100 PEAKS

Lookout WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS
George R. Stuart  June S. Hopkins
Joan Sinsheimer  Josephine Solomon
June Burdett     Lloyd D. Williams
John E. Sarna

CONGRATULATIONS

William M. Carter  Monrovia Pk.  Nov. 25, 1983  #676
Larry K. Shumway  Stonewall Pk.  Dec. 22, 1984  #677
Sue Wyman        South Mt. Hawkins  Dec. 2, 1984  #678
Walter Hall      San Sevaine Pk.  Oct. 27, 1984  #679
Harold Price     Granite Mtn. #2  Nov. 24, 1984  #201
Don Weiss        South Mt. Hawkins  Dec. 2, 1984  #202
Don Holmes       McPherson Pk.  Jan. 13, 1985  #203

100 200

THE LIST!! SECOND TIME!!

Doug Mantle  Pinyon Ridge  Nov. 24, 1984  #5 (1st Triple Double)
Terri Sutor    Antsell Rock  Jan. 21, 1985  #6 (1st woman)

"If this is the high point of our day, then I say something is radically wrong."

"Don't worry, Joey... we may be lost but we're makin' good time!"
The Angeles National Forest has set a new target date for the release of its Draft Forest Plan: mid-April 1985. It appears that the years of delays are finally over. I'd encourage you to get on the mailing list to receive a copy of the Plan. Call the Forest at (561) 577-0050 or write to 150 S. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena, 91101. I am organizing several meetings of Sierra Club members to help prepare us for the release of the Plan. The first two will be on March 5 and April 9, both at the Chapter Office 7:30-9:30. Please come if you would like to learn more about it and help us make sure that the mountains are properly conserved.

The Cleveland National Forest Plan is due out even sooner, in February or March. Contact Ken Croker for more information.

There are two proposed developments on the Tujunga Ranger District of the Angeles that conservationists are currently concerned about. One of these would construct an OHV area on the NW side of Mt. Gleason, covering 2000 acres of Mill Canyon. Although the area is now classified as "open" to OHVs, its steep slopes are covered with chaparral and it receives almost no OHV use. The State OHV Commission has offered the Forest Service over $400,000 to build a staging area and 25 miles of OHV trails. There are already two other developed OHV areas within 20 miles, at Rowher Flat and Little Rock. The Tujunga District Ranger is currently writing an Environmental Assessment for the project. He envisions a much larger trail system in the future, like Kennedy Meadows in the Southern Sierra.

The other proposal is for a 60 acre iron silicate mine in upper Sand Canyon, in the NW corner of the San Gabriels. It is just a few hundred feet from Live Oak Campground. Complaints of the many nearby residents have caused the Forest Service to begin preparing a full Environmental Impact Statement, which will be available in late spring.

The operators of the Mt. Baldy Ski area have finally given the Forest Service some payment for the expense of fighting the Thunder Mtn. Fire of 1980. The fire was caused by ski area employees who were using chainsaws without spark arresters to cut down trees during a Santa Ana wind. The fire burned southward through Icehouse Canyon into the Cucamonga Wilderness and over the Cucamonga-Ontario Pk. ridge, covering 18 square miles. The payment of $900,000 negotiated by the U.S. Justice Dept. did not come close to covering the $1.9 million spent on fighting the fire, much less the damage to trees, wildlife, and watershed caused by the fire. The fire also destroyed 26 cabins, and their owners received $165,000.

An adult bighorn ram was killed by three large dogs near Mt. Baldy Village on December 21. A second carcass, almost completely eaten, was found nearby. Deer, bighorn, and other wildlife are especially vulnerable to packs of dogs during the winter, when snow drives them to lower elevations. Interviews with Village residents led to tentative identification of the dogs, but as of late January no action had been taken by the Dept. of Fish and Game against the dogs or their owners.
News from San Diego

"No goal is too high if we climb with care and confidence." As I'm putting my thoughts together for this communique my eyes are attracted to a poster with that message. I can't help but relate how those words correlated with my three attempts to do Antsell Rock Dec. 2nd, Jan. 12th & finally Jan. 21st in order to finish that list a 2nd time. I really want to thank those kind-hearted souls who made the attempts with me and especially to Wes Reynolds who finally got me there, step by step up that normally scree slope that is nothing but snow and ice this time of year. Moral -- don't keep Antsell Rock for a list finisher in January!! Get it done long before the snows descend. That PCT on the east side of the Desert Divide can be a nightmare in winter, or at least it has been this year. My thanks, also, to Gail Hanna, Carol Murdock, Barbara Raab, Janet Leavitt, Fred Weigs, Evan Ricas, Bill Stevens and Paul Freiman who all either tried the peak at one time or other or else drove up to Hurkey Creek Campground for an "aborted celebration," Special accolade also to my ever-loving husband Ed, who put up with my peak bagging madness this last year. Oh, how sweet it is to be 1st at something!

At this point in time our exhausted peak finishers haven't put much of a schedule together but hopefully we'll still have some trips lead now and again. Gail Hanna has set a date for her List Completion (the weather & snow hasn't cooperated with her aspirations one bit) which will be on Castle Rocks Sat. June 1st. If interested in joining her, meet at the State Park Headquarters (at the campground entrance) in Idyllwild at 9 AM that morning. Memorial Day Weekend we'll have a backpack from which we'll do Cornell Peak, San Jacinto, Folly, Jean and Marion. Send me a SASE at 5727 Honors Dr., S.D. 92122 early for the trip will be limited to 15 bodies. I've also set aside Mar. 16th for a hike up to High Point from the Oak Grove Campground via trail and fire road. On Sunday, the 17th we'll do Combs Peak. If you'd like, you are all more than welcome to join us. Easter Week (Mar. 30th to April 5th) we'll be trying to close a gap on the Pacific Crest Trail from "the faucet" at Jawbone Canyon to Walker Pass. We probably won't have time to do Cross, Chuckwalla or Butterbredt as we're "flying" through but join us if you're free for some good old backpacking. Lastly, Wes Reynolds (4317 Santa Monica Ave. S.D. 92107) will lead a weekend excursion June 8th & 9th in the San Gabriels doing Harvard, Markham, Lowe etc.

