



July, 1997

Peak Climbing Section, Loma Prieta Chapter, Sierra Club

Vol. 31, No. 7

Next Meeting

Date: Tuesday, July 8

Time: 6:30 Start charcoal
7:00 Start BBQ
8:00 Start of meeting

Location: Junipero Serra Park,
Sunnyvale, CA, USA, North America

From I-280 turn North on DeAnza Blvd in Cupertino then left on Homestead then right on Hollenbeck. The park is on your left.

From I-85 turn East on Fremont then South on Hollenbeck. The park is on your right.

A 90 person picnic area is 20 yards from the parking lot between the 2 sets of tennis courts. Park or unload here. Extra parking is 1/2 block away on the North side of the park and 1 block away on the West side.

Program: BBQ and SWAP MEET

Bring your own main course to BBQ and your own liquid refreshment (alcohol IS allowed) and a side dish to share for the potluck. A \$2.00 donation will cover the picnic area and charcoal.

Electrical outlets are available at the table. Kids play area is 20 yards away. Bring your summer trip reports and mark your extra equipment for the swap meet with your name and a price.

Deadline for submissions to the next Scree is Sunday 7/27/97. Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month.

Trip Reports (request from your Editor)

Trip reports that are over one page (a somewhat tight 9 point TimesRoman with 0.8" page margins) tend to pile up and not get printed in the Scree... A page of text is about 1300 words the way the Scree is currently laid out. (Word and other processors have word counting menu items, or you can save the file to disk as "plain text" and see how big it is—about 6kB/page on disk.) Remember that all of the Scree text combined is around 7000 words, so if you send 9000 word reports they'll never fit (even though the Liberty Ridge one was good reading). Long reports are common on the email list, and are archived on the PCS Web Site, but they just don't reduce to hardcopy easily.

– Steve Eckert <pcs_editor@kaweah.mti.sgi.com>

Trip Reports (note from your WebMaster)

There is no length limit to trip reports on the web based archives. Feel free to write up all the details for the archives, and to send a quick summary for Scree. I'm also happy to include your photos, sketches, audio tape recordings, videos, 3D models, tattoos, neckties, stained glass windows, etc. Email them to me in any reasonable format (gif or jpg for instance), or send me your photos via snail mail and I'll scan them and return them to you. (Sorry, I don't have a 35 mm slide scanner.)

Aaron Schuman <pcs_webmaster@kaweah.mti.sgi.com>

Trip Reports (related commentary)

I'm convinced a new kind of social responsibility is emerging—an imperative to be succinct. Just as we've had to curtail our gaseous emissions in an increasingly smoggy world, the information glut demands that we be more economical about what we say, write, and post on-line. With time an ever more valuable commodity, the long-winded are beginning to resemble people who open their car door at a stoplight to dump trash onto the street.

– David Shenk, *Wired*, 7/96.

Scanning Slides, Prints, and Negatives

I now have a scanner which is capable of scanning color photos, color slides, even color negatives (with color inversion so the scanned photo appears normal). The scanner has an optical resolution of 300x600 dpi, but can interpolate up to 1200x1200 dpi if you've got the disk space for the image! Scanned slides are suitable for web pictures, but not full-page high-resolution printing.

If you are interested in scanning slides or pictures, for the Scree or otherwise, contact me at 415-508-0500 or <eckert@netcom.com>. A "small donation" to offset the purchase price of the scanner and slide option would be nice.

– Steve Eckert <eckert@netcom.com>

A Mountaineer's Ramble

After several arduous days of hiking over Shepherd's Pass our party of twelve reached the Upper Kern for a week of climbing. This spectacular part of Sequoia National Park which is surrounded by the 13,600' Great Western Divide to the west, the 13,900' Kings-Kern Divide to the north, and the 14,000' Sierra Crest to the east, is considered by many to be the most beautiful and wildest part of the Sierra. From our high camp at 11,500' in Milestone Basin we had a wonderful view of Milestone, Midway, and Table Mountains directly behind us and across the Kern canyon we could see Tyndall, Williamson, Barnard, Russell and Whitney. At twilight on our first evening at the Milestone camp, after a late afternoon thunderstorm had cleared the air, we enjoyed a full moonrise over the Whitney crest.

On the first climbing day we couldn't contain our energy and excitement to climb and at dawn after a magnificent sunrise with the moon setting over Milestone Mountain, we set out for Table Mountain (13,630'). For five members of the group this was to be the first of three major peaks to be climbed that day. Our fast pace was reined in by the need to locate the correct route on the broken south face of the peak. After quickly climbing up several sandy ledge systems we reached the crux of the climb which was a ten foot face that led to an awkward move over an exposed boulder. Once around this problem, we soon came to what was to be the most frightening situation of the day. Near the top of the south face was a chute blocked by a huge chockstone which was easily climbed by going under and behind it. As the first climbers waited at the top of the chockstone, a huge slab under their feet suddenly shifted while several climbers were directly underneath. Fortunately the slab didn't fall far but settled down on top of the chockstone and we quickly finished climbing the face.

After climbing the ledges and chutes, the summit of Table Mountain is quite a sight. It's a large plateau measuring about 300 by 800 yards that is gently inclined northwards towards the summit rocks which overlook the north and west faces of the peak. After a leisurely summit break in perfect cloudless and windless conditions, we made our descent the route that we had ascended and traversed across the rocky basin to the next peak of the day, Midway Mountain. At 13,666' Midway is the high point of the Great Western Divide. Our route up the north side of the east ridge was just a long slog up talus and sandy slopes to the summit rocks where we had lunch. After lunch we descended the same route to the 12,600' level where we climbed through a notch in the east ridge to traverse over to the final ascent of the day, Milestone Mountain (13,641'). At this point since I had previously climbed this peak twice before, I decided to take the afternoon off and returned to camp to enjoy a dip in the lake and a quiet afternoon reading in the shade of a nearby whitebark pine. Several hours later the group returned, tired but quite happy at climbing all three of the major Milestone Basin peaks on the first climbing day.

