

BOULDER

motherlode chapter-sierra club

Chair's Corner

Issue No. 75 Feb - Mar 97

Our trip planning meeting a month ago wasn't overly successful as attendance followed the pattern of recent events. I guess that's okay. If folks want a section that concentrates on outdoor activities, not socials, that's what we should provide.

Nancy Pallister is an enthusiastic prospective climb leader with a number of interesting ideas for generating more participation in section activities. One in particular struck a chord with me. She suggests a meeting at the climbing gym in Rancho Cordova, perhaps on a Saturday morning. We could do a quick meeting and then get some practice on the walls.

If you'd be interested in something like this, let me know. You can either call me at 685-7164 (home) or 394-4020 (work) or send an e-mail to "jim_bily @ coregis.com". I'd need to know if a Saturday morning or midweek evening would be better.

See you on the trails!

Jim Bily



Calendar

Note: The outings and events listed here are items that may be of interest to our readers. They are a mixture of private trips and events of other organizations as well as Sierra Club trips. Unless noted all area codes are (916).



April 19	Snowshop Hike Intermediate Somewhere, Depending on the Intermediate Somewhere			
Sat.	Snowshoe Hike, Intermediate Somewhere: Depending on snow conditions, we'll hike somewhere in the Taboe/Desolution area. This hike is intended for relatively			
Jat.	in the Tahoe/Desolation area. This hike is intended for relatively strong hikers with			
	some snowshoe experience. Whatever we do will be longer and with more elevation gain than might			
	be appropriate for beginners. Call leader, Jim Bily, for details: 685-7164			
Apr 26, Sat	Intermediate Ski Trip Moderate trip for experienced skiers with plenty of hills. Meet at Roseville			
-	Square (Douglas & Harding) at 8:00. Call Bob Buckles, 624-3620, to confirm trip.			
May 17, Sat	Intermediate Ski Trip Somewhere. Moderate trip for experienced skiers with plenty of hills. Meet at			
	Hazel Park & Ride (just north of Hwy. 50) at 8:00. Call Bob Buckles			
May 23-26,	Gr. 2C Backpack Lost Coast in Humboldt County. King Range National Conservation Area.			
FriMon.	Forty miles south of Euroka along the coast I act Coast Traillead aff at Lighthau a Bank of a			
	Forty miles south of Eureka along the coast. Lost Coast Trailhead off of Lighthouse Road, off of			
g ×	Mattole Road. This probably the longest most undeveloped, most pristine coastline in California. I			
	have overflown this area a few of times over the years and it look absolutely spectacular from the air,			
	especially during the wildflower bloom in late spring. I now want to see it from the			
	ground, but only on a nice sunny day. Highly weather contingent. Group size is limited. Call Leader:			
	Dan Gargas, Message: (916) 322-9950 or Evenings after 8:00 PM: (916) 682-1811.			
May 24-26	Chimney Peak/Domeland Backpack (Desert Survivors) Explore Rockhouse Basin, Kern River.			
SatMon.	Contact Craig Deutsche for information (310) 477-6670			
May 24-26	Mount Stirling Backpack (Desert Survivors) Southeast of Death Valley			
SatMon.	Contact Leader: Steve Tabor (510) 769-1706			
May 31, Sat	Intermediate Ski Trip Somewhere. Enjoy the spring skiing. Moderate trip for experienced skiers			
	with plenty of hills. Lack of snow (not likely) will change to 2B day hike. Meet at Roseville Square			
	(Douglas & Harding) at 8:00. Call Bob Buckles, 624-3620, to confirm trip.			
Jun 7, Sat	Gr. 2B Day Hike Haypress Creek Loop and Loves Falls For National Trails Day let's visit this section			
,	of the North Yuba River near Sierra City. Depending on group we may climb the Hilda Trail (1700)			
	elevation gain). Meet at Roseville Square (Douglas & Harding) at 8:00. Call Bob Buckles, 624-3620,			
	to confirm trip.			
Jun 7, Sat	Gr. 2B Day Hike RED MOUNTAIN. Six mile hike with a 2000' elevation gain. Excellent view from			
.,	the top of the mountain. Meet at CSUS Arboretum parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Secondary meeting place			
	at Burger King in Auburn, Foresthill exit, at 9:00. Leader: Jack Bussio, 457-3794.			
Jun 14, Sat	Intermediate Ski Trip. Computers. Enjoy the engine skiller M. de 457-3794.			
ouii 14, oat	Intermediate Ski Trip Somewhere. Enjoy the spring skiing. Moderate trip for experienced skiers			
	with plenty of hills. Lack of snow will change to 2B day hike. Meet at Hazel Park & Ride (just north of			
1 7001	Hwy. 50) at 8:00. Call Bob Buckles, 624-3620, to confirm trip.			
June 7-8, Sat	Gr. 2A Backpack Salt Springs Reservoir / Blue Hole Area. Mokelumne Wilderness Area, south of			
Sun.	Hwy. 88 and south of Bear River Reservoir. Good lower elevation relatively level hike, some			
	scrambling involved, with a nice set of water falls complete with natural chase lounges scoured out of			
	the granite to enjoy them. A must see! We start at the Salt Springs Reservoir Dam heading due east			
	on trail along the north shore of Salt Springs Reservoir. At the head waters to the lake we will make			
	camp. Next day we return via the same route. Weather			
	Contingent Group size is limited. Call Leader: Dan Gargas, Message: (916) 322-9950 or Evenings			
	after 8:00 PM: (916) 682-1811.			
June 14	Peak or Ridge Climb Somewhere: Depending on snow conditions, we'll hike and climb something			
	in the Desolation Wilderness. My assumption is that we'll leave out of Wrights Lake			
	and head for the Crystal Range crest. Call the leader, Jim Bily, a week or two ahead and find out			
	where we're going. 685-7164			
	J			

