

THE



BOULDER

motherlode chapter-sierra club

THE CHAIR'S CORNER

Issue No. 42, May & June 1991

Hold onto your hats or throw them in. At the March social meeting, we agreed to hold an:

ELECTION FOR THE NEXT CHAIR OF THE PEAK AND GORGE SECTION

at the April 23 social meeting

see next page for details

This issue is being mailed early to get the word out. The time is ripe since I've completed the customary two-year term as chair, besides feeling a need for less responsibility and more hiking. As no one else volunteered, John Watters is the principal nominee for this position. Nominees must be current Peak and Gorge Section Outings Leaders, since the responsibilities of the chair include, among other things, reviewing outings submitted by leaders for publication in the *Bonanza* and *Boulder*. I maintain a list of our outings leaders (as required by the Chapter), and each should have received earlier notification of the election via the letter I send out annually requesting write-ups for Summer Trips. In any case, everyone is welcome to participate in the election process, and this is typically done by coming to the meeting where the election is held.

At for the February meeting, we had a good rap session on the direction of the Peak and Gorge Section, with John Besbekos, Bob Buckles, John Watters, Pete Yamagata, and myself in attendance. The many ideas discussed basically boiled down to: 1. change our reputation for *only* doing the strenuous macho hikes; 2. take a poll at the next social meeting to find out where people want to go (so our leaders can plan relevant trips); and 3. support other recently popularized outdoor activities (e.g. mountain-biking). But perhaps the most germane comment was that we should continue to focus on mountaineering activities. I did feel the few of us at the meeting came away with a better sense of direction for the coming year. We also decided the Section would buy a dozen T-Shirts, of the size and type recently ordered, for eventual resale. Anyone interested in ordering a specific size and color should contact Peggy (452-5057). I also reintroduced the issue of selling 2 or 3 of the ropes owned by our Section, since some of our members may establish a new rock-climbing organization and wish to use them. I'd especially like to see the older ones put to a fitting use, perhaps top-roping, since they've been wasting away in Doug's closet for 3 years due to the mountaineering restrictions. But after some discussion, it was deemed premature to approve any kind of sale until an offer was made.

As outgoing chair, I wish to thank everyone for their help over the past two years. Future preservation efforts are better supported as more people are introduced to natural areas, and we genuinely go the extra mile, since other members of the Chapter look to our Section for inspiration and guidance on what can be done off the beaten path, and well beyond. Toward this end, in issue 32 of this newsletter, I once suggested three goals worth pursuing:

- Promote the *Boulder* as a forum for exchanging information and ideas
- Sponsor informative and interesting social meetings
- Increase the number and variety of outings we offer

Our past progress is the result of collective efforts, and I hope each of you (continue to) contribute your valuable time and energy.

