



Newsletter of the Peak Climbing Section, Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter

February, 1990

Vol. 23, No. 2

## Next Meeting

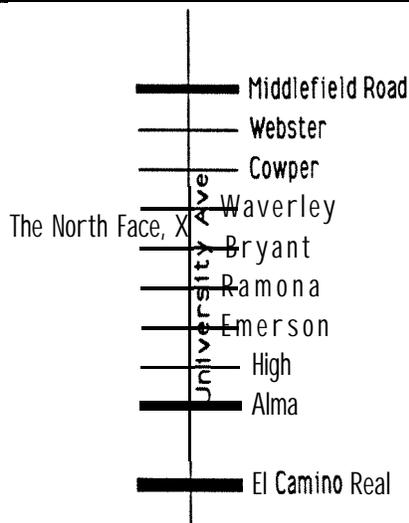
DATE: Tuesday, Feb. 13

TIME 7:30 p.m. (Note earlier start time)

LOCATION:  
North Face Store  
383 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA

PROGRAM:  
Peaks of the Pacific: slide show by Bill Hauser taking us around the Pacific from Borneo to Taiwan to Japan to Hawaii to New Zealand. Wear your Hawaiian shirts, bring your Mai Tai mugs

Sneak preview of March meeting:  
Doug Robinson--THE Doug Robinson--up close and personal.



## First Aid/CPR Course Offered Through Loma Prieta Chapter--Sign Up Soon

Every Sierra Club trip requires a leader and every trip leader requires a current First Aid certificate from either the Red Cross or Media/First Aid. Of course, everyone can benefit from first hand knowledge of good first aid practices and the ability to cope with emergencies.

To help leaders and would-be leaders acquire the necessary certificate and to give any Sierra Club member a useful understanding of first aid and CPR, the Loma Prieta Chapter sponsors Medic/First Aid courses once each quarter.

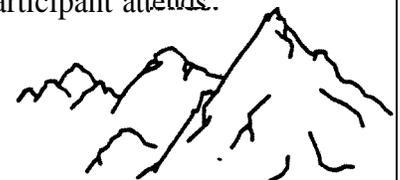
This quarter we are sponsoring a basic course for beginners who have had little or no first aid training (and, of course, it provides a renewal certificate for those who have had first aid training). It also meets Sierra Club leader requirements for two years. The course provides eight hours of instruction, plus one hour for lunch (bring a bag lunch or buy one in the area).

The class will be held in Palo Alto at the Peninsula Conservation Center, 2448 Watson Court. (From U.S.101, take Embarcadero east to East Bayshore, turn right to Watson Court. PCC is in the building at the end of Watson.)

The course lasts from 8:30 AM-5:30 PM on Saturday, February 24. To register for the course send your name, address and phone number along with a self-addressed stamped envelope and a check for \$35 to Health Education Services, 200 Waverly, Menlo Park, CA 94025

For more information, call 415-321-6500. Classes are limited to 14 participants, but an extra class may be added on Sunday, February 25 to accommodate overflow if needed.

If you must cancel after paying, a partial refund of your fee will be made if a substitute participant attends.



# Upcoming Trips

**March 24-25**

**Dewey Point (7,385')**

**Yosemite**

**Leader Ray Stafford**

**(415)591-9348**

**Co-leader: Chris Macintosh**

**(415) 325-7841**

**P.O. Box 802, Menlo Park,  
CA 94026**

Camp with a unique view of El Capital from your tent door--our site is available only to snow campers in the winter! This fun trip is for those who have snow camped before or taken the Sierra Club Snow Camping class. Campers who can use either skis or snow shoes are welcome.

Send Chris the following:

1. a self-addressed stamped envelop,
  2. \$6.3. your work and home phone numbers,
  4. how many people you can carry in your car,
  5. your car's make, color, and license plate number,
  5. if you have a tent and how many people it sleeps,
  7. whether or not you have a winter stove,
  8. any special medical information we should know about you.
- We will mail** directions and car pool information to you.

