Hundred Peaks Section Holds Annual Awards Banquet

January 24, 2009

Golden Dragon Restaurant
960 N. Broadway
Los Angeles, CA 90012
213-626-2039

This year’s banquet will be held at the Golden Dragon Restaurant located at 960 N. Broadway in Chinatown. The restaurant is located just north of College on the East side of the street. Limited parking on the street or valet parking is available just south of the restaurant. The Metro Gold Line stops one block away from the restaurant. For schedules, call Metro at 800-266-6883. The social hour will start at 5:00 pm. Dinner will start at 6:00 pm.

The format for dinner will be a little different this year. It is buffet style. 10 different entries will be brought to the table including Peking duck, shrimp, beef, chicken and entries for vegetarians. We are being charged a set price for a table so it is important that we fill one table before we open another. Each table will hold 10 people. Despite rising food costs, we are holding the charge to $30 per person if received by January 17th ($35 if received after the 17th). To reserve a spot send your check payable to HPS to Dave Comerzan, 695 Aurora Dr, Claremont, CA 91711. The charge will include two bottles of wine per table.

Our speaker is Bill Burke. Bill, a local hiker who many of us have hiked with, has an impressive hiking resume. Since May of 2002, he has been to the summit of McKinley (20,320’), Aconcagua (22,834’), Kilimanjaro (19,339’), Elbrus (18,510’), Vinson Massif (16,067’), Kosciuszko (7910’), Carstensz (16,023’) and two attempts at Everest. All this and he turned 65 in March of 2007, a real inspiration to all of us. Bill and his wife Sharon reside in Orange County. Bill will talk about his two Everest attempts and his up-coming attempt.

HPS Election Results

Jim S. Fleming, Karen Leverich, Wolf Leverich, and Wayne Vollaire were elected to join the Management Committee for 2009. They join Wayne Bannister, Greg DeHoogh, and Dave Comerzan on the Committee.

See the Chair’s Column on page 4 for a list of officers and responsibilities on the Management team for 2009.

The membership approved the proposed 1000 Peak Emblem.

The 100 Species Emblem proposal was defeated.

Bailey Peak was added to the HPS List. Cleghorn Mountain, Cajon Mountain, Sugarpine Mountain, Monument Peak No. 2, Cannel Point, Cuyapaipe and Pilot Knob were removed from the List.

The proposal to remove Palomar Mountain from the List was defeated, as was the alternative proposal to move its location to the Observatory.
ACHIEVEMENTS:

Lead List #2
#3 – George Wysup – 9/21/08 – Cannel Point

200 Leads
#20 – Wayne Bannister – 9/13/08 – Rock Point

200 Explorers
#2 – Zobeida Arauz – 9/20/08 – Bohna Peak

100 Pathfinders
#49 – Ingeborg Prochazka – 10/16/08 – Granite Mountain #1
#50 – Asher Waxman – 1/19/08 – Caliente Mountain

List Finish #9
#5 – George Wysup – 10/29/08 – Monte Arido

List Finish #4
#16 – Zobeida Arauz – 10/25/08 – Lily Rock

List Finish #1
#278 – Chris Wu – 10/12/08 – San Rafael Mountain

NEW MEMBERS

NEW SUBSCRIBERS

MEMBERSHIP COUNTS:

Mathew Kelliher
Tanya Roton
Eran Naor
Judy Alfter
Ellen Louise Dorwin

343 Members (297 primary + 46 household)
55 Subscribers
398 Total

DONATIONS

Suzy Hermann - $6

The Hundred Peaks Section Website
The HPS Website is maintained by Karen Isaacson Leverich and Wolf Leverich. It’s really cool and chock full of information: http://angeles.sierraclub.org/hps/

- The HPS List
- Peak Guides
- Peak Maps
- Past Trip Reports
- The Schedule of HPS Activities
- Member Awards
- Member Achievements
- Links to other Sierra Club entities
- Much, much more

Our newsletter, The Lookout, is published six times a year. Final dates for receipt of material are February 1 for the March-April issue; April 1 for the May-June issue; June 1 for the July-August issue; August 1 for September-October issue; October 1 for the November-December issue; and December 1 for the January-February issue. If you send film photos or cd’s please state so and include a return SASE. Articles may be edited for length or appropriateness. Please send articles, photos, etc to Joe Young, 12551 Presnell Street, Los Angeles, CA 90066 - 6730, fax to Joe at (310) 301 - 9642; or email to joengeri@ca.rr.com. The Lookout is the property of the Hundred Peaks Section.
Management Committee 2009

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From the (Soon Departing) Chair
10 December 2008
By Karen Leverich

Has it been a year? Yes, it has: time for HPS to have a new Chair. I've had a lot of fun serving as your Chair for the past year, but will have even more fun returning my focus to Outings and helping Jim Fleming, our Chair for 2009.

Lessee, so what have I got to share in this, my last "from the Chair" epistle? We do have news! First, the election results. There was no hanging chad, but some of decisions were VERY close. Thanks to Doris Duval and the Elections Committee (including Lorraine Daly, Edith Liu and Joe Young) for all their hard work on this!

HPS MComm members elected: Jim Fleming, Karen Leverich, Wolf Leverich, and Wayne Vollaire will be on HPS MComm for the 2009 and 2010 terms. We join (rejoin) Wayne Bannister, Dave Comerzan and Greg Daly, whose terms run through the end of 2009. The "musical chairs" game, where we decided who wears which hat next year (not to mix a metaphor or anything), was not especially dynamic. Jim Fleming takes over as Chair. Wayne Vollaire continues as Vice Chair. Greg Daly continues as Secretary. Greg de Hoogh (retiring for now from the management committee) continues as Membership Chair. Wayne Bannister continues as Mountain Records Chair. Dave Comerzan continues as Programs Chair. I continue (with Jim Fleming) as Outings Co-Chair. Wolf takes over as Webmaster.

We voters were asked if there should be an Emblem for climbing 1000 HPS-Listed peaks, 2000 peaks, 3000 peaks, etc. Any one HPS peak climbed toward attaining this emblem cannot be duplicated on any single calendar day. (So you can't earn the emblem by parking your car on top of Boucher Hill and getting carpal tunnel syndrome patting the door. Whew!) The Membership voted YES. Send those lists of 1000's of peaks climbed along to Greg de Hoogh! (His contact information is on the back of this issue of The Lookout.)

We were asked if there should be an Emblem to document the presence of 100 different species of plants or animals observed on regular scheduled Hundred Peaks Section outings. This was a true squeaker, but the Membership voted NO. I hope the proponents ask us again, next year. This would have been such a fun emblem!

Lots of peaks were suggested for deListing for various reasons. The following peaks were removed from the List: 01G Pilot Knob, 32K Cuyapaipae, 01E Cannel Point, 19A Cleghorn, 19B Cajon, 19C Sugarpine, and 19D Monument #2. Palomar was NOT removed and its summit was not moved.

The following peak was added: Bailey Peak (5699'). This peak was explored on HPS outings on February 18th and September 10th. Because the summit labeled Bailey on the Silverwood Lake USGS map isn't the 5699' summit, the peak was suspended until we can develop a peak guide directing hikers to the proper (antenna-free) summit. (Look for the peak guide, and the unsuspension, to happen at the next MComm meeting, January 13th, 2009. This meeting will be by telephone, contact any MComm member in early January for the number, etc.)

Speaking of suspensions, the area around Modjeska has been reopened to on trail (or road) hiking, so Modjeska has been unsuspended. The suspended peaks as of today (December 10) are: 19I Bailey Peak (briefly waiting for a peak guide), 21A Crafts Peak (area still closed from the fires of 2007), 21B Butler Peak (ditto), and 23I Chaparrosa Peak (waiting for Pipes Canyon Preserve to reopen after horrible fire of 2006).

What else? We-l-l-l ... it's that time of the year when HPS has its annual Awards Banquet! I'm sure this is mentioned elsewhere in this issue (probably more than once), but we're conducting an "exploratory" to a new banquet site: the Golden Dragon Restaurant (960 N. Broadway, LA) on Saturday, January 24th. If you want to join us, send $30 (check made out to HPS) by January 17 ($35 after January 17) to Dave Comerzan, 695 Aurora Dr., Claremont, CA 91711-2925. Tickets will be held at the door, but include your e-mail address (if you have one) and phone numbers, in case Dave needs to contact you. Dave has lined up a fascinating speaker: Bill Burke will talk about his two attempts to climb Everest and how he is preparing for his next attempt. We're going to have a Silent Auction. If you have donations, contact either Wayne Vollaire or Mark Allen (see page 3 for their addresses). I'm looking forward to seeing you there!

There's always tons of neat stuff going on (see the Outings Schedule), but don't forget to sign up for Spring Fling in mid-April, when we head down to San Diego County and Foster Lodge for another great party. And having just whacked all those peaks off the List, there are scheduled visits to some "peaks from our past".

Karen and Wolf Leverich
Mount McDill (delisted back in 1973) is being explored for a possible return to the List on April 11th. And if we can pull this one off, it will be wonderful: Kent Schwitkis and Sherry Ross and I are hoping to lead a visit to some of our old peaks on Tejon Ranch, on April 25th. HPS' first visit since 1969 (or longer)!

So okay, where's that gavel? Where's Jim Fleming? Jim, here's the gavel. Me? I'm off to hike! And snowshoe! Maybe mountain bike a bit, even... Mountains, ho!
Advance Schedule of Hundred Peaks Section Activities
January 1 2009 - October 3, 2009
By Karen Leverich

Jan 1 Thu Hundred Peaks, PV-SB, Long Beach, Natural Science New Outing, first time published
I: San Jacinto Peak (10,804’), Folly Peak (10,480’), Drury Peak (10,160’), Marion Mountain (10,320’) via Snowshoe: Moderately paced, strenuous over varying terrain from the tram. We will attempt up to 4 peaks, resulting in 10 miles and 3500’ gain. The leaders have made this San Jacinto pilgrimage for 8 years. The ocean, Mount Charleston and the Channel Islands have often been visible. Take time to learn from our naturalist about the fauna and flora. Bring 10 essentials, lunch, and water. Esase (preferred) or sase with recent conditioning, phone & rideshare information to Leaders: KENT SCHWITKIS, Naturalist: SHERRY ROSS

Jan 3 Sat Hundred Peaks
I: Villager Peak (5756’), Rabbit Peak (6640’): Very strenuous cross-country day hike in Anza Borrego Desert State Park. 21 miles round trip, 8000’ gain, paced to complete in 15 hours, with an early start time. Desert terrain with some steep portions infested with cholla. For info, email leader with recent conditioning and experience. Leader: TED LUBESHTOFF Co-Leader: WAYNE VOLLAIRE

Jan 3 Sat WTC, Lower Peaks
O: Temescal Peak (2126’): Learn about the Wilderness Travel Course on this hike through oak glens and chaparral in Topanga State Park. Info will be provided on the ten essentials of safe mountain travel. We will hike to the park’s highest peak with spectacular views. 8 miles round trip, 1100’ gain on fire road and trail. Meet 9 AM at Trippet Ranch fee parking lot (from Topanga Cyn Blvd, E on Entrada Dr for 1 mi, turning L at every opportunity until parking lot). Leaders: ROBERT MYERS, JANE SIMPSON

