HPS Lookout Newsletter
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Holiday Hoopla 2021
Dec 18th

Hundred Peaks Section (HPS)
Lookout Subscription Form

(There are no prerequisites to become a subscriber)

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IF YOU WISH TO BECOME A MEMBER, PLEASE SEND A LIST OF 25 PEAKS YOU HAVE HIked THAT ARE ON THE HPS LIST, with the month and year of the peak completion. (See the HPS Website, for a list of the 275 or so HPS peaks.)

All rates are for 6 issues/year, delivered electronically.
Basic Subscription: $9 for 1 year, $17 for 2 years, $24 for 3 years
Sustaining Subscription (helps to cover other section expenses): $20 for 1 year, $39 for 2 years, $57 for 3 years Lifetime Subscription: $500
Amount enclosed $___________

HPS Subscription email address: lookout_membership@hundredpeaks.org
I wrote today’s letter with some bittersweet feelings. This will be my last Letter from the Chair. I decided not to run for re-election to the HPS Management Committee and my term will expire at the next MComm meeting in January. We will elect a new chair from the new MComm. As some of you know, William Chen resigned earlier this year when he took a job in the Bay Area. At our November meeting, MComm appointed Larry Pond to take his place and fill his unexpired term, which goes to the end of 2022.

For our most recent elections, we had three candidates for three spots and nothing else to be decided. Jim Hagar and George Christiansen will continue to serve for at least two more years and I welcome Sharon Moore, who will also join MComm. We have a great MComm of dedicated volunteers.

As I look back on my eight years on MComm and my four years as chair, I see a lot of good progress. We have moved most of our communications to an electronic format, including The Lookout and our elections. Our financial situation is very strong, thanks to supporters like you. Further, our Facebook page continues to be a friendly place where people share reports of outings and ask and answer questions regarding current conditions and policies.

Prior to the pandemic, HPS also enjoyed the leadership of many scheduled outings. Stalwart leaders with names like Simpson and Doggett continued to lead many hikes and have been joined over the years with new leaders excited about sharing the benefits of hiking our local mountains.

But the pandemic put a stop to this, which we all hoped would be temporary. While the Sierra Club National board and staff has taken steps to reopen outings, they have imposed restrictions and conditions which many leaders find invasive, overly bureaucratic, and unnecessary. I feel (as do many others) that these restrictions reflect a fundamental misunderstanding and lack of appreciation for the importance of local outings and how they work.

Nonetheless, MComm, under the leadership of Jim Hagar, is working to reestablish a workable outings program. I hope that we can start to schedule official outings approaching the pre-pandemic frequency. Time will tell.

While I will be moving off of my elected MComm position, I will remain as the Facebook Administrator and will work on some unfinished business, including improving our online membership page and keeping membership records updated.

When I first ran for reelection to MComm, I mentioned that HPS was one of the “glories of my life.” Hiking our local mountains has changed me in very positive ways, and I look forward to finally finishing the list on San Jacinto in the summer of 2022.

It’s been a great journey!

Happy trails,

Coby
From Mat Kelliher:

Dec 18  Sat  Hundred Peaks

**HPS Holiday Hooplah 2021:** Welcome in the Holidays with a fun and festive night of partying and camping near Joshua Tree National Park at the highly popular and postponed for way too long HPS Holiday Hooplah!! This year we’ve reserved several adjacent campsites in the familiar northwest corner of Joshua Tree Lake Campground in Joshua Tree, CA. The campground is equipped with showers, flushing toilets, and potable water, and our campsites have picnic tables and fire rings. For those who prefer not to camp out, the nearby towns of Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, and Twentynine Palms offer a variety of lodging choices.

Wherever you stay, everyone is welcome to join us for a hearty Happy Hour and Potluck, along with lots of socializing and serious relaxing around a roaring campfire beneath the full moon-lit night sky. And if you’re looking to climb one of the many HPS peaks in the area on Sat and/or Sun, check the HPS website for official Sierra Club hikes, or inquire among your friends to see if any private hikes are being planned. If you’re an HPS member, there is no charge to camp out, if you aren’t there is a $10 per person charge for overnight. Due to the limited number of available campsites, reservations are required if you’re planning to camp.

