

THE MUGELMAILER

No. 533 May 18, 1977

A newsheet published by and for the Ski Mountaineers & Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter. Subscriptions \$2 per year, due in October. Send address changes to Mugelmailer

PUBLISHED MONTHLY This is a 6 page issue.

PLAN TO ATTEND SKI MOUNTAINEERS BANQUET MAY 24

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO PLAN TO ATTEND! Make your reservations now with Mark Goebel, 1632 Barry Ave., #7, LA 90025, Ph. 820-1962. Cost \$7.50. Includes fine food, entertainment, and many snowy friends. See you at the Smoke House, 4420 Lakeside Dr., Burbank. Cocktails at 6:30 PM, Dinner at 7:30 PM.

RCS, PINNACLES NATIONAL MONUMENT, Sat.-Sun. Apr. 16-17

An ideal weekend for climbing, camping and socializing was enjoyed immensely by a turnout of (regretfully) only eight persons, including a non-climbing spouse. On Sat. five climbers did four short but challenging routes in the High Peaks area, including most notably a seldom-done 5.9 route on Tuff Dome by DeRusha, Bagdon and Nissen. Meanwhile, two climbers did the Old Original route on Machete Ridge. On Sunday the teams reversed; the team of two doing four routes in High Peaks while four of the others did the first two pitches (5.8-A2 and sustained 5.6-5.7) of the Machete Direct and then rappelled off for lack of time. The two pitches were led by Bagdon and DeRusha, respectively.

Although 5-6 hours away, this area--and in particular the West Side (Chaparrel Campground, with close access to both the High Peaks area, with an inexhaustible supply of greatly varied routes, and the monumental routes of Machete Ridge) offers in the spring ideal weather: warm days, cool and clear nights, plus fascinating views of an ancient volcanic region in a setting of rustic beauty, and the company of multitudes of creatures of earth (rabbits, deer) and air (swallows, hummingbirds, hawks). Those who missed it are urged to go next time its scheduled. FW

POWDER IN THE DROUGHT, ALPINE SKI TOUR, May 7-8 (Non-scheduled)

Based upon reports of sufficient snowpack in the Dade-Bear Creek Spire area, 10 assorted hikers and skiers gathered the Rock Creek roadhead Sat. AM in anticipation of a weekend of spring snow skiing, sunshine and peak climbing. The snowpack was indeed adequate (continuous from just below Treasure Lakes) but clouds were gathering even as they started, and by the time they reached their usual campsite, snowflakes were falling and the temperature was 20°F. However, there was little wind and reasonable visibility, so after lunch 9 headed up the Dade Couloir. The 4 hikers who attempted Mt. Dade were turned back by strong winds on the ridge but the 5 who just skied the Dade Couloir were rewarded with several ski runs in 8 to 10 inches of fairly good powder snow (on an excellent base)! Two who had never been Alpine touring before were plagued by equipment problems and the need to obtain some more skiing practice off the packed slopes

Altho there were momentary clearings, snow continued to fall lightly and by mid-morning Sunday all decided to pack out. The drive back to L.A. included heavy rain and snowshowers well south of Olancho. Yet, as in previous storms this season, much more precipitation occurred in the south--the ski touring season on San Gorgonio may well last into June. (And assuming there is sufficient interest and good weather, Rock Creek ski tour will be held again on May 21-22.)

FORMER MUGELMAILER TESTIFIES

Former RCS member Lois Malone writes from Boston, "I enjoyed being Mugelmailer when I did it." Lois works as a commercial artist, as well as doing much painting on her own. Her daughter Ruthie, husband and daughter (age 2) are now living in New England also. Lois plans to vacation in the Sierra early this summer. (RDM)

ROSTERS MAILED

The 1977 RCS roster has been sent to members, along with the guidelines for RCS instructors. If you want these (or didn't get yours), contact John Ripley, Box 1034, Downey, CA 90240; (213)869-9670.

JR

MUGELNOOS STAFF

EDITOR:.....Barbara Lilley
MUGELMAILER.....Tim Ryan
MUGELGRAPHER.....Mary Ferguson
Reporters: Ruth Mendenhall, Joan Clark,
Norm Kingsley, Bob Hartunian, Mark Goebel,
Fred Wing, Emory Yount, John Ripley

NEXT EDITOR: Ruth Mendenhall
335 Sequoia
Pasadena, CA 91105
Phone: 793-0806

NEXT ISSUE: June 15, 1977

DEADLINE: June 10, 1977

MUGELNOOS MEETINGS: Third Wednesdays of
each month, 7:30 PM, Lemon Grove Rec. Cntr.
4959 Lemon Grove Ave., L.A., near Holly-
wood Fry. & Melrose Ave. Program, Refresh-
-ments, Conversation, Announcements.
Climbers, skiers, guests, all welcome!