Jan 3-4 Sat-Sun Hundred Peaks
I: Bernard Peak (5430’), Little Berdoo Peak (5440’), Lost Horse Peak (5313’), Ryan Mountain (5457’), Mt Perspiration (5560’): Join us for one or both days to pick up these Joshua Tree NP summits. Saturday, drive Geology Tour Rd to hike B & LB; - 7 miles, 1800’ gain cross country. High clearance vehicles welcome. If the road is closed we'll try something else in the area from pavement. Sunday, pathfinders to Lost Horse and Ryan, avoiding trails where possible, topped off with a quick jaunt to Inspiration. 13 miles, 3200’ gain. Possible car camp Sat night. Contact George for more details. Co-Leaders: GEORGE WYSUP, JENNIFER WASHINGTON, PAT ARREDONDO, PATRICK VAUGHN, WAYNE BANNISTER

Jan 7 Wed Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
I: Red Mountain (5261’), Black Mountain #6 (5244’): Enjoy a delightful day of hiking in the Lake Isabella area. Two separate hikes, Red Mountain is 3 1/2 miles round trip, 1500’ gain. Black #6 is 7 miles round trip, 1800’ gain. Contact leaders for details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

Jan 8 Thu Lower Peaks
O: Cachuma Mountain (4696’), Montecito Peak (3214’): These two Lower Peaks in the Los Padres National Forest provide great views. Cachuma is 6 miles round trip with 1600’ of gain. Montecito from the north is an easy 2 miles round trip. We estimate about six hours of hiking and two hours of driving between peaks. Contact leaders for meeting place and time. Leaders: INGEBORG PROCHAZKA, DAVE COMERZAN

Jan 8 Thu Hundred Peaks
O: Gold Mountain (8235’), Silver Peak (6756’): An easy hike of 3.5 miles round trip with 900’ of gain and a drive-up in the Big Bear Lake area. High clearance 4WD advised. Slow place. Call Mars (661 609 8218) during four days before event for status and details. Leaders: DAVE CANNON, MARS BONFIRE

Jan 10 Sat HPS, Crescenta Valley, K-9 Committee
O: Mt Lukens (5074’): Join us on this Mid Winter Hike to the highest point in the City of L.A. Hike from Deukmejian Park in La Crescenta via Crescenta View Trail and fire road. Return via Deukmejian West Trail. Great views to Catalina. 9 miles round trip, 3000’ gain. Well-mannered K-9’s welcome. Meet 9 AM Deukmejian Park (from 210 Freeway, exit Pennsylvania Ave, go north to Foothill Blvd., left to New York, right to Top of New York, left on Markridge 1 block to park entrance on right.) Bring 3 L’s (Lunch, Liquids, Lugsoles), goodies to share for Jim's Birthday, and a spirit of adventure. Leaders: BOBCAT THOMPSON, JIM FLEMING
Jan 10 Sat WTC, Hundred Peaks
I: Warren Point (5103'): Practice navigation for Sunday's checkoff on this 6 mile round trip, 1300' gain hike in the pinyon pine and juniper region of western Joshua Tree National Park. We will take a cross-country route to Warren Point and practice micro-navigation skills along the way. Send email (preferred) or sase, with contact info & recent conditioning to Leader: ROBERT MYERS Co-Leaders: ANN PEDRESCHI, JANE SIMPSON

Jan 10 Sat Wilderness Adventures, Lower Peaks
O: Jones Peak (3375'), Hastings Peak (4163'), Mount Yale (4780'): Strenuous hike at a moderate pace via Bailey Cyn Trail, return via Manzanita Ridge and Mt Wilson Trail. 13 miles round trip, 4200' gain. Short car shuttle. Meet 8 AM Bailey Canyon Park in Sierra Madre to Leaders for details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, PAT ARREDONDO, VIRGIL POPESCU

Jan 11 Sun LTC, WTC, HPS, SPS
I: Warren Point Navigation: Navigation noodle at Joshua Tree National Park for either checkout or practice to satisfy the Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. To participate, send email/sase contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare, to Leader: HARRY FREIMANIS

Jan 14 Wed Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
I: Scodie Mountain (7294'): A moderate hike of 6 miles round trip with 2500' gain on abandoned road and steep and loose cross country with possible snow travel to a peak north of Mojave. Suitable only for experienced and conditioned hikers. Summit block involves rock scrambling and is optional. Moderate pace. High clearance 4WD advised. Call Mars (661 609 8218) during four days before event for status and details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

Jan 15 Thu Hundred Peaks
I: Monte Arido (6010'), Old Man Mountain (5525'): An easy hike of 6 miles round trip with 1800' of gain on road and use trail in the Ojai area. Permit required to drive Potrero Seco Road. High clearance 4WD advised. Slow pace. Call Mars (661 609 8218) during four days before event for status and details. Leaders: DAVE CANNON, MARS BONFIRE, KAREN LEVERICH

Jan 17 Sat Hundred Peaks
O: Mount Emma (5273'), Old Mount Emma (5063'), Cole Point (5604'): Emma and Old Emma are about 4 miles round trip, 1200' gain for these peaks with some (sometimes steep) ups and downs between them. Short car shuttle on paved road. Afterwards, the optional climb of Cole Point is 4 miles round trip and 1700' gain. Adventurous newcomers welcome. Meet 8:30 AM La Canada rideshare point. Bring clothing layers, food, water, sturdy shoes. Rain or snow cancels. Leaders: GREG de HOOGH, LILLY FUKUI, CHRIS SPISAK, SUZY HERMANN, KAREN LEVERICH

Jan 17 Sat Hundred Peaks
I: Martinez Mountain (6560'), Sheep Mountain (5141'): Very strenuous cross-country day hike in the Santa Rosa Mountains south of Palm Desert. 18 miles round trip, 5500' gain, paced to complete in 11 hours, with an early start time. For info, email leader with recent conditioning and experience. Leader: TED LUBESHKO
Co-Leader: WAYNE VOLLARA

Jan 17 Sat Hundred Peaks
Rescheduled from November 2
I: Heald Peak (6901'), Nicolls Peak (6070'): Cross-country climb into Sequoia National Forest to a challenging pair of summits dominating the south shore of Lake Isabella. Strenuous, 14 miles round trip, 5000' gain with some rock scrambling and bushwhacking. Early start time! Some rocky dirt road driving. For trip details send conditioning and experience to Leader: WAYNE BANNISTER Co-Leader: PATRICK VAUGHN

Jan 18 Sun Hundred Peaks
I: Ryan Mountain (5457'), Lost Horse Mountain (5313'): 9 miles, 2000' gain, moderately paced hike in Joshua Tree National Park. Hike trail to Ryan Mountain, cross-country over to Lost Horse Mountain. Car shuttle back to Ryan Mountain. Send email / H&W phones/ recent conditioning to Leaders: PAT ARREDONDO, VIRGIL POPESCU

Jan 20 Tue Lower Peaks
O: Potato Mountain (3422'), Stoddard Peak (4624'): Join us for these two Lower Peaks just north of Claremont. Potato (or is it Potatoe?) is 2 miles round trip, 1000' gain up Evey Canyon. A short drive up Mt. Baldy road brings us to Stoddard, 6 miles round trip, 800' gain. Contact leaders for details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, INGEBORG PROCHAZKA

Jan 21 Wed Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
O: Mayan Peak (6108'), Butterbredt Peak (5997'): Both peaks north of Mojave are steep, sandy cross-country hikes of 3 miles round trip and 1800' gain, and 2 3/4 miles round trip and 1200' gain, respectively. Dirt road
drive to trailhead requires high-clearance vehicle. Email Dave a few days before for meeting time and place.

Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

Jan 22 Thu Hundred Peaks
O: Hildreth Peak (5065'): Strenuous hike of 14 miles round trip with 5000' of gain on road and use trail in the Ojai area. Permit required to drive Potrero Seco Road. High clearance 4WD advised. Slow pace. Call Mars (661 609 8218) during four days before event for status and details. Leaders: DAVE CANNON, MARS BONFIRE

Jan 24 Sat WTC, LPC, Hundred Peaks
O: Mt Zion (3575'): Loop from Chantry Flat, 10 miles, 2200' gain on trail. Moderately paced hike will go up the Winter Creek and Mt. Zion trails to the summit, and will loop down the Gabrielson Trail. Meet 7:15 AM at Chantry Flat. Adventure Pass rqd.. Bring lunch, 2+ liters of water, layered clothing, and appropriate footwear. Rain or shine. Leader: ROBERT BORTOLIN Assistant: KC REID

Jan 24 Sat Hundred Peaks
Annual Awards Banquet: Program will be a presentation by Bill Burke. Bill will talk about his two attempts to climb Everest and how he is preparing for his next attempt. Silent auction for donated items. 5 PM social hour, 6 PM dinner, 7 PM speaker followed by presentation of awards. Golden Dragon Restaurant (960 N. Broadway, LA). Send $30 (HPS) by January 17 ($35 after January 17), tickets will be held at the door, email, H&W phones to Reservationist: DAVE COMERZAN

Jan 25 Sun WTC, Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
O: Josephine Peak (5558'): Hike to this popular peak in the Angeles National Forest which used to be a fire lookout. Enjoy great views of the city and mountains. 8 miles round trip, 2100' gain via Colby Canyon Trail and Josephine Peak Trail. Meet 8 AM La Canada ridershare point. Bring lunch, 2+ liters of water, good footwear, suitable clothing layers. Rain or shine. Leader: JEFFREY ZINN Assistant: BARRY HOLCHIN

Jan 25 Sun Hundred Peaks
O: Smith Mountain (5111'): Did you veg out on Jan 24 and stay up late after the HPS banquet? Then maybe you should do this hike. 7 miles, 1800' gain round trip. Meet 10 AM at Azusa ridershare point. Nasty weather (rain, for instance) cancels. If in doubt ask Leader: GEORGE WYSUP Worthy assistants: JENNIFER WASHINGTON, PAT ARREDONDO, PATRICK VAUGHN

Jan 27 Tue Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
O: Chaparrosa Peak (5541'): A moderately easy hike of 5 miles round trip with 1200' gain on trail to a peak near Joshua Tree National Park. Moderate pace. Call Mars (661 609 8218) during four days before event for status and details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

Jan 29 Thu Hundred Peaks
O: Mount Emma (5273'), Old Mount Emma (5063'): Easy hikes southeast of Palmdale totaling 5.5 miles round trip with 2140' of gain on use trails and firebreaks. Slow pace. Call Mars (661 609 8218) during four days before event for status and details. Leaders: DAVE CANNON, MARS BONFIRE

Jan 31 Sat Hundred Peaks, Airport Marina
I: Lost Horse Mountain (5313'), Malapais Hill (4237'), Ryan Mountain (5457'): Lots of cross-country hiking in scenic Joshua Tree National Park. Moderately paced, strenuous hike involves 16 miles, 3000' gain. Car shuttle. We will search for interesting Indian pictographs. Bring water, lunch, sturdy boots. Contact Leader: DIANE DUNBAR Co-Leader: JOE YOUNG