Happy Hiking, John Sarna

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- Apr. 26-27, Fri.-Sat.** ODS 10 mi backpack, 18 mi dayhike in Deep Springs Valley & Inyo Mtns. Ldr: Marty Dickes, 415/482-4159.
- > **Apr. 27-28, Sat.-Sun.** PINNACLES NATIONAL MONUMENT - Car Camp/Day Hikes. Drive down early Saturday and hike 10-15 miles around Pinnacles' rock formations. On Sunday, a Cl. 1, Gr. 3B climb of Chalone Peak (3304') will precede the drive home. Call for details. Leader: Bob Buckles, 624-3620.
- Apr. 27, Sat.-MLC** Maidu Intermediate Ski Tour of Robbs Peak; meet at 8 am/Pollock Pines Safeway. Ldr: Bill Campau, 644-5339.
- Apr. 27-28, Sat.-Sun.** HPS climb of Cobblestone, White, Snowy, and Black Pks. Leader: Alan Coles, 213/420-9270.
- May 4-5, Sat.-Sun.** DPS climb of Inyo and Keynot. Leader: Igor and Suzanne Mamedalin, 714/786-3918.
- May 4-5, Sat.-Sun.** HPS climb of Tehachapi, Double, Black Liebre, Burnt and Sawmill Pks. Ldr: Charlie Knapke, 714/530-1310.
- > **May 4, Sat.** - SUMMER OUTINGS SCHEDULE Deadline - Peak and Gorge Outings Leaders, please send your trip writeups for the period of June 15 to September 15 to John Sarna, 545 Windward Way #114, Sacramento, CA 95831.
- > **May 9, Thurs. Evening** - DAN DOBBINS AWARDS CEREMONY, outdoor banquet, and slide presentation. Awards will be given to four young mountaineers. Our host, Gene Markeley (988-0791), will talk on THE ART OF GORGE SCRAMBLING, featuring slides from early trips. Bring a tasty side dish (hamburgers will be provided) and something to drink for the pot-luck dinner at 7:00 p.m. at 7016 Filbert Ave (from I-80, exit on Greenback, left on Hazel, right on Elm, left on Filbert, see house on right).
- > **May 17-19, Fri.-Sun.** MONO LAKE CRATERS, Desert Pk Climb. Drive to "Mono Basin Natl Forest Scenic Area" Friday evening, car camp, and spend two days hiking/exploring the craters, huge cinder cones, and other points of interest. Itinerary subject to group interest and weather conditions. Expect Gr. 3B level day hikes. Call for details. Leader: Bob Buckles, 624-3620.
- > **May 18, Sat.** in the CRYSTAL RANGE. To get in condition for summer trips, we'll hike/climb/explore some high points in and about this southeastern part of the Desolation Wilderness. Trip location depends on snow and road conditions. Meet at CSUS Arboretum at 7 a.m. Leader: Al Gutowsky, 457-3338.
- May 18-19, Sat.-Sun.** DPS climb of Telescope & Nelson. Leader: Patti Kline, 213/455-1956.
- > **May 25-27, Sat.-Mon.** MATTERHORN AND VIRGINIA PEAKS. The objective is to climb one or both these peaks along Yosemite's Sawtooth Ridge as well as explore Horse Creek Canyon. We'll leave Friday evening and begin the hike from Twin Lakes on Saturday, backpacking up the Horse Creek Trail to base camp at a tarn lake below the canyon. Pace will be moderate. Call for details. Leader: Al Gutowsky, 457-3338.
- May 25-26, Sat.-Sun.** HPS climb of Hildreth, Monte Arido, and Old Man Mtn. Leader: David Eisenberg, 818/247-4635.
- May 25-27, Sat.-Mon.** DPS climb of Waucoba & Saline Hot Springs. Leader: Wayne Benti, 818/352-4043.
- May 25-27, Sat.-Mon.** ODS Backpack of 15 mi with hike up Sentinel Pk near Death Valley. Leader: Steve Tabor, 415/357-6585.
- > **May 28, Tues.** ATTAINING THE SEVEN SUMMITS, FROM MCKINLEY TO EVEREST, a multi-media presentation by Colin Fuller, a former Peak and Gorge member/mountaineer. At 7:30 p.m. Bring a snack to share and beverage of choice. Bob Buckles (624-3620) will host; 6120 Rainier Ave, Rocklin. Going east on I-80, exit on Taylor Rd, continue as Taylor becomes Pacific Ave, left on Sunset, left on Whitney, left on Rainier.
- > **June 1, Sat.** - OLD MAN MTN (7789'), a Gr. 3C dayhike, class 2 climb from Eagle Lakes Road. Have lunch, water, and lug-soled boots; the steep part is off-trail. Meet at Murder Burger in Davis at 7:00 a.m. and at the 11th & O parking lot at 7:30 a.m. Leader: John Sarna, 429-8024, Assistant Leader: Pam Coleman, 756-8955.
- June 1, Sun.** - MLC Gr. 3B dayhike of Peak 8,939' over BLM land from Monitor Pass. Panoramic views of Slinkard Valley and beyond. Meet at 11th and O at 7:30 am; rain cancels. Leader: Pat Purcell, 428-0838 (6-9 pm).
- > **June 8, Sat.** in the CRYSTAL RANGE. Hike/climb/explore some high points in and about this part of the Desolation Wilderness. Trip location depends on snow and road conditions. Meet at CSUS Arboretum at 7 a.m. Leader: Al Gutowsky, 457-3338.
- > **June 8, Sat.** - GORGE SCRAMBLE III - BOGUS THUNDER. We will traverse the North Fork of the Middle Fork of the American River from the old mining settlement at Bogus Thunder to the Circle Bridge. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in Roseville Square. Leader: Fred Fischietto, 983-5607.
- June 8, Sat.** - MLC Gr. 3C dayhike of Castle to Basin Peaks. Meet at CSUS at 8 am. Leader: Ben Stoecker, 393-7220.
- June 8, Sat.** - MLC Gr. 2B dayhike of Red Mtn. Meet at CSUS at 8 am. Leader: Jack Bussio, 457-3794.
- June 8-9, Sat.-Sun.** HPS climb of Owens, Mt. Jenkins, Morris, and Aquila Pks. Leader: Frank Dobos, 213/221-8301.
- June 9, Sun.** - MLC Gr. 3B dayhike of Leek Spring Hill. Meet at 11th and O at 8 am. Leader: Pat Purcell, 428-0838 (6-9 pm).
- > **June 15, Sat.** - GORGE SCRAMBLE II - NEVADA POINT. A short scramble on the Rubicon River from the Nevada Point Trail to the old washed-out bridge. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in Roseville Square. Leader: Fred Fischietto, 983-5607.
- > **June 15, Sat.** - SNOW MTN (8014'), a 15 mile, 2000' gain, Cl 2 climb with possible side trip up Devil's Pk (Cl. 3). Have lunch, water, & lug-soled boots; half the hike is off-trail. Meet at the 11th & O parking lot at 7:30 a.m. Leader: John Sarna, 429-8024, assistant leader: Cristy Todaro, 729-5349.
- June 15-16, Sat.-Sun.** DPS climb of Boundary & Montgomery. Leader: Maris Valkass, 213/379-8592.
- June 22, Sat.- MLC** Maidu dayhike of Freel Peak and Jobs Sister; meet at 6 am in Placerville. Leader: Bill Campau, 644-5339.
- > **June 25, Tues.** - GORGE SCRAMBLE CLINIC / POT LUCK PICNIC: Join us for an introduction to gorge scrambling. We'll show you what to bring and how to keep it dry. Prior participants are invited to show slides of their favorite trips. Bring a good portion of food (main dishes preferred) and beverage to share at 6:30 p.m. Cristy Todaro (729-5349) will host, 8269 Central Ave., in Orangevale; from Greenback, go north on Sunrise, turn right on Woodmore Oaks, turn right at its end, and park in cul-de-sac.
- July 3-7, Wed.-Sun.** SPS provisional climb of 7 Yosemite Backcountry Pks. Ldrs: Dave Petzold, Dale Van Dalsem, 213/822-0274.
- July 4-8, Thurs.-Mon.** HPS climb of San Gorgonio + 10 Pks. Leader: Terri Sutor, 619/455-0786.
- > **July 25-29, Thurs.-Mon.- THE TRINITY ALPS WILDERNESS** has tarn lakes, water falls, glacial moraines, cirques and rifts cut into a wide variety of rock types. We'll backpack 6 miles in and 2500' up to base camp below Canyon Creek Lakes. The itinerary will include an exploratory Class 3, Gr. 2D dayhike up Thompson Peak (9002'), and given time, climbs of Hilton and/or Sawtooth. Leave Sacramento 5 p.m. Thursday. Limited to 15. Leader: John Sarna 429-8024; assistant leader: Jeff Gottesmann, 758-9942.
- > **Aug. 10-12, Sat.-Mon.** - THE CARSON-ICEBERG WILDERNESS is scenic, just out of day-hike range, but still relatively untrammled, esp. for the Sierra Nevada. We'll backpack 5 miles in to base camp near Silver King Creek, in preparation for moderately-paced climbs of Lost Cannon (11,099') and other peaks in the area. Be prepared for Gr. 3D, Class 2 hiking. Limited to 15. Leader: John Sarna, 429-8024; assistant leader: Judith Fairchild: 485-0107.
- Sept 7-8, Sat.-Sun.** DPS climb of White Mtn & Waucoba. Leader: Bill T. Russell, 213/822-9044.
- > **Sept 21, Sat.** - YOSEMITE's Mt. Dana (13,053'). Accompany Jim Murphy for his 247th SPS Peak List Finisher, a joint excursion with the Angeles Chapter's Sierra Peak Section. Meet at 7:30 a.m. one-fourth mile east of the Tioga Pass Gate in the free parking area. A moderately-paced saunter of 3000' elevation gain guided by Steven Thaw: (415) 376-3380.
- Sept 21-22, Sat.-Sun.** DPS climb of Patterson & Glass. Leader: Patti Kline, 213/455-1956.
- Oct 19-20, Sat.-Sun.** DPS climb of Charleston & Mummy. Leader: Igor and Suzanne Mamedalin, 714/786-3918.