In closing I'd like to say how great it's been to see the relationship and harmony developing between our two chapters. It's been neat getting to know so many of you and to feel so welcomed on your trips and other events. You make peak bagging really fun and we love ya! Terri Sutor

If you missed the 18th Annual Hundred Peaks Awards Banquet, held January 25th at Taix Restaurant in Los Angeles, you missed out on a great time!

Over one hundred climbers and friends relished the time for reunions, tall tales and the chance to see others, barely recognizable in more formal attire. A few new or soon-to-be members were also in attendance to witness the events of the evening. The festive atmosphere was graced with many prominent figures in the Section, including Louise Werner, a founder of the HPS, Sam Fink, another founder of the HPS, Terri Sutor and a group from San Diego (Terri recently became the first woman to complete the list twice!) and past chairs, Maureen Cates, Eivor Nilsson, Edna Ersramer and Bill T. Russell.

A more serious note was the announcement by Paul Lipsohn of an exploratory climb of (Mt.) Jenkins Peak this September. The peak was formerly North Morris Peak and was officially renamed by the U.S.G.S. Board of Geographic Names for Jim Jenkins, a fellow climber who was tragically killed last year in the Sierra Nevada.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the annual awards, which were very deservedly given to the following individuals:

- R.S. Fink Service Award: To Simone De Miguel, for many years of outstanding service to the section.
- Leadership Award: To Luella Martin, a long time leader of many fine outings.
- Special Award: To Joe Young, for Oktoberfest.
- Special Award: To Stag Brown, for "Motivation".

Our evenings program "Sierra Symphony", by Jerry Walter and Rick Finney, was a unique, 3-D extravaganza into John Muir's Range of Light. This wondrous depiction of the moods, seasons and landscape if the Sierra Nevada enthralled the group.

Many thanks to Alice Hawkins and Nami Takashima for their help in planning and organizing this event. Thanks to all those who attended.

Jim (Shamus) Fleming
Past Chairperson
Announcements

Nature Knowledge Workshop:

When: Friday evening, May 31 - Sunday afternoon, June 2

Where: Resident camp in the Barton Flats area of the San Bernardino National Forest; indoor sleeping, delicious meals and programs in the old stone lodge

What: Three days of field study (river, chaparral and pine forest habitats) with special walks to learn about edible plants, geology, insects, reptiles and amphibians, mammals and birds. Emphasis is "hands on" learning by doing, and professional naturalists are chosen for their enthusiasm and holistic creative teaching abilities, as well as for their knowledge.

For: Adults only; Sierra Club membership not required. Attendance meets 1/2 nature study requirement.

Cost: $46, includes lodging, instruction, six meals, and a workshop syllabus.

Registration: This popular annual workshop always fills quickly. Send 2 X 9 SASE's to Registrar:

Sandy Liebman
23457 Styles St.
Woodland Hills, Ca. 91364

Include check payable to "Sierra Club, Nature Knowledge Workshop"

Sponsored By: Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club, Natural Science Section

Information: Workshop Leaders:
Carolyn Greene (818) 787-2294
Sue Othmer (818) 789-3456
Jean Dillingham (213) 454-4732

17-19 May, 1985 (Fri. evening - Sun. afternoon)

This course emphasizes first aid problems likely to be encountered in the wilderness. It is conducted under the auspices of the American Red Cross, and an Advanced First Aid certificate renewal will be presented upon the successful completion of the course. The problems associated with long term care and transport of the sick and injured, and the special problems of high altitude, cold, heat, dehydration, and exhaustion are studied. Some practice working on "victims" and a practical field exercise are included in the course. Participants must review their CPR and demonstrate their skill on a recording mannikin.

The instructors have had experience in mountain rescue, Sierra Club scouting, expedition work, and other group leadership activities and have personally encountered many of the problems likely to occur. Guest lecturers will present material in which they have special expertise.

Harwood Lodge, owned by the Sierra Club, is located high in the San Gabriel Mountains several miles above Arroyo Village. It has sleeping facilities for over 50 people, however, many individuals prefer to spend their sleeping bags outside. Registration fees cover lodge fees and dinner Saturday night, breakfasts Saturday and Sunday mornings. BEING LEASCHES FOR TWO RATS. No alcoholic beverages, radios, or pets allowed in the lodge; battery-powered tape recorders are welcome. The course starts promptly at 8:00 am Friday night.

Anyone interested may attend this course, however, preferably one should have had a previous first aid course. A current Advanced First Aid card must be shown for recertification. (no CPR certification) Send application and $30.00 to: Wilderness First Aid
c/o Louise French, 1690 W. 2nd Ave., Upland, Ca. 91786

(phone for further information, telephone 714-945-6057)

Fear off here

APPLICATION FOR WILDERNESS FIRST AID

Name: __________________________ Telephone: __________________________

Address: __________________________

First Aid card & expiration date: __________________________

First Aid/Medical training: __________________________

Reason for taking this course: __________________________

Mar 30-31 SAT-SUN

I: Rabbit Pk. Join us for a rescheduled trip. 3500' gain with backpacks on Sat, Sun 3100' to peak and return to cars. Dry camp. 1 SASE with recent experience and carpool info. Leader: Luella Martin. Asst: G. Lindberg.
The following guides have been recently revised; the latest edition and the revision date are listed.