The next morning half of the group decided to move our camp several miles around the corner to the north and to climb Thunder Mountain (13,588'). After quickly descending the Milestone creek trail in clouds of mosquitoes, we ascended along the Kern river to drop our packs at a small unnamed lake near treeline on the Kern headwaters. We soon secured our food and headed off to climb Thunder. The approach up the glaciated valley between Table and Thunder proceeded quickly and we soon arrived at lake 12,280' just below Thunder Mountain where we filled our water bottles and had a brief lunch. The climb became

increasingly difficult as the talus became larger and more unstable and we spread out to avoid any possible rockfall problems. After a bit of interesting climbing we soon reached the south summit of the peak and got a big surprise. Between the south and the north summits, the route was quite exposed with a short (20') down climb to a traverse along a narrow ledge below large, loose vertical flakes and to a 30' climb up cracks and faces to the summit tower. After evaluating our situation, several of us decided that a 7mm rope didn't offer much more than a psychological belay and decided to be content with only climbing the south summit. After what seemed to take an eternally long time the other three climbers reached the north summit and returned back to the rest of the group. The descent back to camp went quickly. After dinner the rest of the group that had climbed Table Mountain earlier that day arrived at camp.

The next morning while the rest of the group headed off to climb Mt Jordan and Geneva, I headed off to climb Mt Ericsson (13,608') which had eluded me for several years because of bad weather or lack of time while in the area. After a review of the guidebook I realized that today's date of August 1, 1996 was exactly 100 years after the first ascent by one of the Sierra's most famous climbing couples, Bolton and Lucy Brown. With that interesting bit of trivia in my back pocket I enjoyed climbing the west ridge route at my own pace and reached the summit in a few hours. Only the last 100 feet of climbing the summit rocks was moderately challenging and I enjoyed a brief lunch in perfect weather before descending. Since I had plenty of time I lazily wandered among the several dozen small tarns and lakes that make up the headwaters of the Kern river before heading back to camp. Several hours later the Jordan and Geneva team returned tired but satisfied and we all recounted our adventures of the day and planned the rest of the trip.

Early the next morning two of us set off to move our camp to the base of Diamond Mesa so that we could climb Junction Peak that day and Barnard and Trojan on our last day. After setting up camp in a sandy flat at about 11,500', we headed up a short section of loose talus to gain the gentle slope of Diamond Mesa. A moderate trudge up the decomposed granite slope soon brought us to the knife edge ridge between the Mesa and Junction Peak (13,888'). A airy but easy traverse quickly got us to the main summit mass which we climbed first on the east, then the crest and finally on the west side of the south ridge. After a short down climb just below the summit on the west side we climbed the summit by a interesting route up the south face. After a short break in the perfect warm and windless conditions we quickly descended the south side of the west ridge to Ski Mountaineer's Pass (13,120'). The south side of this pass is about 500 feet of moderately angled scree that allowed us to quickly descend to pick up the Muir Trail just below the cliffs headed up to Forester Pass. A quick descend down the trail brought us back to camp in time to enjoy a dip in the creek before dinner. Just after sunset, three other members of our party trudged into camp after having climbed both Ericsson and Stanford earlier that day.

At dawn the next morning we headed out over Wright's Lake Col (12,000') for the approach to Mt Barnard (13,990'). A quick traverse of the beautiful Wright's Lake basin brought us to the headwall below the north side of the northwest ridge of the peak. A few interesting moves on the slabs and short cliffs of the wall got us to the scree and boulders of the west slope of the peak which we quickly ascended to the summit. After a brief lunch stop in cold and windy conditions, we descended the east talus bowl about 700' and traversed over to the saddle at the base of

the west slope of Trojan Peak (13,950'). We quickly climbed to the summit to enjoy great views of Mt Williamson and Tyndall and the rock and ice bound lakes of Williamson Bowl. Retracing our route down to the saddle between Barnard and Trojan, we decided to descend the chute below the saddle. Previous trip reports indicated that this route offered a quick descent down a loose talus chute. After carefully avoiding setting off any major rock slides we soon reached a string of beautiful small lakes that make up upper Wright's Lake basin. We quickly traversed the basin and ascended Wright's Lake Col back to camp. After quickly breaking camp we met the rest of the group at Shepherd Pass (12,000') where most of the party spent the night while a few of us continued down to Anvil Camp to enjoy warmer conditions. Early the next morning we descended back to the trailhead and headed home.

All in all we had a wonderfully successful climbing trip in the heart of Sequoia National Park; the group of twelve climbed fourteen major peaks in a week in near perfect weather conditions.

– John Bees

Notes and Requests

Camp Gadgets

I'm a reporter for the San Jose Mercury News writing a story on camp gadgets that provide creature comforts in the outdoors. Examples of these items include Cascade Designs' Outback Oven, Coleman Co.'s QuickBed and GSI Outdoors' expresso [sic] machine. Are there any backpackers or family campers out there who have used these or other creature comfort gadgets (such as portable showers and remote-control lanterns) who would be willing to be interviewed for my story? Please let me know.

– Sherri Eng <SherriEng@aol.com>

Colorado Climbing Email List

This message is to announce the Colorado Mountain Club list processor dealing with alpine mountaineering. There are two lists, 1) A list dealing with Rocky Mountain ascents near the Colorado area. This list name is "colomtn". 2) A list dealing with world wide climbing for expedition type ascents. This list name is "hialtmtn". These lists are an initiative of the High Altitude Mountaineering Section (HAMS) of the Colorado Mountain Club and has the approval of the CMC. The lists are intended to be provided (sponsored) by a commercial enterprise who will provide a small amount of revenue to the CMC. The sponsors message will appear in the banner of each message. This banner is intended to be unobtrusive but keep reminding the subscribers of our benefactor. The host of both lists is Paul Wilson.

You may sign up to the lists as follows: For the Colorado Rockies list send a message (in the body of the e-mail) saying: "subscribe colomtn <your_e-mail_address>" to: "majordomo@lists.csn.org" without the quotes of course. For the world wide high altitude list send a message (in the body of the e-mail) saying: "subscribe hialtmtn < your_e-mail_address >" to: "majordomo@lists.csn.org" without the quotes of course. Do not say anything else. An e-mail subject is not necessary. NOTE: majordomo is case sensitive, so the software compares your return address with <your e-mail address> in the above command. Please help Paul by using your correct address.

