miles.

Despite the hardships of this trip and our tough and go ascent of the summit, the group consisting of Doug Joy, John Besbekos, Carolyn Clark, Malcolm Bauer, Bob Buckles, Brenda Brettgenbach and myself performed well. Everyone made it to the top and in that fact we took immense delight.

John Watters

Mt. Shasta via Avalanche Gulch
N.A.S. Cl 3, 14, 162'

August 4-6, '89

As we drove north out of Redding the gleaming spectral of Mt. Shasta appeared before us and I was relieved to see that a considerable amount of snow still remained in avalanche gulch. Several people had advised me that climbing Shasta in August would amount to 7,000 feet of scree and I had no desire to repeat my mid-seventies experience of slogging up the gulch knee deep in volcanic ash.

Fortunately a large snow pack could be seen stretching from Helen Lake to the Red Banks and with renewed optimism our group of eight signed in at the ranger station and headed off to Marilyn's for a high carbo dinner. After eating we drove to the trailhead at Sand Flat and hiked in 1.5 miles to the Sierra Club hut.

Early the next morning we began the climb enjoying every inch of the causeway before embarking on the slippery trail to Helen Lake. The trip up was fairly uneventful and the entire group made it to the summit in 7.5 hours. At the top we encountered a troupe of Boy Scouts accompanied by three professional guides all of whom had just come up the Hotlum glacier. The kids, all around 14 years old, appeared a bit tired but none the less worn for their efforts.

The way down proved far more interesting as we paused on the Wintun glacier for a group picture with the summit block in the background. At the Red Banks Dave Kruse gave a brief demonstration of the sitting glissade and self-arrest techniques. As we passed through a snow filled fissure in the Red Banks the glissade trough became quite steep and I decided to get out and edge my way down the narrow space between the trough and the fissure wall. Dave Kruse continued to glissade down the steepest part of the trough and waited at the base of the Red Banks. Later Dave admitted it had been the steepest glissade he has experienced. Other members of the party had a more difficult time. Bill Paterson adopted a glissade technique used by some other climbers dragging the hook end of his ice axe behind his body to slow the decent. His axe caught on some ice in the steepest part of the stretch and Bill went rocketing through the Red Banks head over heels; arms, legs and ice axe flying in every direction. Fortunately the walls of the glissade trough were fairly deep and composed entirely of snow so Bill had little choice other than to come squirting out the end of the fissure a few feet from where Dave was waiting.

Brad Brooks came through backwards cutting steps and using a sort of permanent self-arrest technique. The remainder of the group followed Brad through in similar fashion and one by one emerged from the fissure with faces expressing unmistakable relief. Undaunted by our experience at the Red Banks we enjoyed a thrilling 2,000 foot glissade to Helen Lake making our descent from the summit back to the Sierra Club hut in 4 hours.

The next day we hiked out and drove down to Lassen park for a relaxing climb of Lassen peak. In attendance on the summit of Shasta were: Dave Kruse, Brad Brooks, Sue Mott, Ken Stroebel, Bill Paterson, Robert Hall, Cathy Hall and myself. They were a great group.

John Watters

MT. PINOS (8831'), MT. WILSON (5710'),
BOUCHER HILL (5438')

A SHORT THANKSGIVING WEEKEND
NOV. 23-26, 1988

Well, it was another failed outing---eight peaks planned, but successful on two drive-ups and one almost. It seemed to me that in my haste to cover up a bad decision to go anywhere this weekend, the sound from my two forward side speakers were coming from behind me as I sped north on I-5 and the various radio stations --- KFI, KOLS, KISN 105, and so on, were sweeping by reception range faster than I could turn the dial. Well, at least the fog was intermittent, and this was good practice to attend the SPS annual banquet.

It had started that day in a wind and rain swept motel 1 mile out of Julian where I had strategically positioned myself to take advantage of a possible weather mis-forecast---good weather. A sweep of 4 HPS peaks were just miles away if the winds would go below 30 mph and the clouds would clear for the sake of photography. But, alas, at 4 in the morning I could hear the patter and rumbling on the window that doomed my hopes and the promising clearing of the late afternoon before.

I thought of John Sarna's poetry as consolation---it's hard to make such an effort when the promise of warm sunshine had lured me 550 miles south. Met with such unfortunate circumstances, I opted for a return north to L.A. where at least I made a visit to the County Art Museum, La Brea Tar Pits, and did some glamour shopping at Century City before going home.

Pinos was a 1½ mile hike. I found the crazily multi-colored register entry of a HPS associate of some notoriety in addition to seeing the names of Boris and Camille Nahlovsky. Wilson...well, I was shocked to see anyone else on that road in near zero visibility, and I had to take the snack bar girl's assurance that I was on the actual top. A misunderstanding cost me Palomar (in addition to blowing snow), but I got Boucher Hill, with the only summit views of the trip.