CALENDER

MAY 22: RCS Safety Test - Dick DeRusha
(661-9924)

MAY 24: Ski Mountaineers Banquet
M. Goebel, 820-1962

MAY 28-30 RCS - Kings Canyon
Andy Fried 466-0480

JUNE 11-13: RCS - Yosemite (3 days)
Dick DeRusha, 661-9924

JUNE 15: Mugelnoos Meeting (Program: Nick
Clinch)

JUNE 18-19: Tahquitz (RCS)
Maynard Brandsma 285-9613

(All SMS Tours after May 22 uncertain due
to lack of snow. THINK SNOW NEXT YEAR!)

SMS DIRECTORY TO APPEAR

A Ski Mountaineers Membership List will
be published with the June Mugelnoos.
Anyone with a new phone number (since
June 1976) or who has failed to notify
the Mugelmailer of a change of address
or who has re-subscribed to Mugelnoos and
wishes to be reinstated as a member of
the S.M. Section should notify B.Lilley,
3421 Lindley Ave., Northridge, CA 91325
by June 6, 1977.

OWENS VALLEY VISITOR CENTER

The new Interagency Visitor Center, one
mile south of Lone Pine on Hwy. 395, opened
April 29. Purpose is to provide current
information about weather, roads, back-
country, fishing conditions, camping condi-
-tions, etc. Agencies providing services
include DFG, BLM, Cal-Trans, DWP, Inyo &
Toiyabe Natl. Forests, Sequoia/Kings Canyon
Natl. Parks & Inyo/Mono counties. Present
plans are to remain open Wed. thru Sunday
with extended hours on weekends beginning
Memorial Day weekend. (Inyo Register, 4/28)

FOR SALE

Meindl (Lowa lasts) brand-new ski-mtrng.
boots, with square toe welt for Silvrettas.
Prototype model, size 9. Galibier "Robbins"
climbing boots, size 9, new soles, good
condition. Nordica backpacking boot, size 9,
new soles, good condition. Lace-up ski-
mountaineering boot for ladies or kids,
size 7, excellent condition. Also two
sets wood mtrng. skis with Silvretta type
bindings, 185 and 190 cm). Kingsley, phone
790-4275. NK

OLD ROPES NEEDED

The "Learn the Ropes" course needs your
old, discarded climbing ropes. They'll
buy them from you, and prefer especially
9 and 7 mm kernmantle or soft-goldline.
So don't toss the old rope out; call
Kingsley, 790-4275. He'll pay \$5 per
rope. NK

All those interested in completing the
LTC qualification for CPR training are
urged to contact Dick DeRusha regarding
a one-day session on the weekend of July
9-10. If you write, enclose SASE. FW

SNOWPACK REPORT

As skiers well know, this year (1977) is
the driest in the Sierra since records have
been kept (but 11 ft. of snow fell in So.
Calif. mountains this winter!). The DWP has
projected (Inyo Register, 3/3/77) only 40%
of normal runoff, with only 20% of normal
in the Mammoth area, even though an early
May storm allowed Mammoth (with 18" new) and
many So. Calif. ski areas (with 2-4 ft.) to
reopen on May 10 for a couple of weeks.
Last year's runoff was only 50% of normal.
Hard to believe that less than 10 years
ago (1969) was the biggest snow year ever
recorded in the Sierra!

TRAIL FOODS, P.O. Box 9309, North Holly-
wood, CA 91609, offers discounts on Rich-
Moor, Wilson & Mountain House freeze-dried
food. Send for price list. (Ph. 763-9319)

TIM RYAN is on the latest American Alpine
Club Membership Proposal List (March 1977)

RESTRICTIONS LIFTED

Through the influence of AAC Club Director
Raffi Bedayn, the present Director of the
Natl. Park Service's Rocky Mountain Region,
L. Thompson, has lifted the restrictive
requirements for the climbing of Devil's
Tower. In the future, the only require-
ments will be registration before and
after the climb. (AAC News, Mar. 1977)

WONDERS NEVER CEASE

Usually reliable sources indicate that not
only did the BMTC refrain from using the
Baldy Bowl for ice ax practice in 1977 but
some actually felt that their new area was
better.