– Paul Wilson <pbwilson@sni.net>

Wilderness Permits on the Web

INYO NF now has a website that may answer pre-trip questions:

<http://www.r5.pswfs.gov/inyo/>

Another informative site is sponsored by The Advocate, an East Side publication:

<http://www.cris.com/~dalekay>

And, finally, the Lone Pine Chamber of commerce:

<http://www.cris.com/lpc>

I just got off the phone with the Wilderness reservationists in Big Pine. They have a preliminary website up and running at :

<http://www.sierrawilderness.com>

Hopefully this will offload their 1-888 number. I don't know how "far" they plan to take the site, but it appears though it will eventually accommodate online reservations. Also, when I spoke with Richard there last year, I recommended to him that it would be ideal to dynamically display the quota status by date and trailhead and to also display information about day-of-day-before permits. Additionally, they should have links for road information and any other area resource, so you might suggest this to them in any correspondence. Until then, at least this is a good start.

– Mark D Adrian <markadrian@juno.com>

C.O.N.F.U.S.E.D.

Here's a new entry on the PCS Hotlinks page,

<http://reality.sgi.com/csp/pcs/Resource/hotlinks.html>

for a San Francisco based outings club: "c.o.n.f.u.s.e.d." or Commonwealth of Nature Fanatics - Unofficial San Francisco Excursion Division

<http://www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Trails/2967/>

Nob Hill mountaineers, take a look!

– Aaron Schuman <pcs_webmaster@kaweah.mti.sgi.com>

1997 Advance Trip List

PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE LEADERS TO SIGN UP FOR THESE TRIPS. This list is intended to prevent trip scheduling conflicts and to help you plan your summer, NOT to enable people to sign up way in advance. If you are planning a trip, and if you change your plans or can't get a permit, please contact the Scree Editor to keep this list up to date.

Date	Peak(s)	Class	Leader(s)
Aug 30-1	Clarence King, Gardner	5	Schafer
Sep 13-14	Tehipite Dome	3	Suzuki/Schafer
Sep 19-21	Mt. Russell	3	(withheld)
Sep 20-21	Mt. Morrison, Mt. Baldwin	3	Fitzsimmons/Suzuki
Sep 20-21	Koip Peak, Gibbs, Dana	2	Schuman/Magliocco
Oct 4-5	Needham, Sawtooth, Vandever	3	Schuman
Oct 18-19	Koip Peak, Ragged Peak	3	Suzuki

Official (PCS) Trips

PCS trips must be submitted through the Scheduler (see back cover for details). Trips not received from the Scheduler will be listed as PRIVATE, without recourse.

Duddettes on Dade

Peak: Mt. Dade (13,600') class 2
Dates: July 12-13 Sat-Sun
Map: Mt. Abbot 7.5
Leader: Debbie Benham
Co-Leader: Nancy Fitzsimmons 408-957-9683,
Nancy_Fitzsimmons@BayNetworks.COM

Saturday, we'll get a leisurely start from the Rock Creek area and head up to camp at Treasure Lakes. With a free afternoon, there is an option of hiking up a nearby "peaklet." Sunday, we'll stroll up to the summit of Mt. Dade via the Hourglass route. This trip is great for beginning climbers with a bit of backpacking experience.

Enroll in University

Peaks: Kearsarge, University, Independence class 1-3
Dates: July 25-27 Fri-Mon
Maps: Mt Pinchot & Mt Whitney 15 min; or
Kearsarge Pk & Mt Williamson 7.5 min
Leader: Aaron Schuman H 415-968-9184
schuman@sgj.com W 415-933-1901

Car camp among the golden bears of Onion Valley (9200 ft). Acclimatize Friday by walking up the old mining road to the summit of Kearsarge Peak (12,618', class 1). Day hike Sierra giant University Peak (13,589' class 2), a mountain that defeated the PCS last year. Our route takes us up to Robinson Lake, over snowy and boulder strewn University Pass, and on the class 2 southeast ridge. Ascend Independence Peak (11,742', class 3) to finish mid-day on Sunday.

Tyndall In A Weekend

Peak: Mt. Tyndall (14,018') class 3
Dates: July 26-27 Sat-Sun
Leader: Chris Kramar W 415-926-6861
H 510-796-6651

Co-Leader: Wanted

Most people do this climb in three days, but with an aggressive schedule, we'll climb it in two. It IS possible, as I have climbed neighboring Mt. Williamson in two days. On Saturday we'll attain the top of Shepherd Pass and camp by Mt. Tyndall. Sunday we'll climb the peak and return to the cars. The first day involves a gain of 7000' over 12 miles, so I cannot over-stress the importance of going ultralight. If you have questions about going light, I can provide instruction. Expect a late return Sunday night.

Matterhorn and Whorl

Peaks: Matterhorn Peak, Whorl Mtn class 2-3
Dates: Aug 2-3 Sat-Sun
Maps: Matterhorn Peak 7.5 or 15
Leader: Charles Schafer 408-324-6003
charles.schafer@octel.com

We'll stroll up rugged Horse Creek Canyon to Horse Creek Pass, then make camp just beyond. We should have time on Saturday to climb Matterhorn (12,279', class 2) via the standard route, then on Sunday we can try our luck at finding a class-3 route on Whorl (12,033', class 3). Judging from past trip reports, this is a nontrivial exercise. This is a very scenic section of the Sierra, and a chance to meet the mountain of which myths are made.

Virginia Peak

Peak: Virginia Peak (12,001') class 3
Dates: Aug 9-10 Sat-Sun
Leader: Debbie Bulger 408-457-1036

Third-class heaven. What better way to spend an August weekend than in beautiful northern Yosemite experiencing the thrill of third-class rock. We'll reel with pleasure at this Virginia rock dance. Possible climb of Twin Peaks if time allows. Approximately 2500' elevation gain from trailhead to Virginia Pass, then descend to base camp. Another 2500' to the summit.

Mountaineers Delight

Peaks: Whitney (14,494'), Russell (14,088') class 3
Dates: Aug 15-18 Fri-Mon
Maps: Mt. Whitney 7.5
Leader: Charles Schafer 408-324-6003
charles.schafer@octel.com

Co-Leader: Jim Ramaker 408-463-4873
ramaker@vnet.ibm.com

If you like big mountains and class-3 climbing, this trip is for you. Friday we'll take cross-country route up the North Fork of Lone Pine Creek to our camp at Iceberg Lake at 12,600. Saturday we'll tackle the Mountaineer's route on Mt. Whitney, and Sunday we'll attempt the narrow and exposed east ridge of Mt. Russell. The spectacular high-altitude scenery and towering rock walls in this area make it a real amphitheater of the mountain gods. The hike out on Monday will not be too long -- if we move along we can get out to the cars by noon and home by 10 p.m. Experienced class-3 climbers only on this trip.