NOTE: Some outings carried by other Sections and other Chapters of the Club (NOT marked with a ->) are listed for your information. Details are provided in other Sierra Club Publications; prior consultation with the outings leader is recommended for those unable to check the original (more detailed) description of the trip. ODS = Oakland-based Desert Survivors; MLC = Mother Lode Chapter; SPS = Los Angeles Sierra Peaks Section; DPS = Los Angeles Desert Peaks Section; HPS = Los Angeles Hundred Peaks Section; PCS = Loma Prieta Chapter Peak Climbing Section.

The Dan Dobbins Youth Awards Ceremony

for outstanding leadership in wilderness education and mountain outings will be held on May 9 at 7 p.m. and hosted by Gene Markley at 7016 Filbert Ave (from I-80, exit on Greenback, left on Hazel, right on Elm, left on Filbert, see house on right, 988-0791). Gene will talk on THE ART OF GORGE SCRAMBLING, featuring slides from early trips. Bring a side dish (hamburgers will be provided) & something to drink for this pot-luck dinner.

NEWS FROM THE CALIFORNIA MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

APRIL 8, 1991

The latest (March 1991) issue of the CMC newsletter contains two articles concerning liability waivers. In two California court cases, the waivers were upheld. In one case, regarding a drowning while white-water rafting, with the waiver considered "weaker" than the one currently used by the CMC, despite an adverse witness testimony, the court agreed with the rafting company that "Express assumption occurs when the plaintiff, in advance, expressly consents...to relieve the defendant of an obligation of conduct toward him, and to take his chances of injury from a known risk arising from what the defendant is to do or leave undone...the result is that being under no duty, (the defendant) cannot be charged with negligence."

A reprint from the Wall Street Journal states that an appeals court threw out a case regarding another drowning during L.A. YMCA scuba diving lessons, basing its decision "solely on the existence of the waiver signed." This is part of a growing trend, also in other states, that waivers are being upheld. Jeffrey K. Riffer, a L.A. lawyer and law professor, as well as an authority on sports-injury law, "attributes the change to the increasing number of judges who fear that liability suits have pushed recreation-facility insurance rates beyond what many companies can afford. These judges are attempting to alleviate the problem by showing that waivers do hold up in court."

Previously, judges tended to look skeptically at such waivers, questioning "if people really understood that they were signing away their rights (to sue) or had thoughts about the hazards...now judges are coming to believe that individuals generally should be bound by what they sign." The attorney for a plaintiff states that "the waiver's 'moderately technical language' would have confused many people, especially since the instructors are saying, 'We are going to do everything right.'" However, the appeals court concluded, "it would be difficult to imagine (waiver) language more clearly designed to put a lay person on notice of the significance and legal effect of subscribing to it."