Email Sunny Yi at sunnyyi1125@gmail.com no later than Thu Dec 16 to make your reservation. Sierra Club procedures for a Front Country overnight trip apply to this event; participants must sign the “Participant Agreement” to attend. Front Country COVID-19 protocols will be in effect; social distancing will be practiced, if it cannot be maintained, masks will be required. If you are sick, are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, or have been exposed to COVID-19, do not attend this event.
2021 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

**Elected Members:**

Coby King - Chair (12/2021)
Facebook Administrator
310-489-3280
cobyk@cobyking.com

James Hagar, Vice Chair (12/20/21)
1621 Marion Drive, Glendale, CA 91205
Jhagar1@gmail.com

Mark S. Allen - Secretary, (12/2022)
Lookout Newsletter Editor
11321 Foster Road
Los Alamitos, CA 90720
mallen4341@outlook.com

Ryan B. Lynch - Member At Large (12/2022)
Phone: 213-534-7357
lookout_membership@hundredpeaks.org

George Christensen (12/2021)
MountainRecords,Access
12702 Groveview Street
Garden Grove, CA 92840
H: 714-636-0918
gmchristensen@me.com

Sunny Yi, Programs (12/2022)
sunnyyi1125@gmail.com

**Appointed Members:**

Laura Newman, Treasurer
hpstreas@gmail.com

Mat Kelliher - Outings & Safety Chair
mikelliher746@gmail.com

Ignacia Doggett, Elections Chair
peterdoggett@aol.com

Tanya Roton, Nominations Committee
tanya.roton@gmail.com

Wayne Vollaire, The Lookout Mailer
2035 Peaceful Hills Road, Walnut, CA 91789
H: 909-327-6825

**Appointed Members:**

Jim Fleming, Co-Chair, Safety
Adopt-a-Highway
538 Yarrow Drive
Simi Valley, CA 93065-7352
Jimf333@att.net

Joe Young, Historian
12551 Presnell Street
Los Angeles, CA 90066-6730
H: 310-822-9676
hikerjoe@gmail.com

Jin Oak Photography
Coby King – Chair, Facebook Administrator
Jim Hagar - Vice Chair
Mark S. Allen - Secretary, Lookout Editor
George Christiansen - Access and Mountain Records
Sunny Yi – Programs Chair
Ryan Lynch - Member At Large
Mat Kelliher - Outings and Safety, Asst. Programs Chair
Ron Campbell - Angeles Chapter Safety Chair
Bill Simpson
Will McWhinney - Outings and Management Chair

Meeting Call to Order: 6:08pm

Chair's Report:
- Sierra Club National Outings Protocols. Discussed at length the Sierra Club (National) July 6th protocols. Concerns requirements will limit outings rather than return to pre-pandemic norm. Resolution by Coby King, HPS Chair forwarded to the Chapter Executive Committee.
- Hines Peak- (O7Q) in Ventura County. Safety issues raised about "Knife Edge approach." Voted to suspend Hines Peak M S V, with one abstention.
- 5-11-21 MCOMM Minutes, by Mark S. Allen, approved and filed
- Treasures Report, by Laura Newman, approved and filed

MOUNTAIN RECORDS REPORT
July 13, 2021
Revision 1
George Christiansen

* HINES PEAK TRAIL CONDITIONS
Discussion item during the MComm Meeting regarding the trail conditions that have deteriorated recently. Ref: Coby's email dated 6/21/21 and the chain of related comments in his email.

* RE-SUSPENSION OF PREVIOUSLY UN-SUSPENDED PEAKS
Previously un-suspended Allen, Birch, Cedar, and Wilshire Peak, although OUTSIDE the Apple Fire Closure, they are still INSIDE the El Dorado Fire Closure Area. These four peaks should be again "suspended", with apologies from the Access Chair.

* 2020 FIRES — SUMMARY OF FOREST CLOSURES
The Bobcat Closure (05-01-21-03) is in effect thru April 1, 2022 (was Order 05-01-20-11)
The Lake Fire Closure (05-01-20-09), expired on June 1, 2021.
The Apple Fire Closure (05-12-53-20-05) is in effect thru August 28, 2021
The El Dorado Fire Closure (05-12-00-20-25) which was in effect thru October 8, 2021, has been superseded by 05-12-00-21-06 opening part of the forest and also expiring on October 8, 2021.

In the above burn areas, 31 peaks remain suspended (27 plus the 4 Yucaipa Ridge Peaks to re-suspend) out of the original 42 in November 2020.

* UPPER SANTA YNEZ RIVER ACCESS—
Hildreth Peak (6M) access via Route 1 in Santa Barbara County has been impacted by a major road washout between Romero Saddle and the Santa Ynez River (and the Caliente Springs Trailhead). The repair is still not complete as reported in May. Projected completion date is still available, but the Los Padres NF website appears to be current. Check the Santa Barbara District, “Trails, Roads and Campground Information”. The upper Santa Ynez River is open to hiking and biking, but not vehicular traffic.
Programs Sunny Yi, Mat Kelliher reported progress on a restaurant for possible HPS Awards Banquet.

