



# Screes

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

January, 1993

Vol. 26, No. 1

## Next meeting

**Date:** Tues., January 12, 1993  
**Time:** 7:30 P.M.  
**Place:** Pacific Mountaineer  
 200 Hamilton Ave.  
 Palo Alto  
**Program:** Don't miss this excellent presentation by Larry Carver, experienced mountaineer and professional photographer, featuring slides from a 1992 expedition to the Patagonia region, including Torres del Paine National Park in Chile and Los Glaciares National Park in Argentina. Find out what "Patagonia" really means! (Bring \$1 for snacks and your own reusable cup.)



## Treasurer's Report

**T**he PCS continues to be in good financial health. The number of members increased by 21 (to 197) during 1992, and our net worth increased by \$325. Our net worth is calculated using a method which the SEC or the American Society of Accountants may not promulgate, but which gives a clear picture of our financial standing nonetheless. This method assumes that the PCS disbands at the end of the year (*say what?*) and returns pro rata shares of unused subscriptions to members. Such an analysis shows a refund to members of \$1138, leaving the PCS with a remaining net worth of about \$1046. This suggests that no dues increase is necessary unless there is a fundamental change in our expenses.

**M**y thanks to Paul Vlasveld for his help with this analysis.

--Charles Schafer

### BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31, 1992

<u>Assets</u>	
Wells Fargo Checking Account	\$2183.95
<u>Liabilities</u>	
Number of Members	197
Average refund owed	<b>\$5.77</b>
Total refund owed	\$1137.50
<b>Net Worth</b>	<b>1046.45</b>

### MAIL FRAUD?

Postal inspectors are calling around the PCS to find out who copied a Screes and dropped it into the mailbox. Seems their machines reject stamps that don't have the special ink of regular stamps. Please remove or block out the stamps on your Screes before making copies for friends. Let's keep Kelly out of jail in 93.

# Official PCS trips



## Point Reyes Backpack

**Date: Jan. 16-17 (Sat.-Sun.)**

Where: Point Reyes Class 1  
Contact: Paul Vlasveld  
Home: (408) 241-1144  
Word: (408) 257-7910/X3613

Join me for a "Keep in Shape" backpack trip to beautiful Point Reyes. This will be a loop trip with about 7-8 miles per day. We will meet at the ranger station at 8 A.M. Saturday. Let's hope for a dry weekend.

## Ventana Double Cone

**Date: Jan. 30-31 (Sat.-Sun.)**

Where: Ventana Wilderness  
Leader: Charles Schafer  
Home: (408) 378-9682  
Work: (408) 943-7488  
Co-Leader: Aaron Schuman

Ventana Double Cone should be an enjoyable peak; the scenery in this part of Ventana is exceptional and the views from the summit should be great!

We'll start at Boettcher's Gap and backpack in to Pat Springs, a distance of 6+ miles with 1000' elevation loss and 2700' elevation gain, where we'll make camp. After a brief stop, we'll continue on another 8 1/2 miles and 1000' to the summit, before returning to a very welcome rest. This will make for a total of 23 miles on

Saturday, so be prepared to start early and bring your flashlights!

Sunday should be a relatively easy hike back out, with a possible lunch stop somewhere in the Big Sur area.

## Advance Trips

**March** Crater Lake ski  
**March** Dewey Point ski  
May Ridge Winery  
conditioning hike

## Private trips

*Private trips are not insured, sponsored, or supervised by the Sierra Club or the PCS. They are listed here because they may be of interest to PCS climbers.*

## Tollhouse Rock and Vicinity

**Date: Now through February 1993**

Eugene Miya is exploring the area around Tollhouse Rock and its environs. He is totally fed up with Pinnacles "rock" and prefers Sierra granite. Most winter weekends will find him going up to this area (except skiing and ski mountaineering weekends, see other parts of the schedule). This is

NOT rock climbing instruction. The easiest climbs in the region are 5.5 and most harder, into the 5.11 arena.

Most climbs are multi-pitch, (1-6 pitches) and a few even have single-bolt belay-anchors (not for the faint of heart) or are climbs on "unexplored" rock.

Be warned that the climbing here can be serious. Transportation is 4WD. Weather occasionally is a problem (3,000' and higher). If you are interested in joining the crew who

goes out here, call Eugene at

## Mount Shasta Climb

**Date: Feb. 13-15 (Sat.-Mon.)**

Leader: Kelly Maas  
Home: (408) 279-2054  
Work: (408) 944-2078

Let's do a winter climb of the majestic, windswept wonderland known as Mount Shasta. With Kai out of commission, I'm picking up the leadership duties. The route will be Casaval Ridge, just left of Avalanche Gulch. Participants should be very motivated, and should have snow camping, ice axe, and crampon experience. If you like that wind-in-your-face feeling, this trip's for you. Co-leader needed (I won't lead without one).