Jan 31 Sat Hundred Peaks
O: Caliente Mountain (5106'): Mountain bike or hike the scenic and unique ridge road to this historically significant peak west of Maricopa: 15 miles round trip with 2900' of gain. Bring helmet (required), spare tube, and night riding light if biking and the usual day hiking gear if hiking. Suitable only for experienced and conditioned bikers or hikers. Moderate pace. High clearance 4WD advised. Call Mars (661-609-8218) during four days before event for status and details. Leaders: LILLY FUKUI, CHRIS SPIZAK, MARS BONFIRE, KATHY CHEEVER-BONFIRE

Jan 31 Sat Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
I: Little Cahuilla Mountain (5042'), Cahuilla Mountain (5635'): Moderately paced hike east of Temecula in Riverside County. 9 miles round trip, 2500' gain. Email leader for info. Leader: TED LUBESKOFF Co-Leaders: PATRICK VAUGHN, PAT ARREDONDO

Jan 31 Sat LTC, SPS, DPS, HPS
M/E: Local Baldy Snow Practice: Come review snow climbing, rope travel, ice axe, and snow anchors. Practice your skills or brush up on new techniques. Especially for aspiring M & E leader candidates. Restricted to Sierra Club members with prior experience with the ice axe. Lack of snow may cancel. Send sase or email with SC#, climbing resume, phone # to Leader: NILE SORENSON Co-Leader: TINA BOWMAN

Jan 31 Sat Angeles Chapter
Trail-by-Rail to Goleta, Hike to the Coronado Monarch Preserve. In good years 100,000 Monarchs migrate south and perch in Eucalyptus groves for our viewing; picnic lunch on beach. Total urban hike 9 mi. 8:30 AM - 9:30 PM. $68. Roxana Lewis (310) 532 - 2933, ROXTLEWIS@aol.com

Feb 1 Sun Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
O: Warren Point (5103'), Mt. Inspiration (5560'): Two easy peaks in Joshua Tree National Park. Warren Point
Feb 4 Wed Hundred Peaks
Rescheduled from November 26
I: Santa Cruz Peak (5570'), San Rafael Mountain (6593'), McKinley Mountain (6200'): We liked it so much, we decided to do it again. A long and very strenuous day hike of the Big Three above Lake Cachuma for 25 miles round trip with 7120' gain. A mix of dirt road, firebreak, steep and loose cross country, and trail suitable only for experienced and conditioned hikers. Expect night hiking. Moderate pace. Contact leaders for details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

Feb 5 Thu Lower Peaks
O: Clamshell Peak (4380'), Pine Mountain (4539'), Silver Mountain (3385'): Provided we are able to get a permit for access to the Rincon-Shortcut Road 2N24, the distances for the peaks are: Clamshell 6 miles round trip with 500' gain and 800' loss. Pine 1.5 miles round trip with 400' gain. Silver is 4 miles round trip with 1250' gain. We estimate 8 to 9 hours of hike and drive between peaks. Contact leaders for meeting place Leaders: INGEBORG PROCHAZKA, DAVE COMERZAN

Feb 7 Sat Hundred Peaks, K-9
New Outing, first time published

Feb 7 Sat Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
I: Whale Peak (5349'): Fairly strenuous, moderately paced hike in Anza Borrego Desert State Park. 9 miles round trip, 2300' gain. For info, email leader with recent conditioning and experience. Leader: TED LUBESHKOFF Co-Leaders: WAYNE BANNISTER, PATRICK VAUGHN

Feb 7 Sat Wilderness Adventures, Hundred Peaks
I: Snowshoe Jean Pk (10,670'), Marion Mtn (10,320'), Drury Pk (10,160'): Moderately paced snowshoe hike on trail and cross-country in the San Jacinto area from tram station. Up to 12 miles round trip, 3000' gain, conditions permitting. Open to beginning snowshoers who possess mountain hiking experience, as well as to experienced snowshoers. Email/sase, experience, rideshare info to Leader: BRENT COSTELLO Co-Leader: HARVEY GANZ

Feb 7 Sat WTC, Lower Peaks
O: Temescal Peak (2126'): Practice conditioning hike for WTC students and others through oak glens and chaparral in Topanga State Park. We will hike to the park's highest peak with spectacular views. 8 miles round trip, 1100' gain on fire road and trail. Meet 9 AM at Trippet Ranch fee parking lot (from Topanga Canyon Blvd, east on Entrada Dr for about 1 mile, turning left at every opportunity until parking lot). Bring water, lunch (or snack), 10-essentials. Rain or shine. Leader: MONICA SUUA Assistant: ROBERT MYERS

Feb 8 Sun Hundred Peaks, Airport Marina

Feb 8 Sun Hundred Peaks, K-9 Committee
O: Josephine Peak (5558'): 8 miles round trip, 1900' gain up a dirt road near the intersection of Angeles Crest and Angeles Forest highways, and we find wonderful views of the city and the mountains. Newcomers and well-behaved K-9s welcome. Meet 9 AM La Canada rideshare point. Bring clothing layers (that wind can blow!), food, water (for you and your dog). Rain or snow cancels. Leaders: DORIS DUVAL, LILLY FUKUI, CHRIS SPISAK, KAREN LEVERICH

Feb 10 Tue Hundred Peaks
M: Five Fingers (5174'): Join us for this challenging peak in the Lake Isabella area. Summit involves some class 3 climbing. In the event of snow or ice, will hike some other peaks in the area. 2 miles round trip, 1600' gain possible all cross country. Consider staying over for Russell and Backus on Wednesday. Contact leaders for details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

Feb 11 Wed Hundred Peaks
I: Russell Peak (6696'), Backus Peak (6651'): If Five Fingers on Tuesday wasn't enough, join us for a shuttle hike of these two peaks in the Lake Isabella area. 8 miles round trip, 3800' gain all cross country. Contact leaders for details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

Feb 14 Sat Pasadena, Lower Peaks, Orange County
O: Echo Mountain (3207'): Easy paced, 5.4 miles round trip, 1400' gain hike to Echo (cardiogram) Mtn for Valentine's Day. Newcomers welcome. This is a classic hike to historic site. Meet 7:30 AM N end of Lake Av (from 210 Fwy in Pasadena, exit Lake Av, N to end). Bring "heart-y" snack to share, 1 quart water, lugsoles. Rain/fire cancels. Leaders: DANA & JOHN HUNTER, PAM ALLEN
Feb 14 Sat LTC, SPS, DPS, HPS
M/E: Local Baldy Snow Practice: Come review snow climbing, rope travel, ice axe, and snow anchors. Practice your skills or brush up on new techniques. Especially for aspiring M & E leader candidates. Restricted to Sierra Club members with prior experience with the ice axe. Lack of snow may cancel. Send sase or email with SC#, climbing resume, phone # to Leader: NILE SORENSON Co-Leader: DOUG MANTLE

Feb 17 Tue Lower Peaks
O: Mission Point (2771′), Rocky Peak (2714′): Join us for one or both of these delightful Lower Peaks just north of Los Angeles. Mission Point is 5 miles round trip, 1200′ gain, follows an old road to the top with great views. After a short drive, we will hike Rocky Peak, 6 miles round trip, 1700′ gain. This is a road walk to a rocky summit. Contact leaders for details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, INGEBORG PROCHAZKA

Feb 21 Sat Hundred Peaks, K-9 Committee
O: Strawberry Peak (6164′), Mount Lawlor (5957′): Hike to Strawberry from the east and Lawlor from west. 7 miles round trip, 2300′ gain. Steep trail on some sections of the hike. Adventurous newcomers and well-behaved K-9’s welcome. Meet 8:30 La Canada rideshare point. Bring lunch, water (for you and your dog), warm clothes, lug sole boots. Rain or snow cancels. Leaders: WINNETTE BUTLER, GREG de HOOGH, JIM FLEMMING, LILLY FUKUI, CHRIS SPISAK, SUZY HERMANN, KAREN LEVERICH

Feb 21 Sat Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
I: Granite Mountain #2 (5633′): Fairly strenuous, moderately paced hike southeast of Julian in San Diego County. 8 miles round trip, 3000′ gain. For info, email leader with recent conditioning and experience. Leader: TED LUBESHKOFF Co-Leader: WAYNE BANNISTER

Feb 21 Sat Angeles Chapter
Trail-by-Rail to Mission San Luis Rey. The largest & richest of California’s missions, we will trail to Oceanside and hike to the King of Missions for a visit. 10 mi. $65. Roxana Lewis (310) 532 - 2933, ROXTLEWIS@aol.com

Feb 22 Sun Hundred Peaks
I: Luna Mountain (5967′), Round Mountain (5272′), Rattlesnake Mountain (6131′): Join us for a comfortably paced 12 mile round trip, 3000′ gain hike to bag three peaks near Hesperia. Much dirt road driving; high clearance vehicles recommended. Bring water, lunch, warm clothing. For trip details send recent conditioning, phone & rideshare information to Leaders: VIRGIL POPESCU, PAT ARREDONDO

Feb 22 Sun Hundred Peaks, Lower Peaks
New Outing, first time published
I/O: Ghost Mountain (3400′), Whale Peak (5349′): Exploratory hike to Ghost, visiting Yaquitepec (Google it) ruins along the way, for possible addition to Great Lower Peaks list. 2.5 miles, 700′ gain. This followed by desert cross-country hike to nearby Whale, in Anza Borrego State Park. 7 miles, 2300′ gain. Perhaps stay over after Saturday Granite Mountain hike. Some easy dirt road driving in Blair Valley. Email or call George for info. Co-Leaders: GEORGE WYSUP, JENNIFER WASHINGTON

Feb 25 Wed Local Hikes, Hundred Peaks
O: Colby Canyon to Josephine Peak (5558′): 9 miles, 2100′ gain. Return via dirt road. Rain cancels. Short car shuttle. Meet 9 AM La Canada rideshare point with water, lunch, good footwear. Leaders: DORIS DUVAL, DAN BUTLER

Feb 28 Sat Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
O: Rouse Hill (5168′): Beautiful hike along the South Fork of the San Jacinto River south of Idyllwild. Moderately paced, 10 miles round trip, 3000′ gain. Email leader for info. Leader: TED LUBESHKOFF Co-Leader: PAT ARREDONDO

Mar 7 Sat Hundred Peaks, K-9
O: Caliente Mountain (5106′): Hike the scenic and unique ridge road to this historically significant peak west of Maricopa, 15 miles round trip with 2900′ gain. Moderate pace suitable for conditioned hikers. High clearance vehicles advised. Well-mannered K-9’s on leash welcome. For trip details contact Leader: JIM FLEMMING Co-Leaders: WINNETTE BUTLER, KAREN LEVERICH

Mar 7 Sat Hundred Peaks
I: Beauty Peak (5548′), Iron Spring Mountain (5755′): Moderately paced hike east of Temecula in Riverside County. Rugged terrain and cross-country. 9 miles round trip, 2700′ gain. Email leader for info. Leader: TED LUBESHKOFF Co-Leader: PATRICK VAUGHN