Minor revisions--Route descriptions improved, alternate routes added:

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**NOTICE**

**WILDERNESS PERMIT APPLICATIONS**

On February 15, 1984 the National Forest Service adopted new policies concerning the issuance and administration of outfitter/guide permits. Formerly, Special Use Permits (SUP) were issued only for activities of a commercial nature. Now non-commercial groups which have liability insurance for which the Forest Service is named as co-insured or where minimum outfitter/guide (leader) qualifications are met will be granted SUPs. The Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club meets both criteria.

The fee for SUPs depends upon the outfitter's adjusted service-day client charge. Since most HPS trips involve no profit, reimbursement, salary, rental of animals or equipment, nor financial support to other programs, the fee will probably be waived for the vast majority of trips. Chapter activities that do not fall under the non-fee category are still under study, and probably will be covered by a separate SUP involving a fee.

Leaders and participants of future outings will not be required to do anything new, assuming that the proposal is adopted by the ExComm, since the Angeles Chapter will carry a non-fee "blanket" SUP covering all activities. At this time, only Inyo Natl. Forest requires SUP identification when applying for Wilderness Permits, but it is recommended that on or after March 1, 1985, identification should be given when applying for Wilderness Permits at all National Forests. Our SUP identification will be ANGELES CHAPTER, SIERRA CLUB and will require listing the trip in an official Chapter publication.

**DIALING FOR DOLOMITES**

Below is a list of ten phone numbers that correspond to the names of ten of the Hundred Peaks. Fill in the blanks, if you can. Answers on page 16.

268-7355 ________ 642-6557 ________ 237-6273 ________ 566-5688 ________

427-8273 ________ 267-6355 ________ 244-4076 ________

423-3625 ________ 453-2706 ________ 848-6337 ________

**Stinkbug:** Stilling across the sand, this large black beetle freezes in a handstand pose at the slightest disturbance. Emission of a pungent odor repels predators. The pose is enough to stop those familiar with this scavenger.

"Fossilized view of the sand-dwelling insect (insect)."
TRIP REPORTS

I had been looking forward to this day for a long time, the day I would actually do the last peak on the Hundred Peaks List. I had mixed emotions about it. With no peak left that I really needed, maybe I lose the incentive to go hiking. However, on the other hand, I now belong to the elite group that are asked to stand up-for everybody to see, at the Hundred Peaks Banquet!

For this memorable event the peak to be ascended was Onyx #1. Onyx is a very easy hike, less than a mile, so in order to get a little bit of exercise we did Heart Bar first. Surprisingly enough there were several people on the trip who had not done Heart Bar before. This is also an easy hike, and we did not spend more than 20 minutes on top, seems that everybody was anxious to get to Onyx for the party!

Two cars were driven to the top with all the goodies, bubbly etc., the rest of us hiked up. Three people had hiked up earlier and met us on top. There were a total of 41 people. After the usual picture taking and toasts we settled down to a long (almost three hour) relaxing lunch. The hot chili was appreciated by everyone, even though the weather did not call for something hot. It was a really nice and warm day, not even rainy as I had predicted it would be. Thanks to everybody who brought goodies for the party. There were lots of food!

I also like to thank all the people who helped me get the peaks I needed to complete the list. I will not climb anything on my own any more, except for well-traveled trails. You really find out who your friends are when you have about 15 peaks left and they are all spread out from Santa Barbara to San Diego, and some of them are a two-or-three roundtrip hike with a 300-mile roundtrip drive. Therefore, the following persons deserve a special thank you: Elfie Dett, Michael Saffey, Priscilla Libby, Pat Jump and her 4-wheel drive, Mary Sue Miller and her 4-wheel drive, Anna Cuspaner, Jerry Blackwill, Mary Frooks, Sue Ryan, Jim Minett.

MARIE LOUISE & THE PINNACLES

Jan. 12, 1985

Jack Trager, Betty Bergey

I'm thinking of providing a patch - "I SURVIVED A JACK TRAGER OUTING"!

This time it was not heat but DUST, WIND, COLD, ICE, SNOW, BRUSH, BOULDERS. Thirty-seven stalwarts rendezvoed at Pomona and caravaned thru a blinding Santa Ana wind and dust storm to the Rim of the World and on thru a glistening winter scene. A ranger had assured me two days before that all roads were clear including the dirt road to Pilot Rock. Up to that point he was reasonably correct with snow sometimes banked car high along the roads and only tracks on the paving.

We all gathered at the start of Pilot Rock Road and I foolishly started in with my truck with only chains along with George Pfeiffer and Don Weiss in his 4 Wheel. After 8 miles we decided it was no go and Don went back to tell everyone to stay where they were while after some difficulty I got turned around. Tracks were just glazed ice but all went well until the last hundred yards of uphill to the paving. Lots of manpower got us no where until we learned that Kay Macken had chains for her Ranger that would fit and that did the trick but much time was wasted and we decided that, rather than hike in the extra mile and a half for Marie Louise, we would do The Pinnacles.

After finding places to park off the highway, the hike itself went fairly well. The route (possibly not the best) was rockier and brushier than I remembered and the wind piercing cold as we got higher up but all 37 made the peak and huddled in the alcoves for a not too protracted lunch. The down route was somewhat better but arriving at the cars about 3 p.m. we decided to leave Marie Louise for another day.