**“The body  
roams the mountains  
and the spirit  
is set free”**

*Hsu Hsai-k'o  
17th Century Chinese poet*

**Feb. 11**

**Black Mountain**

**Class 1**

**Leader: Dinesh Desai**

**(415)969-2695 h**

**(415)964-5760 w**

PCS members are welcome on this hike though trip is with another group. **We will take** the new scenic trail from Rhus Ridge Road. Meet at Foothill College parking lot closest to El Monte/Moody Road junction at 10 AM.

**Mar. 4**

**Monument Peak**

**Class 1**

**Leader: Dinesh Desai**

**(415) 969-2695 h**

**(415)964-5760 w**

Have you heard about the Ridge Trail which, when completed, will encircle the Bay Area? Find out more about this project on this hike along the Ridge Trail route.

(Sponsored by the Bay Area Ridge Trail Countil.) Meet at 10 AM at Denny's on Highway 237 near 880 Freeway.

**PRIVATE TRIP**

**Late March to early April**

**Yosemite**

**Leader: Ray Stafford**

**(415)591-9348**

Am planning a snow camping trip into Tuolumne Meadows from Yosemite Valley for a multi-day trip. If you'd like to come, please call.

## Huts Away From Home

By special arrangement, Sierra Club members have been invited to enjoy the extensive hut system maintained by the Alpine Club of Canada in the Canadian Rockies. These are cozy backcountry huts, located in prime Canadian Parks. Five major huts are staffed with volunteer custodians during the summer. All are stocked with firewood, Coleman stoves, lanterns, cooking and eating utensils, foamies, and basic tools. Many hold special 'summer camps' offering mountaineering and environmental seminars. Others reopen in early Spring to accommodate ski tourers.

(continued on page 4)

**PRIVATE TRIP**

**April 24,25 or**

**March 24,25**

**Leader: Sandy Sans**

**(415)965-3822**

Master the basics of safe low-angle ice and snow travel. Learn how to arrest, glissade, kick step, do an ice ax belay and much, much more. This course is offered through SIERRA ADVENTURES as an improved version of the **PCS Ice Ax Course** (which, of course, fell victim to the lack of Club insurance). This trip does cost money, but there is a **20%** discount for **PCS** members! If interested, call Sandy for more information.

# Trip Reports

## Mt. Sizer- January 27-28

From the first, it was clear that this was a dedicated band of football fanatics who had only with great difficulty pruned themselves from the comfort of their living rooms and the pleasures of the tube because of their even greater dedication to the mountains.

Witness this conversation along the trail:

Which day do they play?"

"Not sure, probably Sunday."

"Who is playing the 49ers?"

\*\*Not sure something to do with horses."

"Dallas Cowboys?"

"Denver Broncos?"

**DO** you think this trail ever goes downhill?"

Yes, fellow PCSers, Leader Noreen Ford really had her hands full avoiding being trampled by her gung-ho group who took to the ridges of Henry Coe State Park in an attempt to avoid being crushed beneath mountains of coach potatoes and to get their reluctant **muscles warmed** up for a **happy** season on climbing ahead.

The hike took us in a large loop from Park Headquarters via Springs Trail, off trail through The Narrows, along Long Canyon to Hat Rock. It included a helpful armed guide who greeted us with a cheerful waive of his deer rifle and the question, "Aren't you lost?"

You bet we were. Having missed the sneaky trail from

Hat Rock over to Black Oak Springs, we had, strayed onto private land. We beat a retreat located the trail and finally erected Our Clip Flashlight village on a hillside with the bare minimum of level campsites. (Actually it was beneath the minimum, as Noreen found out by doing the famous sleeping glissade.)

After a chilly but starry night, we set off to conquer Mt. Sizer. This feat was definitely **anticlimatic especially** since it included being swept off the fire road at the summit by two cars full of deer hunters.

Definitely more satisfying was the view of the snow capped Sierras that showed up from time to time along the trail.