Regarding a suit against an auto racetrack from an injured spectator and a claim by a motorcycle racer against a track owner, the article concludes, "In both instances, however, the courts noted that the waivers might not be binding if plaintiffs could demonstrate that acts of 'gross negligence' by the defendants led to their injuries. Most other courts also allow for this exception. In addition, courts aren't to give much weight to releases signed by children."

Pete Yamagata

SUGARLOAF RIDGE STATE PARK

This park in Sonoma County is approximately 9 miles north of Sonoma and 9 miles east of Santa Rosa on Adobe Canyon Road just off Highway 12. A trail map from the ranger kiosk at the park entrance indicates 3 named peaks within the park boundaries. Red Mtn. (2530') and Bald Mtn. (2729') are on our coastal peaks list, with the third being Brushy Mtn. (2243').

On March 9, our group of 11 headed out on the Bald Mtn. trail which after a mile came out onto a paved 1 lane service road on which we continued our trek. The route offered panoramic vistas of the park basin. The overcast skies limited the distant views which can include the upper spans of the Golden Gate bridge. 1.5 miles later we took a 1/4 mile side spur to the top of Red Mtn. The summit is a fenced-off microwave station. I touch the locked gate and declare it the summit. We soon abandon this peak and head back down to the saddle and up to the grassy knoll which is Bald Mtn. This point is both figuratively and literally the high point of the park. We are offered a 360 panorama featuring Mt. Tamalpais, Mt. Diablo and a looming Mt. St. Helena.

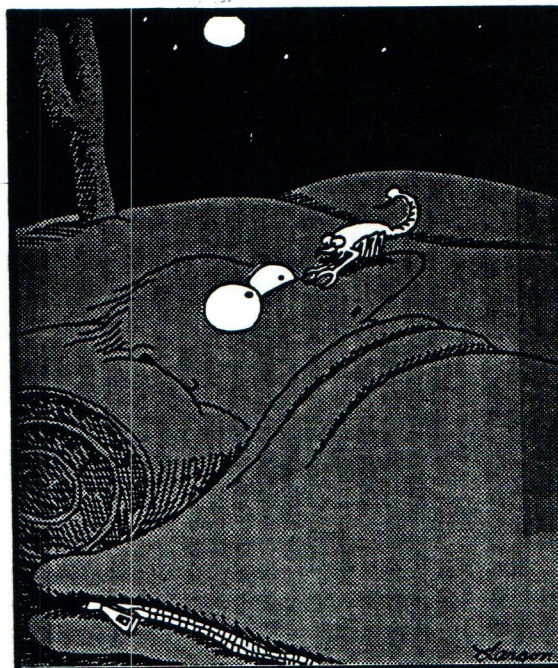
Our trail now rolls up and down the spine of ridges as we continue our circuit around the basin. 2.5 miles later we again take a side spur to our third peak, Brushy Mtn., so named due to the trees and scrub at the top. This foliage limits the views but provides shelter from the wind as we make this our lunch stop.

The park brochure/trail map clearly shows a trail continuing from here back to the trailhead. It is not completed however and dead ends at a fence posted as private property. This forces us to backtrack 1.5 miles to the Pine Mtn. trail intersection. On this trail we rapidly lose elevation until arriving at a pleasant creekside meadow. It is from here that we take the beautiful Vista trail which we otherwise would have missed had the perimeter loop trail been completed. This trail becomes my favorite as we are in shaded woods climbing up alongside a flowing creek. At the end of the elevation gain we break out onto a grassy hillside-hugging trail that provides continuous views of the parks' lower elevations and eventually delivers us back down to our cars.

---- JOHN BESBEKOS.



"Sandwiches!"



"Excuse me, but the others sent me up here to ask you not to roll around so much."

Raucous acclaim from Rex Smith led me to decide upon this climb/hike in Mt. Diablo State Park to see the profuse display of wildflowers. Rex and Camille and I got started from Juniper Camp by 10:15 a.m.

We first came upon the carpets of Golden Poppies contrasting against the bright green hills and oaks, and proceeded toward our Coastal Peak Listed peak by dropping down to Deer Flat and climbing back up to Murchio Gap. Camille had a rather inadequate identification guidebook that failed to list a number of species that even I knew. A steep, rubbly trail led along the "hogbacked" ridge to the surprise of finding a scattering of Poppies on the summit. I found what appeared to be the remnants of a register (pencils and open can), and we signed onto a few torn-out pages then inserted into a film can. The views were somewhat hazy, but we could barely make out the snowy Sierra above the Central Valley smog.

After arriving back to the car by 2:30 p.m., we visited the interpretative center and with the help of a photo album flower guide, we determined the names of many of the wildflowers that we had seen, partially listed here:

Popcorn Flower	Owl Clover	Narrowleaf Golden Bush
Blue Witch	Brodiaea	Fiddleneck
Buttercups	Golden Poppy	Johnny Jump-Up
Western Wallflower	Scarlet Larkspur	Baby Blue Eyes
Indian Warrior	Blue-eyed Grass	Star Zygadene
White Forget-Me-Not	Shooting Star	
Lupine	Monkey-Flower	

Park maps put this hike at 6.2 miles, 2800' gain round trip.

Pete Yamagata

Jerry Adams called me the night before and I proposed this favorite ascent of mine through which I had first met Jerry as he responded to a trip in the Outings Schedule. Jerry, along with John Fischer of the now defunct Palisades School of Mountaineering, had made the first complete traverse of the Palisades--South Fork Pass to Bishop Pass--bagging all of the crest peaks along the way, often climbing up to 5.7-5.8 unroped to speed the going.