John Bees of Reno, Nevada has qualified for NAS Super Emblem status.

A member of the Toyiabe chapter, he has climbed 37 NAS star peaks, 20 emblem peaks, and a mountaineer peak for a total of 58 peaks covering 16 geographic areas.

7 Day Colorado Backpack and Peak Climb (Longs Peak) Monday 6-16 thru Sunday 6-22-97

Looking for fellow technical climbers to join me for 7 day backpack /peak climb up Longs Peak(14,255ft.) in Rocky Mountain National Park. Our primary route, the Keyhole route (class 3 Moderate Snow) is under technical conditions(requiring ice axe and crampons)in June. I would also like to try a route called The Loft(class 3 Moderate Snow) that ascends Mount Meeker's north face from the Chasm Lake area(11,800ft.). That route provides access to Longs Peak and Mount Meeker(13,911ft.) from the Loft a high (13,450 ft.) broad saddle between Longs Peak and the exposed summit of Mount Meeker. Lambs Slide (Moderate Snow), the beginning of the classic Kieners route up the east face) would be neat to climb also.

All the climbing would be appropriate for a climber comfortable with 3rd class rock, possessing strong ice axe and crampons skills on moderate slopes (up to 45 degrees). Basic belay skills and some belayed climbing experience for a possible short. Exposed pitch of 4th, or 5th class climbing would open up more options. All backpacking will be done at a relaxed pace with plenty of rest stops. Total backpacking mileage should be around 12 to 14miles with aprox. 4,000ft. gain.

To be up front to participants I am a novice at this peak climbing stuff myself. Although I have skills listed above my total backpacking, rock climbing, scrambling, snow-climbing, and peak climbing experience is around 45 days tops with no experiece above 11,000 ft.I am planning on doing some alpine climbing at Mount Shasta (5-22thru 5-25)call if you want to come.