Thanks to co-leader Betty and all those who ably assisted me in getting out of trouble and to at least one listed peak! Jack Trager
After 16 applications, and 4 cancellations, I figured that we would be twelve. We waited for 20 minutes, but when we began at 6:50 there were only seven. It was apparent from the groups make up which is the stronger (dumber): sex since we were four women to three men. Two of the women are list finishers and one of the men. As the day progressed it was also apparent that the Dripping Springs Trail is haunted. It was more like 4 miles up to the ridge and 10 miles down, instead of the reported 6 in the peak guide.

We had a lovely day. Views in the morning included sunrise tinted snowy San Gorgonio, Cabuilla Mtn, San Jacinto, and Tore. In the PM the clouds closed in but we still had a view of a golden Pacific framed by the dark clouds over us. Sunset tinted the badlands around Vail Lake. We arrived back at the cars just past 5:30 in full dark.

A couple of comments on the peak guide. The Dripping Springs trail is indeed over grown on its upper 1/2. There is one place where it is easy to lose it entirely. Terri Sutor built a duct to help here. Also we found that there is a cut trail of sorts up the firebreak to Eagle Crag. It begins at another duct that Terri and Tom built and goes up generally up the center of the firebreak. The wilderness permit necessary for a trip to the Agua Tibia Wilderness is available by mail from the Cleveland National Forest/ 332 S. Juniper/ Escondido, CA 92025. (714) 841-3311.

This area is seldom visited. There is a place at the junction of the Dripping Springs trail and the ridge road where the mulch of oak leaves lay at least six inches deep completely undisturbed. The ridge road is more like a trail, much overgrown.

The magnificent seven where Ruby Seitz, Terri Sutor, Carolyn West, Tom Mounblow, Dick Farrar, Jack Trager and myself. Thanks to Jack for assisting, Gordon is mending from surgery.

Luella Martin
CHUCKWALLA MTN, CROSS MTN, RED MTN

December 15-16, 1984

Alan Coles & Martin Feather

Fifteen people met at the corner of Jawbone Cyn Rd and Hwy 14 at 7:30 am Saturday morning. It was a cold and cloudy day with bad weather predicted for the night, but the group remained enthusiastic. Three cars were moved up Jawbone Cyn to where the road turns to leave the canyon. The BLM has posted signs preventing vehicle entry on the road to the mine where one used to be able to get closer to Cross Mtn. Our group crowded into 4 cars and drove up the dirt roads to the usual Chuckwalla starting point. The dirt roads are still in good shape and most passenger will have no problems. A cold wind blowing along the ridge kept the group moving with a minimum of breaks. The summit of Chuckwalla was reached in under an hour. Staying out of the wind, the group rested and enjoyed a clear view that even included the Panamint Mountains.

From the top of Chuckwalla we hiked over to Cross using the same route that Don Tidwell and I led successfully the previous year. It goes as follows: Retrace the path down from Chuckwalla contouring around the east side of the ridge to where the path regains the ridge. Leave the ridge and descend north to a broad saddle about 200' down. Ascend a small ridge past a mine shaft to the top of a small hill where an old motorcycle trail is found (off road vehicles are now prohibited in the area). Follow this trail down (east) to the canyon where an old cabin is found alongside a spring. Follow the streambed up about 1 mi then turn right into the wide tributary. After a short distance, the canyon opens up and becomes a wide valley with Cross Mtn in view towards the end. We followed the valley to the far end and ascended the ridge with red colored rocks. This ridge has some very interesting large rock formations. One top of the ridge is another old motorcycle trail which can be taken to the summit. Harland Anderson led the group to the summit as he celebrated his 100th peak. Congratulations! From the top, we took the standard route back down the "character building" scree slope, past the mine and back along the road to the cars.

Most people who have done these peaks like this route better than the usual way. It is far more scenic, easier to ascend Cross and there is no driving in between. The car shuttle is long, but you would have to drive just as far if the peaks are done seperately.

Four people went home. The rest went to Red Rock CG. The wind was too much for some and a small group went 25 miles to Mojave for dinner. Coincidentally, the wind died down just as they left. The remaining group enjoyed a community salad and a pot luck meal. The wind returned with the group from Mojave sending people into their cars and tents. The last remaining souls stayed by the campfire until about 9:30 when the first raindrops began. Wind, rain, sleet and eventually snow fell during the night.

We woke up finding about 1 inch of snow on the ground. Small gullies crossing the dirt road showed the extent of the heavy rain. We didn't see or hear a car on Hwy 14 until about 7:30 am. One of the participants who spent the night in Mojave said it snowed there also. Our plan was to do Butterbredt and Mayan, but obviously that was not possible. About the only thing I could think of was Red Mtn. So at 8:30 we left and drove over to Randsburg only to find about 3 inches of new snow there. One person turned around there while the rest of us drove to Red Mtn (town) and parked our cars alongside the main highway. Ten people started and ten people reached the summit hiking in fresh snow all the way. Fortunately the snow was not deep or hard enough to require ice axes. From the top the view was clearer than I have ever seen it, with snow covering most of the desert. It was a cold, hard hike but everyone enjoyed the view. It took a little over 1 hour to get back to the cars. That was enough for one day. At 1:30 pm, we left for home.
CHUCKWALLA, CROSS & RED (continued)

I could not resist to end this story without some special awards:

FOR EXTREME COURAGE IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY: Diane Rosentrete for spending the night in her bivvy bag.

FOR EXTREME CONGENIALITY: Frank Dobos for driving 25 miles to Mojave for dinner.

FOR STALWART DETERMINATION: Larry Machleder for starting a fire and cooking dinner in a cold and dusty wind and persuading others to do so also.