Newsworthy items not published in this
issue due to lack of space will be forwar-
ded on to next editor.

1984 ?? (or sooner)

NATIONAL PARK

Established for the enjoyment
and use of the people of the
United States of America

- NO CAMPFIRES
- NO SWIMMING
- NO FISHING
- NO CAMPING
- NO PICNICKING
- NO HIKING
- NO SKIING
- NO CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING
- NO MOUNTAIN BIKING
- NO BUNYON
- NO BUNYON

(Enjoy your mountains
while you can!)

COMMENTS RECEIVED ON RCS BYLAWS* CHANGE

*According to Webster's the word is bylaw (no hyphen). RDM

1. In accordance with the suggestion on page 3 of the April Mugelnoos, Ruth Mendenhall suggests the following change (in wording, not meaning) for the proposed RCS bylaw change, as listed under III. Article VII. COMMITTEES, Section A. Safety Committee, #7:

"7. The Safety Committee shall take appropriate action to correct any unsafe climbing practices demonstrated by members; if other corrective measures are unsuccessful, the member who continues to follow unsafe practices may be dropped from the RCS by action of the Safety Committee"

As it stands, #7 does not quite say what the explanation below gives as its intent--it sounds a lot more threatening, with emphasis on "exclusion" which is a pretty harsh word when the circumstance has not yet ever been a problem.

RDM

THROUGH THE CLOUDS TO PEAR LAKE, (SMS); Ski Tour, Apr. 2-3, 1977

"Ski mountaineering at Pear Lake this coming weekend?"

"Can't be enough snow there this drought year."

"But the Park Service reports sufficient snow once you get over Heather Gap."

"Well, let's give it a try. Did you make a Hut reservation?"

"Yes."

"Good Thinking."

And so, with a few residual snow flakes still falling, Mark Goebel, Ed and Mary Omberg and June Lane started hiking from Wolverton Meadows on Saturday morning with skis lashed across their packs. After a few miles, the snow deepened sufficiently and skis were used for the remainder of the journey, and what a journey it was to be. Following lunch at Heather Gap, with the sun only making an occasional appearance, the group descended into the low clouds which covered the remainder of the route. Route finding became an immediate problem upon reaching the open area of Heather Lake. Visibility was down to a few feet, there were no tracks to follow, and the trail markers are few and far between. After a few major course corrections and some wandering about, the route was completely lost in the area of Aster Lake. However, with a great deal of thrashing about, over and through brush and around rocky cliffs, the open area above the hut was found.

We could hardly tell up from down, or see ten feet, but started descending towards the hut. We thought: Going from tree to tree, we were soon in strange country and the hour was growing late. "Where oh where is that hut!". The altimeter, if correct, indicated that we were 800' too low. So, back on with the climbing skins and up we trudged. But the terrain was not becoming familiar, even as the clouds suddenly began to lift. Finally, far up canyon the cliffs surrounding Pear Lake became visible, and the hut was quickly located among the trees. Also visible were our descent tracks which came within 200 feet of the hut! Time, 3 1/2 hours since leaving Heather Gap!

For all this effort, we did have a great weekend. Had the hut all to ourselves, the heater worked without the aid of a room full of engineers, and between the Hut and "winter" Alta, the skiing was on light, untracked powder. Plus, great weather all day Sunday.

MG

(Onion Valley Ski Tour originally scheduled on this date--ed.)

SKIING BOOK REVIEW

Pioneer on Skis by Erling Strom has something of intense interest for all types of skiers whether they specialize in downhill, Alpine or cross-country touring, jumping, racing or falling down. Strom started to ski in the last century at the age of 3, above timberline in Norway. At that time and place skiing was a winter necessity to get around and jumping and cross-country its main recreational forms. Later in America, from the East Coast to Mt. Assiniboine, Strom saw the gradual popularization of the sport from touring through resort skiing and back to touring. He saw the introduction of the Austrian Alberg techniques, various lift inventions, downhill racing, and skiing events in the Olympic Games, up to recent revival of cross-country.

In 1932 he was one of four who made the second ascent of Mt. McKinley. Though air travel was used to an extent at that time, his party skied from the McKinley station and up the Muldrow Glacier, and dog teams brought in the equipment to base camp. The book also details the many changes in equipment over the years and its effect on techniques. Besides all this, every page is crammed with entertaining incidents, and there are numerous illustrations.

