



No. 547 -- July 18, 1978

A newsheet published by and for the Ski Mountaineers and Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter. Send subscriptions and address changes to Phil Bruce, 8544 Eucalyptus, Downey, CA 90242. \$2 per year, due in October. A 6 page no.

#### FUN ON FAMILIAR FACES

33 (Saturday) and 18 (Sunday) students and RCS members enjoyed two weather-perfect climbing days at Tahquitz Rock, June 24-25. The usual traditional beginner's routes--White Maiden, Fingertip Traverse, Trough, and Frightful Variation--received the usual heavy traffic. Fred Wing, Dick DeRusha, and Frances Cholewa led unsuspecting students on harder climbs (I've forgotten which ones). Frances, I understand, no longer finds it necessary to bring her own shoes, and Dick prefers a rope harness to the more traditional seat harness.

It was fortunate that no injuries occurred since we were without a first aid kit. A nameless student carried it on his climb, led by the assistant leader. Diane Corte and Ruth Carter climbed as partners, swinging leads (swinging as in exchanging rope leads). The state park campsite arrangements worked out okay (any complaints?).

Thanks are due the cooperative ranger for making allowances for group vehicle count and resisting Diane's charm. The leader also thanks the cooperative RCS members who took two students per climb. Words of Wisdom from leader Russ: Don't be a Nice Guy and try to safeguard deserted equipment.

LR

#### FUN ON FORGOTTEN FACES

On Saturday, July 8, the RCS made an exploratory trip to "Williamson Rock." This dome shaped granite massif is located on the north side of Angeles Crest Hwy., about two miles east of the Kratka Ridge ski lift. On the Waterman Mtn topo it is located on Little Rock Creek, just beneath the "P" in "Dam, pumphouse."

Leader Emory Yount, six members, and two guests followed the shortest path from the road, down 400 feet to the creek. John Mendenhall then pointed out the routes that the section had climbed on previous trips. Four routes were climbed or attempted--one was aborted when a No. 2 Stopper came out on a leader fall. We found bolts on each of the routes, as well as missing bolt hangers and empty bolt holes. Nut placements were scarce. We concluded that clean climbing will be difficult at Williamson because the rock is not extensively fractured.

Water was still flowing in the creek, and we enjoyed an ideal picnic after the climbs, with wild flowers, big trees, and no tourists in sight. The area is recommended for private trips, and the RCS should schedule one or two trips there a year.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Williamson Rock was discovered for the RCS by Chuck Wilts in <sup>EY</sup> 1946. It was scheduled, traditionally in June or July, an average of once per year during the 17 years from 1946 thru 1962. Emory's is the first known RCS trip since '62. It was fortunate that John Mendenhall had not yet moved and was available to point out routes, since he led 2/3 of the trips from 1950-62.

#### FUN WITH FAMOUS FACES

The June 20 Mugelnoos meeting was a special one dedicated to RCS/SMS "old timers" in general and RCS honorary members in particular. The program began with introductions, and 28 "famous" persons were made known (15 were former RCS officers).

The next item was the presentation of RCS honorary membership certificates. As previous receivers Glen Dawson (June 1977) and John & Ruth Mendenhall (May 1978) looked on, the symbolic papers were given to Chuck Wilts, Ellen Wilts, and RCS founder Art Johnson. Art made a well received acceptance "speech" emphasizing the tradition of safety in the section.

The core of the program was presented by Chuck Wilts, who shared reminiscences of the RCS past through words and slides. The accent was on Chuck's special love--Tahquitz Rock, at one time the almost exclusive "property" of the section. Chuck finished by showing a long forgotten RCS training and propaganda film, preserved by him down the years since its 1946 making. In excellent color, we saw the likes of Jim Gorin, Harry Sutherland, Jim Bonner, the Wiltzes, Paul Estes (all at the meeting), the Fremstads, Ray Van Aken, etc., in action with bits of comic relief.

Ex-chairman Chet Errett (1940-42) finished the program with further memories, stressing the club's contributions to the Mountain Troops of World War II. Thanks to all the old and current members who showed up to make the evening a success.

JR

MUGELNOOS STAFF

EDITOR for July . . . . . John Ripley  
MUGELGRAPHER . . . . . Mary Ferguson  
MUGELMAILER . . . . . Phil Bruce  
REPORTERS: Bob D'Evelyn, Vince Duke,  
Andy Fried, Barbara Lilley, Ruth Dyar  
Mendenhall, Dave Perkins, Don Pies,  
LeRoy Russ, Emory Yount.