Leaving town by 8:30 a.m., we picked up our wilderness permit in Camino and began carrying skis from Twin Bridges at 10:30 a.m. We reached the snow on the South Ridge at about 7,000' and I endured some awful, crotch-deep postholing before we reached enough snow to put on skis and skins. The ascent went straightforward enough, with Jerry and I reaching the summit at 3:15 p.m. Jerry's associate, Martin, had cold hands and decided to stay where we left the skis about 300' below the top. We enjoyed the clear views and I took the usual photos. We descended back to the skis and began our runs down icy, wind-drifted snow. Jerry did very well with his randonné skis. We had some good snow while traversing down the ridge, but due to the lateness of the hour, the corn began to freeze. Martin took a slower descent while Adams skied the crud, no problem. Finally, we began the descent of the lower canyon wall, and reached the car at 7:20 p.m.

Pete Yamagata

ORTIGALITA PEAK (3305')

3/7/91

A small band of us guerilla warfare peak baggers met at 6 a.m. (3/7/91) at the underground bunker of Raoul Mocho. Our rebel band of private property trespass peak baggers consisted of Eddie the Eagle, Popeye Iacocca, and a German girl called "Janina" from Stuttgart, West Germany. Evidently word of our Coast Range List and Sneak Peak Section (SPS) has traveled to Europe. The purpose of our trip was to climb Ortigalita Peak located west of I-5 and south of Pacheco Pass-- in the heart of guerilla warfare climbing country.

We left I-5 at the Nees Exit just south of Los Banos. Weaving around the gas station and canals, we found Paul Negra Rd. After going through 8 gates (all open) and past a ranch house on a County Road, we parked near some water tanks. We were 9.1 miles from I-5 and left the cars at 9:30 a.m.

We headed up a steep ridge, hopped over 2-3 barbed wire fences and in 1½ hours we were on top, greeted by a cold wind, a tripod and perfect clear skies. After signing in we decided to traverse the whole Ortigalita Ridge over to Bonanza Point (3721'). The views were great. The freedom was great...no signs, no trails, only fences and ranch roads but we had more feeling of wilderness here than one can get in the over-developed local parks.

We were on top of Bonanza Pt. at 1:30 p.m. and a giant 6 foot cairn greeted us. No register was seen. We descended the very steep 2000' directly to Wiseman Flat then hiked out to the reservoir and our cars by 4 p.m. It was a great day--cool, breezy amid a carpet green grass--giving us the feeling of being in the high alps all day long.

Popeye was being molested by 5 semi-wild horses. I threw some stones at them but they still were circling us and galloping around and behind us with a real scary wild look in their eyes. Luckily they left and we could breathe easier.

On the way out all went well past the ranch and through a few gates--but on the 2nd gate lo and behold--it was locked--and here we were 7 miles from I-5!! Plus we were here without my carbide tip saw, bolt cutters and torch!! None of us wanted to walk back to I-5 since we just did 12-13 miles. Driving back to the ranch 2 Mexicans greeted us. I explained to them in Spanish that we were locked in and also explained that we were geologists looking at the rocks "Buscando las rocas" etc. Anyway, they were nice, opened the lock and we were freed.

On the way home we stopped at Casa de Fruta but the "cup flipper" was off duty.

Raoul Mocho
(not macho but mocho)

RIDER/CLIMBER WANTED: a 10-15 day unforgettable journey through light, time, space, and desert magic---a photographic, day hiking, peak climbing, and sightseeing voyage to Southern Utah. Share travel expenses, camping and park fees. Must be experienced, congenial, and open to flexible planning. Contact Pete Yamagata, (916) 444-6319.

PRIVATE TRIP--SKI MOUNTAINEERING IN THE EASTERN SIERRA LATE APRIL-
EARLY MAY

When conditions are right, we will make one-day ski ascents of Matterhorn Peak (12,279') or Dunderberg Peak (12,374') or tour from Onion Valley, Mammoth, or Lake Sabrina. Must be experienced, self-sufficient tourers with heavy nordic downhill or Randonnée skills. Contact Pete Yamagata (916) 444-6319.

PRIVATE TRIPS: Space available for anyone who wants to call or write in a private trip

PLEASE, WE NEED YOUR TRIP REPORTS!!

Got any interesting stories or news you'd like to share? We'd like to hear about them! Won't you please send your accounts of your peak climbs or gorge scrambles to us and multiply the fun 50 times over for our interested readers! Format specs are on the back page!!

BASIN PEAK (9015')

14 April 1991

It's no wonder I often miss Sierra Club ski outings. Didn't get out of bed until 9:00. Didn't get out of the house until 10:30. Looks like I'm skiing alone. But due to Daylight Saving Time, all was not lost. I dashed up I-80 and was headed for Peter Grubb Hut before noon. With hardly a pause at the hut, I pushed north up Round Valley to Basin Peak.

The next couple hours cut my pace a bit. I was following the route described Marcus Libkind's guidebook (SKI TOURS IN THE SIERRA NEVADA, VOL I), traversing the west side of Basin Peak. Clouds were massing, there was a cold wind, and I had been skiing for nearly three hours. It was time to settle on a turn back point. How about the peak!