Mar 8 Sat Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
I: Cross Mountain (5203′), Chuckwalla Mountain (5029′): Pretty hike (except for the motorcycle trails) to these desert summits north of Mojave. 10 miles, 4400′ gain. Some dirt road driving. Email or call George for info. Co-Leaders: GEORGE WYSUP, JENNIFER WASHINGTON, PATRICK VAUGHN

Mar 14 Sat Angeles Chapter, Airport - Marina
Alice Spring Memorial Train/Hike to the Carpenteria Seal Rookery. Trail-by-Rail outing to see the California seal calving ground with newborn pups. Short 2 mi hike with option for more. 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM. $65. Roxana Lewis (310) 532 - 2933, ROXTLEWIS@aol.com

Mar 17 Tue Hundred Peaks
I: Granite Mountain #2 (5633′): A strenuous cross country hike on steep and loose ground for 8 miles round trip with 3000′ gain to a peak southeast of Julian. Suitable only for experienced and conditioned hikers. High
clearance 4WD advised. Moderate pace. Contact Dave for status and details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

Mar 21 Sat Hundred Peaks
I: Eagle Crag (5077’): Celebrate the first day of Spring on this strenuous hike southeast of Temecula in San Diego County. 24 miles round trip, 4500’ gain. Early start from Dripping Springs Campground. For info, email leader with recent conditioning and experience. Leader: TED LUBESHKOFF Co-Leader: WAYNE BANNISTER

Mar 22 Sun Hundred Peaks
O: Mount Lukens (5074’): Join Karen on her birthday and visit the highest point in the City of Los Angeles on a reprise of her very first Sierra Club lead. 10 miles round trip, 2200’ gain. Meet 9 AM La Canada rideshare point with water, sturdy shoes, snack. Rain cancels. Leaders: KAREN & WOLF LEVERICH, LILLY FUKUI, CHRIS SPISAK

Mar 25 Wed Local Hikes, Lower Peaks
O: Chantry Flats Mt. Zion Loop: 10 miles round trip 1800’ gain through beautiful Big Santa Anita Canyon. Some stream crossings. Meet 9 AM Chantry Flats, lower parking lot, with water, lunch, appropriate footwear. If road is closed (call leader) we will meet La Canada rideshare point for alternate hike. Rain cancels. Leaders: DORIS DUVAL, BROOKES TREIDLER

Mar 28 Sat Hundred Peaks, K-9

Mar 29 Sun Hundred Peaks
O: Mount Lukens (5074’): From Deukmejian Park in La Crescenta, 9 miles round trip with 3000’ gain. Visit the high point of the City of Los Angeles. The hike is mostly on trail with some hiking on fire road. Spectacular views of the Los Angeles basin and surrounding mountains from the summit. Bring lunch, water, lugsoles, suitable clothing. Rain cancels. For details, contact Leaders: PAT ARREDONDO, VIRGIL POPESCU, PATRICK VAUGHN

Apr 3-5 Fri-Sun Hundred Peaks, WTC
I: Big Four: Samon Peak (6227’), Big Pine Mountain (6800’), West Big Pine (6490’), Madulce Peak (6536’): Three day, two night backpack mainly on dirt roads and trails in Santa Barbara County (Big Pine is the high point of Santa Barbara County) with some steep cross-country. Total statistics: about 51 miles and 8000’ gain. This trip satisfies WTC experience trip requirements. Email leader with recent conditioning and experience, city, and phone. Leader: TED LUBESHKOFF Co-Leaders: WAYNE VOLLAIRE, WAYNE BANNISTER

Apr 4 Sat Hundred Peaks, Verdugo Hills
O: Josephine Peak (5558’): Hike to this popular peak enjoy the view, meet others. 6 miles round trip, 1900’ gain, slow moderate pace, new hikers, photo buffs welcome. Meet 9 AM La Canada rideshare point. Bring water, lunch, wear luggs. Rain cancels. Leaders: FRANK DOBOS, DELPHINE TROWBRIDGE

Apr 5 Sun LTC, WTC, Hundred Peaks
O: GPS Class: Intro to Global Positioning System at Eaton Cyn Nature Center, Pasadena. Apply early, no registration at door, start 9 AM indoors. Focus on Garmin models includes features, selection, operation, use with maps (provided), hands-on field practice in afternoon. We have loaner GPS. Send email/sase, phones, GPS experience & model, $20 (LTC-no refund later than 5 days prior) to Leader: HARRY FREIMANIS Assistant: ROBERT MYERS

Apr 11 Sat Hundred Peaks, Airport-Marina
O: Mount McDill (5187’) Exploratory: Exploratory outing to a once (and future?) HPS peak. 12 miles round trip, 2500’ gain on PCT and fire road on the Sierra Pelona ridge between Bouquet Canyon and Acton. If we’re lucky, there will be fantastic flowers. Meet 8 AM Canyon Country rideshare point. Bring water, snack, sturdy shoes. Rain cancels. Leaders: KAREN & WOLF LEVERICH, SUZY HERMANN, PATRICK VAUGHN, KENT SCHWITKIS, JOE YOUNG

Apr 14 - 24 Tue - Fri Angeles Chapter
Hiking the Cinque Terre & The Levante: One of the Italian Riviera’s scenic hiking areas. Experience seaside towns via footpath and day hikes from centralized hotels. Visits to Portofino, Santa Margherita ligure, Rapallo and more. Ability of walk 9 - 14 mi per day. Cost $2,750 includes air port transfers, standard hotels (2 sharing) breakfast, donation to the Angeles Chapter. Roxana Lewis (310) 532 - 2933, ROXTLEWIS@aol.com

Apr 14 Tue Hundred Peaks
I: Onyx Peak #2 (5244’): Join us for a day hike of this lovely peak in the Lake Isabella area. With a little luck and some rain this winter, the wildflowers may be in abundance. This hike is about 4 miles round trip, cross country, 2200’ gain, estimate 4 hours of hiking. For details, contact Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

Apr 15 Wed Hundred Peaks
I: Cross Mountain (5203’), Chuckwalla Mountain (5029’): If Onyx wasn’t enough, spend the night in the area for some more strenuous hiking on these two peaks. If done as one hike to both peaks, it is a 12 mile round trip, use trail, 4100’ gain, estimate 9 hours of hiking. Other routes possible. For details, contact Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

Apr 15 Wed Local Hikes, Hundred Peaks
O: Barley Flats (5600’) from Alder Creek: Splendid spring hike to former Mike site. 8 miles round trip with 2000’ gain. Meet 9 AM La Canada rideshare with water, lunch. Suitable footwear. Leaders: BROOKES TREIDLER, DAN LUKE
Apr 17 Fri Hundred Peaks
O: Boucher Hill (5438’), Combs Peak (6193’), Palomar Mountain (6140’): Short hikes to some easy peaks in northern San Diego County, 6 miles round trip, 1400’ gain. Do one, two or all the peaks. Extensive dirt road driving; high-clearance recommended. For trip details contact Leader: JIM FLEMING Co-Leaders: WINNETTE BUTLER, LILLY FUKUI, CHRIS SPISAK

Apr 18 Sat Hundred Peaks, Palos Verdes-South Bay, WTC I: Deer Mountain (5586’) and Deep Creek Hot Springs (5’ deep): 9th semi-annual Deep Creek Hot Springs hike/soak/swim with another peak. Moderately paced 17 miles, 4300’ gain, utilizing another exploratory cross-country loop. Bring 10 essentials, lugs, (swim suit optional). High clearance vehicles desirable for dirt road driving. No beginners. Plan on spending full day - it’s near Hesperia. Rain cancels. Send email (preferable) or sase with carpool and recent conditioning info to Leader: BARRY HOLCHIN Co-Leader: WAYNE VOLLAIRE

Apr 18-19 Sat-Sun Hundred Peaks
HPS Spring Fling Weekend at Foster Lodge: It’s springtime and a hiker’s fancy turns to what else? The Annual HPS Spring Fling, this year it is being held at the Foster Lodge in the beautiful northeast part of San Diego County. Explore the hillsides that recently suffered a major burn. Join us for potluck at the lodge Saturday night. To spend the night at the lodge (no charge) or for directions, contact Dave Comerzan by email or sase. Or if you prefer more luxurious quarters, contact the Julian Chamber of Commerce for a list of motels in the area. For any of the scheduled hikes, contact the leaders listed (in this Schedule and/or on the HPS Web site). Reservationist: DAVE COMERZAN

Apr 18 Sat Hundred Peaks
O: Oakzanita Peak (5054’), Stonewall Peak (5730’): Two short hikes on trail to easy peaks in northern San Diego County, 5.5 miles round trip, 1900’ gain. We’ll be finished in time to join the HPS Spring Fling potluck dinner at Foster Lodge. For trip details contact Leader: JIM FLEMING Co-Leaders: WINNETTE BUTLER, LILLY FUKUI, CHRIS SPISAK, SUZY HERMANN

Apr 18 Sat Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
O: Oakzanita Peak (5054’), Middle Peak (5883’): Hike one or both and then join us at Foster Lodge for HPS potluck. Total 10.5 miles and 2500’ of gain. Bring lunch, water, boots and 10 essentials. Rain cancels. For trip details contact Leader: PATRICK VAUGHN Co-Leader: BRUCE CRAIG

Apr 19 Sun Hundred Peaks
O: Monument Peak #1 (6271’), Garnet Mountain (5680’), Garnet Peak (5880’): Total 6 miles round trip, 1200’ gain. Three easy peaks in northern San Diego County. Do one, two or all peaks. Possibility of pathfinder routes. Bring water, snack, lugsoles. Heavy rain cancels. Meet 8:00 AM Foster Lodge. Leader: JIM FLEMING Co-Leaders: WINNETTE BUTLER, LILLY FUKUI, CHRIS SPISAK

Apr 19 Sun Hundred Peaks
O: Cuyamaca Peak (6512’), Middle Peak (5883’): A mellow pace Spring Fling hike in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. 7.5 miles and 2000’ gain, possible loop or car shuttle. Parking fee at trailhead. If some are still feeling energetic afterwards, nearby Stonewall Peak may be an option. Meet 7:30 AM at Foster Lodge or 8:30 AM in the Day Use parking lot for Paso Picacho Campground off Hwy 79. Bring food, water, sturdy footwear. Rain cancels. Leaders: SUZY HERMANN, KAREN LEVERICH & WOLF LEVERICH

Apr 20 Wed Local Hikes, Hundred Peaks
O: Josephine Peak (5558’) via Colby Canyon: 9 miles round trip, 2100’ gain. Meet 9 AM La Canada rideshare with water, lunch, appropriate footwear. Leaders: DORIS DUVAL, TERRY BEYER

Apr 22 Wed Hundred Peaks
I: Nicolls Peak (6070’), Heald Peak (6901’): Join us for a challenging day hike of these two peaks in the Lake Isabella area. This is a strenuous hike of about 12 miles round trip of use trail and cross country, 4200’ gain, estimate 9-10 hours of hiking. 4WD needed to get to trailhead. For details, contact Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

