

# THE MOUNTAIN DOGS

No. 523 - July 21, 1976

A Newsheet published by & for the Ski Mountaineers & Rock Climbing Sections of the S.C.'s Angeles Chap. Send address changes to Tim Ryan, 710 Loma, Hermosa Bch. 90251

## HIGH SIERRA CLIMBER'S GUIDE OUT

The long-awaited new edition of A Climber's Guide to the High Sierra, by Steve Roper, in Sierra Club Totebook format, is now on sale. Roper restored the technical routes, which (much to the rage of the technical climbing world) had been omitted from Andy Smatko's 1972 "Mountaineer's Guide" to make space for countless walk-ups (some of which won't be found in this edition!)

Unlike many guidebooks, this one lists first ascents in a special section in the back of the book, rather than under route descriptions -- not entirely satisfactory, as routes are frequently identified in climbers' minds by the persons who first climbed them rather than by compass and geography. However, it will be a pleasure to many to have a complete guidebook more up-to-date than the out-of-print 1965 edition.

RDM

## RCS MINARETS TRIP \*\* 3-5 July 1976

Climbers and assorted camp followers met at the Agnew Meadows trailhead on Saturday morning. The hike in to camp was quite leisurely, in accordance with hallowed RCS tradition. We noted that a couple of the small streams which usually flow at least until September were completely dry. The leader's habitual search for the log crossing of the San Joaquin could have been avoided since the water was so low that judicious use of the larger pebbles at the trail crossing now gets one across without wetting a toe.

By early afternoon everyone was established in camps distributed about the west shore of Lake Ediza. The Lake Ediza mosquitos appear to be suffering from this year's drought; few of us could hit more than one per slap. The afternoon saw sporadic climbing activity on the little cliff west of the lake.

In late afternoon a great whooping and hollering arose from the woods. This was followed at some length by the Wilts; Chuck, Ellen, Janet and Gail (Field). They had gone in Friday and climbed Dawson Minaret on Saturday.

That evening we were paid a visit by the local ranger, who seemed very favorably disposed toward climbers. The Forest Service does not now have any quotas for the Minarets Wilderness, but the ranger said quotas will be established in a year or two.

Sunday was the climbing day. Parties were on Dawson, Bedayan, Clyde and Leonard Minarets. Andy Fried and Bob Samoano reported finding a very large fossil high on the Eastern face of Clyde. This was a surprise since the Ritter Range is composed primarily of metamorphic and igneous rocks.

On this day, as on the other two days, the weather was superb...Warm sun and gentle breeze. Also there was a nice moon to assist your correspondent and his party back to camp at an outrageous hour.

Monday we all went peaceably back to the cars.

-MB

## BALDY HUT VANDALIZED

Sometime between July 5th and 9th the San Antonio Ski Hut was broken into. It appeared they used an ax, or some other heavy tool, and attacked the siding surrounding the shuttered window (the one which converts to a glass window which swings away). Some vandalism inside was noted, and some things were taken, though nothing of monetary value. A half gallon of red wine was taken from one of the lockers. Apparently as a lark, many window panes were broken.

At the May work party the whole front yard area of the Hut was reworked. The trail from the front step was rerouted north to join the summit trail near the creek, hopefully to keep those heading for the peak going in that direction instead of stopping at the Hut to fill canteens and congregate at the front steps. The front yard water pipe was buried and covered with rocks, many of them good-sized, which took four strong backs most of the day to accomplish. The vandals managed to heft most of the rocks and send them down the hill, in an apparent attempt to uncover the water pipe (which they did).