Discussion of HPS events below are carried to next meeting:

- Spring Fling 2021 - Canceled
- Waterman Rendezvous - Canceled
- 2021 Holiday Hoopla - Under Review
- 2022 - HPS Awards Banquet - Under Review
- Outreach Report, No Report
- Merchandising Report, by Mark S. Allen, Merchandising Chair. Inventory of HPS Merchandise to next meeting.

Additional Business:

- First Aid Report - to next meeting
- William Chen Resignation from HPS MCOMM

Meeting Adjourned 8:01pm

Current Forest Closures, by George Christiansen:

**ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST**
**BOBCAT FIRE** Closure Order 05-01-21-03
Effective thru April 1, 2022
(20 Peaks)
- 10D Bare Mountain
- 11D barley Flats
- 11E Mt Sally
- 11F Vetter LO
- 11G Mt Mooney
- 13A Winston Peak
- 13B Mt Akawie
- 13C Pleasant View Ridge
- 13D Will Thrall Peak
- 13E Pallet Mt
- 13F Mt Williamson
- 13G Mt Lewis
- 13I Winston Ridge
- 13K Goodykoontz Peak
- 14A Waterman Mtn
- 14B Twin Peaks
- 14C Mount Islip
- 14K Kratka Ridge
- 15A Monrovia Peak
- 15B Smith Mountain

**SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST**
**EL DORADO FIRE** Closure Order 05-12-00-21-09
Effective thru March 31, 2022
(8 Peaks)
- 24B San Bernardino Peak
- 24C San Bernardino East Peak
- 24D Anderson Peak
- 24E Shields Peak
- 25A Allen Peak
- 25B Birch Mountain
- 25C Cedar Mountain
- 25D Wilshire Peak

**SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST**
**APPLE FIRE** Closure Order 05-12-53-21-04
Effective thru September 22, 2022
(3 Peaks)
- 25E Wilshire Mountain
- 25F Little San Gorgonio Peak
- 25G Galena Peak
11-20-21 Bill Simpson achieves Double HPS List Finish on Lookout Mountain #1. Jeff Buchholz reaches his 200th HPS and Shanna Rapoport achieves 100 HPS Peak. Mary Varalay pictured far right.

Matthew Hengst completes trek of entire East Coast from Florida Keys, The Appalachian Trail, and on through Nova Scotia.

Louie Rodriguez on Lizard Head

Coby King and group on Devil's Peak, Santa Cruz Island

Roger Lim, HPS member, dies 24th of October while hiking Mount Lowe. Photo courtesy Jin Oak Chung
Any trip in the outdoors can be turned into a navigation adventure by searching for survey markers that are part of the Public Land Survey System (PLSS). First proposed by Thomas Jefferson, the PLSS is a rectangular survey system enacted into law by the Land Ordinance of 1785. It provides a methodology for subdividing and describing land and is used in a majority of states. The Bureau of Land Management has an interactive map (https://arcg.is/05i4ia1) where you can explore the PLSS in detail.

The PLSS is organized around principal meridians and base lines as illustrated below.

The intersection of the principal meridian and base line is referred to as the initial point. In Southern California, the initial point for the San Bernardino Meridian was established by surveyor Henry Washington in 1852 on western slope of San Bernardino Peak. This initial point was twice relocated, once by 887 feet in 1892 and by 610 feet in 1907. The 1892 initial point is used for surveys north of the base line and the 1907 initial point is used for surveys south of the base line. This is why the principal meridian appears misaligned on topographic maps as can be
The heart of the PLSS is the establishment of Townships. Each Township is 36 square miles and consists of 36 one-square mile sections. Townships are numbered based on their location north or south of the base line. “Range” is used to describe the location of the Township west or east of the Principal Meridian. A typical description might be “Sec. 6, T. 1 S., R. 1 E., San Bernardino Meridian.” This Township is first township south of the base line and east of the San Bernardino Meridian. The below illustration provides detailed information on the organization of townships.
Topographic map symbols provide helpful information for the PLSS. The key symbols are set forth below.
Most 7.5 topographic maps have corner markers noted on them. When you hike in an area, check your map for nearby corner symbols. These are often fun navigation challenges and are usually marked in some way such as rock cairn, placard placed on a tree, or survey marker. The corner illustrated on the Queen Mountain 7.5 Minute Quadrangle has a marker placed at this location in 1933. This corner marks the intersection of four Townships: (1) on the northwest, Sec. 36, T. 1 S., R. 8 E.; (2) on the northeast, Sec. 31, T. 1 S., R. 9 E.; (3) on the southeast, Sec. 6, T. 2 S., R. 9 E; and (4) on the southwest, Sec. 1, T. 2 S., R. 8 E. All of this information can be derived from the survey marker.