Doing the Bear Abbot on Labor Dade

Peaks: Bear Creek Spire, Dade, Abbot class 2-3
Date: Aug 30 - Sep 1 Sat-Mon (Labor Day)
Maps: Mt. Abbot, Mt. Hilgard 7.5' quad
Leader: David Harris 415-497-5571
harrisd@leland.stanford.edu

Spend a glorious Labor Day weekend in the Little Lakes valley. On Saturday we will pack in a short distance to a convenient scenic camp and climb the magnificent Bear Creek Spire (13,720'+ class 3+) by Ulrich's Route. The summit spire evidently has an interesting move which can be facilitated by climbing shoes, though boots should be sufficient. Mt. Abbot (13,704' class 3) should be another fine climb. We'll probably also climb Mt. Dade (13,600' class 2), though I'd be game for something besides lumbering up the loose scree of the Hourglass if somebody has a better idea. Depending on interest, I may start the weekend on Friday with a dayhike of one of the other peaks around the Little Lakes valley. Send me mail if you have preferences.

Get Ritter Yer Banner

Peaks: Ritter (13,157'), Banner (12,945') class 3
Date: Sep 6-7 Sat-Sun
Maps: Mt. Ritter 7.5' quad
Leader: David Harris 415-497-5571
harrisd@leland.stanford.edu

Enjoy a fast-paced jaunt up two classic peaks. Taking the standard route from Devil's Postpile, we'll hike up to a camp at Ediza Lake and scramble up the Ritter/Banner saddle to one of the summits. Depending on how fast we move, we'll either bag the other peak or climb it Sunday morning before packing out. Trip limited to six strong hikers. Ice axe required.

Mokelumne River Canyon,

Trip: Mokelumne River Canyon class 2
Dates: Sep 5-8 Fri-Mon
Topos: Mokelumne Peak, Pacific Valley, both 15 min
Leader: John Ingvaldstad 209-296-8483
kate@cdepot.net

This is a 35 mile trip up a very scenic, 4,000 foot deep canyon, elevations from 5,000 to 9,000 feet. Includes river crossings, cross-country, and route finding. Opportunities to fish and swim. Short car shuttle. Starts at Bear Valley off Hwy 4.

Mt. Gabb

Peak: Mt. Gabb (13,741') class 2-3
Dates: Sep 12-14 Fri-Sun
Leader: Peter Maxwell 408-737-9770

This trip is two weeks after Labor Day weekend, so we'll avoid all the crowds. Leaving Thursday night will avoid traffic hassles also and we'll have a three-day weekend ahead of us. We'll hike in Friday from Rock Creek, head up Little Lakes Valley, and cross over the Sierra crest using Cox Col, just northwest of Bear Creek Spire. We'll camp somewhere that looks nice, do the peak on Saturday, and hike out Sunday. We'll do the south slope, which Secor rates as class 2, but with the class-3 variant of going directly up to the summit, rather than taking the southwest ridge.

Stalking the Crystal Geyser

"Nature's perfect beverage," it says on the label. "Crystal Geyser alpine spring water begins as the pure snow and rain that falls on 12,000 foot Olancha peak in the towering Sierra." On May 17, 1997, we set out in search of that pristine taste.

Following Patty Kline's trailhead directions created some confusion. She led us to a use trail about 200 yards north of the maintained trail. Future Olancha hikers should instead follow the revised directions at:

<http://reality.sgi.com/csp/pcs/Trailhead/trailhead.html>

It took our group about four hours to hike from the road (5800 feet) to Summit Meadow (9600 feet), just over Olancha Pass, where we made camp. Expecting early season conditions in a desert location, we were poorly prepared for the onslaught of mosquitoes we encountered there. Horse packers use Summit Meadow, and they left us a remarkable amount of wilderness construction: picnic table, fire pit with grill and benches, charcoal oven, plus a lot of litter.

Although we had planned to attempt the peak on Sunday, we were so early that after lunch we headed for the mountain. We split into a speedy group and a slow group as we headed north on the Pacific Crest trail. Below the peak we found a few small patches of snow, but mostly we had easy trail walking and class 2 boulder hopping.

As we climbed, the views kept getting bigger. From the summit (12123 feet) we could see the Kaweahs, larger than life, the Whitney group, equally imposing, and the Great Western Divide all the way up to Mount Brewer. To the south and east, we could see the shadow of our mountain across the parched, saline expanse of the lower Owens Valley and far beyond into Death Valley. The speedsters summited and returned to camp by 7:30. The sun set on us slowpokes as we clambered off the talus and onto the trail, around 8:00. We scarcely needed our headlamps, though, because we were bathed in the light of the waxing gibbous moon. We returned to camp tired and famished at 10:00.

In spite of the demanding day we had Saturday, it turned out to be a good choice to climb the peak early, because on Sunday, as we descended the trail, we watched a tremendous thunderstorm build up on the mountain. We never could have attempted the climb in those conditions. Our party consisted of Arun Mahajan, brothers Larry and Mike Sokolsky, Dee Booth, Bob Evans, Rich Calliger, co-leader Charles Schafer, and trip leader and reporter Aaron Schuman.

– Aaron Schuman

Was That Snow Just A Bad Dream?

Sunday (30 Mar 97) two survivors of the Pilot Knob desert experience decided to change the scenery. After crashing in Ridgecrest (a real bed and a shower!) we made a leisurely drive northward on 395 to the high country. Rock Creek is plowed to about 9000' (\$3/day SnoPark permit required) so for the second day in a row we started from the cars at about 1pm.

The forecast was for rain in San Francisco the next day, but just partly cloudy in Ridgecrest. We figured we could sneak in a peak before it hit, and stomped up to camp around 11000' in the highest trees above Francis Lake. We had bivy bags, but I decided to try digging my first-ever snow cave after being inspired by Craig Calhoun on a trip earlier this season. It took just under an hour, and was not big enough to sit up in, but it looked sturdy and cozy. Our doubts about the forecast were fueled by big clouds, increasing wind, and gathering darkness. We finished filling the water bottles with melted snow and turned in just as it started snowing.

Bivy bag problem: If it's windy and snowing, you have to zip it up tight. If it snows a LOT, you can suffocate (he didn't). Snow cave problem: If you don't dig it right, snow blows in the door. I decided to see if my DryLoft bag would really be OK in the spindrift without a bivy bag (it was). After a restless night for both we had a brief discussion at first light about whether to make a run for the peak in gusty wind and snow (or was it just spindrift?). We decided to sit tight for a few hours and see if it quit. That never works, right? Wrong!