Published by the Smith Clove Press, Central Valley, N.Y., and priced at \$9.50, the book has the added bonus of having had the encouragement, and allegedly the spelling talents, of Ski Mountaineers Section member Ethel Van Degrift.

RDM

SKI TOUR, April 16-17

This tour was relocated from the Palisades to San Gorgonio, with 2 participants. It took 45 minutes to get a permit Sat. AM for South Fork Meadows (Dry Lake camp-ground quota was "full"); however, an excellent campsite was found in big pine trees about 100' above where the Dry Lake trail crosses the stream draining Dry Lake--complete privacy, places to hide packs and even a new outhouse. The road was open and dry to Poopout Hill. Sat. the marked ski trail was followed to the Little Draw: snow was nearly continuous from just above camp. Ski descent was on heavy but skiable snow with regular length skis; however the 160's used by a 160+ pound man constantly broke through the surface causing numerous falls, prompting the observation that these super-short GLM type skis ARE DEFINITELY NOT RECOMMENDED FOR BACK-COUNTRY SKIING until after June 1 at least --as it appears they are actually DANGEROUS. This skier had taken his checkout tour on his longer skis with Ramer bindings and found them far more satisfactory than the Marker Rotomat-TR's, especially after he lost a critical part while carrying the TR's.

More sensibly on Sunday, skis were carried up (and down) the trail to Dry Lake above which quite good spring skiing was found in the Big Draw and the North Face up to the freezing line of about 10,000' (it was not continuous to the ridge anyway). People on foot were sinking in 2 to 3 feet and it appeared that few hikers reached the summit--the parking lot was nearly deserted by 3:30 PM. This was the first warm sunny weekend since the originally scheduled San Gorgonio tour on Mar. 19-20 was cancelled by the first new snow to fall in a month! (About 3 feet new total had fallen since Mar. 17--in So. California, not in the Sierra!)

BJL

SKI TOUR, April 23-24

The original tour scheduled for Convict Lake area & Mammoth skiing was cancelled due to insufficient snow (Mammoth closed down April 24, earliest ever). Two optimistic skiers went further north, to San Joaquin Peak. On Sat, after struggling through some patches of rotten snow to reach Fern Lake, they were pleasantly surprised to find continuous snow from about 200 feet beyond the lake to just below the summit. The upper slopes were not too well consolidated as yet (skiing is better here in May due to N-facing slopes), but some excellent spring snow was found on the last 1000' ski descent to snowline. This area, first visited by the SMS only last year, has certainly passed the "reliability test" in this year of the great drought. (Good campsites are found at Fern Lake for overnight stays also.)

Sun. Dunderberg Peak was climbed with skis--unfortunately not on them as the snowcover was intermittent; however, one 1200' descent on snow ranging from wind-packed powder to spring type made the effort all worthwhile, and at least the ski tour route was discovered to the summit, which is: From about 4 miles in from the highway on the Virginia Lakes road, (off Conway Summit), follow the connecting road toward Green Lakes about a mile, past the first steep ridge, then gradually angle upward through the trees to Dunderberg Lake. From the lake, the route to the summit is obvious, first climbing up a steep face, crossing a flat area, then up the gully between the two summits (W. summit is higher). The Lake would make a good campsite and there would be plenty of skiing for two days under normal snow conditions.

BJL

SOME BYGONES GONE BYE-BYE (A bit of nostalgia)

The Sierra Club has always been vocal (as the government will attest); but only a few members may recall that in the olden days several skiers and climbers--among them Elsie Strand, Joan Dyar, Maxine Holton, Howard Gates, Carl Jensen and Bill Duffy--vocalized in the chorus of the San Gabriel Valley Opera Company. And despite his volatile vexations with our interpretation of pp as Pretty Powerful and ff Full Force, our director, Guido Casselotti, is still alive and lively although now well into his 90's.

Our only opera was "Madame Butterfly". However, among the airs we rendered (as we rent the air) was Bizet's "Invocation to Ammon", a copy of which was recently found in Joan Clark's (nee Dyar) piano bench. On the back cover of this music was a list of anthems, next to which we had pencilled some slightly non-devotional "dedications", such as:

- "There is a Green Hill" -- Skiers' Lament (especially this year-ed.)
- "Behold the Dawn" -- And then go back to sleep
- "Arise, Shine, for Thy Light Has Come" -- How we hate to get up!
- "He is Risen" -- But Gatesy is still in bed
- "Come Unto Me, All Thee That Labor" -- George Bauwens' daily exhortation
- "Invocation to Ammon" -- Grace for the first 'alf of breakfast
- "Be Strong" -- And you'll get to the Baldy Hut
- "O Lord, Support Us All the Day Long" -- Rock Climbers' prayer.
- "Lift Up Your Heads" -- And hope for a handhold
- "Lead Me, Lord" -- Belayer's hymn
- "The Woods & Every Sweet Smelling Tree" -- (1977) Ode to the Olden Days

JDC

CLIMB IN BELLA COOLA

With the over-crowded conditions found in most U.S. climbing areas, consider using the Sierra Club's facility near Bella Coola, British Columbia.