Upcoming Navigation Events

Our next in-person navigation noodle will be on January 15, 2022, at Warren Point.

Navigation Questions

I welcome your navigation questions. Contact me at rmmyers@ix.netcom.com.
Special Hike and Celebration

Asbestos Mountain (5265') and Lookout Mountain #1 (5590')

November 20, 2021

By Bill Simpson

Thirty-one hikers (including 14 leaders) joined together for a special day of hiking and celebration. There were several important achievements accomplished during the hike and celebrated at the conclusion of the hike. Leader Shana Rapoport notched her 100th HPS peak on Lookout Mountain #1, leader Jeff Buchholz nabbed his 200th peak on Asbestos Mountain, leaders Jimmy Quan and Bill Simpson completed a joint lead of the entire HPS list on Lookout Mountain #1 (i.e., the two of them have led all of the HPS peaks together), and Bill also finished his 10th HPS list as well as his 6th lead of the HPS list.

In addition to these many accomplishments, the group celebrated the 3rd HPS list finish of Mary Varalay. Several other hikers from two different private outings joined in the celebration, which was held at the PCT Trailhead at Highway 74. The celebration involved a virtual smorgasbord of food and beverage -- salads, meats, hors d'oeuvres, cookies, crackers, wine, champagne and sparkling cider -- was provided by the hikers, and it was nearly all consumed by the hungry hikers.

Leaders for the hikes to the two peaks were Bill Simpson, Mat Kelliher, Jim Hagar, Larry Pond, Sharon Moore, Jeff Buchholz, May Tang, Ron Campbell, Virginia Simpson, Mike Dillenback, Shana Rapoport, Ross Doering, Jimmy Quan and Sandy Lara. The participants were Mary Varalay, Tanya Roton, Conny Burleson, Tony Santana, Jon Lieberg, Christine Carter, JC Kim, Wasim Khan, Mari Sakai, Lidia Barbosa, Lor-raine Daly, George White, Shuyun Yeh, Tao Zhang, Kiyoshi Kodama, Swee Chin and Heesook Kim.
As some of you might remember, a few years ago I wrote about Jean Hemanson, who finished the Appalachian Trail. Now we have an HPSer, Shuyun Yeh, who has hiked most of the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) starting in April of 2021 and will be finishing up the remaining trail in Oregon (in 2022) as she couldn't finish the entire trail the first time due to the Dixie fire, which burned 963,309 acres. She ended her first attempt from Campo, CA (at the Mexican border), to Belden, CA, which is about 1,286 miles in California.

Shuyun is an excellent hiker and meticulously planned every detail of her hike with her husband, Mike. She has also hiked the Camino de Santiago in Spain via three different routes, about eight years ago. This hike took her 24 days from start to finish, which is about 500 miles. For those interested in doing the PCT, this article might help in getting your gear together, what to expect, etc. The three longest and most popular hikes in the U.S. are:

- **Appalachian Trail**, 2200 miles, crossing 14 states from Springer Mountain, Georgia, to Mt. Katahdin, Maine
- **Pacific Crest Trail**, 2,650 miles, starting from Campo, CA at the Mexican border, crossing Oregon and Washington, ending at the Canadian border, British Columbia.
- **Continental Divide Trail**, 3,100 miles, from Chihuahua, Mexico, to the border with Alberta, Canada. Wonder who will be doing this trail for my next interview. (My friend, Bill Burke, mentioned that he will do all three in the future. He is the oldest American to have successfully climbed Mt. Everest, 29,029’, twice. If interested, he has a blog.)
Shuyun’s backpack weighed approximately 30 lbs. This included her tent, sleeping bag, food, water, trail maps, personal items, her iPhone and Garmin with a satellite link, etc.

One needs a permit to hike the PCT; Shuyun applied online. While hiking in Yosemite, a ranger asked to see her permit so be sure to carry it with you! You need a permit if you hike over 500 miles. The permit is given to only 100 hikers a day.

Shuyun said that she thought about hiking the PCT after she read the book, "Hiking The Pacific Crest Trail" (Southern CA Section), hiking from Campo (near the Mexican border) to Tuolumne Meadows. The book, by author Shawnte Salabert, was loaned to her by yours truly, as I had a copy.