Yes, my thoughts are a flurry of misgivings as I write this article here at home at 2a.m. Saturday, but I'm home and I'm safe---which is more that some people can say right now!

Pete Yamagata 11-26-88

She wouldn't answer the phone, so I RITTER a letter.
In a chess game with a wookie, I don't DARWIN.
ABBOT a quarter on that.
I couldn't tell the truth quietly, so I gave a big LYELL.
She's been falling asleep at the wheel, so BREWER another cup of coffee.
KAWEAH do that again?
The Communist party ticket, otherwise the RED SLATE.
As the Texas Terminex man said, we kill 'em DADE.
When I'm looking for a friend, I PYRAMID the crowd.
ELWELL, it's a new day.
A camel milkshake, otherwise a HUMPHREYS.
Well, it's a hard peak, but SHASTA do it.
LASSEN on top is a rotten egg.
OGUL to hell.
The one-legged man wanted to win the race, so he put his NIKON.
My car broke down just out of town, so would you please TOWER back to the garage?
LEAVITT for another day.
My comb wasn't in my pocket, so they shouted, "It's INYO hair!"
Jonathan Livingston SIEGEL.
She didn't know much about crevasses, so I thought that I'd better WARNER about it.

by Pete Yamagata 1-27-89

RED SLATE PEAK
NAS CLASS 2 13,163

July 21-23, 1989

Terry Wenner, John Watters, Tom Jankowski, Dan Stretna, Gary Walker, Doug Joy, Bill Patterson, and Johanna Gaedeke enjoyed a leisurely backpack into Big McGee Lake and a splendid climb to Red Slate Peak. John Watters (assistant leader) led the way, while Terry Wenner (leader) pointed out wild flowers and interesting rock formations along the way. We camped next to a flower-filled grassy meadow and a tiny lake surrounding majestic peaks.

Sat morning we all climbed Red Slate. There were great views and many picture taking opportunities along the way to the summit. Once on top, Doug Joy identified many of the distant peaks for us. After enjoying the fantastic view from the peak, we headed back to camp. The next day, Sunday, we had a chance to enjoy last minute photo opportunities, butterfly collecting, fishing and packing backpacks. It was a relaxing trip into a beautiful part of the Sierras.

Thanks, Terry, for a great trip!

by Johanna Gaedeke

Round Top, July 8 1989

On July 8th, Barbara Hinkle led a party of about twelve on a climb of Round Top. Many factors combined to make this one of the smoothest and most enjoyable trips I have ever experienced. Barbara was excellently prepared, and led with sparkle and confidence. On the other hand, the group was composed of experienced Sierrans who needed little overt leadership, but rather hiked with a common enthusiasm. Ongoing conversations about our recent and planned trips, Peru, life in China, graduate school, our religious sentiments, and of course the lovely surroundings carried us along with the miles hardly noticed. The weather cooperated, fair and breezy (windy on the summit ridge) with mild temperatures - perfect for hiking. Barbara chose a loop route starting at Woods Lake via Winemucca to Round Lake, then up the peak and back, then continuing via Lost Cabin Mine back to the trailhead. (The trail has been diverted around the mine recently, apparently due to renewed work at the site.) For a mid-day treat, Brad, Anna and I easily glissaded two hundred feet of the snow patch below the saddle west of Round Top. A Mexican dinner in Placerville completed the flawless day's activities. (Elev. 10380', 2000' gained, 6 mi.)

D. Joy

At 22,205' in top hats
and evening gowns

Chris Darwin, great-great-grandson of naturalist Charles Darwin, returned to Sydney, Australia, on Monday with pictures of the latest dinner he enjoyed with the group he heads, called Social Climbers. It was a pretty ordinary scene: silver cutlery and fine crystal, the men wearing top hats and tails and the women evening gowns, the meal one of chicken breast, smoked trout, vegetables, red wine and champagne. But glasses were raised with gloved hands because it was a bit nippy at 22,205 feet atop the peak of Mount Huascarán in Peru. The team of nine spent nine days climbing, braving avalanches, subzero temperatures and ferocious winds. Despite wearing thermal underwear, two members of the group suffered hypothermia. Formed 18 months ago, the Social Climbers also dined at a table suspended over a cliff in Sydney harbor. But why do they do this crazy stuff? To raise money for good causes. Darwin said the Peru climb raised \$20,000 for a heart foundation.