-- Alan Coles

ADDENDUM TO OUR LIST FINISHING TRIP NOV 4 ON PISOAH: I forgot to mention in addition to the three leaders finishing the list simultaneously, Frank Goodykoontz finished the list for the 3rd time, Lew Amack finished 100 peaks 2nd time and (try to beat this record anyone!) Martin Feather became the first person EVER to solve Rubik's Cube on every peak on the list. Trivia fans take note.

HINES PK January 26 Alan Coles & Frank Goodykoontz

I must confess that this peak is one of my favorites. Highest point in the Topatopas, this peak has breathtaking views over the Sespe Creek drainage a vertical mile below. Multi-colored sandstone layers protruding in many directions amplify the natural beauty especially when clouds shroud the bluffs. The hike up Sisar Cyn, past newly rebuilt White Ledge CG to the ridge is a very nice walk along a rushing brook. This can be a very hot hike even in early spring, but in winter there can be deep snow along the high ridges. Scheduling a hike of Hines is not easy, but sometimes you can get lucky as we did.

I called Ojai R.S. two days before the hike and was told that there was little snow and it would not "hinder" us from climbing this peak. They were partly right.

Twenty-two people and almost as many cars met at the entrance to Steckel Park (just north of Santa Paula) at the early time of 6:30 am. Some of us had attended the HPS banquet the previous night. Steckel Park has a campground, but I would not recommend staying there again. Leaving as many cars as possible at the Santa Paula Ck trailhead, we took the group in the remaining cars to the Sisar Cyn trailhead, about 6 mi away. We started hiking at 7:30am under partly cloudy skies. As usual, the sun came out as we started the ascent from White Ledge CG to the ridge. Along the ridge were patches of snow about 6" deep in shady areas. So we pushed on reaching the Hines Pk saddle about 11:30am. The snow on the north side of Hines was not too bad, so we took our time and carefully worked our way around it. Two people stayed behind at the saddle. Most of the remaining group was on top by 12:30. The weather stayed nice to us while clouds began to build around the peaks to the north and west. At 1:15 we left, descended the snow and mostly brush free west ridge, crossed the beginnings of Santa Paula Ck and reached the road we came on via the old Santa Paula Ck trail. This added about 400' more gain, but was far more safer. A few snow flakes began to fall on the way back, but no sooner had it started it ended just as quickly. We were all back to the cars before 6pm. It was a very nice day.

-- Alan Coles
NOTES ON NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY CLIMBS

The following are corrections and additions to the climbing guides of four peaks in North San Diego county which we climbed the weekend of January 12-13, 1985.

HOT SPRINGS MOUNTAIN: Follow driving route instructions except do not stop at Taylor Ranch, as it is no longer necessary to ask for permission or procure combination to locked gate. At the entrance to the Los Coyotes Reservation you must pay a $1.00/person fee (We met a delightful lady here, Sandra Stoneburner). We were then able to drive within approximately 1½ miles of the lookout and could have driven the entire route were it not for snow and ice on the road. Traverse from the lookout to the high point (6533') through moderate brush. Do not try to force a route through the brush from the road south of the high point.

SAN YSIDRO MOUNTAIN: Follow driving route instructions except do not turn left to go over a low hill to the entrance of Cherry Canyon, as there is a new gate at the end of this road well posted with signs reading "Trespassers will be prosecuted." We devised the route shown on the enclosed map. (See map).

Drive north up the dirt road 0.3 miles beyond the Ranchita Store until it turns west. Park car here at base of Mt. 5816. Follow fence line north up gully until fence turns east (approx. 5000'). Contour around 5816 and pick up jeep road referred to in the climbing guide. Follow balance of climbing route instructions.

COMBS PEAK: Follow driving instructions. There is now only one locked gate (combination 2359) and no signs reading "courteous" and "brave." At the first saddle (elevation 5070') park car. The new Pacific Crest trail (not shown on 1982 revised Bucksnort map.) contours north from this saddle around the east side of the Bucksnort Mttns., reducing the amount of bushwacking to a minimum. Follow this new trail north until just east of the summit of Combs Peak. If you're lucky you'll find a trail about halfway up the peak leading to the summit. We made the return trip from the summit to the car parked at the saddle in 45 minutes.

HIGH POINT: We understand the climbing route to High Point from the observatory has been closed by Cal. Tech. We also found that the forest service road from Sunshine Summit is locked. We did, however, find an unlocked forest service road (8505) which leads south from Highway 79 just east of Aguanga at a large sign reading "Vacation Valley-R.V. Park." The road is quite rough but we found one party who had made it in a V.W. Bug--Have fun.

Burt Falk, Jim Scott, Mary Gygax
The Gentle Art of Freddy Peaking by Bob Michael (continued from last issue)

to use there's less and less to do (unless, of course, you want to start all over again).

As sections of the Front Range become ever more urbanized, a modicum of unromanticism is necessary if one is really serious about getting Quad Clear-Outs. It is entirely understandable that the Club shies away from private property on its official outings. That is the only attitude that an organization in its position can possibly take. However, when you're on your own, everything's fair game regardless of whether someone pretends to "own" it. When ever it all possible, I have always asked permission at the nearest building, and only twice been refused. However, when an unfriendly sign in the middle of nowhere reads between me and a peak, I simply change. Occasionally one feels like a guerrilla fighter, charting a path between houses. Peaks and clothing in suit-taped corners are essential for good sneaking. Actually, I have never had any trouble with people but their dogs are a different matter. When traversing potentially doggy areas, it is always prudent to linger up your throwing arm and stock up on "dog anew" (properly sized stones).

Perhaps the most appealing attitude towards the Front Range property problem is to consider it part of the challenge; an objective danger like a snowfall on the Crip or ice storms in Peten though, adding spice to what otherwise are, in general, rather tame climbing objectives.