Immediate first aid repairs were administered the weekend of July 10-11, and most of the remainder of the work was finished on the 17-18th, thanks to Steve Wilkie, Jim Powers, Virgil Bayless, Milt McAuley, and several others. This occasion was used to commence work on the conversion of all the north side

-continued on Page 3\*

MUGELNOOS STAFF

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MUGELGRAPHERS..Mary Ferguson, G. Shinno  
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\$2 a Year A 4- Page Issue

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NEXT ISSUE: August 18, 1976  
DEADLINE: Fri., August 13, 1976  
(earlier, if possible)

C A L E N D A R

July 24-25 - Tahquitz (T) - RCS  
Aug. 14-16 - Mt. Whitney, E Face and N Buttress (T) Limited to RCS members Res. Req'd with trip leader Dan Eaton  
Aug. 18 - Mugelnoos Meeting, 8PM, RCS, SM  
Aug. 22 - Safety Test (T)

Mugelnoos Meetings: 3rd Weds. each month 8 p.m., Lemon Grove Recreation Center, 4959 Lemon Gr. Av., LA, just off H'wd. Fwy near Melrose exit. Trip news, program, laughs, etc. Climbers, Skiers, guests welcome.

ACCEPTANCE OF NEW RCS MEMBERS

This is to advise all RCS Members that the following people have successfully passed their safety tests and are to be voted on at the next meeting of the Safety Committee as to acceptance in the RCS:

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| GEORGE R. DAVIES |                 |
| WALTON KABLER    | ABE SIEMENS     |
| DAVID PERKINS    | DIANA DEE       |
| JIM BUTLER       | RANDY SHEAFF    |
| PAT BUTLER       | HARRY MCKELLOP  |
| DAVE ERSKINE     | CHUCK YOUNGBERG |
| STEVE KINNEY     | DAVE HORNBY     |
| DAVID KATZ       | ROBERT SOMOANO  |

Qualified and responsible comments or opinions as to applicant's safe climbing practices, by any RCS member in good standing should be brought to the attention of the Safety Committee Chairman, Hans Lees, in writing, no later than August 2, 1976.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Who?** doth preside with all dignity and authority over the administration of the safety test, which doth serve as the prerequisite to membership in this hallowed body (RCS)

**Hans Lees** That's Who

\*\*\*\*\*  
.... MORE WHO'S WHO ....

Royal Robbins has been elected an Honorary Member of the RCS. He has been notified of the election and has accepted the membership. Plans are in progress to award him a membership certificate at our annual picnic, October 24th.  
\*\*\*\*\*

.....from the RCS Sec'y-Treas

RCS MEMBERSHIP ROSTER ADDITION

RCS members please add new member:  
Glenn Grabiec  
1855 E. Riverside Dr. #365  
Ontario, CA 91761  
(714) 983-3755

TRIP LEADERS

In case you forget your sign-in and route sheets, extra copies are in each first-aid kit. Please advise Secretary if they are used.

TRAINING REGISTRATION

RCS members that have knowledge of individuals with potential for RCS membership should advise the Secy-Treas.

SKI MOUNTAINEERS CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

(6/22/76)

Meeting held at apt. of Mark Goebel; also present were Doug Mantle & Barbara Lilley. Old Business: Work print of Ski Mountaineers movie shown at SMS banquet; money will be applied for to put original film together in final form. A new SMS 1st-Aid Kit was prepared and taken on scheduled trips; M. Goebel will retain kit until needed again. Control of San Antonio & Keller Huts did pass to the Angeles Chapter.

New Business: Updated equipment list will be available for sale at Mugelnoos meetings a price list will be prepared also. Committee Chairpersons will be same as last year (Mugelnoos - R. Mendenhall, Projection - J. Wedberg, Ski Test - S. Wilkie, Ski Mountaineering - C. Wilts). Nov.-Feb. SMS schedule set up; annual banquet will be held 5/24/77.

(Note: The complete SMS ski touring schedule will be published in Nov. issue of Mugelnoos.)