Apr 25 Sat Hundred Peaks, Verdugo Hills
O: Mount Sally (5408’), Vetter Mountain (5908’): Easy peaks in the San Gabriel Mountains 3 miles round trip, 800’ gain. One peak with a view, other with a lookout tower, beginners delight. Meet 9 AM La Canada rideshare point. Bring water, lunch, lugsoles. Rain cancels. Leaders: FRANK DOBOS, DELPHINE TROWBRIDGE

Apr 25 Sat Hundred Peaks, Tejon-Tehachapi, PV-SB, Long Beach
I: Liebre Twins (6413’), nearby Bump 6803 (GPS NAD83 coordinates Easting 354798 Northing 3868351): A return
I: Nav 'till it Hertz: Intermediate level Navigation Clinic, May 2 Sat WTC, LTC
Assistants: WINNETTE BUTLER, KAREN LEVERICH
water, lugsoles. Rain cancels. Leader: JIM FLEMING
early! Meet 8 AM La Canada rideshare point. Bring back to the mountains. Start celebrating Cinco de Mayo Refreshments provided by the HPS, after we give a little both peaks. Option to add Mt. Wilson Skyline Park. Occidental is 2 miles round trip, 200' gain. Do one or 2. Deception is 4.5 miles round trip, 1100' gain and National Forest and easy cleanup of our section of Route Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup: Easy peaks in Angeles O/I: Mt. Deception (5796'), Occidental Peak (5732'), Angeles Chapter Annual Awards Banquet: Save the date! Come to honor and celebrate the achievements of your leaders and colleagues. Banquet to be held at the Brookside Golf Club in Pasadena. Email SILVIA DARIE outdoorsygal@sbcglobal.net for details, or CATHY KISSINGER for ticket reservations.
May 5 Wed Hundred Peaks
O: Mount Hawkins (8850'): Hopefully a newly-opened road will let us reach a favorite peak via the Windy Gap trailhead in a 7 mile round trip, 2000' gain route. Meet La Canada rideshare 9 AM with lunch, water, suitable clothing and good footwear. Rain cancels. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE
April 29 Wed Local Hikes, Hundred Peaks
O: Mount Hawkins (8850'): Hopefully a newly-opened road will let us reach a favorite peak via the Windy Gap trailhead in a 7 mile round trip, 2000' gain route. Meet La Canada rideshare 9 AM with lunch, water, suitable clothing and good footwear. Rain cancels. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE
April 28 Tue Hundred Peaks
I: Granite Peaks (7527'): A moderately strenuous cross country hike on steep and loose ground with some rock scrambling for 5 miles round trip with 1200' gain to a peak east of Big Bear Lake. Suitable only for exp. and conditioned hikers. High clearance 4WD advised. Moderate pace. Contact Dave for status and details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE
April 26 Sun Hundred Peaks
I: Morris Peak (7215'), Mount Jenkins (7921'): Hike to these two great peaks on the PCT trail from Walker Pass - approx. 14 miles round trip, 3400' gain. Paved roads. For details contact Leaders: PAT ARREDONDO, VIRGIL POPESCU, PATRICK VAUGHN
April 25 Sat Palos Verdes-South Bay
M: Strawberry Peak (6164'): Moderate 6 miles round trip, 2600' gain via Colby Canyon. Experience and comfort on class 3 rock required. Meet 9 AM Colby Canyon parking area (11 miles from La Canada, 1 mile beyond Angeles Crest/Angeles Forest junction). Bring good boots, something with "strawberries" to share on top. Rain cancels. Leaders: BARRY HOLCHIN, BOB BEACH
May 2-3 Sat-Sun Hundred Peaks, WTC
I: The Big Three: McKinley Mountain (6200'), San Rafael Mountain (6593'), Santa Cruz Peak (5570'): Very strenuous, moderately paced backpack in central Santa Barbara County, two-day total 33 miles, 8600' gain, following roads and often overgrown trails. This trip satisfies WTC experience trip requirements. Email leader with recent conditioning and experience, city, and phone. Leader: TED LUBESHKOFF Co-Leader: WAYNE VOLLAIRE
May 3 Sun Angeles Chapter
Angeles Chapter Annual Awards Banquet: Save the date! Come to honor and celebrate the achievements of your leaders and colleagues. Banquet to be held at the Brookside Golf Club in Pasadena. Email SILVIA DARIE outdoorsygal@sbcglobal.net for details, or CATHY KISSINGER for ticket reservations.
May 5 Wed Hundred Peaks
O: Mount Hawkins (8850'): Hopefully a newly-opened road will let us reach a favorite peak via the Windy Gap trailhead in a 7 mile round trip, 2000' gain route. Meet La Canada rideshare 9 AM with lunch, water, suitable clothing and good footwear. Rain cancels. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE
May 2 Sat Hundred Peaks
O/I: Mt. Deception (5796'), Occidental Peak (5732'), Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup: Easy peaks in Angeles National Forest and easy cleanup of our section of Route 2. Deception is 4.5 miles round trip, 1100' gain and Occidental is 2 miles round trip, 200' gain. Do one or both peaks. Option to add Mt. Wilson Skyline Park. Refreshments provided by the HPS, after we give a little back to the mountains. Start celebrating Cinco de Mayo early! Meet 8 AM La Canada rideshare point. Bring water, lugsoles. Rain cancels. Leader: JIM FLEMING Assistants: WINNETTE BUTLER, KAREN LEVERICH
May 9 Sat Hundred Peaks
O: Tecuya Mountain (7160'+), Antimony Peak (6848'): Two peaks in southern Kern County near Frazier Park. Separate hikes, dirt road driving to reach trailheads. Tecuya is 1.5 miles round trip, 500' gain on sometimes steep dirt road. Antimony is 5 miles round trip, 1600' gain (700' of which is on the return) on dirt road and steep bulldozer track. Meet 7:30 AM Sylmar rideshare point, or 8 AM east of the gas pumps at Flying J truck stop, Frazier Park exit from I-5 about half an hour north of Santa Clarita. Leaders: KAREN LEVERICH, LILLY FUKUI, CHRIS SPISAK, SUZY HERMANN
May 9 Sat Hundred Peaks, Airport Marina
O: South Mount Hawkins (7783'): Moderately paced 14 miles, 3800' gain, from Islip Saddle. Enjoyable spring hike in the San Gabriel Mountains. Optional short climb to Middle Hawkins on the return. Bring water, lunch,
layers and appropriate footwear. Rain cancels. E-mail leader for details. Leader: PATRICK VAUGHN
Co-Leader: BRUCE CRAIG

May 9-10 Sat-Sun LTC, WTC, DPS, Desert Committee
I: Places We've Saved Navigation Noodle in Mojave National Preserve: Join us for our seventh annual journey through this jewel of the Mojave; preserved under the California Desert Protection Act, as a result of the efforts of Sierra Club activists and others. A basic to intermediate cross-country navigation day-hike workshop will be conducted out of the Mid Hills campground in the pinyon and juniper forests at 5500’. Potluck and social on Saturday, and for those arriving early on Friday. Limited to 14 participants. Send email/sase to Leader: HARRY FREIMANIS Assistant: VIRGIL SHIELDS

May 10 Sun Hundred Peaks
O: Iron Mountain #1 (8007'): Very strenuous hike in San Gabriel Mtns involves 14 mi rt, 7000’ of gain over steep, rough trail. Not suitable for beginners. Bring water, lunch, lug sole boots. Excessive heat cancels. Email or call leader for meeting time, place. Leader: JOE YOUNG

May 17 Sun Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
O: Sunset Peak (5796’): List finish celebration and a nice hike to go along with it. We will do an easy 7 miles round trip, 1300’ gain, hike at moderate pace and party at the summit. Please bring: water, lunch, jacket & hat. Contact the leader for meeting information. Leader: PAUL GARRY Assistants: GEORGE WYSUP, EDD RUSKOWITZ, GARY SCHENK

May 19-20 Tue-Wed Lower Peaks, HPS
O: El Montanon (1808'): Join us on a great hike on Santa Cruz Island. We will take the ferry out of Ventura Harbor to the island. We will hike the peak on the first day. Totals are 4.5 miles one way, 1800’ gain. We will spend the night at the campground. Next day we will spend the day doing whatever catches our fancy and then take the late afternoon ferry back. With luck, we may see some whales. Water is available on the island. Contact leaders by phone, email, or SASE one week prior to hike.
Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, JOHN RADALJ, DAVE CANNON

May 20 Wed Local Hikes, Hundred Peaks
O: Strawberry Peak (6164’): 6 miles round trip, 1600’ gain. Redbox to Saddle 2.25 miles, 1000’ gain to peak. Meet 9 AM La Canada rideshare. Bring water, lunch, good hiking footwear. Leaders: DAN LUKE, MARY PATTERSON

May 23 Sat LTC, WTC, Hundred Peaks
I: Mount Lowe (5603’) Beginning Navigation Clinic: 4 miles, 500’ gain. Spend the day one-on-one with an instructor, learning/practicing map and compass.

May 24 Sat Hundred Peaks
O: Liebre Mtn (5750’): 7 miles round trip, 1850’ gain on PCT with wonderful views of Antelope Valley. If there is interest and enough high clearance vehicles, may add nearby Burnt and Sawtooth. For details, contact Leader: KAREN LEVERICH Co-Leaders: SUZY HERMANN, LILLY FUKUI, CHRIS SPISAK

May 26 Tue Hundred Peaks
I: Fox Mountain #1 (5167’): A moderately strenuous cross country hike on steep and loose ground for 5 miles round trip with 2000’ gain to a peak west of Maricopa. Suitable only for experienced and conditioned hikers. High clearance 4WD advised. Moderate pace. Contact Dave for status and details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

May 27 Wed Local Hikes, Hundred Peaks
O: Twin Peaks (7761’): 11 miles round trip, 3200’ gain (2000’ plus 1200’ on return). Strenuous hike at slow to moderate pace from Buckhorn. Meet 8 AM La Canada rideshare with water, lunch, appropriate footwear.
Leaders: DORIS DUVAL, DON SIMINSKI

May 30 Sat Hundred Peaks
I: Will Thrall Peak (7845’), Pleasant View Ridge (7983’): Moderately paced 13.5 mile, 3600’ gain hike in the northern San Gabriel Mtns. Starting at Buckhorn camp ground we will take the Burkhart Trail to Burkhart Saddle and then hike off-trail to the peaks. Great desert views. Contact Leader for meeting time and location. Bring water, lunch, boots, 10 essentials. Leader: PATRICK VAUGHN Co-Leaders: PAT ARREDONDO, JENNIFER WASHINGTON

May 30 Sat Hundred Peaks
I/M: Antsell Rock (7679’), Apache Peak (7567’), Spitler Peak (7440’): Strenuous, moderately paced hike along the Desert Divide. Antsell Rock is a Class 3 climb. 12 miles one-way, 4000’ gain. We will hike up through the Zen Center, attain the peaks along the PCT, and descend the Fobes Trail using a car shuttle. Participation will be limited by permit. For info, email leader with recent conditioning and experience. Leader: TED LUBESHKOFF Co-Leader: GARY SCHENK