The clouds lifted and the snow quit, but there were still high winds whipping the remnants of the fresh snow off the peaks and ridges. We ate quickly and packed quickly, then faced the dying storm and headed up. Less than a thousand feet higher the snow was blown completely off the rocks, so I ditched my skis and we combined icy windslab with rockhopping to the summit. Crampons were not used, but plastic boots were nice to have.

Perhaps a boring class 1 rocky hike in the summer, it's great in the winter! Two other parties had already summited Mount Morgan (13,748') this year. We saw no one on or below the mountain this windy clear post-storm day. The 10 degree temp at 10am on the summit (plus wind) was a rude slap in the face after sweltering in the desert two days before. Hey, this is California! We're SUPPOSED to be able to drive to any climate.

We shed clothes the whole way down as the wind dropped and the sun continued to shine. The fresh powder nicely covered the icy snow we had the day before, and I tracked as much of it as I could on my randonnee skis while Harris jogged along on snowshoes. I don't think I've ever skated across a meadow with a full pack before... it was more fun than I should have had, marred only by a final steep crusty slope thick with trees and brush (that's where his snowshoes left me in the dust).

– Steve Eckert

Unofficial (Private) Trips

Private trips may be submitted directly to the Scree Editor, but are not insured, sponsored, or supervised by the Sierra Club. They are listed here because they may be of interest to PCS members, not because they are endorsed by the PCS.

One Colorado 14ers Trip

Peaks: San Juan Mountains class 3
Dates: July 11-13 Fri-Mon
Contact: Tony Cruz 408-944-2003
cruz@idt.com

Anyone who is comfortable on class 3 rock in the high country can join me for a weekend in Colorado. I plan to rent a 4-wheel drive on Friday afternoon July 11 at the Denver Airport and car camp on Engineer Pass (13,000 feet!). From Engineer Pass we should be able to easily bag a few nice peaks on Saturday and Sunday, including Uncompagne and Wetterhorn, two fourteeners (my spelling is off)

Mt. Ritter From The Back Side

Peaks: Ritter (13150'), Banner (12943') class 2, snow
Dates: July 14-19 Mon-Sat
Trailhead: Agnew Meadows
Contact: Alan Ritter 314-225-7600 x5362
jar@storz.com

Leave Agnew Meadows Monday, 14 July, camp near Thousand Island Lake, then hike over North Glacier Pass and on down to Ritter Lakes on 7/15. Approach is on-trail (10 mi) to 1,000 l., off-trail (2 mi) from there. Secor's western approach is Class 2. If assault on Mt. Ritter succeeds 7/16, we may give neighboring Banner Peak a try 7/17, before hiking back out 7/18-19. Ice axe & crampons required. Snow camping possible at 1,000 l. very probable at Ritter Lakes.

Mt. Sill

Peak: Mt. Sill (14,162') class 2-3
Dates: July 18-20 Fri-Sun
Map: Mt. Goddard 15
Contact: Bill Kirkpatrick 408-293-2447
3780631@mcimail.com
Co-Contact: Alex Keith 415-325-1091
akeith@crc.rioh.com

Starting at South Lake (10,000') we will follow the trail over Bishop Pass (about 12,000') then cross-country over Thunderbolt Pass (12,400') to camp in the Palisade Basin (11,600'). On Saturday we will ascend Mt. Sill through Potluck Pass and the Polemonium Glacier Basin. We will retrace our steps to the cars on Sunday. This route requires a long grind on Friday and the possibility of Class-3 climbing on Saturday. Permit for Six. Waiver required.

Mt. Clark (waitlisted)

Peak: Mt Clark (11,522') class 4
Dates: July 19-20 Sat-Sun
Maps: Yosemite and Merced Pk. 15 min.
Half Dome and Merced Pk 7.5 min.
Contact: Kelly Maas 408-279-2054
maas@idt.com
Co-Contact: Charles Schafer 408-324-6003
charles.schafer@octel.com

Starting at Mono Meadow on the Glacier Point Road, our route is part trail and mostly cross country, with mileage galore. Great opportunities to practice map and compass skills on the approach. We plan to climb the northwest arete, which is mostly class 3, but with a bit of class 4. This will be a long weekend and people are

strongly urged to GO LIGHT! This climb is now fully subscribed and has a waiting list. This is a private trip--its listing last month as an official PCS trip was an error.

We Don Nee No Steengkeeng Details!

July 26-Aug 1: John Muir Trail light
Sept. 13-14: Mt Clark Yosemite
August 2-3: Great Western Divide
Contact: Tim Hult 408-970-0760

Puite Pass to Mt Whitney. Slots for 2 people on this classic. Possible peak climbs along the way TBD. Must be willing to drive to accommodate car shuttle.

Palisades Part Two

Peak: Norman Clyde (13920+) class 3-4
Date: July 27-28 Sun-Mon
Maps: Split Mountain 7.5' quad
Contact: David Harris 415-497-5571
harrisd@leland.stanford.edu
Co-Contact: John Bees 702-851-0949
jbees@maxey.dri.edu

After Thunderbolt and a short night of sleep in the desert, we'll attack imposing Norman Clyde from the South Fork of Big Pine Creek. Carrying light packs and bivy gear, we'll race up to Finger Lake before the Dreaded Mosquitoes of Big Pine Creek eat us alive, then attempt to locate the class 3-4 route up the North-Northeast Ridge. If we stay on route, we may be able to dayhike the peak. If not, we'll plan to bivy somewhere on the peak and finish Monday morning. Ice axe, crampons, harness required, climbing shoes may be helpful. Group limited to four fast, experienced mountaineers.

Another Colorado 14ers Trip

Peaks: misc class 1-3
Dates: Aug 1-10 Fri-Sun
Contact: George Van Gorden before 9pm 408-779-2320
Co-Contact: Bill Kirkpatrick 408-293-2447

We will climb four or five 14er's. We will arrange a meeting time at Denver or Colorado Springs airport (depending upon air fares), rent a car and drive from peak to peak. although not to the top. Among the peaks we climb will be Elbert which is the highest mountain in Colorado and Longs Peak by the well-traveled Keyhole route. As a group we will select the other peaks, considering distance, difficulty and Colorado's unpredictable summer weather. Nothing will be harder than Class 3 and much will be on trail.