She met a few hikers, ranging in age from about 18 to 70. She was also hiking with her niece Giana, and her nephew, Sam, both 31 years of age. Before leaving the trail at Belden due to the Dixie fire, her nephew was far ahead so he was able to go on. Giana had to go back to work so she only hiked for two weeks.

Shuyun said that all the places she hiked were just beautiful - she really has no favorite area. On day two of her hike a bag of Cuties (Clementines or Cuties are a hybrid of Mandarin and sweet oranges), was brought by her husband, Michael Fazioli (Mike). She passed the fruit around to some hikers to share. At that time there was a retired firefighter and his wife, who gave her the trail nickname "Cutie."

Along the trail she did see many snakes, some rattlers, but no bears or other wild animals. There were some ranch animals - cows, bulls, etc. In Washington there was a horse trail. Horses are not allowed on the trail but only at some places - same for dogs. Check the PCT Association to look for any news and information.

Overall, the weather was nice, except while in Sierra Nevada there was a thunderstorm and Shuyun had to seek shelter for her safety in the woods and continued on to the forest area. This was near north Kennedy Meadows where there are no shelters. There are a few cabins, one of them called Grubb Cabin, adjacent to trails for local hikers. It has a living room, bedroom, and a kitchen, enough space to house ten people.

After Shuyun had to leave the trail on July 14th (a day after the fire started), her husband Mike drove to pick her up. The air quality was quite bad. They still went hiking along the beach - Cannon Beach, in Oregon, on Highway 101 and stayed at a campground. There were grocery stores to get food and a few restaurants.

PCT’s length in Washington state is 500 miles total (2,150 to 2,650). After Bridge of The Gods between Oregon and Washington the hikers can see mile marker 2200 made with moss. Most markers are made with rocks and pine cones.

Trail partner "Guppy" on the Bridge of Gods, Cascade Locks, Oregon.
Trail partner "Guppy" in Washington forest.
My niece "Splash" by Helen Lake, Sierra Nevada Mtns.
On August 14, Shuyun started her hike again from Cascade Locks with her friend Guppy (Diana). This was when Guppy returned from being injured on the PCT in June near Virginia Lake, from where she was helicoptered out. Then Guppy returned after she recovered from her injury. They hiked together the first hundred miles going north from Cascade Locks. Then Guppy left the trail and took a ride while Shuyun continued on the PCT. They passed each other at the Canadian border when Guppy was coming back and Shuyun was going to the border.

Reflecting back, Shuyun said that every day is a nice surprise of landscape, the desert in Southern California, meadows, wild flowers, many lakes and glaciers, all beautiful.

She met a person, Jazmin Ortega, whom she knew from Wilderness Travel Course (WTC), with Beth and Kim's Group 5, in Washington. And Michael saw Jazmin in Griffith Park only two years ago!

Mike and Shuyun communicated daily by using the Garmin regarding her location, how she was feeling, etc. It's a two-way communication. One can also call 9-1-1. Her app is "FarOut" (formerly Guthook Guides). She says it's 99.9% accurate! You can even see where a person is walking. If there are trails and no PCT sign, it will get you back on the right trail.

While hiking the PCT, Shuyun bagged two HPS peaks - Wright and Owens in Walker Pass. Way to go! I don't know how she can carry a 30 lb. backpack and hike approximately 20 or more miles a day! She had a lot of energy bars, ramen, trail mix, etc., but on some days Mike drove out to give her additional food.

On the two days that the PCT was closed due to an old fire - in Wrightwood and not hiking the PCT, Shuyun hiked the lovely (my favorite) Acorn Trail on her "off" day," and even hiked Mt. Whitney, elevation 14,505'. She said she carried a light backpack and started at 2:00 a.m. with her niece and nephew and reached the summit at 7:00 a.m. Shuyun returned at 2:00 p.m. to the campsite and her niece and nephew a few hours later. She then went back to hiking the PCT, to the Canadian border where the PCT ends.

Shuyun's next goal in hiking is to FINISH THE HPS LISTI!!!

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Shuyun wants to thank everyone who gave her advice about the trip and inspired her to undertake this wonderful journey. She especially wants to express her sincere gratitude to Jim Hagar, Jerry Grenard, Ella Pennington and Connie for their continued support and encouragement. She adds praise for the PCTA, (Pacific Crest Trail Association). Thanks to them for their work and dedication to keep this historical hiking route available as a natural scenic trail.

We are all impressed with what you have accomplished so far and look forward to your PCT completion. All of us wish Shuyun the best when she goes back to the PCT in 2022 to complete the trails she missed due to the Dixie fire. Keep up the awesome hikes, and stay well.
Afternoon break at the top of the Apple Canyon Trail. L-R: Ignacia & Peter Doggett, Dave Zalewski, Sonia Arancibia, Mary Varalyay, Nancy Jones (photographs Jin Oak Chung)

Retracing their route on return, and once again clambering over or around the tricky top, the group descends the lengthy chimney.