Getting back to this trip, I'm planning on arriving in Denver Sunday .Then Monday driving to Longs Peak trailhead about a 3 hour drive with stops. By 2pm. I am planing on starting out from the trailhead. (9,400ft.) going to Goblins Forest (10,120ft. 1.2 miles in) to spend Monday and Tuesday nights. Tuesday I would like to dayhike into Chasm Lake and have a look at Lambs Slide and The Loft routes. Wednesday we will move camp to the Boulder Field campground (12,760 ft.5.9 miles in). This is probably the hardest day of the trip) Thursday we should be able to make a summit attempt. Friday is a backup day for another attempt if needed. There is also the option to possibly move camp to Chasm Lake (aprox. 3 miles back down the trail in with a short easterly detour). Chasm lake(11,800ft.) is not a campground but does have bivy sites (no tents allowed, technical climbers only, must climb, etc.). Chasm Lake is at the base of the Diamond, the steep (2,000 ft.) eastern face of Longs Peak. It is flanked by Mount Lady Washington (13,281 ft.) to the north and Mount Meeker (13,911 ft.) to the south It is near the starting point of the Loft and Lamb Slide routes If the bivy idea works, a climb of either route could be attempted Saturday morning. Saturday night I have Goblins Forest resvered for our last night. Sunday noon I plan on being back at the Longs Peak trailhead.

This is not a not a Sierra Club outing. Nor am I a Sierra Club qualified outing leader. All of these climbs are quite exposed in places and you should be able to handle some major exposure. If interested, or if you have done any of these climbs I would like to hear from you. Larry Cetti (916)677-5257 after 8:30pm.

Andesite Ridge Overnighter

Out of an original group of 14 who signed up for a snowshoe overnighter, 8 of us set out on a Saturday morning to test our mettle against the worst winter could throw at us. It was the middle of February, after all, and snow, high winds and cold were certainly going to be encountered.

Not.

Blue skies, calm wind, temperatures headed for the 50's. More like Spring. While many at the Castle Peak SnoPark thought we were awfully brave for planning to spend the night sleeping in the snow, conditions actually couldn't have been better to introduce or reacquaint a group with the pleasures of winter camping.

We followed the ski trail towards the Peter Grubb Hut for a ways, but were careful to stay off the tracks with our snowshoes so as to not ruin it for the skiers. As soon as we found a doable slope, we got off the trail and headed uphill to Andesite Ridge. This quickly left the mob behind, got us into fresh, untracked snow and gave us practice making a steep ascent. The importance of correct technique was soon apparent as those kicking into the slope made progress while those flat-footing it slipped backwards.

We huddled after gaining the ridge and decided that the group was more interested in trying snow shelters than taking a long hike. We found an area with shelter, open area for a kitchen and drifts for caves. After lunch and some lolling about it in the hot sun, we set to work. I started on a snowcave while Phil directed the excavation of one of the finest snow kitchens I've ever seen. We had a center island shelf for stoves and food preparation, a U-shaped bench around the island, a staircase leading down into the kitchen and a throne overlooking the whole affair. Beautiful!

Once the kitchen was dug, Edgardo and Ken joined me to work on the cave I had started. We were in an okay drift in the woods with lots of lateral room but not ideal headroom. Jennifer, John and Baruch found a better drift on a hillside and set about digging a palace. Phil and Patrick decided to try their hand at an igloo.

At the end of the afternoon, the hillside cave had a sleeping platform, a changing room or walk-in closet and a trench deep enough to stand in. The other cave had a large sleeping platform with a well for standing room at the entrance. The igloo was a true work of art, wonderful to behold. Alas, Phil and Patrick suffered the same fate as many of us who've tried igloos and couldn't get the sucker to top out properly. They created beams from dead branches and overlaid those with snow slabs to create a roof.

Hey, it worked. That night, after a leisurely dinner, all but Baruch and Edgardo slept in one or the other of the snow shelters. Everyone found them to be dry, comfortable and warmer than a tent, though temperatures did not dip enough to give them a good test.