Let me now list some of the most (or least) memorable Freddy Peaks, and then conclude with my all-time favorites.

Most nonsensical: Overland Mountain (Gold Hill quad); California Mountain (Central City quad); Pomeroy Mountain (Nederland quad).

Most beautiful to look at: Cathedral Spires (Pine quad); The Needles (Estes Park quad).

Longest trek on foot (without a jeep): Orcus Mountain (Oretha quad), a lengthy cross-country jaunt in and out of gulches before you ever get to the base of the thing. Recent subdivision roads may have shortened the approach since I did it in '72.

Best view: Probably Mount Thorodin (Tungsten quad) or Mount Olympus (Pamona Park quad), Honorable mention to Mcgregor Mountain (Estes Park quad) and St. Peter's Dome (Manitou Springs quad).

Most totally unimpressable: Buckhorn Mountain (Manitou Springs quad), an otherwise quite unimpressable, gentle-sloped peak, the true summit of which is an enormous, smooth, mammoth-sized, overhanging boulder of Pluma Peak granite. The true first ascent is quite possibly still waiting.

Most attitude gain: Cameron's Cone (Manitou Springs quad), 4,106' from Dog Railway Station (bottom of Bear Trail).

Most disgusting private property pollution: High Peak (Indian Hills quad), a bottom-to-top maze of houses, dogs, and fences. A nightmare view of the Front Range in 2000. When I crawled through the barbed-wire fence that nearly crosses the summit rocks, there was a drilling crew barely 300 feet away preparing a large house foundation.

Most wilderness feeling: Deer Mountain, in Rocky Mountain Park on the Estes Park quad; and the peaks north and east of Estes Park, such as Lookout Mountain (Crystal Mountain quad) and West White Pine Mountain (Crystal Mountain quad).

Finally, my favorites, in no particular order:

1) Grayrock Mountain (7,835', Poudre Park quad). A beautiful trail leads you to the base of this magnificent and forbiddingly symmetrical-looked fortress of shining gray granite. Amazingly, a non-technical but "fun" scrambling route reveals itself. The summit area is delightful, with woody glades, big granite slabs, and a small lake in a most improbable place for a lake—just below the summit block. Great views.

2) Horsetooth Mountain (7,250', Horsetooth Reservoir quad), The skyline landmark of Fort Collins. Pleasant approach, and a non-trivial third class scramble on excellent granite with some exposure to gain the highest crest.

3) Lookout Mountain (10,715'), Allenspark quad). Beautiful wilderness setting in wild Basin area of Rocky Mountain Park. Highest point is an extraordinary "saddle" of granite — a stump of rock perched 15' high with a slab on top that overhangs on almost all sides. Short but very symmetrical rock-climbing move, or a shoulder stand, is necessary to gain the summit. (over)
4) The Needles (10,066', East of Park itself). This is the high point of the magnificent wall of granite north of East of Park which includes the famous Twin Spires and is possibly the closest approach to Yosemite itself. From here, the Needles are spectacular peaks but we are not here to climb by doubling around to their northern sides. They are very inaccessible, and, of course, great views.

5) Mount Olympus (9,530', Panorama Point trailhead). A great agglomerate of granite with a beautiful summit area and unquestionably the best view of the whole East of Park region. Some "poorly named" on this peak's east approached from the SE. From the saddle at Mt. Olympus.


7) Bear Mountain (8,401', Elbert Springs trailhead). Classic way to Ascent with flat iron formations, and a satisfying painted summit. Approaches are very rugged and, thanks to the Boulder Mountain Park, quite wild considering their proximity to the city. Great views in all directions.

8) Salton Buttes (7,788', Salton Buttes trailhead). Very picturesque crags as seen from salton or the Fourmile Valley. Fourth class summit block (likely easier to climb) is the southeastern of the Boulder Flatiron Formations. A superb wildflower display when we climbed it in May. Rumors exist of some private property.


10) Devil's Head (9,749', Devil's Head trailhead). A spectacular and commanding landmark of the southern Front Range, rising like a red rock cliff over the flat surface of the Rampart Range. Very enjoyable, if short, trail to the summit, ending in a stately 200-foot of Forest Service Lookout atop the otherwise 4th class summit crags. Need I even mention the terrific view?

11) Mount Thorodin (10,555', Tungsten trailhead). This is not the more commonly-climbed northern peak with the fire tower, which has been recently named "Starr Peak" by the USGS. I am here referring to the southerly and highest of the three summits of the Thorodin massif. It features simply the most breathtaking view of the Front Range that you will get without an airplane.

12) Cameron's Are (10,707', Meridit Springs trailhead). A very dominating Fancy Peak of the Pikes massif, and a real work out to climb. As with Bear Peak, the route traverses wilder feeling country next to a sizable city.

Great views to the Pikes massif and the Colorado Springs area.

So - let's do it for the Front Range. Now, just west of Canon City lies the next great Frontier of Colorado Fancy Peak, the Fourmile of the art Mountains and Sangre de Cristo.

Bob Michael

MOUNTAIN TRIVIA TEST

1. Which HPS peak has the lowest elevation?
2. Which HPS peak is furthest from its usual trailhead?
3. Which HPS peak is furthest North? South? East? West?

4. Which HPS peak is approached via a two thousand foot loss?
5. Which HPS peak has two developed springs along its commonest routes?
6. On which HPS peak are bighorn sightings most likely?
7. Which HPS peak is a gathering place for the black swallowtail butterfly?
8. Which HPS peak has a condor viewing site on its summit?
9. Which HPS peak is brushiest?