May 30 Sat Hundred Peaks, WTC
O: Baldylocks and the Three Ts: Our sixth annual - for Big Bad Wolves only! You know the story: Baldylocks heads out from her Mount Baldy Village home at the strike of dawn and hikes up 6000’ in 6 miles to the top of Mount Baldy (10,064’) where, gazing eastward, she spies Mama T, Papa T and Baby T, aka the Three Ts. “A T party!” she exclaims, then scrambles over Devil’s
Backbone, past the ski lift and up Thunder Mountain (8587'), Telegraph Peak (8985') and Timber Mountain (8303') before descending Icehouse Canyon to Grandma's house and a waiting car shuttle. "Only 20 miles and 8000' gain - this hike was ju-u-u-u-st right!" Long, strenuous and paced to complete pre-dark. But if you think this hike is just right, too, email your conditioning, experience and contact info to Leader: EDD RUSKOWITZ Assistant: MELISSA KANE

Jun 3 Wed Local Hikes, Hundred Peaks
O: Throop Peak (9138'), Mount Burnham (8997') from Dawson Saddle: Hopefully the road will be open to hike 9 miles round trip, 1900' gain and enjoy these peaks once again. Meet 9 AM La Canada rideshare with water, lunch, good footwear, suitable clothing layers. Leaders: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL, TERRY BEYER

Jun 6 Sat Hundred Peaks
O: Twin Peaks (7761'): 14 miles round trip, 2400' gain on trail and steep use trail to one of the beautiful forested peaks of the San Gabriel Mountains. Slow to moderate pace. Meet 8 AM La Canada rideshare point with water, snack, sturdy shoes. Rain cancels. Leaders: KAREN & WOLF LEVERICH, LILLY FUKUI, CHRIS SPISAK

Jun 6 Sat Hundred Peaks, Airport-Marina
Rescheduled from October 4
O: Mount Deception (5796'), Mount Disappointment (5960'), San Gabriel Peak (6161'), Mount Markham (5742'), Mount Lowe (5603'): Enjoy a hike to these historic peaks above Pasadena. Slow to moderate paced 10 miles round trip, 2500' gain. Afterwards we may visit nearby Occidental Peak and Mount Wilson Skyline Park. Rain cancels. Early start, for details contact Leader: PATRICK VAUGHN Co-Leader: BRUCE CRAIG

Jun 6 Sat WTC, Hundred Peaks, LTC
I: Heart Bar Peak (8332'): Practice navigation for Sunday's checkout on this 7 mile round trip, 1400' gain hike. We will take a cross-country route to Heart Bar Peak and practice micro-navigation skills along the way. Send email (preferred) or sase, with contact info & recent conditioning to Leader: ROBERT MYERS Co-Leaders: JANE SIMPSON, ADRIENNE BENEDICT

Jun 6 Sat Hundred Peaks
New Outing, first time published
I: Asbestos Mtn (5265'), Santa Rosa Mtn (8070'), Toro Peak (8316'), Lookout Mtn (5590'): Join us for this challenging day in the Santa Rosa Mountains. First and last peaks are walk-ups totaling 7 miles, 2500' gain. The middle two peaks are drive ups totaling 30 miles, round trip, of dirt road driving. High clearance 4WD vehicles are most welcome. Email leader for info. Leader: TED LUBESHKOFF Co-Leader: PAT ARREDONDO

Jun 7 Sun Hundred Peaks, Airport-Marina
O: Liebre Mountain (5760'): This year's "first Sunday in June hike with Stag" is a moderate hike in Angeles National Forest which follows Pacific Crest Trail through beautiful forested terrain. Enjoy late Spring flowers. Hike involves 1900' gain, 7 miles round trip. Suitable for beginners in good shape. Bring water, lunch, sturdy boots. Meet 8 AM Sylmar rideshare point. Leader: JOE YOUNG Assistant: STAG BROWN

Jun 7 Sun LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS
I: Grinnell Ridge Navigation: Navigation Noodle in San Bernardino National Forest for either checkout or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Leader: ROBERT MYERS Assistant: HARRY FREIMANIS

Jun 10 Wed Hundred Peaks
O: Islip Peak (8250') from Breezy Islip Saddle: Always a good hike of 6 miles round trip with 1300' gain. Meet 9 AM La Canada rideshare with water, lunch, good footwear. Leaders: BETH MIKA, BRUCE CRAIG

Jun 13 Sat Hundred Peaks
O: Mt Baden-Powell (9399'): We hike from Vincent Gap west of Wrightwood, on good trail to the top of Baden-Powell. Moderate, 8 miles round trip, 2800' gain. Paved road driving. Contact Leader: PATRICK VAUGHN Co-Leader: BRUCE CRAIG

Jun 16 Tue Hundred Peaks
O: San Bernardino Peak (10,649'), San Bernardino East Peak (10,691'): A strenuous trail hike for 15 miles round trip with 4232' gain to peaks above Redlands. Moderate pace. Contact Dave for status and details. Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, MARS BONFIRE

Jun 17 Wed Local Hikes, Hundred Peaks
O: Vetter Lookout (5908'): Car shuttle. We'll take the Silver Moccasin Trail from Shortcut Saddle to the peak then hike to the Charlton Flats entrance. 5 miles with 1700' gain. Leaders: BROOKES TREIDLER, DAN LUKE
Jun 20 Sat Hundred Peaks
O: Ontario Peak (8693'), Bighorn Peak (8441'); Ontario is 12 miles round trip, 3700' gain. A visit to Bighorn on the return adds a few hundred feet of gain and little additional distance, if there's interest. Space limited by permit. For details, contact Leaders: KAREN LEVERICH, LILLY FUKUI, CHRIS SPISAK.

Jun 23-24 Tue-Wed Lower Peaks, HPS
O: Silver Peak (1804'); Join us on a great hike on Catalina Island. We will take the ferry from San Pedro to either Avalon or Two Harbors. Those going to Avalon will take the shuttle to the airport, then hike down to Two Harbors Campground, about 8 miles downhill. Those going to Two Harbors will meet us at the campground. On Friday, all of us will get an early start for Silver. We will do Silver and there are several options for the return to Two Harbors depending on time and hikers energy. 6 miles one way, 2300' gain/500' loss. For details, contact leaders by phone or email one week prior to hike.
Leaders: DAVE COMERZAN, JOHN RADALJ, DAVE CANNON.

Jun 24 Wed Local Hikes, Hundred Peaks
O: Bighorn Peak (8441'); 11 miles round trip 3400' gain. Strenuous hike at slow to moderate pace via Icehouse Saddle and Kelly's Camp. Meet 8 AM at Public Parking lot (intersection of Mills Av and Badly Rd in Claremont) with water, lunch, good footwear. Appropriate clothing.
Leaders: DORIS DUVAL, GARY BICKEL.

Jun 27 Sat Hundred Peaks, Airport-Marina
New Outing, first time published
O: Mount Hillyer (6200'+), Bare Mountain (6388'); Hike two easy peaks totaling 6.5 miles round trip, 2100' gain. We will first hike Hillyer which is only 1.5 miles round trip and 300’ of gain and then hike Bare via route 2 up a fire break to the summit. Bring water, lunch, lugsoles, suitable clothing. Email Pat for information. Rain cancels.
Leader: PATRICK VAUGHN Co-Leader: BRUCE CRAIG.

Jun 28 Sun Hundred Peaks
I: Shield’s Peak (10,680’), Anderson Peak (10,840’), San Bernardino Peak (10,649’), San Bernardino East Peak (10,691’); Very strenuous, approximately 20 miles round trip, 5000’ gain hike along the beautiful San Bernardino Ridge. Permit limits group size. Send email, H&W phones, recent conditioning to Leaders: PAT ARREDONDO, VIRGIL POPESCU.

Jul 1 Wed Local Hikes, Hundred Peaks
O: Mount Baden Powell (9399’); 9 miles, 2400’ gain at slow to moderate pace. Car shuttle between Dawson Saddle and Vincent Gap. Meet 9 am La Canada rideshare with water, lunch, good footwear, suitable clothing.
Leaders: GARY BICKEL, DAN BUTLER.

Jul 19-Jul 24 Sun-Fri Mule Pack
O/I: Charlotte Lakes Mule Pack: Hired packers carry gear of 55 lbs per person while we hike separately with only our daypacks. Sunday morning hike 8 miles, 2600’ gain from Onion Valley trailhead (9200’) near Independence, over Kearsarge Pass (11,823’) to scenic base camp by Charlotte Creek near Charlotte Lake at 10,370’ elevation. This trip will especially suit hikers, with options from moderate to difficult including the John Muir Trail over Glen Pass, Rae Lakes, Vidette Meadow, Mt Rixford, Mt Bago and Mt Gould. Monday through Thursday hike, photo, fish, or relax in camp. Enjoy potlucks every night with wine provided. Friday hike out. $300. Note reserve/cancel policy in Chapter Schedule. Maximum participants 10. To apply, email/phone recent high altitude and distance conditioning to Co-Leader: PAT ARREDONDO Co-Leader: LAURA JOSEPH.

Jul 25 Sat Hundred Peaks
Waterman Rendezvous: Watch this space...

Aug 2-8 Sun-Sat Mule Pack, HPS
O/I: Garnet Lake Mule Pack: Hired packers carry gear of 55 lbs per person while we hike separately with only our daypacks. Sunday morning hike from Agnew Meadows Pack Station (8335’), 7 miles, 2500’ gain, to camp at Garnet Lake (9700”) with beautiful views of Ritter and Banner Peaks. Monday through Friday hike, photo, fish, or relax in camp. Enjoy planned potluck happy hours every night with wine provided. Saturday hike out. $275.
Note reserve/cancel policy in Chapter Schedule. To apply, email/phone recent high altitude and distance conditioning, and health to Co-Leader: LAURA JOSEPH Co-Leaders: SANDY BURNSIDE, LES WILSON.

Aug 9-15 Sun-Sat Mule Pack, HPS
O: Pine Creek Mule Pack: Sunday morning we will hike from the Pine Creek pack station, 6 miles, 2900’ gain to our base camp in the Honeymoon Lake / Upper Pine Lake area. This camp is located for convenient access to outstanding hiking areas. For dayhikes, one choice is the Pine Creek trail into French Canyon and its numerous lakes: French, Moon, L, Elba Lakes & more or continue down French Canyon to Royce Falls. Or take the Italy Pass trail to beautiful Granite Park and on to Italy Pass. Or hike to Golden Lake & Royce Lakes or into lake-filled Chalfant basin. For those inclined to peak bagging, Mt Julius Caesar, Royce Peak & Merriam Peak are available. Only five layover days to try to take it all in. Enjoy daily happy hours and a couple of potlucks. The weight limit for the mules is 50 lbs per person and the cost is $295. To apply, contact Assistant Leader: WINNETTE BUTLER Leader: JOHN KAISER Assistant Leader: YVONNE TSAI.