Sunday morning was again bright and warm but the snow shelters prevented the sun from giving us an early morning wake-up call. We had lots of lazy campers after the effort of digging the day before. We finished a late breakfast and decided to do a little climb around 10:00am. Following the ridge, we headed up increasingly steep terrain through the trees until we topped a minor bump and broke out into the open. More steep climbing took us to a traverse beneath a small overhanging, but stable cornice. One more push took us to the summit of Andesite Peak. The views were grand, stretching from Roundtop, Castle Peak, the Tahoe peaks, Sierra Buttes.

For the descent, we decided on a minor loop and left the ridge on the west rather than east side. The slope gave us an excellent opportunity to try different descending techniques, ranging from the controlled fall hop and skip method I favor, to modified glissading to the quickly abandoned careful placement and digging in at each step that some first attempted. Of course, on the really steep slopes with runout problems, we did a zigzag traverse that kept us under control and safe. It was only on open and stable slopes that we got creative.

After a quick snack back at camp, we loaded up and walked out, again avoiding the heavily used ski trail. This time, we were preserving the tracks but also avoiding any unpleasant run-ins with out of control skiers bombing down the hill. We stopped at the Auburn In-N-Out Burger to complete our weekend.

---Jim Bily

MARCH MADNESS By Bighorn Broeckel

In early March, I left Siskiyou County on a driving trip for some meetings near Redlands. We were able to pick up some peaks off the misnamed 100 Peaks list. My old copy of the list includes names for 268 peaks in So. Cal. The ones chosen were Mts. Disappointment and Deception on the Mt. Wilson ridge, Inspiration Mtn out in Joshua Tree, and Palm View and Cone Pks on the Desert Divide south of San Jacinto. Here are some brief notes.

Mt. Disappointment My daughter and I started at San Gabriel Saddle and hiked through the Mueller Tunnel to reach the trail that goes north to the two "D"s. There is a heliport on the summit of Disappointment with a survey button marked "DISPOINT". Then on to Mt. Deception The only deceptive thing about this peak was that we had to duck through a

barrier of brush on the top to reach the summit cairn.

<u>Inspiration Mtn</u> Joshua Tree is now a National Park, and it was crowded. There were climbers on every rockpile, the campgrounds and parking lots were full, and the roads were congested. My brother and I were lucky to find a place to park at Key's View. A trail goes to Inspiration Mtn, passing over two intervening hills. The park keeps a seismograph on top. There was a summit register dating back to 5-6-73. It was placed by an HPS outing that included Bob Cates, who wrote "Joshua Tree National Monument - A Visitor's Guide".

Palm View Pk Another brother met me on Morris Ranch Road for a hike on the Desert Divide. We met the PCT on the ridge, and went north to the Pk. The summit area is complex with a number of decoy hills. The spot you want is right next to the "5" on the old Idyllwild 15" map. This summit register went back to 4-1-67. No Fooling. Many commented about not being able to view any palms, and that Cone Pk was a tough go. So, of course our next move was to take on Cone Pk This would have been harder, except that a fire recently burned through the brush. We were streaked with charcoal. Someone had cut brush at strategic spots as well. The top is a bit of class 3 boulder scramble. We returned through a Girl Scout Camp, and popped out uncontested through a gate that said "Warning: trained attack dogs on patrol". We didn't want to go back in there anyway.

Grapevine and Palmer in Death Valley Natl.Mon. March 14-15, 1997

Marcia Pattee and I took a well-deserved vacation to Death Valley in search of some exercise in addition to the anticipated displays of wild-flowers. While the wild-flowers were sparse due to low rainfall, only 0.1 inch thus far this season down in the valley, we did get plenty of exercise. I'd met Marcia at the Christmas Peak and Gorge Section pot-luck, where she'd told me she was interested in trying out our more strenuous variety of hiking for exercise. Well, there's nothing like these desert peaks for getting a good work-out in winter.

We started on the tourist route driving into Death Valley. The first mandatory stop, naturally, was "Badwater Basin". As usual, it was hot and dry and not much else. So was the typical follow-up at the "Devil's Golf Course". However, we really did enjoy the Artist's Drive, especially the Artist's Palette, as the colors in the rocks were comparable, in aesthetic value at least, to the carpets of wild-flowers that we had hoped would be covering the Mohave.