\$2 per year A six-p. issue

NEXT EDITOR: Tom Jeter  
321 E. Orangewood Ave #C-7  
Anaheim, CA 92802  
(714) 750-2590

NEXT ISSUE: August 15, 1978  
DEADLINE: Friday, August 11, 1978

MUGELNOOS MEETINGS: Third Tuesday of  
each month, 7:30 pm, Dept of Water &  
Power Aud., 111 N. Hope, downtown LA.  
Free parking. Program, refreshments,  
conversation. Climbers, skiers, and  
guests all welcome!

C A L E N D A R

JUL 22-23 - Sat-Sun. Tahquitz rock climb:  
E. Yount, (714) 525-5196, see below\*  
AUG 5-7 - Sat-Sun-Mon. East side Mount  
Whitney rock climb: Dick Mundwiler,  
(714) 737-7718.  
AUG 15 - Tue. Mugelnoos meeting.  
AUG 19-20 - Sat-Sun. Fresno Dome rock  
climb: L. Russ, 275-9703, see below\*\*

Additional Notes on Upcoming Trips

\*TAHQUITZ, July 22-23, there are sites  
reserved at Mt San Jacinto State Park  
for Sat. nite only. Contact Ldr Yount  
or see the Park bulletin board.  
\*\*FRESNO DOME, Aug. 19-20, takes the place  
of Devil's Postpile in schedule.  
Directions: Hwy 41 to Bass Lake Rd to  
Malum Ridge Rd to Beasore Rd (#434) to  
Cold Springs Summit; left turn for  
Fresno Dome (signpost). RCS signs will  
be out if ldr gets early LA departure.

NEW ADDRESSES

Harry Baker, 20172 Cypress Ave, Santa Ana,  
CA 92707, (714) 556-6139.  
Royal Robbins, 702 Magnolia, Modesto, CA  
95353, no phone given.  
Randy Sheaff, 3721 Moore St, Los Angeles,  
CA 90066, (213) 398-7295. DP

NEW SKI MOUNTAINEERS

Betty Kabler Cameron, 7036 Bevis Ave, Van  
Nuys, CA 91405, (213) 787-9830.  
Shirley Coleman, 4321 Alla Rd #4, Marina  
del Rey, CA 90291, (213) 823-1053.

NEW RCS MEMBERS

Frances Cholewa, 420 Whiting St, El  
Segundo, CA 90245, (213) 322-6099.  
K. Gil Chon, 16910 Escalon Dr, Encino, CA  
91436, (213) 990-7906.  
Stan Klein, 1822 Flournoy Rd, Manhattan  
Bch, CA 90266, (213) 545-0564. DP

WRITTEN REQUESTS are not required for RCS  
trips. Call the leader or assistant for  
information and reservations. LR

CPR CLASSES--for info. contact LeRoy Russ.

10 KM+ RACES--if interested contact the  
SPAAAU Office, 10911 Riverside Drive,  
No. Hollywood 91603, (213) 877-0256. LR

WE APOLOGIZE

The Mugelnoos regrets the poor  
reproduction of page 2 of the last issue  
and any inconvenience it may have caused.  
The fault was apparently in a random bad  
stencil and should not be laid to the  
editor or the volunteers who print the  
paper. We are especially sorry for the  
problem of Dick DeRusha, who was depend-  
ing on the Noos to advertise his sale of  
climbing equipment.

The information of any current value  
has been reprinted in this issue, which  
we fervently hope will print properly.  
--Mugelnoos Committee

UPCOMING MUGELNOOS MEETINGS

8/15: Ron Minarik - Greenland  
Refreshments by Fred Wing  
9/19: Jim Sharpsteen - Trekking Kashmir  
Refreshments by Leslie Masters  
10/17: Dave Perkins - Climbing in Canada  
and Mexico, Refresh. by Tom Jeter  
AF

ACCENT ON YOUTH

Minors should have authorization and  
consent forms, signed by a parent or  
guardian, in their possession whenever  
they attend an RCS climb. Forms are  
vitally important in obtaining medical  
care for an injured minor and in fighting  
thru paperwork and bureaucratic tangle  
involved in an accident.