Oct 3-4 Sat-Sun Hundred Peaks
Fall Festival in the Los Padres: Stay tuned!
If you plan to use a compass with a topographic map, you need to know a little bit about magnetic declination. Topographic maps are aligned to the geographic north pole (True North). However, the compass needle does not point to True North but to what is commonly referred to as Magnetic North. Contrary to popular belief, the compass needle does not point to the magnetic north pole; it points in the directions of the horizontal component of the magnetic field where the compass is located. This varies greatly in different parts of the earth, causing the magnetic needle to point in directions unrelated to the location of the magnetic north pole.

The difference in bearing degrees between the geographic north pole and where the magnetic needle points to is called magnetic declination. In California the magnetic declination is to the east of True North and varies from 12º E of True North in Blythe to 16º E in northwest California.

A small diagram at the bottom margin of each USGS 7.5 minute topographic map gives magnetic declination information, including direction, its date, and its bearing value. The diagram below is from the Indian Cove 7.5 map. It shows that the declination in 1998 was 13.5º and that its direction was East:

**Compasses and Magnetic Declination**

The best way to account for magnetic declination is with a compass with a declination adjustment. Most mirrored compasses have an adjustment screw on either the front or back of the dial that can be used to align the orienting arrow with the declination direction. Another way to adjust for declination is with a tape arrow. Here’s how to set a tape arrow on compasses that do not have an adjustment screw:

1. Cut a piece of colored tape the same size and shape as the red orienting arrow in the rotating base plate.
2. Set the declination angle on the index mark of the compass. For example, if the declination is 12º E, the index mark should read 12º.
3. Turn the compass over and place the tape arrow on the underside so that it points right at the index mark.

If your compass does not have a declination adjustment and you do not use a tape arrow, you need to make mental calculations. As the above Indian Cove map diagram indicates, when the compass is pointing to 0º Magnetic North the corresponding True North bearing is 13.5º. This also means that a 0º True North bearing on the map is a 346.5º Magnetic North bearing. Thus, in California where the declination is East, the following rules apply:

**From compass to map:** To convert a compass bearing to a True North bearing, add the amount of declination to your compass bearing. For example, if the compass bearing reads 180º and the declination is 12º, the True North bearing would be 192º.

**From map to compass:** To convert a True North bearing on the map to a Magnetic bearing to use with your compass, subtract the amount of the declination. For example, if the bearing on your map reads 192º and the declination is 12º, the magnetic bearing would be 180º.

**Magnetic Declination Changes Over Time**

Magnetic declination is not constant. The Earth’s magnetic fields are in flux and the declination for a particular area changes over time. The current rate of change in Southern California is about one degree every 12 years. However, this rate could speed up or slow down in the future. The declination amount provided on any given map may not be current because it was computed at the time the map was made. The following chart shows that the amount and direction of magnetic declination for the Indian Cove Area of Joshua Tree National Park over the last 109 years:
The correct declination for your area of travel can be readily determined from the National Geophysical Data Center at http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/geomagmodels/Declination.jsp. All you need to do is provide a zip code or latitude and longitude information for the area on interest.

**Failing to Account for Declination Will Result in Bearing Errors**

The bearings you follow in the field will be significantly off if magnetic declination is not taken into account. For example, a beginner might assume that the compass points to True North and make no adjustment for declination, resulting in a significant bearing error (12° to 16° in California). Someone using an older map and not adjusting for current declination may be off by a degree or more. Whether such a small error will be significant depends on the navigation objective and how accurate the user is at taking bearings. For example, a beginning navigator might only be able to take bearings within three to five degrees of accuracy. Adding an additional error for not using current declination might result in additional inaccuracy.

Accurate bearings are the key to good field navigation. If you do not use the correct declination, you start with a disadvantage. Bearing errors will be magnified the farther you travel. A one degree bearing error translates into 92 feet of linear error over the course of a mile. This same one degree error over five miles will result in being off target by 462 feet. The following map illustrates how far off target you will be with bearing errors of 3, 6, 9, and 12 degrees over the course of about one mile.

More information on geomagnetism can be found at the following websites:

- National Geophysical Data Center, Geomagnetism Page
  http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/geomag/geomag.shtml

- Geological Survey of Canada, Geomagnetism Page
  http://gsc.nrcan.gc.ca/geomag/index_e.php

**Upcoming Navigation Events**

On January 11, 2009, we will be offering a navigation noodle in the Warren Point area of Joshua Tree National Park. Whether you want to brush up on navigation skills or try to pass the checkout, I’m sure you will enjoy the crisp winter temperatures of the high desert. Last year, several hardy participants had a memorable experience in a snow storm with limited visibility – a great test of navigation skills. Our next two-day Indian Cove Navigation Noodle is on April 18 and 19, 2009 – mark the date on your calendar.

I welcome your navigation questions. Contact me at rmyers@ix.netcom.com.
Hundred Peak Section Hikers Encouraged
To Take Upcoming Wilderness Travel Course
Learn Navigation Skills, Rock Scrambling
and Snow Travel Techniques

By Marlen Mertz

Have you thought about becoming a more competent HPS hiker? Or have you dreamed about becoming an HPS leader but don’t quite have the skills yet? Now is your chance to participate in the Sierra Club ten-week Wilderness Travel Course (WTC) which is held only once a year. The course begins again in January, 2009. Check the website below for exact starting date in the location near you.

WTC classes are offered in four Southern California areas -- Long Beach/South Bay, West Los Angeles, Orange County and the San Gabriel Valley (there is already a waiting list in Orange County). The Wilderness Travel Course uses classroom instruction and field experiences to teach skills for mountain and desert travel. The course includes navigation instruction using topographical maps and compass, rock scrambling techniques, how to choose backpacking and hiking equipment, snow travel, basic wilderness first aid, trip planning and lots more.

The course includes ten evening classes, 2 full-day field trips and 2 weekend outings. These outings include a conditioning hike of 12-14 miles, a day of snow travel in the local mountains, a weekend in Joshua Tree learning map and compass navigation skills and basic non-technical rock climbing techniques, and a snow backpack near Bishop in the High Sierra. Bus transportation is provided for weekend trips to Joshua Tree and the Sierra Nevada snow camp.

The Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter boasts 35 years of teaching mountaineering and wilderness travel. Beginning in 1963, the Basic Mountaineering Travel Course attracted 1,000 people city-wide, each year. The present Wilderness Travel Course WTC evolved from BMTC and was established in 1990. For some, this course is a stepping stone to other classes and advanced training and for most it leads to years of exciting outdoor adventures.

Sign-up for WTC is largely via word-of-mouth and the encouragement of past students. So HP Sergers, let this be your encouragement!! People come to WTC with a range of backgrounds, goals and motivations. Some sign up for WTC after hiking regularly on trails in our local mountains and want to do more. There are those who recall wonderful outdoor experiences with their parents as kids or remember good times in scouting programs. They sign up with little recent hiking experience. Others have specific goals such as hiking the John Muir Trail or climbing Kilimanjaro. They may want to become competent in navigation and/or learn about the latest hiking and camping equipment.

The Wilderness Travel Course does not teach technical mountaineering skills. However, graduates of WTC have an understanding of and the skills for non-technical rock and snow travel. Upon completing the course, students learn about other opportunities to gain more technical skills, while building on the basic training offered in WTC.

With a ratio of two or three students to one instructor, the strength of this course is the individual attention it provides the participants. The WTC outings demand a certain level of fitness to participate (which should be no problem for HP Sergers!!), however a student can enroll with limited hiking and/or camping experience. As with any endeavor, participants will get out of the class what they put into it. The course allows participants to stretch beyond what they ever imagined they were capable of doing in the out-of-doors.

From June through September, after the formal class instruction, several hundred WTC students can be found on trails, peaks and remote lake shores throughout California’s Sierra Nevada Mountains. They are fulfilling the Wilderness Travel Course graduation requirement of completing two challenging backpacks, one involving a summit climb. WTC students can also fulfill the class requirements on local mountains such as San Jacinto, San Gorgonio and in desert areas such as Joshua Tree.

In WTC, students learn to be safe and comfortable in the backcountry, beyond roads and trails. They experience the incredible exhilaration of climbing a mountain, and completing a backpack using knowledge and skills acquired during the ten week course. Participants report an incredible sense of camaraderie and a great feeling of achieving a common goal with fellow students and hikers. WTC helps people gain courage, confidence and attain new leadership skills. Classes begin Jan 2009. See the WTC website to enroll and for exact locations and start dates for the four course locations. www.angeles.sierraclub.org/wtc
Frank Dobos and I decided to repeat one of our favorite local hikes in our repertoire of Angeles Crest peaks, so we set up November 15 to bag San Gabriel, Disappointment, and Deception. Little did we know the day would start out with more excitement than we realized. I, living in the West S.F. Valley, woke up to a bedroom full of smoke and a red-orange sky. I had gone to bed realizing there were fires in Santa Barbara, but what in the heck was going on down here? Sure enough, the Sylmar fire was blazing and heading for Porter Ranch (again!) and not that far from where I live, as the crow flies. After watching t.v. for a few minutes, I frantically woke up Frank telling him the sky was falling, and Henny Penny couldn’t make the trail head due to freeway closures. He assured me that La Canada would probably be okay, and I could circumnavigate the fire by coming out the 134 to Glendale #2. Thus, I got my act together despite the choking air quality, and away I went to meet Frank and a group of eight. La Canada was as clear as a bell, although we saw the horrific smoke to our west. We jumped into the cars, drove to Red Box, turned into the parking lot and proceeded a short ways down to the small parking area, the locked gate, and the stair steps leading us up the JPL trail. Frank and I had hiked it a week before and had met Korean trail workers who maintain local trails on Wednesday work days. They were quite pleasant, and I had met a few on the Baldy trail, too. But back to the story!

Reaching the paved road to San Gabriel from that fine trail (about 2 miles and 1400’ gain), we made a sharp left and walked to the saddle between San Gabriel and Disappointment (behind us). We ascended the great peak (6160’) and reflected for a moment on legendary climbers, John Backus who is interred there. We watched George Kamikubo run hither thither looking for his cache, as he participates with the Geo-Cache Society looking for previously placed prizes on the peaks (geocaching.com). George was successful, and we had great fun joining him in his cache search. Frank had mentioned this climb was to honor my birthday, and in a little ceremony, he gave me a lovely piece of turquoise which he had designed and made himself. Maggie Saranec, a gemologist, commented on what a fine gem it was. Photos were taken, and off we went for Disappointment which is a hop, skip, and a jump complete with radio antennas, a high fence, and a building. This saddle was used as a Nike missile station during the Cold War. Again, George’s head disappeared in the rock pile, as he looked for his next cache. More conversation was had with various topics such as newly elected Barack Obama’s choice for a dog, all hoping it would not be the Peruvian hairless, bald, wrinkled puppy. Frank who has traveled extensively in Peru commented, “Inca dogs are tough as I was told by one who cooked them.” The group groaned in unison. We were delighted that old timers Asher Waxman and Mary Motheral (“Mo”) had joined us, too. Asher was there with his one liners calling us, “Mary, Mo, and Frank---the Pep Boy Chicks plus one.” And furthermore, Asher dazzled us with info that he owns the original Alpine Application as filled out by nonagenarian, Glen Dawson, one of the Sierra Club’s foremost and famous climbers (see story in SPS Echo, April-June, 2008). After snacks and George’s cache find, we were retracing our steps back to the road and on to Deception, fine banter continuing with this incredibly congenial group. We passed our trail sign pointing the way to the cars, and continued around the bend to Deception. Everyone made it to the top in fine form, and it was Pathfinder Frank who showed us the short cut which leaves the trail, halfway down, descending the steep sandy (many foot-printed) slope eventually hooking us up with the main road. One can take this road all the way down to the cars, but again, Frank knew the shortcut to the JPL trail, but we had to carefully watch for overhead power lines, and a road guard rail with a red sticker. There we left our road, passed behind the guard rail, and took a sharp left on the trail (one is prone to take a right which will take you upward and back towards San Gabriel instead of the parked cars.) We were back to the cars in short time and happy we had had a fine respite from the chaos of three fires engulfing Sylmar, Loma Linda, and Diamond Bar. We did not know the havoc and loss of property until we parked cars.) We were back to the cars in short time and happy we had had a fine respite from the chaos of three fires engulfing Sylmar, Loma Linda, and Diamond Bar. We did not know the havoc and loss of property until we were headed homeward in very dark, sooty, smoky air.