I continued to traverse back and forth up the west face, encountering increasing wind and a more threatening sky with each step. Within two hundred feet of the summit I decided to ditch my skis. The snow was packed hard. Without climbing skins the last few rises might be pretty tough. Besides, even if I could ski up, I would have to slide down. Skis off, I continued to use my poles for balance as I swayed in the wind, now on rock, now on snow, to the summit.

I searched for the register around the cairn on top. Didn't find one. After taking a few pictures of the dramatic view of Castle Peak, I looked for a safe place out of the wind. Nearby, on the downwind side, were a few small trees facing to the northeast. I approached cautiously. Much of the lee side of the peak was corniced and unsafe. As I sat down, the wind died, the sun came from behind a cloud, it was a nice day again. I ate lunch while enjoying a great view of Mt. Lola and Carpenter Ridge. Finally I put on another sweater and adjusted my headgear in preparation for the struggle back across the top. Though the wind had slackened, I was searching for my mittens by the time I got back to my skis. Even dry, cloth gloves were not enough.

The trip down was delightful. The open ground and slightly mushy snow allowed for long traverses at controlled speeds. In half an hour I was back within sight of Peter Grubb hut. A short climb back to Castle Pass and I continued my descent to the trailhead. Trip time about 5 1/2 hours, 3 1/2 to get to the peak. Distance about 8 miles, total elevation gain about 2100', net elevation gain 1800'.

Bob Buckles

MISTER BOFFO By Joe Martin



List of California's County High Points

A few months ago, Dinesh Desai (of Mountain View) told me that the anticipated book of "High Points in each California County," as written by a fellow in San Diego, would not be published by Wilderness Press for at least a year. With a partial list of such high points given me by Bill Hauser and Dinesh, I did a bit of research and came up with a comprehensive list of 56 California County High Points (two are redundant), along with particulars, which I hope you'll find of interest. I specifically list the highest elevation in each county (as shown on USGS maps), rather than the highest peak or elevation designation, although such usually are the highest point.