Forms are available from Dave Perkins,  
RCS Sec-Treas. Here is the list of minors  
who started the Training Class in Dec 77:  
Nick Basich, Dann Bearson, Diana Cosand,  
Kent Currie, Vince Duke, Steven Falk,  
Nathan John, Gar Kenyon, Bill Krause, Dave  
Liebman, Kenneth Nakai, Adam Paal, Ronald  
Sexton. DP

T H E O N E

The One stands alone before the Rock  
Before light the One sits alone and climbs  
only with his mind, never disturbing  
the Rock  
Light has come and only now may the One  
speak with the Rock  
Now the One may also climb with his body  
if he chooses  
The One climbs in silence speaking only  
with the Rock  
On the summit the One sits in silence and  
climbs the Rock again in his mind  
Darkness comes, the Rock is at ease and  
must not be disturbed, the One must  
now leave in silence  
The One is alone

--Vince Duke (also Crawlers in June)

HELP THE RCS--CLEAN YOUR ATTIC

The RCS History Committee is looking  
for Mugelnooses to complete the RCS col-  
lection required by the bylaws. 1938-56  
is complete except for the following  
numbers: 93, 174, 175, 199-204, and 251.

We need nearly all numbers for 1957,  
'58, & '59. No. 358 is missing from 1962;  
some issues are missing for 1963-64.  
1965-76 is a disaster--we have almost none!  
If you can supply originals (preferred)  
or copies of any of the above, contact  
John Ripley, 5912 El Rancho Dr, Whittier  
90606, (213) 692-5050. Your old issues  
will be well cared for.

HALF DOME NORTHWEST FACE

OR

OOPS, OH S--T!!\*?...WHEEW!

by Don Pies

DON'S FIRST  
GRADE VI  
BIG WALL

The warmth of the May afternoon sun on the south side of Tahquitz filled my body with lethargy as I waited for another party to move ahead on the Mechanic's Route. My ambition seemed to come back as I talked with Rick Aust, a member of the other party, about Yosemite big wall climbing. Two weeks later, the two of us were standing at the base of Half Dome filling our water bottles from the Spring runoff.

The normal procedure for climbing the Northwest Face route starts with fixing ropes for the first two pitches, then ascending the ropes early the next morning and picking up good bivouac ledges on the 6th, 11th, or 16th pitches (23 pitches total). Waiting for two other parties to begin the route pushed us into an afternoon start with no fixed pitches and a sequence of days to follow that denied us the comfortable sleeping stations.

Pictures of the route had indicated that the first half is over broken rock that should yield easy climbing. Wrong! The climbing difficulty did not slaken until nearly 1000 feet above the ground, with one hammock bivouac along the way. Nevertheless, the wall's concession to easy climbing lasted only one pitch. Progress was exceptionally slow until we had passed the Robbins Traverse (half way point). The cool air in the 400 foot chimney system above the traverse helped suppress the dehydration that greatly fatigued us, and we started to build a little momentum.

At the 1600 foot level, disaster nearly finished the climb when a large flake peeled away from the face while I was making a fourth class traverse onto Big Sandy Ledge. I was thrown for a 30 foot free flight in which my Jumar took the full force of the fall, with only 25 feet of rope between me and the anchor to absorb the shock. The rope was so severely damaged by the teeth of the Jumar (cut at least 80% through the rope), the lip of the ledge, and the crushing it received from the flake that we were forced to lead the remaining 400 feet of the climb with the frayed 9 mm haul line that Rick had purchased from a starving climber in Camp 4.

Our goal had been to spend three days on the climb, but equipment logistics, excessive fatigue, and the mangled rope incident forced us into our fourth night on the face. This one was spent trying to remain in a vertical sitting position on the notorious one foot wide Thank God Ledge. Dress was only light bivvy gear, and the temperature dropped below freezing.

Despite the setbacks along the way, the climbing itself was inspiring from beginning to end. Rick found great pleasure in leading the spectacular Double Cracks Pitch, and I was honored with leading a wild move out of a chimney and onto the main face on the Undercling Pitch. Having lost the can opener, we also learned that yes, there is true Art in pounding food cans open with a piton and not covering your face with its contents. The concluding hazard of the climb was to avoid tripping on our sagging pants, since we had each lost over 20 pounds.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Northwest Face of Half Dome is considered one of the classic North American big wall climbs. Now rated VI, 5.8, A3, it was first climbed in 1957 by RCS members Royal Robbins, Jerry Gallwas, and Mike Sherrick in five days. This was the first Grade VI route on our continent.