We finished up the loop going Past Sada's Spring and Deer Horn Spring (some lovely steep downhills for those who enjoy black toenails) and finishing up again at the Park Headquarters in the early afternoon.

(Trip Participants: Noreen Ford, Leader; Patty Haight, Clolinda Hite, Ed Martin, Bryan Scott, Judith Yarborough)



## Desert Peaks--Christmas 1989

I had 5 people from the Bay Area., 2 from Sacramento, and 2 from Hayward From the Bay Area only one (Brian Healy) showed up in Baker, California at 7 AM on Dec. 27. Howard Steidtmann and Tobi Tyler showed up also. Boris and Camille had car trouble so they didn't make it the first day for the ascent of Mt. Clark

After winding around mine tailings, dumps, and substations we finally got to the BLM campground Pete Yamagata's directions were very helpful. We decided on the Easterly ridge and the Class 3 cliff band as the route. Howard and Tobi went ahead to the Class 3 step while Brian Healy hesitated on the ridge and dropped down to a wide ledge. He followed the ridge to the step and waited for us there. Howard Tobi, and I romped up to the top in half an hour. The White Fir trees on Mt. Clark are actually growing along North-facing cliffs deep in the shadows. These White Fir at 7,900' are relicts from a long post-glacial age. Descent was easy. Brian thought about going to the top, but decided against it when Howard described the route. He was feeling a bad flu bug.

**We all say the crashed airplane on the way down. Back at the BLM camp we fed and played with a delightful kangaroo rat named "Tobi." Brian left**

## Trip Reports (Cont.)

the trip and the rest of us went to Jean, Nevada for a BIG BUFFET! !

Howard and Tobi didn't want to eat the buffet, so I went in alone. Sure enough at 5 PM Boris and Camille appeared!! We soon left by caravan for Mesquite, Nevada and then camped out near Virgin Peak.

Up at 6 AM. Parked at 4,400'. The peak is 8,000'. We had a long day. Luckily we had Howard's 4WD truck to take us up the wash to about 6,000'. We stuck to the notes I had from past "Desert Sages" and got the peak. It was a very tiring 2,000', all brush and loose limestone rock; but it was a clear warm day. We could see for 100 miles. The only detracting factor was a layer-like dark cloud at 5,000'. Someone thought it was a layer of Las Vegas smog. Anyway 5 of us made the peak--Boris, Camille, Howard, Tobi and I. We all raced down to beat the darkness, then had a giant first class buffet at the Peppermill in Mesquite, Nevada. While Boris was going back for thirds, a woman asked if he had any extra sugar. Evidently Boris looked like a waiter in his climbing suit. We all had a big laugh.

Coming out of Mesquite at 7 PM it was actually raining! Big clouds from the South hit us. Anyway we headed West

toward Glendale, and after a series of goof-ups in the dark, found the trailhead to Moapa Peak for the next day. Up at 6 AM. Real high winds. Actually had 60 MPH winds all night. I woke up a few times and thought it was an earthquake! Boris and Camille's tent kept them awake all night. I cancelled the climb due to the knife edge ridge high up on Moapa. Boris still wanted to go, but Camille restrained him. We all met down at Glendale, Nevada for a strategy session.

Boris, Camille, Howard and Tobi headed South to Needles and I went to the Sports Club in Vegas for a swim and short workout. We were all to meet the next day at the trailhead to do Stepladder and Clemevui Mt. I slept in until 11 AM and so I missed the peaks. Boris, Camille, Howard and Tobi did 2 peaks that day.

I drove to Christmas Tree Pass, South of Searchlight, Nevada that night and met Howard and Tobi. The next morning Boris and Camille showed up and we all made it up Mt. Spirit at about 5,600'. The view from the top was real special. The climb was only 1,500' vertical but it took us 4 hours. Anyway we could see Mt. Charleston, Virgin, McCollough, Providence, and Mitchell, the blue Colorado River, the Laughlin Casino, Mt. Tipton and the Cerbat Pinnacles.