Amid scenic grandeur of the B.C. Coast Range, at Stui in Tweedsmuir Prov. Park, sits the Club's "Talchako Lodge". Maintained by the Sierra Club of Western Canada, the lodge is located 265 air miles NW of Vancouver, B.C., accessible by car. Reach it in two days from Seattle.

Challenging rock and ice climbs can be reached in many directions from the Lodge. Heavily glaciated peaks, rising 6,000 to 10,000 ft. above the valley floor, offer both moderate and extremely challenging routes. The lower valley has numerous 3,000 to 4,000 ft. polished granite faces that exceed Yosemite's. Particularly interesting are the arched big walls across from Bella Coola's airstrip. There are no guides to area climbs, and every wall offers numerous possibilities for virgin first ascents. The same holds true for the surrounding peaks--most are unclimbed.

There is also hiking, fishing, white-water rafting, kayaking, backpacking, berry-picking and following the many grizzly trails in the area. Don't be afraid of bears though, you'll never see them as they're afraid of humans. Think about spending your vacation at Talchako Lodge. Ask Norman Kingsley for additional information, 790-4275.

NK

GREEN DEATH

Traditional climbing ethics have excluded the use of "High-Performance Additives" in the climber's tank because it was thought that common alcohol and demanding exercise do not mix. However, recent studies conducted by the RCS student activist group, S.A.G., have shown in field tests that Rainier "Green Death" ale can have a definite place in the rock climber's bag of goodies.

Originally brewed by Yakima Indians as a poultice for removing leeches, the recipe was memorized by illiterate woodsmen and passed verbally between generations of Northwest fishermen. It was finally battered for a can of worms to the present supplier with the promise that no portion of the potion would be altered to suit genteel tastes. Even a single swig proves the agreement still holds.

Climbers who ordinarily slip and fall from 5.0 and easier routes demonstrated markedly improved abilities when spilled "Green Death" gave their shoes an adhesive quality. Several participants totally saturated by the testing program at Stoney and Rubidoux were encouraged to go home only after ripping them bodily from the rock. Any personal experimentation with "Green Death" should be limited to top-roped climbs until sufficient tolerance to side effects is acquired from repeated exposure.

BH

RCS FUTURE MUGELNOOS PROGRAMS (REVISED)

- June 15 - Nick Clinch - Movie on climbing in Anarctica (shown at S.C. banquet 10 years ago)
- July 20 - Nate Clark - Movie on old climbs in Yosemite (plus presentation of honorary membership to Glen Dawson)
- Aug. 17 - Jack Parker, original S.C. Council Rep. from Delta Chapter - Slides and commentary on backpacking in the Smokies.
- Sept. 21 - Andy Fried - Climbing on Mt. Rainier
- Oct. 19 - Dan Lauria - Climbing in Yosemite Valley

FW

GORE-TEX RAINGEAR FABRIC

Gore-Tex is a new fabric laminate of three layers. The outer layer is normal uncoated nylon cloth. The middle layer is a thin film of micro-porous PFTE (teflon). The inner layer is one of three choices: non-woven polyester fabric, nylon knit fabric, or normal nylon cloth, same as the shell.

The Teflon film has tiny pores, not visible. Water vapor will go out through them, but even storm-driven rain drops will not come in. Teflon repels liquid water permanently.

Tents and clothing made of this material perform very well with respect to condensation. The inner layer feels dry, but actually has a thin film of water condensed in it from breath, drying clothing or cooking (in the case of tents). This water does not stay in the layer, but constantly evaporates outward through the pores into the outer air.

When the outside temperature is below about 28°F, the water vapor freezes on the inside of a tent, and the transmitting action stops. However, the frost is locked into the fibrous inner layer, and most of it does not shower down as snow when the tent flaps. This is a big advantage over the nylon cloth formerly used. However, since the frost cannot be shaken loose, it will be wrapped up with the tent in the morning; this extra weight is a minor disadvantage.