Mt. Rainier

Peak: Mt. Rainier (14,410') snow
Dates: Aug. 3-7 Sun-Thu
Map: Mt. Rainier Nat'l Park USGS 1:50,000
Contact: Paul Ward-Dolkas H 415-324-2015
W 408-433-2625

Fly to Seattle on Sunday, drive to the mountain and car camp at Cougar Rock. Hike to camp Muir on Monday, hopefully staying in the hut. Go for the summit using the Disappointment Cleaver (i.e., Yak) route early Tuesday; return to car and fly out Wednesday if all goes well. Extra day provided in case Cascade's weather works like it did for last year's attempt. May also consider using camp Schurman approach rather than camp Muir since it avoids the loose rock on the D.C. Ice ax, crampons and crevasse rescue training mandatory.

Brewer By Bubb

Peak: Mt Brewer (13,570') class 2
Date: Aug 22-24 Fri-Sun
Map: USGS Mt Brewer 7.5'
Contact: Bill Kirkpatrick 408-293-2447
3780631@MCIMAIL.COM
Co-Contact: Alex Keith 415-325-1091
akeith@crc.ricoh.com

Starting at Road's End in King's Canyon (elev 5,000') we will follow the long trail along Bubb's Creek to East Lake (9,500') early Friday morning, ascend the peak the next day, and return by the same route on Sunday. Secor says that Brewer has a ". wide, unobstructed view in all directions from its summit." A good trip for first-time peak climbers with prior back-packing experience. Permit for six.

Toulomne Family Car Camp

Peaks: Koip (12,962'), Gibbs (12,773') class 1
Dates: Sep 13-14 Sat-Sun
Maps: Mono Craters 15 min or
Mount Dana & Koip Peak 7.5 min
Contact: Aaron Schuman H 415-968-9184
schuman@sgi.com W 415-933-1901
Co-Contact: Cecil Magliocco H 408-358-1168
cecilm@ix.netcom.com

Tuolumne Meadows group campsite reserved Friday and Saturday nights. Family members are welcome. Join us exploring the Pacific Crest on Saturday or construct your own day activity. Saturday, we'll day hike from Dana Meadows trailhead (9600) near the eastern edge of Yosemite National Park, over windswept Parker Pass (11100), to Koip Peak, to barren Mono Pass (10600), and up the south flank of Mount Gibbs. Sunday, we'll make a short class 2 jaunt, perhaps to Mount Gaylor or Tioga Peak.

Shasta Northside

On May 24-25 about 15 PCS climbers climbed the north side of Shasta in perfect weather. Only one person did not summit.

Our leader was George Van Gordon. We met in Mt. Shasta City and caravanned in four wheel drives over rough dirt roads to the trailhead. After climbing for 2.5 hours from trailhead, we made camp at 9,500' on a large barren plateau. On Sunday, May 25, we left camp at 6:30 in perfect weather and climbed in a relatively linear southern direction up 35-45 degree slopes with ice axe, crampon, no ropes. The mountain was covered with four inches of new fresh powder-it had snowed on our camp the night before the climb. Most of the mountain had firm snow with little ice, although there were a few icy spots that required minor detours. Five hundred vertical feet from the top we traversed westward, traveling over rock covered with soft snow and then ascended a 15' vertical hard snow area that required determined use of crampon and ice axe. Then we traversed westward a few hundred feet around a hill and suddenly we were at the sulfur steam hole 100' below the summit.

We summited at 1:00 to 1:45 p.m. and then descended, going back the same way. On descending we were unable to have any good glissading because the hard frozen snow on the north side was not soft enough even at 2 to 4 p.m. for a sitting glissade. We left camp at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, May 25. Between camp and trailhead the snow was perfect for glissading-we had several great runs with full packs on. We reached trailhead 6:45.

As is typical of Memorial day weekend the entire mountain was crowded, with tents and climbers everywhere. This was my sixth

successful climb of Shasta of six attempts, and my first northside climb.

The \$15 Forest Service fee was not yet implemented due to lack of time to implement the details.

- Don Martin

Love it on Leavitt

On Sunday, 15th June the three of us, Scott Kreider, Tim Fischer and I, Arun Mahajan, took a walk up Leavitt Peak (11569 ft) in Northern Yosemite. This is a note on our route and the conditions.

We stayed Saturday night at Chipmunk Flat, a small campground a couple of miles west of the Sonora Pass on Rt 108. This is a no service campground, sort of like the Sonora Pass equivalent of camp-9.

We started hiking on the PCT going south from the Pass. Snow began right away and we hiked up a couple of bowls heading right of the first prominent peaklet. We got on to trail again and could see the rounded hump of Leavitt due south. The PCT was vaguely discernible in the snow. As we rounded a couple of bends, the views opened to the east and we saw a rather nice looking peak with a steep cliff which we thought was Leavitt instead of the rounded peak we had seen earlier. We continued on the PCT and left it to go right towards a notch on the east side of the rocky ridge of this newly visible peak. From the notch one gets the first views towards the south. On the north, Sonora Peak and Stanislaus Peak could be spotted. After going across the notch, we traversed back (i.e west) for a while, and now we were behind this peak and now it was obvious from the top that this peak wasn't Leavitt. There is still a lot of snow here and the small lakes south of the peak that are on the topo are almost fully covered by snow. We traversed up to the mildly steep ridge of Leavitt and by staying on the talus on this ridge, we were very soon on the broad summit area at about noon, having started at 8.30 am at the pass. It was alternately cold and windy and warm and we could see the clouds building up in the north, so we headed out quickly stopping for lunch at the notch and then as we headed down we got some rain and some hail and it got cold and cloudy. A few more miles of hiking and some glissades later we were back to the cars at 3.30.

We had left our snowshoes in the car. We had carried crampons but never used them. The axe was good to have for security on the traverses and during some plunge stepping and also during the glissades. The peaks in the Sonora Pass region are very scenic this time of the year with snow at the higher elevations contrasting with the lush green of the meadows on the lower slopes. Thanks are due to Bob Suzuki for suggesting this route.

We drove out in heavy rain, but as we approached the town of Sonora, it was back to the hot sweltering central valley weather.