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>HIGH POINT (Elevation in feet)</u>	<u>USGS TOPO MAP</u>	<u>MTN. RANGE (& location in DeLormes Atlas)</u>
Alameda	1 mi north of Mt. Lewis (3,841)	Mt. Day (7.5)	in Coast Ranges (N106D1)
or possibly	1.4 mi E. of VABM-3817 Rose (3,84?)	Mendenhall Springs (7.5)	in Coast Ranges (N106D1)
Alpine	Sonora Peak (11,462)	Sonora Pass (15)	Sierra Nevada (N100B3)
Amador	Thunder Mtn. Peak (9,402)	Silver Lake (15)	Sierra Nevada (N89C7)
Butte	near Frog 2 VABM 7088 (7,120+)	Peacock Point SW (7.5)	Cascades (N58C3)
Calaveras	UTM North-4263 East-755 (8,160+)	Tamarack (7.5)	Sierra Nevada (N99A7)
Colusa	Snow Mtn East (7,056)	Crockett Peak (7.5)	in Coast Ranges (N75A6)
Contra Costa	Mt. Diablo (3,849)	Clayton (7.5)	Diablo Range, in Coast Ranges (N105A6)
Del Norte	Bear Peak (6,436)	Preston Peak (15)	Siskiyou Mtns, Klamath Range (N23B6)
El Dorado	Freel Peak (10,881)	Freel Peak (15)	Carson Range, Sierra Nevada (N90B1)
Fresno	North Palisade (14,242)	Mt. Goddard (15)	Sierra Nevada (N123D5)
Glenn	Black Butte (7,448)	Plaskett Meadows (7.5)	in Coast Ranges (N65C6)
Humboldt	North Trinity Mtn. (6,342)	Trinity Mtn. (7.5)	Salmon Mtns, Klamath Range (N34D1)
Imperial	Blue Angels Peak (4,548)	In-ko-pah Gorge (7.5)	Jacumba Mtns, Peninsular Range (S124D1)
Inyo	Mount. Whitney (14,495)	Mount. Whitney (15)	Sierra Nevada (S27D4)
Kern	Sawmill Mtn. (8,750+)	Sawmill Mtn. (7.5)	San Emigdio Mtns, Transverse Range (S77B4)
Kings	King (3,473)	The Dark Hole (7.5)	Table Mtn. in Coast Ranges (S46A2)
Lake	Snow Mtn East (7,056)	Crockett Peak (7.5)	in Coast Ranges (N75A6)
Lassen	Hat Mtn. (8,737)	Emerson Pk (7.5)	Warner Mtns, Basin Range (N41C6/7)
Los Angeles	Mt. San Antonio (10,064)	Mount. San Antonio (7.5)	San Gabriel Mtns, Transverse Range (S94B2)
Madera	Mt. Ritter (13,157)	Devil's Postpile (15)	Ritter Range, Sierra Nevada (N111C7)
Marin	Mt. Tamalpais, West Peak (2,604)	San Rafael (7.5)	in Coast Ranges (N104A1)
Mariposa	NNW ridge of Parsons Pk (12,000+)	Tuolumne Meadows (15)	Cathedral Range, Sierra Nevada (N111B6)
Mendocino	Anthony Peak (6,963)	Mendocino Pass(7.5)	in Coast Ranges (N65B5)
Merced	Lavega Peak (3,801)	Mariposa Peak (7.5)	Diablo Range, in Coast Ranges (S20A2)
Modoc	Eagle Peak (9,892)	Eagle Peak (7.5)	Warner Mtns, Basin Range (N41B6)
Mono	White Mtn. Peak (14,246)	White Mtn. Peak (15)	White Mtns, Basin Range (N113C7)
Monterey	Junipero Sierra Peak (5,862)	Junipero Sierra Peak (7.5)	Santa Lucia Range, in Coast Ranges (S31C7)
Napa	.3 mi west of Mt. St. Helena (4,200+)	Mount St. Helena (7.5)	Mayacma Mtns, in Coast Ranges (N84C1)
Nevada	Mt. Lola (9,143)	Donner Pass (15)	Sierra Nevada (N81A5)
Orange	Santiago Peak (5,496)	Santiago Peak (7.5)	Santa Ana Mtns, Peninsular Range (S104C3)
Placer	Granite Chief (9,006)	Granite Chief (15)	Sierra Nevada (N81C5)
Plumas	Dixie Mtn. (8,323)	Portola (15)	Diamond Mtns, Basin Range (N71A5)
Riverside	San Jacinto Peak (10,804)	San Jacinto Peak (7.5)	San Jacinto Mtns, Peninsular Range (S106B3)
Sacramento	BM Carpenter (828)	Clarksville (7.5)	Sierra Nevada foothills (N87C6)
San Benito	San Benito Mtn. (5,241)	New Idria (15)	Diablo Range, in Coast Ranges (S33B6)
San Bernardino	San Gorgonio Mtn. (11,499)	San Gorgonio Mtn. (7.5)	San Bernardino Mtns, Transverse Range (S96D2)
San Diego	Hot Springs Mtn. (6,533)	Hot Springs Mtn. (7.5)	Peninsular Range (S114B4)
San Francisco	Mt. Davidson (927)	San Francisco South (7.5)	in Coastal foothills (N104BC2)
San Joaquin	BM north of Mt. Boardman (3,626)	Mt. Boardman (7.5)	Diablo Range, in Coast Ranges (N116A3)
San Luis Obispo	Caliente Mtn. (5,106)	Caliente Mtn. (7.5)	Caliente Range, in Coast Ranges (S61D6)
San Mateo	Borel Hill (2,572)	Mindego Hill (7.5)	Santa Cruz Mtns, in Coast Ranges (N114B4)
Santa Barbara	Big Pine Mtn. (6,800+)	Big Pine Mtn. (7.5)	San Rafael Mtns, Transverse Range (S75C7)
Santa Clara	Copernicus Peak (4,372)	Lick Observatory (7.5)	Diablo Range, in Coast Ranges (N116B1)
Santa Cruz	Mt. Bielawski (3,231)	Castle Rock Ridge (7.5)	Santa Cruz Mtns, in Coast Ranges (N115C5)
Shasta	Mt. Lassen (10,452)	Lassen Peak (15)	Cascades (N58A2)
Sierra	Babbitt Peak (8,670)	Loyalton (15)	Sierra Nevada (N71D7)
Siskiyou	Mt. Shasta (14,162)	Shasta (15)	Cascades (N36A4)
Solano	Mt. Vaca (2,819)	Mt. Vaca (7.5)	Vaca Mtns, in Coast Ranges (N95A5)
Sonoma	Mount. St. Helena (4,343)	Mount. St. Helena (7.5)	Mayacma Mtns, in Coast Ranges (N83C7)
Stanislaus	Mt. Stakes (3,804)	Mt. Stakes (7.5)	Diablo Range, in Coast Ranges (N116B3)
Sutter	South Butte (2,132)	Sutter Buttes (7.5)	Sutter Buttes (N77C7)
Tehama	Mt. Linn (8,092)	Yolla Bolly (15)	South Yolla Bolly Mtns, Coast Ranges (N55D6)
Trinity	Mt. Eddy (9,038)	Weed (15)	The Eddies, Trinity Mtns, Klamath Range (N36B2)
Tulare	Mount. Whitney (14,495)	Mount. Whitney (15)	Sierra Nevada (S27D4)
Tuolumne	Mt. Dana (13,053)	Mt. Dana (15)	Sierra Nevada (N111A7)
Ventura	Mt. Pinos (8,831)	Sawmill Mtn. (7.5)	San Emigdio Mtns, Peninsular Range (S77B4)
Yolo	Berryessa Peak (3,057)	Brooks (7.5)	in Coast Ranges (N85C4)
Yuba	E.border 1 mi N. of Rose Rch (4,825)	Strawberry Valley (7.5)	Sierra Nevada foothills (N69D6)

(N/S is which book, North/South, followed by the page number, then where on the page by section)

PEAK AND GORGE BOULDER READERSHIP SURVEY
(Please circle appropriate response)

APRIL 1991

#1
Total number of peaks climbed: 0-25 25-50 50-100 100-500 500+

#1
Total number of gorges traversed: 0-5 5-15 15-50 50+

#1
Total number of Peak and Gorge outings attended: 0-5 5-15 15-50 50+

Average number of peaks climbed in a year: 0-10 10-20 20-30 30+

Highest elevation reached climbing: up to 10,000' 10,000-15,000'
15,000-20,000' over 20,000'

Most miles hiked in a day: 0-10 10-20 20-30 over 30

Most gain (in feet) in a day: 0-2,000 2,000-4,000 4,000-8,000
over 8,000

Highest level of lead climbing ever achieved: Class 1-Class 2

Class 3 Class 4 Class 5.0-5.5 5.5 to 5.13 have done 6th

First started climbing: before 1950 1950-60 1960-70 1970-80
1980-1990 after 1990

Total dollars spent for equipment: 0-\$500 \$500-\$1,000 \$1,000-\$2,500
(rope, boots, pack, hardware, specialized clothing, etc.) over \$2,500

Yearly income (1990): up to \$10,000 \$10,000-\$25,000 \$25,000-50,000
over \$50,000.