Eventually, we arrived at Furnace Creek to check out the exhibits and talk to the ranger about road and hiking conditions. Since Death Valley National Monument doesn't have entrance fee-collection stations, this is where they request you drop the fee in a box (they're only open until 7 pm, so you may find yourself unable to make this donation). In any case, they had two or three rangers on duty and I asked one about the road and trail conditions on Dry, Panamint, or Grapevine/Palmer, hoping Marcia and I would soon be climbing one of these. The Ranger told us there was no rain in the weather forecast and not to expect to find any snow on any of the peaks surrounding the valley, Telescope being the only one with snow. Based on this information, we put together a plan to climb Palmer one day, Grapevine the next morning, and finish the second day with a 4x4 tour of the infamous Titus Canyon. Such plans were laid over a mediocre dinner in Furnace Creek, after which we drove off toward Beatty in the last light of the day, which is really the best time to drive around Death Valley.

Despite an erroneous milage reading, we found the proper turnoff onto a gated dirt road. The first few miles were okay, some washboard that I was usually able to avoid. However, it became progressively worse and difficult to avoid the washboard and rocks and holes. About 10 miles in, we passed a sign which read, Death Valley National Monument. We were then on the Phinney Canyon and the Strozzi Ranch roads, which, per George Barnes, are cherry-stemmed out of Death Valley Wilderness, so they should remain open. That's when Marcia told me we still had some 10 more miles to go, causing me consternation that I didn't choose to climb Dry Mtn instead. A few miles later, I began to regret leaving the washboard, as the road became so rough and rocky that our speed was limited to between 1 and 10 mph. The last 4 miles, in a dry wash, were the worst. So, on seeing snow and ice beginning to garnish the sides of this dark section of the Phinney Canyon Road, I gave up the thought of driving the final 4x4 section which could have taken us up to the ridge. I was seriously concerned that getting stuck would mean a 20+ mile hike out to the nearest paved road, Highway 95, the nearest place we could anticipate begging a ride to the nearest town, Beatty, Nevada. The consolation was finding a small camp in a pull-out near the end of what the DPS Guidebook calls the 2wheel drive portion of the road. Permit me to add that their assessment of the road conditions were about as true as the DVNP's Ranger's assessment that we wouldn't find snow up there.

The next morning, we woke before dawn to hike up the last segment of the road, which took us out of Phinney Canyon. After about 1500' elevation gain, Mt. Palmer finally came into view, not much higher, but a few miles and several ridges away. This was Marcia's first serious peak, and she voiced doubts that we'd ever be able to make it that far. However, while I knew that was likely, I was concerned it would take so long that we'd find ourselves returning in the dark. Route-finding back to the road would be doubtful at best, and the snow-covered slopes were evidence that it'd get awfully cold once the sun went down.

The was only one reasonable route, and it took us along 3 different ridges to the base of Palmer. The ridge-tops were sometimes brushy and usually covered with loose scree, so our best choice was to simply follow the use-trail. This took us up, over, and down every bump along each ridge. While providing some great views of classic Death Valley scenery along the way, I was reluctant to stop for more than a couple minutes to enjoy them. Later in the day, Marcia commented on this irony of peak-bagging, but we were too busy just getting there for any philosophical discussions. Finally, as we came up near the base of the peak on the final ridge, it turned into a cluster of rock outcrops that were more and more difficult to get around. These culminated in a Class 3 wall with about 300' of loose rock to scramble over. The DPS route told us to transverse over to the right and then up, but the class 3 was easier than where it was mixed with scree, so we took an higher intermediate route. At one point, as Marcia tells it, she could only find one of the 3 holds I told her to use each step when climbing, and that one began moving when she put her weight on it. In any case, we eventually got up to the false summit above, but the temporary disappointment of seeing the true peak ahead was mediated by it being an easy climb up an obvious ridge. With almost half the day gone, we didn't remain for long, but the views from Badwater Basin to the top of Mt. Whitney were, to say the least, expansive.