## Adventurers Wanted

### Mt. Elbrus

**Date: Aug. 1993**

Where: Russia via Istanbul

Contact: Warren S torkman  
(415) 4938959

Room for two more persons.

### Mera Peak (21,000') and Kala Pattar (18,000')

**Date: Oct. 1993**

Where: Nepal

Contact: Warren Storkman  
(415) 493-8959

Participate in dedication of  
Tengboche Monastery and  
Mani Rimdu festival.

## Attention Yosemite Lovers!

The Sierra Club Yosemite  
Committee needs your help.  
This is a critical time for  
Yosemite on topics including  
concessions services, trans-  
portation, natural resource  
protection, employee housing,  
and others.

Help is needed in a variety of  
ways, from occasional letter  
writing to more active  
Yosemite Committee partici-  
pation. If you would like to  
receive more information,  
please contact Georgia S tigall,  
P.O. Box 2152, Sunnyvale,  
CA 94087-0152 or (408) 253-  
**4076.**

## First Aid Classes

The Red Cross is offering the  
following First Aid classes in  
January. Call (415) 322-2143  
in Palo Alto, or (408) 292-6242  
in San Jose for more informa-  
tion.

Jan. 4,6,11, from 7- 10 P.M.

Jan. 12, 14, 19 from 7-10 P.M.

Jan. 23,30, from 9 A.M. -1:30  
P.M.

Jan. 30, Feb. 6 from 9 A.M. to  
1:30 P.M.

We thought you might be interested in seeing who some of the folks are who have made it possible for all of us to enjoy the great outdoors. Thanks for the years of service!

## PCS Officers

Year	Chair	Scheduler	Sec1Treasurer	Editor
1981	George Sinclair	Ed Theler	Owen Saxton	Peggy Jacob
1982	Ed Theler	Owen Saxton	Chris Macintosh	John Ester1
1983	Chris Macintosh	John Ingvoldstad	Cecil Wilson	Linda Crabtree
1984	John Ingvoldstad	Cecil Wilson	John Ester1	Martha Elderof
1985	John Ester1	Tim Hult	Dave Caldwell	Butch Suits/John Fliin
1986	Cecil Wilson	Butch Suits	Tim Hult	Janet Condino
1987	Butch Suits	Dave Caldwell	Laurel Smith	Roger Crawley
1988	Ray Stafford	Laurel Smith	Gary Pinson	John Flinn
1989	Sandy Sans	Kai Wiedman	Aaron Schuman	John Flinn
1990	Kai Wiedman	Aaron Schuman	Dinesh Desai	Judith Yarborough
1991	Aaron Schuman	Debbie Bulger	Debbie Benham	John Flinn
1992	Ron Lingelbach	Kelly Maas	Charles Schafer	Steve Eckert

# Snow has arrived.. .

**I**f you want to learn about snow camping or simply brush up on your skills, then the Snow Camping Seminar is for you! For 20 years, the Ski Touring and Peak Climbing sections have sponsored the Beginners Snow Camping Seminar. The seminar begins with three evening lectures given by very experienced mountaineers, climbers, and backcountry skiers, and culminates in a weekend field trip to the high country. Lectures will be in Cupertino on January 19,20, & 21 from 6:30 P.M. to 10 P.M.+. All students have a choice of field trips on either January 30 & 31 or February 6 &7. For more information, contact Dave Kutty at (408) 335-4211.

## To sign up:

### Mail in :

- 1) the attached application
- 2) enclose a legal-sized self-addressed, stamped envelope and
- 3) a \$40 check-payable to Beginners Snow Camping Seminar or B.S.C.S.

### To:

Beginners Snow Camping Seminar  
225 Steinmaier Road  
Felton, CA 95018

By return mail (a few days), you will receive the seminar outline and location.

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## Beginners Snow Camping Seminar Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Can you provide a car for the field trip? \_\_\_\_\_

How many could carpool with you? \_\_\_\_\_

Which weekend field trip do you prefer?  
Jan 30,31 \_\_\_\_\_ February 6,7 \_\_\_\_\_

## Miles to Milestone Sept. 17-20, 1992

**I**n 1991, Leighton Nakata, Dan Tischler, and I came very close to Milestone, but because of a shortage of time and fortitude, we failed to achieve the summit. This was rather disappointing for us because just getting close to Milestone is not an easy task. In some circles Milestone is regarded as the most remote mountain in the Sierra. For most people, it is almost a two day hike from the nearest roadhead just to reach the mountain (Note: Some time ago some members of the now defunct "Old John Society" climbed Milestone in a two day weekend-consult your old PCS newsletters for an account of this heroic effort).