**Bill Hauser-leader.**

## Canadian Huts...(Cont)

New huts opened last summer on the Bow Glacier, and the Wapta Icefield. Plans are laid for a new hut in the Lake O'Hara area. Soon work begins on a Club Centre in Lake Louise village. It will serve as a base from which to explore Banff-Jasper-Robson areas, and as a ski centre in Winter.

For ten years, the ACC has maintained a Clubhouse in Canmore, Alberta (site of the '88 Olympic Nordic ski races), which provides hostel and cooking facilities at very low cost. Canmore was and is used by Sierran climbing, hiking, kayak/canoe enthusiasts during summer, and ski tourers, nordic racers in Winter and Spring.

The new arrangement allows Sierrans to obtain special annual membership in the ACC. This also qualifies them for 'member' rates in European, New Zealand huts, hostels and all UIAA affiliated events. As ACC members, they are covered by accident liability insurance (in Canada), mountain rescue, evac., etc. They have a choice of numerous summer/winter outdoor programs, and have greater accessibility to trailheads, parks, ~~permits~~ is the case in the Sierra, Cascades, US Rockies.

Obtain further information from ACC, Dept. SC, Box 1026, Banff, Alta TOL OCO, Canada.

# Trip Planning Meeting -- Feb 20

A meeting to plan trips for the upcoming Spring and Summer seasons will be held a Tuesday, February 20 at Judith Yarborough's house, 070 Mills Ave., Menlo Park.

All trip leaders and co-leaders are invited to come and bring ideas for trips. We want to have a full schedule with trips or all levels of ability and into each of the wonderful climbing regions near to the Bay Area.

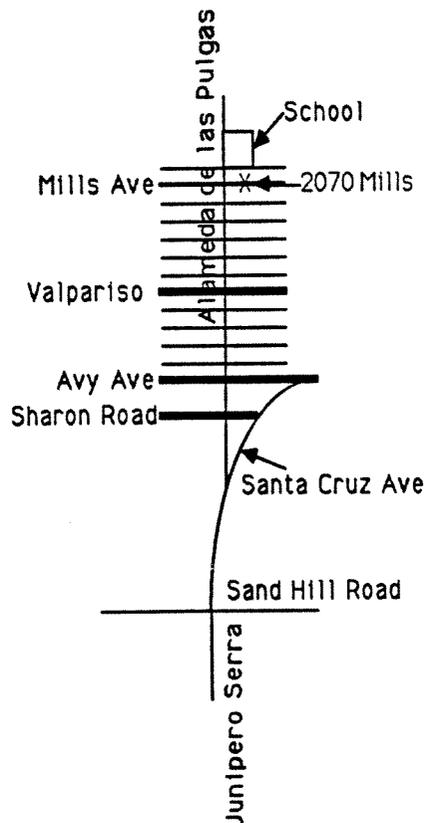
No trip is too small to be considered Conditioning trips and trips to help folks get acquainted with PCS will be welcome.

We will pass the hat for pizza or those who arrive hungry.

No early trip signups will be taken at the meeting. We want to give everyone a fair chance to get in on some of the more popular trips.

If you are not a leader or co-leader you can still help by telling either Kai or Aaron what

sort of trips you would like to see scheduled. You can also find out from either of them what it takes to qualify to lead trips. We can always use more qualified leaders.



Whatever you can do,  
or dream you can do,  
begin it.  
Boldness has genius,  
power,  
and magic in it.

Goethe

## A Note from the Editor..

Special thanks to Ginny Fleming and Linda Smith who helped to mail out last month's Scree and to Anne Gaillard who helped this month.

And a reminder that material on floppy disks (MAC format) is helpful. If you cannot give me your material in machine readable form, please at least type it up. Climber's handwriting ranks somewhere up there with doctor's when it comes to legibility.