In the register on Palmer, I was surprised to see Steve Thaw had signed in only a few days before. From tracks in the snow seen on the way up, two groups had recently been up the Phinney Canyon Road, one to climb Palmer, and, as we were to find out the next day, another to climb Grapevine. I wondered if Steve was part of the group that had driven rather than walked up the 4x4 section of road. Moreover, given the long dirt road drive in, I especially wondered why anyone would climb just one of these peaks. One answer was to come a few days later when I called Bill Hauser to tell him I'd seen his name in the register on Grapevine from back in March 1990 but not on Palmer. Bill told me he didn't climb both peaks because they'd run out of water after climbing Grapevine, and the intermittent streams weren't running to refresh their supply. He added that he was planning another trip to bag Palmer in a week or two. As usual, it was also interesting to read other familiar names in the registers, including those of Boris and Camille dated 11-25-90 (I seem to recall) on Grapevine. What's amazing is how our paths cross so often in our endeavors, and we wouldn't even know it but for these peak-registers that record our travels.

Since I've already digressed, and Grapevine was a relatively straight-forward climb, so I won't write more about our hike up there, except to add that the use-trail up Grapevine followed contours around (rather than over) the several bumps along the way, making it a heaven of a lot easier to climb. I also offer thanks to the manufacturers of second skin for allowing me a painless ascent even though I had broken blisters on each of my big toes from climbing Palmer. This discomfort, and two days of grime, cuts, and scratches were all washed away at Baley's Hot Springs (at \$3@ for a private shack). We followed this with a \$4.99 all-you-can-eat buffet in Beatty, which had a lot of food if not a lot of variety. However, with a late start up Grapevine, a two-hour drive out on that

taxing dirt road, a 40 minute soak in the hot spring, and several helpings of dinner, we didn't have time to drive down Titus Canyon and enjoy more of the desert scenery. Well, there's always next time for such indulgent pleasures.

Congratulations to Marcia for having bagged her first and second DPS peaks.

---John Sarna

ALL AROUND MT. TAMALPAIS 11 Jan. 1997 -- John Besbekos

On a foggy Saturday morning our outing began at the Pantoll ranger station. Baruch Harris (the trip co-leader), Kay Davis, Randy Baker, Rosie Folk, Mary Ann Bruns and Erin Isley began by crossing the Panaramic Highway and starting up the Old Stage road. We soon entered the thick of the fog and had less than 100 yards visibility as we came to the parking area at the Rock Springs trailhead.

Some of the trails were closed due to meadow restoration and with the thick fog we ended up making the first of several detours. When it became apparent that we had missed one of our trail connections, I had the group backtrack down the road to the Mountain Theater. It was the first time to see it for almost everyone in the group. In the mist it was remarked to resemble an old Roman theater.

We continued up the Rock Springs - Lagunitas trail over to the north side of the mountain. We stopped for lunch at the picnic area at Rifle Camp. Our group continued on the North Side Trail until we came to the steep and unmaintained Lagunitas Fire Trail. After winding through manznita brush and slippery talus we made the 500' elevation gain to the dirt road that services the microwaves atop Middle Peak. Following the dirt road to the highway we soon at the parking area near the summit.

By the time we made it to the East Peak summit below the old fire lookout, the fog had lifted except in the direction of Tiburon, so we at least had two thirds of a panaramic view. We decended on the south side to the West Point Inn and then followed the Old Stage Road back to the cars to complete out circumnavigation of Mt. Tam. --JB



Point Reyes Loop Trips (Coast to Inverness Ridge)

I had not been to the portion of Point Reyes near the Limantour Road since the big fires. I was curious to see how these normally heavily wooded areas fared. I decided to sheedule 2 hikes. One would explore the area north of Limantour Road and the other hike would explore the south side. The road cuts Point Reyes National Seashore in half. It descends from Inverness Ridge to the beach. Any hike that paralells the road will cross through most of parks ecosystems. From the sand and marsh on the coast, through grassy hillsides and meadows through thick woods near the top.