**O**f course we had to return. This time we decided that we would take the easiest and most direct route to Milestone-something we hadn't done before. After perusing maps, and consulting various books, it was decided that our best chance of success was to approach the mountain from Horse Corral Meadow and Roaring River. We allocated four days for the effort. With a little luck, we hoped to reach the top of Milestone late on the second day.

**A**lmost exactly one year after our first attempt at Milestone we found ourselves at the Marvin Pass trailhead (the Sunset Meadow trailhead was closed). We

got a late start, and after five hours of relatively easy hiking we reached the Roaring River ranger station. After a brief and friendly visit with the ranger there, we pushed on towards Cloud Canyon. We camped a short distance below Big Wet Meadow.

**T**he next day we got an early start and hiked up to Colby Lake, which we reached about noon time. Colby Lake is about 25 trail miles from the roadhead, and is situated in a sublime and rugged cirque close to Milestone. We chose a camping spot and ate lunch. Afterwards we headed up towards Milestone.

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**It was late in the afternoon as we signed the summit register, and the long shadows that fell on the eastern slopes of the many mountains around us made the view extra dramatic.**

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Soon we reached the un-named lake (11,523') that is located about one mile east of Colby Lake. Above the lake the going became very tedious as we worked our way up loose gravel towards Midway Pass (located between Milestone and Midway). Just below the pass the loose gravel ended, and we were able to step onto some solid rock. A short class 3 chimney brought us to the pass. After we crossed the pass the going became much easier as we scrambled up towards the summit pinnacle.

**S**oon we reached the class 3 rock (hard class 3) that leads up to the notch just to the **north** of the summit. A fresh dusting of snow made the climb more interesting. Once we reached the notch the going became easier as we worked our way up the final summit tower (easy class 3). It was late in the afternoon as we signed the summit register, and the long shadows that fell on the eastern slopes of the many mountains around us made the view extra dramatic. After taking the obligatory summit photos we descended the way we came up. We eventually reached our camp at Colby Lake just as it became dark.

**T**he following day we enjoyed a leisurely breakfast while we waited for the sun to hit us. Once we were warmed up, and everything was dried out, we began the long hike back. We returned the way we had come. Along the way we visited some sights we had missed on our hike in, including Mitchell Peak and an old trapper's cabin located at about 8,300' in Cloud Canyon. Mitchell Peak is an easy hike and offers a superb view. We eventually reached our car early in the afternoon of the fourth day. A few hours later we dined (pigged out) at the Wool Growers in Los Banos.

--George *Sinclair*

# PCS Roster

Here is the latest roster of PCS members. Please report any corrections directly to Paul Vlasveld.

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	HOME #	WORK #	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	HOME #	WORK #
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## Experience the JOY of Giving Service

Wanted-Person willing to pick up monthly Screens from printer in Palo Alto; affix labels and postage, fold, staple, and mail. If interested, call editor (see back page for number). Mucho thanks to Marcia McCord who has been our mailing person for the past few months.

## Classifieds

### **Your own floor!**

Roommate wanted to share 4-bedroom bay view house in quiet residential Belmont. M/P or even a couple OK. Price negotiable depending on usage. Kitchen, laundry, living room on middle of three stories. Private entrance, all new construction. Call Steve Eckert (415) 508-0500 day or night or email to [eckert@netcom.com](mailto:eckert@netcom.com).

**CHAIRPERSON:**

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(408) 279-2054 H  
(408) 944-2078 W

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Scree is a publication of the Peak Climbing Section of the Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter. Subscriptions are \$10 per year. Checks should be sent to the treasurer. To ensure an uninterrupted subscription, renewal checks must be received no later than the last Tuesday of the expiration month.

**For change of address, write or call Patd Vlasveld, 157 Kellogg Way, Santa Clara, CA 95051; (408) 241-1144 H, (408) 257-7910 W.**

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

The following trip classifications are to assist you in choosing trips for which you are qualified. No simple rating system can anticipate all possible conditions:

- 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.

Scree articles and contributions must be received by the editor no later than noon on the last Tuesday of the month: email, 3 1/2" diskettes (Mac or DOS text files), fax, or U.S. mail okay. Black and white photos welcome.

**Deadline for the February issue is January 26!**



**Peak Climbing Section  
157 Kellogg Way  
Santa Clara, CA 95051**



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