## Classifieds

### SEE YOUR AD HERE. Want to unload

gear? Need a hard-to-find piece of equipment? Looking for a partner for some far-flung adventure? Try a classified in SCREE. The price can't be beat: it's free. Just send your ad to the editor. But please inform him when you've bought/sold/connected with whatever you sought.

**FOR SALE:** Feathered Friends Snow Goose sleeping bag, rated to minus 40 degrees, \$250; Chouinard supergainers, one rand ripped, \$15; jumars, \$40; Salwa step-in scissors crampons, \$65; Celso Prizao, (408) 266-6932.

**WANTED TO RENT:** Couple wants to join an existing a/ci cabin in the Truckee/Dorner area. Call Gaby West at (415) 595-0723 h, (415) 966-8810 w.

**FOR SALE:** Merrell mountaineering boots, leather (like Anolo Yukon). Size 11. Free. MSR climbing helmet, large, \$25. Forum insulated expedition overboots (covers entire boot, for use with crampons) Excellent construction. New. \$30. Anolo Supersoft plastic boots, size 11, little wear. \$120. REI McKinley ice axe, wood shaft, 80 cm, \$20. Chouinard supergainers, old style, strap under sole, size apr. 9-10 1/2, depending on welt. Free. Call John Rawlings, (415) 723-3101

between 9 and 5 and leave message.

**FOR SALE:** Two pair men's lightweight hiking boots: One pair Lowa all-leather, excellent condition. Size 11. Cost \$100. Sale \$40. One pair LL Bean leather/Gore-Tex. Never Worn. Size 11 1/2. Cost \$80. Sale \$40. (Both too small for me.) Jim. (408) 463-4873 days/ (408) 224-8553 evns.

**FOR SALE:** Moccasin pile pants. Size: men's medium. Full side zips. Never used. \$35. John Flinn. (415) 968-2050.

**FOR SALE:** REI/SMC crampons. 12-point, flexible, non-adjustable. Bring size 9 or 9 1/2, or possibly 10 boots to the next PCS meeting for sizing. Asking \$15. Eugene Miya.

**FOR SALE:** Varnest FX-5000 Mountaineer glasses. New. Advertised for \$70 in REI catalog, will be given away at \$50! Dave Caldwell. (408) 945-8030.

**FOR SALE:** Sierra Designs Goretex down parka-long style. Size Medium. Seldom worn, in great shape. \$75. Tim Hill. (408) 732-0814.

**FOR SALE:** Brand new, never used Gregory Snow Creek internal frame pack. Size small. \$200. Dave Stover. (415) 832-1560.

**WANTED:** A partner interested in ice climbing this winter. Must have some ice screws and rock climbing experience. Tim Hill. (408) 732-0814.

**WANTED TO BUY:** Used mountaineering books. Are those Himalayan epics gathering dust on your shelf? Can't bear to make that verbal approach march to Everest basecamp one more time? Give me a call. John Flinn (415) 968-2050.

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SCREE is a publication of the Peak Climbing Section of the Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter. Subscriptions are \$8 per year. Checks should be sent to the treasurer, Aaron Schuman

PCS meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month. See SCREE for meeting location and program information.

**Trip classifications:**

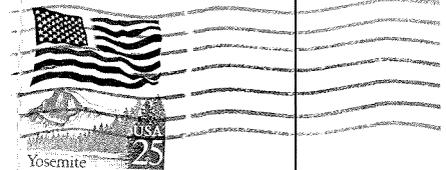
- Class 1: Walking on a trail.
- Class 2: Walking cross-country, using hands for balance.
- Class 3: Requires use of hands for climbing. A rope may be used occasionally.
- Class 4: Requires rope belays.
- Class 5: Technical rock climbing.

Deadline for SCREE contributions is two weeks before the next meeting. Mail your contributions to the SCREE editor.

For change of address or address corrections, write or call Paul Vlasveld, 157 Kellogg Way, Santa Clara 95051. (408) 241-1144 h / (408) 257-7910 w.



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90/08  
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**FirstClass~  
Dated&terial!**