This was an unusually fun and funny group below, and we all blended together, beautifully. Thanks for all the entertainment from Asher, Mary Mo., Jim Freckelton, George Kamikubo (Mr. Geo Cache), Maggie Saranec, Debbie Barthlowmew (whom I had convinced during a Griffith Park hike that she was overdue in climbing HPS peaks), and Pat Bonner who joined us for San Gabriel. Frank has led so many HPS peaks he can do it with his eyes closed. I’m always happy if I can pair up with my dear friend and bon vivant, Frank. This hike was so much fun, we’ll do it again in 2009.
EASTERNERS DO IT DIFFERENTLY

Peaks and Peeks on a hike in Virginia

By Marlen Mertz

Every year I spend a few weeks in the Washington DC area visiting family. Besides enjoying the warm embrace of mom, sister and nephews, I usually take in a few museums, especially ones that are part of the fee-friendly (free) Smithsonian. This year I enjoyed a relatively new addition to the collection of Smithsonian museums, the Native American Museum. I also went to the Newseum (not part of the Smithsonian). This is a fascinating museum covering five centuries of news history with up-to-the-second technology and hands-on exhibits. I highly recommend a visit to both places.

On my past two visits, I supplemented my cultural and educational enrichment with exploration of outdoor areas.

When I looked up hiking groups on the Internet, I discovered that there are no fewer than eight in the Washington DC, Maryland, Virginia area. I joined a Sierra Club outing on both my spring and fall visits of 2008.

My spring hike was in the hills surrounding Harper Ferry, Virginia, a town that changed hands eight times during the Civil War years. I was enticed by the rich historical points we passed, something that is not a component of most California outings. The route was over well-marked trails with many interpretive signs along the way.

The high point was a spectacular overlook of Harpers Ferry and the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers. The woods on the hike bore witness to critical events in the Civil War. The signage along the trail explained fortresses, battles and war strategies during the civil war years. High points were described as strategic military lookouts.

Here’s a little bit of the history. Harpers Ferry is where on October 16, 1859, abolitionist John Brown and several followers seized the United States Armory and Arsenal. The actions of Brown’s men brought national attention to the emotional divisions concerning slavery. Brown intended to arm slaves with weapons from the arsenal, but the attack failed. Brown had a quick trial for treason. His execution by hanging was an important part of the origins of the American Civil War, which followed sixteen months later.

The Harpers Ferry hike was a great choice! It was history combined with beauty! There were some steep climbs and some rocky terrain. The trail climbs steadily up a picturesque stream valley to a side trail leading to the fist highpoint. I got a workout and a lesson in Civil war history.

On my trip east this October, I had a Tuesday available and was happy to find a Sierra Club outing listed for that day. The write-up described “Great Views on Massanutten North”. It sounded like the route had high points and therefore would be suitable for a Angeles Chapter Hundred Peak Section visitor.

I felt right at home when the leader directed me to the carpool point with a series of road numbers. I had to take the 495 to the 66 to the 29. I was advised, though, by my Maryland family, to nix the “the,” lest people think I am weird. I guess it should be beltway, highway, parkway or….who knows what.

As you can see, I do remember the driving route. But the hiking route is another story. Looking on the map of the area, I see we hiked on the Massanutten, Tuscarora and Meneka Peak Trails. I am glad we have names like Icehouse Canyon Trail, Bear Canyon Trail, and Backbone Trail… ones I can remember and even pronounce.

The outing was labeled “a vigorous hike” with 3,500 ft gain. I am not the fastest hiker. But I assumed that since I am usually hiking at elevation and the high point on this trail was only 2,392 that I could comfortably keep up with the group. I was mistaken. These were retirees who were intent in staying in top shape. Most of them still seemed to have healthy knees and hike multiple times each week. They enhance their workout by the speed of their hiking. In fact, I noticed by the patches on some of their packs, that an unusual event in this part of the hiking world is the 50K hike. That’s 30 miles. Oy Vay!!

At the start, I looked around at the trailhead and wondered why I was the only one putting on sunglasses, sunscreen and hiking hat while we were signing in. I soon discovered the reason. I hiked for seven hours. Six hours and 58 minutes were in the thick, dark woods. I eventually took my glasses off and had my eye out for Little Red Riding Hood and the Big Bad Wolf. It definitely
seemed to be their territory.

This outing was 14-16 miles, depending on whether or not you chose to take a shortcut. I had no choice though, since the group "left me in the dust" early on. I saw the leader for the first five minutes. His hiking step was a sort of slow run, fast walk combination interspersed with a gazelle-like leap. I spent the day hiking with the slowest poke, the fellow with the most 50K patches and the two knee braces. Just in case I found myself alone (there was no sweep), the route and side trails are clearly marked with white and blue blazes on the trees, a distinctly unique characteristic of eastern trails, including the AT.

The most remarkable feature of the hike was the views. There were basically three “high points”. At one of them, my hiking partner tried to point out a scenic farm in the distance. I looked in the direction he was pointing but could only see the leaves in front of me. He pulled me closer and I was able to peek through the foliage and catch a corner of a grassy field. Later in the hike we came upon Maneka Peak and we were able to see a better view… all the way to the other side of the canyon, which wasn’t very far! The third high point I don’t even remember. That says something!!

Getting to the three high points was quite interesting. The trails wind and wend up hillsides with the largest most, circuitous switchbacks I have ever seen. I was told that they are sometimes built along old Indian trails. It was further explained to me that more efficient straight up the hillside routes (with small switchbacks) would cause an erosion problem when it rains. And it does often, I could tell, by the lush greenery I was enjoying all day.

Participants told me that most hikes in this part of the country are similar, with miles and miles of wooded trails. I asked how they distinguished one outing from another. They said that Shenendoah National Park has some waterfalls. Others are along the Potomic. Most just have lots of trees.

I confirmed this recently when I was looking at the website of another popular group called the Capital Hiking Club. Their website states “Some hikes include special activities and/or stops, such as swimming holes, wineries, battlefields, farmers markets, river tubing, etc. Most hikes are of the “through-the-woods variety.”

I was told that the best hike for views is Mount Rogers, the high point of Virginia. But that is a 7-8 hour drive for these folks so isn’t an easy weekend trip. I plan to get that peak sometime! After finishing the HPS list, I was looking for a new goal and joined the Highpointers (a club that promotes climbing the highest points of all 50 states). I will never finish that list though, as gas prices are too high and so is McKinley.

On this outing, I was hoping to see fall foliage but was about two weeks early. There were only scattered beautiful red leafed trees that must have peaked early for my benefit. I stopped to photograph each and every one. When I sauntered back to the cars 45 minutes late, I tried to use that as an excuse for my pace. The other participants didn’t buy it. Despite that, these folks were graciously hospitable and invited me to join them again on my next trip east. And they offered me freshly picked apples to munch on my drive home.

I enjoyed the crunchy leaves underfoot and the colorful beginning of the seasonal change. At the same time, the poignant contrast of hiking in California and Virginia reminded me of how lucky we are to have our peaks and vistas. Each area, east and west, has its own special splendor. I was so happy to have the opportunity to experience the beauty of the east and to meet kind and helpful Sierra Club hikers.

And so I will remember this outing for all its peaks and peaks. I topped some typical eastern style peaks. I peeked between the trees to see the trail’s views and got a glimpse of some peaked fall foliage before the true peak of the autumn colors. After all these years of family visits piquing my curiosity about what I would find in Virginia’s rural hiking areas, I finally got a chance to see for myself.

I hope, one day, to show the easterners with whom I hiked some of OUR Peaks and Views with the same hospitable welcome and open arms that they offered me. Thank you to the East Coast Sierra Club trampers!!

A Non-emblem Achievement, of Sorts

By Tina Bowman

On Tuesday, December 2nd, 2008, I fulfilled a life-long dream and finished soloing the peaks of the HPS List. Well, no, I take that back. It wasn’t so much a life-long dream as doing a final bit of housekeeping. After finishing the List the second time, I realized that there were very few peaks I hadn’t soloed. It’s not that I don’t like hiking with other people, but sometimes I would hike Tina Bowman with Siretta Peak in background.
at rather strange times (before work in the middle of the week) or I would jog trails and fireroads—so it happened that I ended up doing most HPS peaks by myself. I wouldn’t say that soloing them is a big deal, and I wouldn’t really encourage others to hike solo (how irresponsible is that?), though I do it quite a bit. I can’t imagine that the HPS will ever have a solo emblem, and I don’t think it should be created. So this is a brief account of a non-emblem achievement.

So I had seventeen peaks to solo after the regular List finish. Some were scattered about, from Five Fingers to Middle Peak; a bunch were in the San Gabriels, including the mighty Barley Flats, which I did from Lawlor this time. I needed the Yucaipa Ridge peaks except Allen, and I left Constance for the grand finale. The sticking point was Yucaipa Ridge. I was surprised that getting permission to hike out through Bear Paw was a bit more formal (I’d gotten permission two years before but then had gone on Kent Schwitkis’s outing there instead), but I got it. I hornswogged Tom, my husband, into dropping me off and picking me up, so that took care of the car shuttle issue, though he spent the day loitering in Redlands. Then there was new snow when I did the peaks on November 28th, the day after Thanksgiving, but it wasn’t treacherous, only beautiful. Although I saw bear prints in several areas (cool), I saw no sign of the mountain lion (relief) but did look around a lot as the day grew late. One to go!

So I heard the Siren’s song of Constance and drove up to Angelus Oaks the next Tuesday on a very fine day. I was pleased to see my previous entry on Thanksgiving, November 23rd, 1995, with good friends, some of whom were finishing the List: Doug Mantle (4x), Duane McRuer (2x), and Bob Hicks (1x)—and in spirit, Vi Grasso. I ate a Moon Pie to celebrate and put this small compulsion to rest as I headed back down the hill.

Birthdays in January and February

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Tina Bowman took this picture of fresh snow on Little San Gorgonio Peak.