THE BOULDER:

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Brad Brooks, Roger Rollins, John Watters, and Pete Yamagata.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

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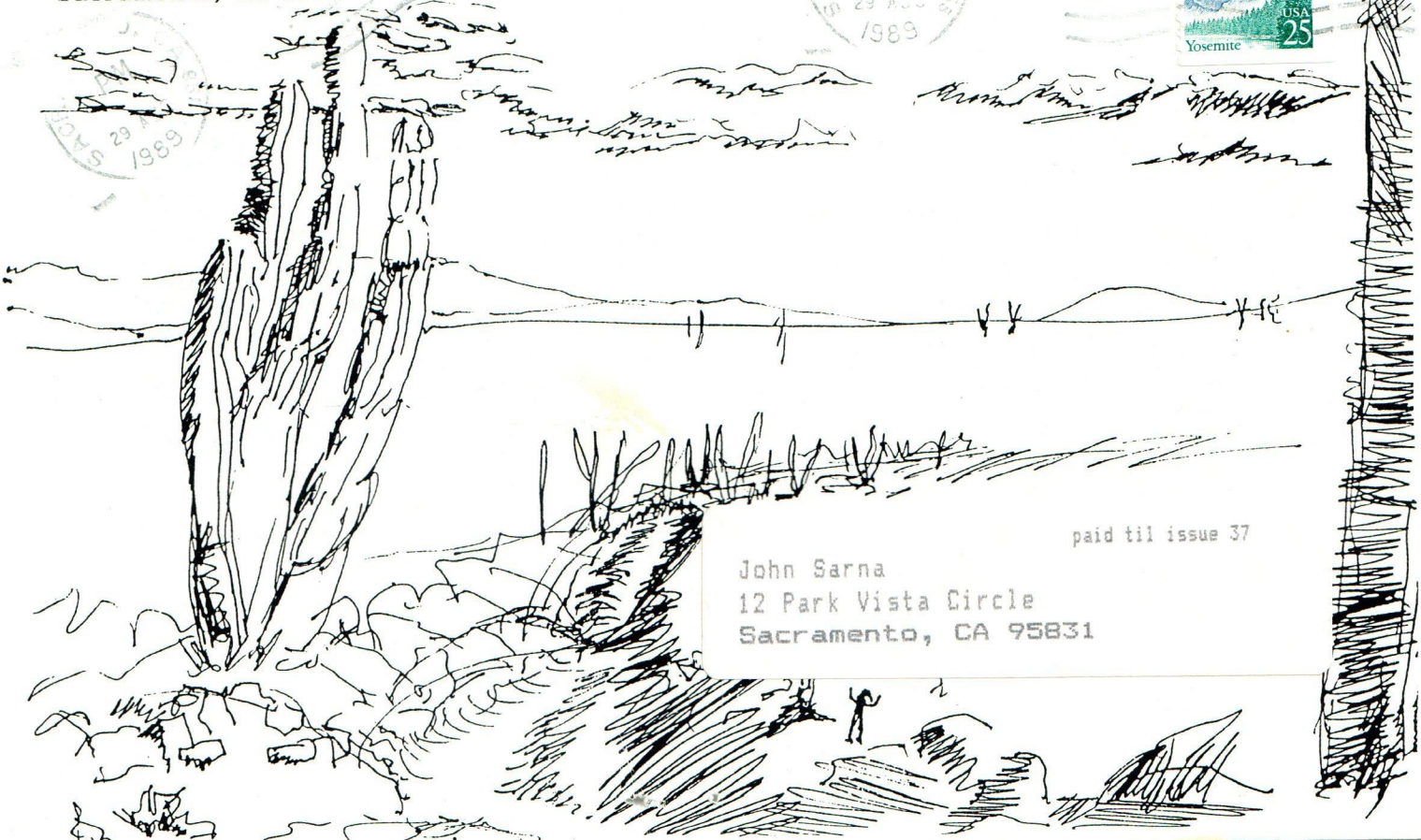
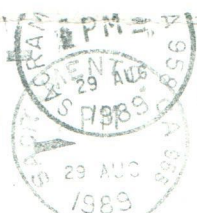
CORRESPONDENCE:

We encourage you to send articles, letters, fiction, poetry, and artwork that would be of interest to the Peak and Gorge Section. Camera ready copy should be typed single-spaced on 8.5 x 11" paper, and sent to: Boulder Editorial Committee; C/O John Sarna (429-8024); 12 Park Vista Circle; Sacramento, CA 95831. Materials will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope.

DEADLINE:

One week prior to the first of odd-numbered months. The next deadline is October 24, 1989.

Boulder Editorial Committee
C/O John Sarna
12 Park Vista Circle
Sacramento, CA 95831



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