Nancy Jones waits near the top of the tall chimney; below, Ignacia Doggett puts her waist pack down before starting her climb.

Having negotiated the tricky 3+ top of the chute, Nancy and Ignacia move on to the other side, using seams to traverse and downclimb.

Done traveling across a Class 2 ledge, Nancy scrambles and pulls herself higher, Ignacia following just below her.

The most difficult points of ascent now behind them, the threesome scramble over and around the rocky ridge to finally arrive at the summit. While Peter Doggett has scaled the summit 19 times, this was Ignacia’s 12th time, Jin Oak’s 3rd, and Nancy’s 1st of more to come. [Led 9 times by Peter & Ignacia, as of 6-23-12; Mars Bonfire finished the HPS list 25 times, led it 5 times.]

Retracing their route on return, and once again clambering over or around the tricky top, the group descends the lengthy chimney.

Scaling The Antsell Rock Summit
by Ignacia Doggett 10-24-17

Nancy Jones waits near the top of the tall chimney; below, Ignacia Doggett puts her waist pack down before starting her climb.

Having negotiated the tricky 3+ top of the chute, Nancy and Ignacia move on to the other side, using seams to traverse and downclimb.

Done traveling across a Class 2 ledge, Nancy scrambles and pulls herself higher, Ignacia following just below her.

The most difficult points of ascent now behind them, the threesome scramble over and around the rocky ridge to finally arrive at the summit. While Peter Doggett has scaled the summit 19 times, this was Ignacia’s 12th time, Jin Oak’s 3rd, and Nancy’s 1st of more to come. [Led 9 times by Peter & Ignacia, as of 6-23-12; Mars Bonfire finished the HPS list 25 times, led it 5 times.]
Roger was very good with people and made friends wherever he went. He enjoyed having dinners with his friends and welcomed everyone. When COVID came last year, Roger and Yaesun opened their home to their friends for wonderful social gatherings.

This Labor Day weekend, Sunny, Jason, Roger, Yaesun, Nahid, Arisa, Todd and I rented a house in Idyllwild. We had grand plans of hiking, except the forest was closed. Each pair of us brought enough food for the entire weekend! Roger and Yaesun watched Netflix on Roger’s IPAD. We played games with Arisa and Sunny, Jason and I hiked on the streets. Todd rode his bike – sometimes with Jason and Roger. We went to Hemet Lake and really enjoyed the weekend with our friends. Best of all, we had wonderful meals together. This is a memory that we will all share and remember forever.

Roger Lim was a great hiker. Roger enjoyed peak bagging, rock climbing, back packing and through hiking. I have had the privilege of hiking with Roger for the past three years. Roger began hiking with the Sierra Club in December of 2018, although Roger had hiked for many years before he joined our Sierra Club hikes.

Roger’s favorite hikes were backpacking trips. Roger successfully hiked the John Muir Trail and the Rae Lakes Loop. This year, Roger had been awarded permits for the Whitney trail for six people in July. And this Spring, after a lovely dinner at Roger’s house, I agreed to do approximately half of the JMT for a week with Roger, Yaesun, Sunny and Jason. I must have been having a weak moment as I am not known for my backpacking skills! In June, Yaesun, Roger, Sunny, Jason and I began doing backpacking trips in the Sierras to prepare for the elevation and gather the strength we would need to do the JMT for one week. We hiked the Pine Creek Trail to upper Pine Lake, Red Lake Trail, then we hiked Taboose Pass Trail to Mirror Lake. Each hike was organized by Roger and he obtained the permits and prepared the schedule.

It didn’t take me long to realize that I was going to need new gear to lighten my pack if I wanted to hike for a week. Roger was a very experienced back packer and offered excellent advice on back packs, tents, sleeping bags and just about anything else you can think of that a new backpacker would need to know.

With the pre-trips completed and all gear purchased and tested in the mountains, we were finally ready to go on the JMT. We started at the Whitney Portal and hiked through Trail Pass in a very cold rainstorm that prevented us from summiting Whitney. We spent our first night at Crabtree Campground in the rain. The next day, we had rain on and off throughout the day. Roger knew how to stop mid-day and dry out the tents and had numerous other tips for spending a week on the trail. We had breakfast, lunch and dinner together each day and we all enjoyed hiking together.
Roger especially enjoyed his time with his love, Yaesun. He and Yaesun would watch movies together each night in their tent. I learned a lot from Roger about backpacking and thoroughly enjoyed our hike and the companionship with Roger and Yaesun.