\*\*\*\*\* BL

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BIRD WOMAN FLIES EAST

Vivian Mendenhall is now a Research Biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She is doing research with birds at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland (about half-way between Baltimore and Washington D.C.)  
-RDM-

SUPERMARKET BACKPACKING FOOD

"Cup-A-Noodles" (advertised in rock-climbing scene on TV) does indeed make a handy, tasty, quick weekend meal; hot water is added to the contents which come in an easily disposable styrofoam cup. Quantity greater & price cheaper than the small "Tea Kettle". Comes in three flavors--shrimp, chicken and beef; the former 2 have some freeze-dried meat. On longer trips or for those with bigger appetites, these can be supplemented with freeze-dried or canned meat. Usually found in soup or internat'l sections of grocery stores (product of Japan). BL

CABIN available in Idyllwild, sleeps 7, fully equipped, \$40 per weekend. Contact Jack Drake - Day (213) 923-7721 Ext 2807  
Home - (213) 374-5259

cont. from p. 1

windows to the swing-in type, like the one above the living room woodbox. Special custom-made hinges had been fashioned some time ago by Walt Davie especially for this purpose.

It has long been this reporter's contention that the fewer people who know about the Baldy Hut the better, just on general principles. It is certainly not the feeling that Sierra Club members are breaking into the Hut, but who knows how many undesirable types are acquainted with the Hut through our members, or, for that matter, through our 1,000-per-year BMTC ice ax students who are paraded up to the Baldy Bowl and displayed to the Hut. This latter ritual has seen its final season this year, we hope.

JW

TAHQUITZ -- JUNE 26-27

A good mix of about 30 RCS members and proficiency card holders signed in each day, and climbers were generally able to set out on the climbs they had wanted to do. Tahquitz was in the throes of a heat wave, but climbing was nevertheless pleasant on the north and west sides.

RGL

Yosemite Valley, June 12-14

Eleven members and four guests spent this weekend in Yosemite Valley in beautiful weather. Saturday, climbs were made on Lower Cathedral Spire, Rixon's Pinnacle, Glacier Point Apron and Monday Morning Slab. Sunday: Royal Arches, Lower Cathedral Spire, Ranger Rock, and Churchbowl Chimney. One group hiked to Yosemite Point. A few climbers spent Monday morning at Ranger Rock, and the trip leader closed the sign-out book at noon.

E. Yount was a trip leader because Mindy Bagdon had to work. Mark Cole was assistant trip leader.

EY



TAHQUITZ MYSTERY UNRAVELED



In revealing the true circumstances of her romantic introduction to John Mendenhall at Tahquitz in 1938, Ruth has solved a mystery of longstanding. In June Mugelnoos, Ruth states she first met John at the base of Fingertip Traverse, and then they made an early attempt at Traitor Horn. As everyone knows, there is a weatherbeaten sprig of mistletoe tied on by thoroughly rusted bailing wire (looks to have been there for 30 years or so) in the big oak tree at the base of Fingertrip Traverse (the tree that's infested with red ants which bite you while you're anchored to it belaying the leader on the first pitch). We now know who put that mistletoe there. Also, looking at both John and Ruth's climbing record, one has to wonder who the climb on Traitor Horn was an "early attempt" rather than a successful first ascent? That mystery is also solved. As anyone who has done that route knows, just after the "traitor" horn, there is a secluded alcove (albeit exposed) requiring a 5.8 traverse to get across to the "true" horn. This alcove should henceforth be known as "Snuggler's Cove".

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TJ

EXPLORATORY EXPEDITION SUCCESSFUL

Jim Endo, LeRoy Russ and Emory Yount just completed a week-long trip to the fringes of the Sierra in search of new climbing areas. One full day was spent in the Buttermilk Country near Bishop. This is a good practice climbing area, similar to Joshua Tree. One day was spent at Fresno Dome east of Fish Camp. The dome is clean granite, like Tahquitz, and should be scheduled for an RCS trip. We did a four-pitch route that's worth repeating - an open book near the east edge of the dome. One day was used to inspect the Balls, a series of granite domes east of Fresno Dome. The Balls consists of half a dozen or so domes and pinnacles with one low wall over half a mile long; the area is recommended for RCS trips. Access to either Fresno Dome or the Balls is by the road from Bass Lake. The road east from Fish Camp is a dog; five stream crossings.

EY

Prussik Knot Jams Again

On July 5th, while rappelling from the usual belay stand, 50 feet below the summit of Mt. Clarence King, the first climber to descend found his self-belay prussik jammed. Once again, the middle-marker of tape had not passed the knot. As the American Alpine Club admonishes - "Don't use tape!"