On Feb. 8 Don Fox, Chris Fox, Jean Crossley, and I took a hike on the north side. We parked near the beach at the Muddy Hollow trail head. We started down the fire lane road for about a mile then began our climb up the Bucklin trail.

The 2 miles up were mostly across grasslands and the area looked relatively unscathed from the previous years fire. At the top of Point Reyes Hill (1336', second highest point in the park) we paused for lunch.

When we started to head south along the ridge line we ran into the fire damaged area. The one thing I noticed was that a lot of views had opened up. The eastward expanses had previously been blocked by vegetation. We could now peer down to a row of secluded houses at the bottom of the far side of the ridge. It was behind these that the fire began that swept up the ridge and over into the park.

As we traveled along the park boundry at the ridge top we could see where the houses were burnt to nothing. New construction was going on to replace them. Those people will have million dollar views of the ocean now that most the trees are gone. We eventually came to the junction of Limantour Road and the Bayview Trail. In the past, the descent down the Bayview trail was like going through a green tunnel. Now you can see across the canyon. About 2.5 miles later we were back at the trail head and the end of our 8 mile loop.

On March 15 I led a hike on the south side of Limantour Road. The dozenadventurers included Chris Fox, Don Fox, Wendy Orr, Norm Kinkel, Alix Marquiss, Laura Bruckheimer, Eric Henderson, Daymar Wheeler, Carolyn Norris, Brian Callihan, and Lynne Besbekos. We were to find that the fire damage was not as widespread here as on the north side. We started at the Education Center near the Hostel and spent the next 2 miles doing all the 1000' elevation gain. We reached the Bayview trail and headed south along Inverness Ridge to the Sky Trail. Around noon we arrived at Sky Camp backpackers campground where we stopped for lunch.

We continued down the Sky Trail to the connection with the Woodward Valley Trail. The area seemed to be recovering quite well from a different fire a couple years ago. There were a lot of blackened trees, but undergrowth such as ferns and purple Irises were everywhere. I also noticed that the poison oak had not started growing out yet. Normally by late Spring there are some big clumps overhanging the trails in this area. Maybe the fires cleaned it out for a while.

As we wound down the Woodward Valley Trail, the open grassy slopes provided ample scenic overlook photo oppurtunities of the coastline. We hooked up with the Coast Trail that paralells the beach from high upon the bluffs. We reached the Boy Scout filled Coast Camp backpacker campground where we took our last rest stop We strolled the last 3 miles of the relatively flat Coast Trail back to the parking lot to end our 10 mile loop.