- Arun Mahajan

Be nice to people on the way up. They're the same people you'll pass on the way down

- Jimmy Durante

Mount Williamson Epic

A couple of years ago, I stimulated interest in this route. Joe Stephens, who has climbed every Sierra peak I've ever heard of and many that I haven't, suggested it. I assembled a group of nine climbers including Steve Eckert and in April 1995 we were treated to an awful bushwhack up to 9,200 feet. The next morning we made a summit attempt. I slogged to a saddle at about 11,300 feet where I watched in awe as Steve and some of the others climbed onto the first steep snow and rock in a howling wind which was so strong it could support much of my weight. I retreated as a whiteout overcame us. No one summited.

In the spring of 1996, I assembled another group of climbers, including Steve and Rich Calliger. Rich started the trip a few days ahead of us, pushing up the drainage with his cell phone to nearly 9,000 feet. From there he reported that conditions were bad. The rest of us already suspected as much and we scratched the trip. A couple of weekends or so later, Steve led a group that completed the climb. I broke my finger prior to this success and another spring passed without even an attempt by me.

Finally in June 1996, I climbed Williamson but it was via the normal (Bolton Brown) route via Shepherd Pass. The George Creek route is not legally accessible in the summer in order to protect the Big Horn Sheep habitat.

Which brings me to the spring of 1997. I put out another trip announcement for George Creek. Rich Calliger, Mike Rinaldi, Pat Ibbetson, Elmer Martin, and Nick Piltch responded. After a million emails and one postponement, we finally set off on May 9.

Rich carpoled from the Bay Area in his new Land Rover with Nick and Mike. The rest of us drove solo; Elmer Martin from Southern California, Pat Ibbetson from Fresno and myself from San Jose. Rich's crew arrived in the afternoon and had barbecued steaks and beer at the trail head. I arrived at Lone Pine at 9 p.m., where I met Elmer in a giant Suburban he had rented for the occasion. I left Pat a note and issued myself a permit at the ranger station. We drove north and turned into the Manzanar National Monument (where they interred the Japanese during WW2). Elmer expertly drove us to the trailhead without a false turn.

About an hour later a guy with an enormous external frame pack appeared out of the darkness and asked for Tony Cruz. I asked him if he was Pat and kicked myself for not realizing I saw him a couple hours earlier at the ranger station. We had given each other funny glances but neither said anything. Pat had taken a wrong turn and parked his car about 45 minutes downhill next to the creek. He had seen the lights of the Suburban and followed them up the hill. On our way out it turned out to be a stroke of luck that Pat had taken his car most of the way to the trailhead.

Saturday morning May 10 we woke up at 5 a.m., but in typical PCS fashion didn't hit the trail until 6:30. Rich and I led the way up the north side of the creek until the pathetic remnant of a trail petered out. I wasted 20 minutes scouting a way on the north side. When I returned to the group, most were already across the stream at a place where the drainage narrowed to a slot a few dozen yards wide. Rich grabbed my pack and was surprised at how light it was (35 pounds max). Rich also grabbed my arm and pulled me across the stream.

There we found another trail remnant and hiked into an area with tall pines. After climbing over a rock and another easy obstacle, we crossed north again on an enormous log. Shortly after that we did the only significant bushwhacking we had to do all day (in contrast to my first trip in which we bushwhacked for hours). At one point I managed to fall off a log, rear end first into some thorny manzanita bushes. Ouch! Elmer found a way across the stream and we crossed to

the south again. The spot was covered with willows on both sides and marked with a tall dead tree in the middle. Shortly after that we stopped on a boulder field and had lunch at about 11 a.m.

We continued up the drainage, staying high on the south side until we reached about 8,900 feet, where we did our final stream crossing below a waterfall. At this point, Elmer said that he was tired of the bushwhack and fed up with mountaineering in general. He said that he was having a mid-life crisis and had determined that the high peaks were no longer for him. He insisted on going no higher but after much persuasion on my part, Elmer agreed to go up the hill to the ideal campsites at 9,200 feet. We decided to go no further that day even though we had hours of light left. Rich complained of back muscle spasms and felt sick. Pat said he also had spasms. I myself had experienced some leg cramping during the way up but felt good. We set camp in a nice flat spot with a fire ring near the stream and surrounded by trees. We had excellent views upslope toward Trojan Peak.

We rested, listened to Rich's jokes and had a leisurely dinner. After much discussion, we decided that four of us, Mike, Nick, Pat and I would make an attempt in the morning. Elmer decided to hike out and Rich said that he would try to reach 11,000 feet later in the morning, but he didn't feel up to a serious summit bid. The temperature was mild that night and there was virtually no wind. I sat with Elmer by the fire past 10:00, listening to his climbing stories and his insights about relationships, which I found enlightening. I crawled into my bag under the stars and didn't even bother to unroll my bivy bag.

We woke up before five but once again got a late start, about 6:30. After hiking up the slope for 45 minutes, we reached the first snow field and traversed it to the north. We crossed the stream and climbed up next to a waterfall, stopping to fill our bottles. The snow was in good shape, with small cups starting to form. We hiked up the "S" slope. Pat and I made it to a saddle at about 11,300 feet by 10:30. The "A Team", Mike and Nick, had cut to the east a little below us and hiked to the "meadow at 11,200 feet" which Secor describes.

Mike and Nick decided to climb toward a tooth in a wide gully to the right of the route taken by the climbers in my previous trip. After consulting my topo, I decided that their route was fine; less direct but probably easier and it also seemed to follow Secor's recommendation.

They proceeded up a scree and talus slope onto the first steep snow of the climb. I met Nick descending the snow. He decided to call it quits at that point and he returned to camp after generously letting me borrow his cell phone. Mike came down a little later, complaining that he felt insecure on the snow with his instep crampons. Pat and Mike decided to traverse the wide snow gully and climb a class 2 ridge to the right. I decided to stay on the snow. The higher we got, the better the view. Especially memorable were the views of Whitney and Russell, just a few miles away. The sky was mostly clear but there were some clouds forming over the Inyos and some tremendous clouds on the west side of the Sierras.

After the long slog I met Mike and Pat on the huge shoulder south of the peak that is visible from the highway. Mike decided that it was too late to continue since we still had a long way and nearly 1,500 vertical feet to go. Also, the elevation was starting to bother him. Pat was extremely determined to make the summit. I expressed some doubt about being able to summit and return before dark and I began talking about the possibility of a forced bivouac. I had done plenty of these in the High Sierra but I knew that Pat had not.