Type of vehicle: don't own 2WD 4WD

Most motorized traveling (round trip in miles) to make a climb or climbs on a single outing: 0-200 200-500 500-1,000 over 1,000

Conservation activities accomplished: pick up trail litter

help build trails attend clean-up trips improve wildlife habitat
other _____

Peaks desired on NAS/OGUL lists: see attached
(attach sheet if insufficient space)

Peaks that should be deleted from lists: _____

Association with Sierra Club regarding mountaineering restrictions: leave stay

Questions you would like to see for next survey: regarding these questions

1) it would be better to put "0" as a separate category, eg not "0-5"
2) specify following rather than lead climbing but "0, 1-5" etc

Please return completed survey forms to May 1991 Peak and Gorge meeting or mail form(s) to: Pete Yamagata, 2109 10th Street #3, Sacramento, CA 95818. Results will be tabulated and published in (hopefully) the June 1991 Boulder.

THE BOULDER: *Published bimonthly by the Peak and Gorge Outings Section, Mother Lode Chapter, Sierra Club.*

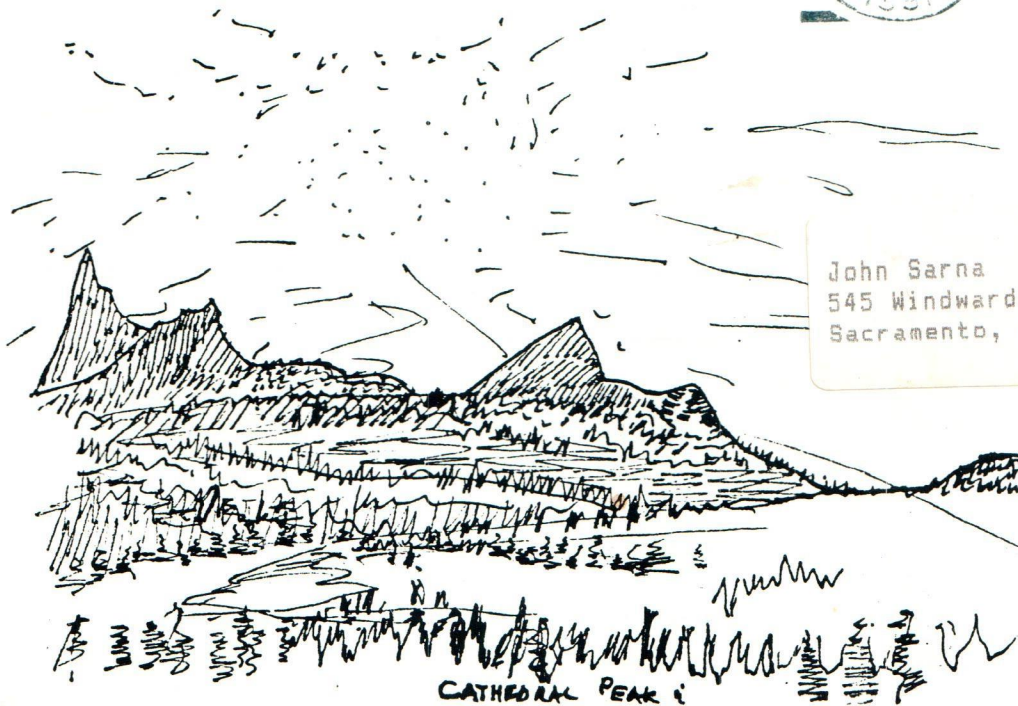
EDITORS: *John Besbekos, Bob Buckles, John Watters, and Pete Yamagata.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS: *Dues are \$5.00 per year (6 issues). Address labels will note what issue will be your last unless you renew. Send checks (payable to "Peak and Gorge") to this Section's Treasurer: Boris Nahlovsky, 3276 Amethyst Lane, Cameron Park, CA 95682.*

SUBMITTALS: *We encourage you to submit copy for publication. Articles, letters, fiction, poetry, and artwork that would be of interest to the Peak and Gorge Section are welcome. Copy should be typed single-spaced on 8.5 x 11" paper with half- to one-inch margins, and sent to: Boulder Editorial Committee; C/O John Sarna; 545 Windward Way #114; Sacramento, CA 95831; phone 429-8024. Submittals will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope.*

DEADLINE: *A week before social meetings on even-numbered months. The next deadline is: Monday, June 17, 1991.*

Boulder Editorial Committee
C/O John Sarna
545 Windward Way - Apt. 114
Sacramento, CA 95831



CATHEDRAL PEAK

John Sarna
545 Windward Way, #114
Sacramento, CA 95831

paid til issue 43