-----John Besbekos

STATE HIGH POINTS

Alabama, Cheaha Mountain, 2407 feet

Alaska, Mount McKinley, 20320 feet

Arizona, Humphrey's Peak, 12633 feet

Arkansas, Magazine Mountain, 2753 feet

California, Mount Whitney 14496 feet

Colorado, Mount Elbert, 14433 feet

Connecticut, Mount Frissell - S. Slope, 2380 feet

Delaware, Ebright Azimuth, 442 feet

Florida, Britton Hill, 345 feet

Georgia, Brasstown Bald, 4784 feet

Hawaii, Mauna Kea, 13796 feet

Idaho, Borah Peak, 12662 feet

Illinois, Charles Mound, 1235 feet

Indiana, Hoosier Hill, 1257 feet

Iowa, High Point, 1670 feet

Kansas, Mount Sunflower, 4039 feet

Kentucky, Black Mountain, 4145 feet

Louisiana, Driskill Mountain, 535 feet

Maine, Katahdin, 5267 feet

Maryland, Backbone Mountain, 3360 feet

Massachusetts, Mount Greylock, 3491 feet

Michigan, Mount Arvon, 1979 feet

Minnesota, Eagle Mountain, 2301 feet

Mississippi, Woodall Mountain, 806 feet

Missouri, Taum Sauk Mountain, 1772 feet

Montana, Granite Peak, 12799 feet

Nebraska, Panorama Point, 5424 feet

Nevada, Boundary Peak, 13143 feet

New Hampshire, Mount Washington, 6288 feet

New Jersey, High Point, 1803 feet

New Mexico, Wheeler Peak, 13161 feet

New York, Mount Marcy, 5344 feet

North Carolina, Mount Mitchell, 6684 feet

North Dakota, White Butte, 3506 feet

Ohio, Campbell Hill, 1550 feet

Oklahoma, Black Mesa, 4973 feet

Oregon, Mount Hood, 11239 feet

Pennsylvania, Mount Davis, 3213 feet

Rhode Island, Jerimoth Hill, 812 feet

South Carolina, Sassafras Mountain, 3560 feet

South Dakota, Harney Peak, 7242 feet

Tennessee, Clingmans Dome, 6643 feet

Texas, Guadalupe Peak, 8749 feet

Utah, Kings Peak, 13528 feet

Vermont, Mount Mansfield, 4393 feet

Virginia, Mount Rogers, 5729 feet

Washington, Mount Rainier, 14411 feet

West Virginia, Spruce Knob, 4863 feet

Wisconsin, Timms Hill, 1951 feet

Wyoming, Gannett Peak, 13804 feet

COUNTRY HIGH POINTS IN NORTH AMERICA

	country	<u>mountain</u>	<u>height</u>	<u>note</u>
	Antigua	Boggy Peak	470m/1542 ft	part of Lesser Antilles in Carribean
	Bahamas	Mt. Alvernia	120m/394 ft	in Grand Bahama
	Barbados	Mt. Hillaby	340m/115 ft	in island center
	Barbuda	Unnamed	44m/144 ft	part of Lesser Antilles in Carribean
	Belize	Victoria Peak	1120m/3674 ft	in Maya Mountains
	Bermuda	Town Hill	79m/259 ft	just off North Carolina
	Canada	Mt. Logan	5950m/19521 ft	in Yukon Territories near Alaska border
	Costa Rica	Chirripo Grande	3819m/1259 ft	in south central
	Cuba	Pico Turquino	2005m/6578 ft	in Oriental mountains central
	Dominica	Morne Diablotin	1447m/4747 ft	volcano in central part of West Indies islar
	Dominican Republic	Pico Duarte	3175m/10416 ft	in Cordillera Central mountains (highest in West Indies)
	El Salvador	Santa Ana	2381m/7812 ft	, •
	Greenland	Gunnbjorn Fjeld	3702m/12145 ft	in southeast
	Grenada	Mt. St. Catherine	840m/2756 ft	in center
	Guatemala	Volcan Tajumulco	4220m/13845 ft	volcano in south
	Haiti	La Selle	2680m/8793 ft	in southeast
	Honduras	Cerro de las Minas	2849m/9347 ft	in west
	Jamaica	Blue Mountain Peak	2256m/7401 ft	in east
	Mexico	Pico de Orizaba	5610m/18406 ft	in central
	Nicaragua	Mogoton	2107m/6913 ft	volcano in west
	Panama	Volcan Baru	3475m/11401 ft	in Serrania de Tabasara in west
	Puerto Rico	Cerro de Punta	1338m/4389 ft	in Carribean
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Mount Misery	1156m/3793 ft	volcano in Carribean
Saint Lucia Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Trinidad and Tobago		Mount Gimie	950m/3117 ft	volcano in Carribean
		Soufriere	1234m/4048 ft	volcano in Carribean
		El Cerro Del Aripo	940m/3085 ft	in Carribean
	United States	Mt. McKinley	6194m/20321 ft	in southern Alaska (highest in continent)

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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: John Besbekos, P.O. Box 417415, Sacramento, CA 95841; phone 729-2725. Submittals will not be returned unless accompanied by a

self-addressed, stamped envelope. Articles by e-mail to jbde@aol.com .

DEADLINE:

About the third week every other month.

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