GRD

MOUNTAIN WATER CONTAMINATION

The problem of bacterial contamination of mountain streams is less clearly tied to the sanitary wastes of campers than one might expect. Surprisingly, it was recently found that a watershed in Montana which was closed to the public for several years, had five times the amount of bacterial contamination in its streams than an adjacent watershed which was open to the public.\* Furthermore, when the previously-protected watershed was open to the public in 1976, the amount of bacteria in its streams was found to decrease. The scientists involved in the study tied the bacterial contamination to the bear and elk population in the protected watershed area. This suggests the totally non-scientific observation that although people tend to head for the bushes when nature calls, our wildlife friends don't feel obligated to do the same. It seems that the absence of man doesn't necessarily guarantee the bacterial purity of mountain streams, and that it might be wise to add populous game areas to the list of bacteria-suspect watersheds.

\*Applied Microbiology 22(6):1048-1054 (1971) SUMMITT. Feb. 76

Bodies of Two Lost in Storm are Recovered

Bodies of two men lost in Sierra snowstorms in late February were found Wednesday, June 16.

The body of Kenneth German, 34, of Mountain View was recovered in the area of Matterhorn Peak, west of Bridgepost, by June Lake Search and Rescue with the assistance of the Forest Service helicopter. German was reported missing by two hiking companions who said he was apparently hit by an avalanche Feb. 21 while hiking near the 10,000 ft. level.

A body believed to be that of Robert Frieswald, 28, of Santa Monica, was found by Mammoth Mt. Ski area personnel near the old Reds Meadow dump in Madera county. He had been missing since Sunday, Feb. 29 when he failed to return from an afternoon of skiing. A heavy storm hit the area that afternoon, and some 50 inches of new snow blanketed the area. Madera authorities the past week were working on positive identification of the body.

Inyo Register, 6/24/76

LATE NEWS LATE NEWS LATE NEWS LATE NEWS

New leaders for the RCS Tahquitz trip this weekend (July 24 and 25) are:

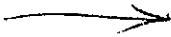
Saturday, July 24 - Dale Stein 340-6425 (I hope)

Sunday, July 25 - Al Fowler (714) 533-4263

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**ANNOUNCING** the revolutionary new climbing shoe...  
the **PU**.

In the beginning, God issued man basic climbing equipment

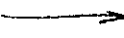


Due to increased incidents of calluses & stubbed toes, man tried to improve on it by creating the shoe.



This model's disadvantage for climbing? no more toes due to FROSTBITE.

So, the early climbers used their ingenuity by adapting the shoe in their quest for higher & higher standards of performance.



nailed boot

Through the years, man changed the design & features of the climbing shoe to suit different climbing situations— But, NONE of these offered the ULTIMATE, ALL-ENCOMPASSING solution to ALL climbing situations.



EB



RR

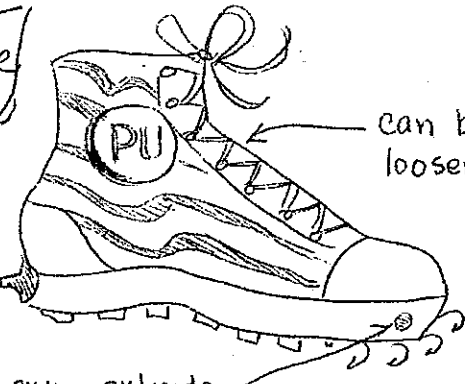


PA

**BUT NOW** o o o after years of research, our technology has created the perfect climbing shoe - \*

comes in zebra-stripe and purple flame

can even be inflated to walk on water (when you think you're **READY**)



can be tightened or loosened-

retractable hooks for security on microscopic edges & flakes.

Built-in Bubble-gum extruder for extra "stick" on 5.12 friction.

\*When all else fails, we have an optional "Power-Pac" --- small, attachable rocket boosters to get you up ANYTHING - (We really agonized over "ethics & style" concepts in the development of this feature - IN GOOD CONSCIENCE we must classify it as DIRECT AID ---)