10. The ascent of which HPS peak begins at the lowest elevation?

Answers on page 16
A SUNDAY AFTERNOON IN OCTOBER, 1984

It was 3:10 p.m. when we parked the blue Blazer at the end of 6 miles of rough road. The three of us piled out, stretched our legs, and took in our surroundings. We were about 1900' above sea level in the high desert area of eastern San Diego county.

We intended to climb Whale Peak, a 5349' mountain located somewhere to the south, not presently visible. Our climber's guide instructed us to ascend a small seasonal water course in the ridge just south of our parking area, cross country hike to the Southwest over several other ridges until we could see the peak, then continue a straight line to a saddle just west of the summit plateau.

The afternoon was warm and the sky was a clear blue as we started boulder hopping our way up the water course.

I was surprised at the extent of trees, bushes and other vegetation found on the slopes as compared to Granite Mountain, a higher peak we had climbed earlier today, located some 8 miles to the west.

Granite Peak is presumably in a more favorable location to collect precipitation, yet we had found it rather barren with the usual skimpy desert peak type vegetation.

This area, though, was quite beautiful with many scrub pines, healthy patches of shrubbery and much more grass and weeds: signs of wildlife, especially deer, abounded.

We knew we had a time problem as our climber's guide indicated it should take two hours to cover the 2½ miles to the summit. Because the return from the Summit to the Blazer would not be much faster—more cross country than downhill—our arrival could be as late as 7:30 p.m., well after dark, not a favorable time of the day to pick our way back down the hazardous dirt road which we had found to be severely rutted with one boulder in particular, needing careful attention. We therefore were attempting to cover ground as quickly as possible. Our party consisted of Jim Scott, Mary Gyax and me. We were all in top shape and we were moving well across the rough terrain.

After a half hour or so hiking in a south westerly direction, we came to a point where we could see Whale Peak. We were somewhat disappointed as it lay to the Southeast some 90° from our course.

We assumed there was some good reason for the directions we had been following; however, on return, we cross-countryed directly from the peak to the Blazer and decided that the directions were in error.

The Southwest should have been the Southeast.

The area we were hiking in consisted of granite outcroppings which had eroded over the years into rounded boulders, some quite large.

We passed pinyon pines, yuccas, and lots of attractive shrubbery as we bounced from boulder to boulder on our way down into an intervening small valley. We then rushed up the other side of the valley and entered a flat, sandy almost meadow-like area below the summit ridge. We did a little class I climbing (using arms as well
as legs) to the summit plateau then almost ran in an easterly direction to the large boulder that comprised the high point. Although we had taken a circuitous route, our time was only one hour and 40 minutes, some 20 minutes less than the climber guide suggested as a standard time.

We sat on the summit boulder, cooled off in the light breeze, signed the register, and gazed at our surroundings. To the north lay Anza-Borrego State Park; to the east, the shadows of our mountains were now falling towards the Colorado desert and the Salton Sea.

In the south, we could see the mountains in Mexico stretching forever in blue and gray haze.

Finally, to the west, we could see the sun sinking rapidly towards the horizon. My whole physical and mental being was at peace. I felt the reward of a worthwhile summit, the pleasure of knowing physical strength well beyond the average, the sensual appreciation of the incredible scenery, and, finally, the freedom of being in this remote location so far from civilization.

We could not tarry here long however. I sighted a course I felt would take us in a straight line back to the Blazer and we were off. As we sped over the terrain, the last golden rays of the sun gave a warmth to the surroundings that was absolutely breathtaking.

Sighting the top of the final ridge, the sun dropped from sight and the pleasures of an evening hike were upon us. We flew down the last water course and reached the vehicle at 6:45, 1 hour and 10 minutes from the summit. We had enough light to navigate the difficult section of road.

Later, driving back moonlight flooded Earthquake Valley as the Blazer sped along. Our legs were comfortably stiffening as we enjoyed the memories of a wonderful day.

-Burt Falk


If anyone has solved the crossword puzzle and Cragnet Conundrum appearing in the last issue, send a copy of your answers to the editor. The first person will receive a prize of four maps, results & solutions in next Lookout.

LAST but NOT least—If you haven’t paid your HPS dues yet you’re (embarrassingly) delinquent. STOP. Get out your stationery and checkbook IMMEDIATELY. Otherwise your name will be (mud) in the next Lookout.
TELLING IT JUST LIKE IT WAS

San Gorgonio: Mountain of Terror
as told by W.R.C. Shedenhelm

Part One: The Challenge

Many mountain climbers today, strolling up the gentle slopes of 11,400-foot San Gorgonio, forget that less than a century ago this rounded peak was the highest unclimbed mountain in the United States. In those days its majestic summit rose over 15,000 feet into the cold blue California air.

Hundreds of mountaineers, the best in the world, assaulted San Gorgonio's glaciers and ridges without success. Whymper, Mummery, Gerson and Taugwalder all turned their backs on San Gorgonio defeated, referring to it only as "that mountain of terror."

It will be recalled that the famous German climber, Siegfried Gerson, was found just outside his San Gorgonio base camp with his right arm shoved up his nose to the elbow. Murder was quickly ruled out, as was suicide. It was the macabre appearance of Gerson's death that was to haunt climbers on San Gorgonio for years. Finally a strikingly similar death in front of witnesses on Mt. Fuji in 1934 offered up an explanation. Dr. Gerson had caught a particularly severe head cold near the top of the east face of Gorgonio, and his nasal passages had become completely plugged.

Glissading from 15,000 feet to nearly sea level in a matter of minutes did not give the vacuum trapped within his sinus cavities sufficient time to equalize. Idly picking his nose, a habit the Doktor had acquired at Heidelberg, Gerson broke through the final seal and the outside air pressure forced his arm up his nose to the elbow!