Roger enjoyed peakbagging with the Sierra Club and was working on the Hundred Peaks List, the Desert Peaks List and the Sierra Peaks List. One of Roger’s first Hundred Peak Section hikes was Sunny Yi’s “I” leadership provisional hike to Quail and Minerva Hoyt in Joshua Tree National Park. Shortly thereafter, Roger began going on private hikes with Sunny and Jason. One of his early hikes was to Russell and Backus. I attended this hike and remember that Roger was tired going up the steep slopes to Russell.

When we finally stopped for lunch, Roger was so hungry he ate two Subway sandwiches – He said they were the BEST sandwiches he had ever tasted! Coming down, we taught Roger how to run down in the scree and he was delighted!

On another trip, Sunny, Jason, Roger, Todd and I rented a house in Pahrump to hike three peaks near the Nevada border. That night we had a great Korean Barbeque. Roger loved to have dinner and socialize with his friends and we all loved Roger!

Roger also enjoyed adventurous hikes that were very strenuous and included rock climbing. One of the most adventurous hikes Roger accomplished was summitting Triplet Rocks. Triplet Rocks is considered the least accessible peak in the San Gabriel mountains, and lies in the San Gabriel Wilderness via a steep, rugged and exposed ridge via Twin Peaks. There is no maintained route to Triplet Rocks. The route requires bushwacking, navigating steep and loose slopes, and significant amounts of class 3 and 4 climbing. This route requires 17 miles, 7000 ft elevation gain that necessitates a start in the dark and end in the dark to complete. The trip took almost 20 hours.

Roger also hiked Cactus to Clouds – Palm Springs to San Jacinto Peak, the Gabrielino Trail, Salmon and Madulce with us. These are all very strenuous day hikes only for the fittest of hikers.

In 2020, Roger completed the Sierra Club Wilderness Travel Course (WTC) and was in the San Gabriel Section Group 5 with Matt Kelliher, Fariba and Ali Akhiary.

This year, Roger hoped to become a provisional leader in the Hundred Peaks Section. He aspired to be a leader like many of his friends: Jason Park, Sunny Yi, Jin Oak Chung, Matt Kelliher, Peter and Ignacia Doggett.

Two weeks ago, Roger reached 99 peaks on the Hundred Peaks list and was planning his 100th peak celebration. Although Roger was still only approaching 100 on the Hundred Peaks list, he had completed many of the most strenuous and difficult peaks. A memorial 100th peak celebration is planned in honor of Roger on Liebre Mountain.

None of us can pick the time and date when our lives will end. Roger was fortunate to live a full life every day and he died doing something that he loved. May we all be fortunate to live our life the way Roger did – Enjoying our passions with our friends.
For my October “Larry’s Hike Of The Month” I decided to do a loop going around Middle Peak and up over Stonewall Peak. Joining me for the hike was Mark Sutton and Sharon Gott. We met at the Los Vaqueros Trailhead. It was a cool morning in the mid 40s with light wind. A perfect day as over the course of the hike the day warmed up into the middle 60s with light wind. We started by following a trail headed north that parallels highway 79 to the Sugar Pine Trail which we took up towards Middle Peak. Sadly the trees for which the trail was named are gone, lost to the Cedar Fire in 2003. 95% of the sugar pine in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park were lost to that fire. A few Sugar Pine remain on Cuyamaca Peak. We contoured around Middle Peak via the Middle Peak Fire Road which led us to Milk Ranch Road. We then took Milk Ranch Road east to the junction with the trail to Azalea Spring which we followed to Azalea Spring. From here we followed Azalea Glen Road and then trail down into Paso Picacho Campground where we had lunch. The section of the trail between the spring and the campground is disappointing at this point in time because much of the area had been cleared of brush and is being replanted with what I suspect is Jeffrey Pine. Someday it will again be a beautiful stretch of trail, though even now the view of Stonewall Peak and beyond is splendid. After lunch we continued thru the campground to the Stonewall Peak trail. Up to now we have seen no one except one couple on the trails. The Stonewall Peak trail was crowded with other hikers, but it is a Sunday and Stonewall is a very popular destination. After sitting atop Stonewall Peak enjoying the fabulous view we proceeded to take the trail headed north down to the horse camp area. Once again we are alone on the trail from Stonewall to our vehicles. From the horse camp area we picked up the Los Caballos trail back to our vehicles. This was a beautiful hike with fall colors, few other hikers and outstanding views. One I never tire of and the bonus is you get to visit an HPS peak along the way. Middle Peak could also be added to the hike, another HPS peak but it requires pushing thru quite a bit of brush. Have been there a few times so did not feel the need to go over it unless someone along on the hike needed it which was not the case. The loop was 14 miles with 2681 feet of total elevation gain which took us 8 hours including all breaks.
Ten Thousand Foot Ridge, Lake Peak, Grinnell Mountain