When we were high on the shoulder with clear views of the Owens Valley nearly 10,000 feet below our feet, I took out the cell phone. Pat & I called our moms and wished them a happy Mother's Day. This was quite a treat--thanks Nick! We continued on the long class one shoulder until a large bowl came into view. We did a long snow

traverse and hiked up a couple hundred feet of steep snow until we arrived on the summit plateau. It was already past 5 p.m. and a tiny storm was crossing the Owens Valley, heading our way. We quickly crossed the rocky plateau and moved onto a snowy ridge leading to the summit. It began to snow and got windy. By the time we reached the summit, visibility was nil. Pat found the register and wrote an epic poem as I nervously waited my turn. As he wrote, I heard a buzzing about my head, which made me fearful. What would it be like to be hit by lightning here? Would we be instantly killed or slowly freeze to death after being incapacitated by a strike? When I told Mike about the buzzing, he muttered that I was delirious. However a minute later he heard it as well. Finally he finished his entry and I hurriedly scratched my name on the register.

The full force of the storm hit us as we made our descent in a whiteout. Even before we were off the ridge, however, the cloud passed and some blue sky returned. We were now in a race against time to get back to the meadow before dark. From there it would be easy to work our way back to camp with our lanterns. We glissaded off the plateau. Unfortunately the snow had softened and we didn't make good progress. It got dark after we reached the shoulder. Just before it got too dark to see, Pat sighted the tooth which was the landmark for our descent to the meadow. But Pat announced that he was too exhausted to make a safe descent in the dark.

We found a spot sheltered on three sides by rock. I discovered to my horror that I had forgotten my vapor barrier which was to serve as an emergency shelter. I packed only one tube tent and knew Pat was not carrying a decent emergency shelter. I placed a large garbage bag below us. I emptied my back pack and put my legs into it up to my thighs. I wrapped myself with a practically worthless emergency thermal blanket that Pat carried with him. It was three years old and ripped as I unfolded it. Take my advice and never buy a blanket. Buy a tube tent instead; the weight is about the same and the tube tent is much more effective. I had a down vest, a Marmot parka with hood and two balaclavas. I had already given Pat my Marmot snow pants prior to our glissade (he was still wearing cotton pants!). I gave him my tube tent. He had no down but he had a thick shirt, a parka and a warm hat.

We ran out of water, but fortunately Pat carried a huge gas stove. Unfortunately he didn't have a pot! So he set rocks on the burner and put snow-filled bottles on top of the rocks. He managed to melt enough snow to relieve our thirst but he burnt a hole in his water bottle. Fortunately I carried three and was able to share one with him. We were too tired to eat and eventually dozed off. I awoke a while later to rub life into my freezing wet toes. Occasionally we shivered but despite the discomfort we were never in danger of hypothermia. We managed to share a little body warmth by pressing our backs against each other as we tried to sleep. After one of my naps I awoke to find the stars were gone. A few minutes later dry snowflakes fell on us. Fortunately there were not many and they soon dissipated. Pat vomited during the night. He said it was because he had not eaten dinner.

Finally dawn arrived. When I opened my eyes I was treated to an unforgettable mountain scene, with Mt. Whitney and Mt. Russell crowning the magnificent view at my feet. We packed, put on our boots and scrambled down to the tooth. Pat decided to descend as he had ascended -- on the rocks, while I went down the hard snow with my ice ax and crampons. After about an hour or so I reached the meadow and filled up my water bottles from the stream. Pat came down slowly and complained about his blistered feet.

From there we retraced our route back to camp, glissading a few hundred feet. Later we read a note left by Rich. They had seen us glissading at about 9:30 a.m. and satisfied that we were safe, they hiked out. As we approached the camp, I imagined that I saw Nick's

tent (it was Pat's) and thought I saw Rich waving to me (it was the big log at our camp). We took a long breather, had a big lunch and packed, confident that we would make it out to the trailhead before dark. Things went wrong right away. It took us 45 minutes to find the first stream crossing, which was only a few hundred yards from the camp! We missed every other stream crossing and spent much of the afternoon bushwhacking. We spent at least twice the necessary time required to hike out (Study Rich Calliger's hints attached to this report so that this doesn't happen to you!).

Darkness fell when we were about a mile from the trailhead and we were forced to do another bivouac, this one quite comfortable in comparison to that of the previous evening! We were both exhausted and slept very well and stayed warm. The next day we got up early and had a small breakfast. After more bushwhacking and much route finding, we finally got out about 7:30. We had to hike another hour to reach the road on which Pat left his car. Pat dropped his huge pack (which he had carried all the way to the summit!) and walked to the creek to retrieve the car while I waited on the road. Elmer had gotten us a hotel in Lone Pine where I picked up my stuff and key to my car. We had a huge breakfast and drove off at about 11 a.m.

This was one of my most memorable trips. Every one of the members contributed...Rich and Elmer with their route finding up the drainage...Nick with his cell phone...Mike by leading the first half of the climb. I admire Pat Ibbettson, who had never done a big snowy peak before but had the heart to make the climb. I am grateful that he trusted me to guide him up and down the steep snow and to do a safe bivouac. To those who didn't summit: let's try it again now that we know the route. Pat and I can try Trojan while you guys bag Mt. Williamson.

– Tony Cruz

Fitting In or Fighting?

The sky was overcast, so it was a quiet black and white and gray symphony - no wind, a still, workaday kind of world, yet even through fatigue and the ache of bruises, I felt its beauty. It was the North as it so often is, gray, quiet, self-sufficient, and aloof; you couldn't help feeling the strength of the land in it.

If man does not destroy himself through his idolatry of the machine, he may learn one day to step gently on this earth.

The environment is not tailored to man; it is itself, for itself. All its creatures fit in. They know how, from ages past. Man fits in or fights it. Fitting in, living in it, carries challenge, exhilaration, and peace.

– Margaret E. Murie from "Two in the Far North"

Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing.

– Helen Keller

Scree is the monthly journal of the Peak Climbing Section of the Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter.

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Rock Climbing Classifications

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, rope may be used.
- Class 4: Requires rope belays.
- Class 5: Technical rock climbing.

In Upcoming Issues:

Trip reports: Mt Russell, Upper Kern, Southern Sawtooth, Tin Mtn, Mt Lola, Mt Morgan.

(Please limit trip reports to one page if possible.)

Deadline for submissions to the next Scree is Sunday 7/27/97. Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month.



Peak Climbing Section, 789 Daffodil Way, San Jose CA 95117

"Vy can't ve chust climb?" - John Salathe

First Class Mail - Dated Material