The peculiar position of the victim of this oddly-rare mountain accident, quite distinctive even to the untrained layman, is given the fitting name of "Gerson's Dilemma."

Part Two: Victory

It was during the summer of 1907 that Max Baldy, for whom a nearby peak was later named, finally conquered the last icy ramparts of 15,000-foot San Gorgonio, using the then-unheard-of technique of "birding the ice." Baldy left his small base camp with sufficient food for several days, accompanied by his faithful two-legged dog "Lefty" and his carefully-trained mynah bird "Edgar."

Edgar would fly ahead, seeking a safe route up the heavily crevassed north glacier, shouting back instructions in what he erroneously believed to be Thibetan dialect. Unfortunately, on the way back, after savoring the fruits of victory atop San Gorgonio's summit spire, the mynah bird developed a strep throat and the entire party was lost in a bottomless crevasse on the north glacier.

It will be recalled that the huge glacier on the north slopes of San Gorgonio occupied the basin where Dry Lake and Dollar Lake now repose. During the Depression Years of the 1930's the glacier was cut into sections and sold to a Japanese company which manufactured icebergs for the North Atlantic steamship trade. The bodies of Max Baldy, Lefty and Edgar were last seen, perfectly preserved in crystal-clear ice, ten miles off the coast of Nova Scotia in 1937.
Part Three: Medical Gains

San Gorgonio, and one of Dr. Gerson's earlier attempts on its unattainable summit pyramid, plays an important role in the annals of modern medicine.

If you have observed the navel of anyone born before 1875 you were perhaps struck by the fact that it was smooth-surfaced, rather than cross-hatched as is standard today. This changeover in belly buttons swept the civilized world in the mid-1870's, and was due to a slight accident which befall Dr. Gerson while pioneering a route up San Gorgonio's west snow chute.

As climbers are still wont to do, he was in the habit of sitting on the head of his ice axe while resting. One afternoon in early April he inadvertently reversed his ice axe, shaving his belly button out of its socket, it being held in only by a press fit. Dr. Gerson returned to his laboratory and soon patented the modern threaded belly button which can only be removed with a Phillip's head screwdriver.

Part Four: Trail's End

Once the summit of San Gorgonio had been reached by Max Baldy in 1907, it seemed as though a psychological barrier had parted, and dozens of climbing parties forced increasingly difficult routes to the top. First there were the more obvious ridge routes, then the face routes with their incredible exposure. Smedley did the first successful standing glissade from the very summit down to sea level at Malibu. A week later Rodlinger accomplished the rather more daring feat of glissading from Malibu to the summit.

But when the early rock climbers discovered the now-commonplace technique of rappelling up, rather than down, San Gorgonio became a Mecca for this type of spectacular ascent. Indeed, several promising climbers were lost when they drifted out to sea, with coastal radar losing contact somewhere west of Anacapa Island.

It was the increasing use of expansion bolts and jamb nuts that spelled the end of our noble 15,000-foot giant. The cracks grew wider and wider. The great summit began toppling into the valleys, until the bottoms of several of the canyons were higher than the surrounding peaks. San Gorgonio was becoming shorter, first by a few feet, then by hundreds and finally by almost three thousand feet!

Few mountaineers recall that eventful day when George Lookout, for whom a nearby peak is named, rushed into the office of his Civil Service Chief with delight.

"Sir, I have just discovered..." he began.

The Surveyor General silenced him with a hand.

"Keep a civil tongue in your head, young man," he barked.

"Sorry, sir," Lookout replied, "but I have just discovered the highest unscalable mountain in the United States. With your permission, sir, I would like to attach your name to this jagged spire of ice and rock."

Fortunately for the world at large, the Surveyor General's name was Carlos San Gorgonio, or our immortal mountain of terror might have ended up as Mt. Ffoulkes-Jones or Smedley Peak.

Even today, when the atmosphere is exceptionally clear, visitors to the summit can make out the old trail extending onwards and upwards the additional 2,500 feet to the old summit of a century ago. Many brave men climbed that old trail, and it takes an even braver man to follow in their footsteps.

# # #
Dear Betty Bergey:

Please send me the following:

_____ The complete set of peak guides for $25.00 plus postage: $1.78 fourth class
_____ $3.61 first class.

_____ Separate, individual peak guides, listed by peak number below (from the
_____ Qualifying Peaks List). Individual Guides are 20¢ each.

1 to 3 Guides - business size SASE with one first class stamp
4 to 9 Guides - business size SASE with two first class stamps
10 or more Guides - 9x12 SASE with a first class stamp for every 5 Guides or
fraction thereof.

Dear Jon Sheldon:

524 S. Ogden Dr, LA 90036

In your capacity as Treasurer of this august organization, please send me the
following necessities (Lists enclosed if applicable):

_____ HPS Membership patches @$2.00 each...........................................

_____ Emblem patches (Outside Wreath) @$1.50 each...............................

_____ Emblem pins @$8.00 each...........................................................

_____ 200 Peaks Bar @$4.00 each.........................................................

_____ Official Peaks List @ 50¢ each...................................................

_____ List Completion pins @$8.00 each...............................................

I enclose a SASE for all items

Total__________

Dear Marion Patey:

210 Cedarcrest Ave. #4, So. Pasadena, 91030

_____ Please renew my membership in HPS. I enclose $5 for one year.

_____ Please enroll me as a new member. Sierra Club Membership number________

I am enclosing my list of 25 peaks climbed, and a $5 check.

Name______________________________________________________________

Address_________________________________________________________

City________________________________ State Zip______________________________

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