By Mike Maki

Ten Thousand Foot Ridge, Lake Peak, and Grinnell Mountain are three HPS peaks in the San Bernardino Mountains in the shadow of Mount San Gorgonio. Our party of three started our hike at the Fish Creek Trailhead. The road to the trailhead is passable by almost any vehicle from the Heart Bar Campground. It’s about a five mile drive to the trailhead. Our planned route was to make a loop and to start we headed up the fairly steep slope cross-country headed to our first peak on the route, Hell For Sure Peak. The climb up was bit challenging on the lower steeper slope avoiding the thick growth of buckthorn. About halfway up the grade eases a bit until you reach the top.

From Hell For Sure our route followed a ridge line that would eventually become Ten Thousand Foot Ridge. The route now is mostly open country, and a faint use trail can be found at times. We reached the summit of Ten Thousand Foot Ridge which is not much more that a bump on the route. The drop down from Ten Thousand Foot Ridge then follows a much more established use trail. Most of this area burned in the Dry Lake Fire leaving some interesting burned standing timber just before you reach Lake Peak. Lake Peak has a very minor scramble to reach the summit with a great view of Heart Bar Campground and Dry Lake.

From Lake Peak we went down the slope to the saddle where the Fish Creek Trail comes up, crossed it and headed up to Grinnell. There is a well-established use trail to Grinnell. Once on the very broad top of Grinnell it is hard to tell where the actual summit is. When we first arrived, we spotted a rock outcrop that appeared to be the highest point only to find out after looking at our GPS we were off by several hundred yards. The summit is forested but good views can be had from all around.

We retraced our route down from Grinnell to the Fish Creek Trail. The Fish Creek Trail is a well maintained and gently graded trail providing an easy walk back to the trailhead at the end of a long day of open and cross-country trail. Total mileage for route is about 12 miles. Saw only four other people the whole day. The route also includes six other Peak Bagger peaks. Grinnell marked the 100th HPS peak for Mary and I!
Inspiring Connections Outdoors
By Mark S. Allen

On Saturday October 23rd, the Sierra Club and Hearts For Sight Foundation walked through the city park hand-in-hand with people of limited sight. It was a day of cool weather providing an enjoyable experience for all.

The Hearts for Sight Foundation (HFS) is a non-profit organization with the mission to break down barriers to health and fitness that restrict the blind and visually impaired, so that they may pursue physical, mental, and emotional wellness.

Our pace on this walk was slow as we left the north part of the park and walked to the Eldorado Nature Center, a series of concrete pathways. There were twenty eight people in all. There was some mandatory paperwork for me to join the hike, but well worth it for the experience of helping others.

Although this was my first outing with Inspiring Connection Outdoors, I observed the group seemed to comfortably know each other from previous outings. For every pair of hikers there was a leader matched to a person of limited sight explaining what was in front, above and really all around them. Trip hazards, overhead clearance was kept in the dialogue to prevent a mishap.

As we approached an egret resting upon a railing we stopped to talk about the birds at rest around the park in the cool weather. Lunch was taken on the way back to the parking lot. I certainly look forward to more ICO events in the future.
November 14th
Mount Baldy Climb For Heros
Benefit For Wounded Veterans
by Isa Galan

Onward, upward toward Camp #1, #2, #3. All photos by Isa Galan

Peter Gaspar, The Heros Project
#1 Fundraising Team, The Ascenders

The Blue Angels Fly Over the Heros Project hike, Mt. Baldy Hike

Isa Galan
The Hundred Peaks Section is an Activity Section of the Sierra Club - Angeles Chapter

Our newsletter, The Lookout, is published six times a year. Final dates for receipt of material have changed to accommodate our membership: They are January 2nd for the January-February issue, March 2nd, for the March-April issue, May 2nd, for the May-June issue, July 2nd, for the July-August issue, September 2nd, for September-October issue, and November 2nd for the November-December issue.

The Lookout Newsletter is the property of the Hundred Peaks Section. If you send photos, please include your name. Please, also identify the location and each subject in all photographs. When taking photos, please ask participants to remove hats and sunglasses, and wear face mask for safety.

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Wolf and Karen Leverich maintain The Hundred Peaks Website. It can be accessed at: http://www.hundredpeaks.org

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