Gore-Tex costs more than normal nylon fabric, of course, but is a major improvement in performance and worth it; clothing made of this material can serve all purposes and extra rain gear need not be carried.

(from MSR Newsletter, March 1977)

RCS AND STAN KLEIN RETURN TO SUICIDE ROCK

Thirty climbers signed in each day for the scheduled RCS climb at Suicide Rock, April 30-May 1. Weather was good but not perfect; occasional cloudiness and chill wind reminded us that it is still early spring at that altitude. Of worthwhile note was the climb of Graham Crackers by Stan Klein and Harry Baker; as reported in the June 1976 Mugelnoos, Stan experienced a severe fall on that route a year ago. He recovered from his injuries and after joining several RCS practice climbs this past winter, is ready for the real thing once more. On this trip a surprising number of difficult routes were climbed--indicating that this particular group of members and guests is in good climbing shape. EY

CLIMBERS FINED FOR NOT REGISTERING

Three mountain climbers who were rescued from a winter climb of Mt. Rainier were fined \$25 each by a United States magistrate for failure to register for the climb, in a session at Mt. Rainier Park Headquarters. The three were the object of a search and rescue of several days in early December when they were pinned down in a winter storm. The climbers said they had called and asked for weather and other information but had not applied for climbing cards, feeling the telephone calls were in effect, a way of registering with the park. Park regulations call for registration before and after a climb; climbers are also required to detail the routes they plan to follow. The rescue operation involved park and Army personnel and volunteers at a cost of several thousand dollars. (Seattle Times, 2/25/77) RDM

JOSHUA TREE AT EASTER

Scheduled leader John Moore couldn't make this trip because of job commitments, but his influence was felt because he had made reservations for the Sheep Pass group campground. All the Monument campgrounds were full over this holiday weekend, but we had no problem thanks to John's planning.

Fred Wing filled in as leader, assisted by John Ripley. On Saturday, nine RCS members were hard pressed to distribute their experience and equipment among the 18 guests. Beginners, try to bring your own gear! All groups except one climbed at Hidden Valley campground; the nonconformists ascending Ryan Campground's Headstone (Balance) Rock, which they highly recommended.

Sunday saw seven members and 14 guests (2 to 1 again). Five stayed at Hidden Valley campground and the others, aided by the new (expensive!) guidebook, split themselves between Turtle Rock and Isle in the Sky. Turtle Rock has at least three easy to moderate routes suitable for beginners.

The weather was beautiful both days--warm, sunny, but not really hot. We're all looking forward to next Easter. JR

GREETINGS TO RCS FROM SENIOR HONORARY MEMBER

Dr. Robert L.M. Underhill, elected to honorary RCS membership in 1938, was recently sent one of the striking certificates designed and produced by Al Carlson. The section in turn received a letter from Berlin, New Hamp., reading (in part) as follows:

I have never forgotten the matter of this election, which has always meant much to me....I feel highly honored to be allowed some important credit for having started [Sierra Club rock climbers] on their way. Personally, I have to confess that my own serious climbing came to an end many years ago (I am now 88 years old), though up through the age of 70 I was still engaged, with my wife, in making the first complete set of ascents of our own local 4000-footers in winter...

Our rock climbing party of 1931 in the High Sierra is something I have always looked back upon with great pleasure. It was one of my most enjoyable mountaineering experiences, because of both the place and the people.

With thanks again... for the handsome certificate you have sent me, and with renewed best wishes for the prosperity of the Section,

Sincerely, ROBERT L.M. UNDERHILL (JR)

SIGN-IN SHEETS--WHAT AND WHY

RCS sign-in sheets have a dual role, and members (and students) should know both. First, of course, the sheets are used to keep track of participants on a trip--to make sure all are out safely or to facilitate emergency procedures. In this the RCS sheets are like those used on any other Sierra Club trip. The second use of the sheets is to record member participation. Members must take part in 4 days of activity per year to remain in the RCS (unless excused by vote at the annual meeting). The sheets are the only way we have to record your participation.

Always sign the attendance sheet--this includes leaders! You must sign each day of a non-backpacking trip for credit. Route sheets show where you will be climbing; always use them and always indicate when you have returned from your climb. If you can't return to the sheets after your climb, have someone check you off the list as safe. Use common sense to keep the leader from having to worry about your party. Don't disappear mysteriously, and don't expect activity credit for a day you didn't sign in. JR