A PLEA FOR COMPROMISE

by Barbara Lilley

Since whenever nordic skiers come on SMS scheduled alpine tours, problems of one kind or another seem to be inevitable, it would appear appropriate to obtain approval of the majority of active qualified leaders, in addition to the SMS Central Committee, before the necessary changes in equipment, safety rules, and qualifications to legally permit this should be made. Before going through all this, one alternative is that skiers wishing to use nordic equipment could simply obtain their own permits and come as a "private group." But better still, why not schedule and lead "advanced" nordic tours through the Snow Touring Committee--after all, that is one of the purposes for which it was formed. Although the premise still holds that nordic and alpine should not mix on the same tour, there are areas which certainly are suitable for both and as long as each group has its own leaders (and permit where necessary) and are prepared to travel separately or together as conditions dictate, there should be no reason why joint trips could not be held--perhaps eventually providing a more appropriate basis for the formation of a "Wilderness Skiing Section" than exists at the present time.

But surely, legal alternative methods could be at least tried first, rather than simply "crashing" a scheduled SMS tour with unapproved equipment, inviting potentially disastrous results.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Our newer readers should be aware that opinions such as the above (and any others that may appear) are the author's opinions only and do not reflect official RCS, SMS, or Mugelnoos views unless explicitly stated to be so. The 'Noos is your forum and will print any reasonable letter or article pertaining to the activities of the sponsoring sections. If you have opinion (or just a good story) you want to tell, send it to the "Next Editor" on page 2!

LETTER FROM THE LOST

The Mendenhalls write:

"The last two Mugelnoos meetings have been very memorable for us.... We liked the way we saw our young friends in May and the older ones in June. And we liked the program--sorry we were late (a house prospect came).

"We wrote down the names of all the old-timers we could remember seeing at the June 20 meeting...for inclusion in the next issue. We thought it a very impressive turnout!

"Lloyd and Rosie Balsam

Jim Bonner

Glen Dawson

Chet Errett

Paul and Claire Estes

Sam Fink

Chuck and Lillian Gerckens

Jim and Louise Gorin

George Harr

Art Johnson

Tom Kendig

Howard and Ruth Koster

John and Ruth Mendenhall

Nelson Nies

May Pridham

Harry and Jill Sutherland

Merlin Thayer

Ethyl Van DeGrift

Louise Werner

Chuck and Ellen Wilts

"We also want to thank the Rock Climbing Section for the generous and thoughtful gift presented to us in May, along with our honorary memberships. We have decided to spend the gift certificate after we get to Seattle. In our new house we have a big recreation room which will be a nice place for our mountain books and photographs, and we will use the RCS gift to get something for our 'Alpine Room.'

Regards, Ruth and John Mendenhall"

TRUE THEN -- TRUE NOW

The Editor is a brute you say,

He likes to change and chop away;

The articles which you write for news

Are changed to suit the Editor's views.

A few readers and reporters of Mugelnoos have been doing some complaining throughout the years. Their main objections are the restyling, changing, and cutting of articles. This editor would like to do some explaining because without these contributors there would be little news, and no editor wishes to irritate or infuriate the reporters. We are all very grateful for their items and wish there were more; but it is not an easy job to edit, type, set up, assemble, add, subtract, cut stencils, think up space consumers, write post cards, make phone calls, and generally take the many hours of time for publishing one edition. Each editor has the right and duty to edit articles. He corrects spelling (we hope); frequently finds items illegible, awkward, and grammatically incorrect; occasionally finds it necessary to combine duplicate articles and to add introductory paragraphs to others.

Sometimes it would be most embarrassing to the reporter to find his article in its original form. The editors try to complete each page and it is no easy matter to end perfectly without revising, rewriting, and cutting articles to fit. Changes are often needed to make a more unified publication, as each editor has a style of his own. This makes Mugelnoos unique. The editors would welcome anyone wishing to try his hand at editing and publishing a Mugelnoos.

No editor likes to edit your stuff

Chopping and changing is really ruff.

If it makes you mad, complete this rhyme

"I'll edit the 'Noos myself next time."

--Chuck and Ellen Wilts, May 1956

CATHEDRAL TO CATHEDRAL

RCS members John Halcomb and John Ripley were joined by Fred Clements for a varied week July 1-8. Starting at snowy Tuolumne Meadows, the three searched for a dry route and ended up "reading" the Great White Book. They backpacked the same day over much snow to Lower Cathedral Lake, reputed turf of hungry bruins. During a dinner discussion of how the bears ought to be mostly still at low altitudes, a bear showed up and sidled toward the packs. After a couple of minutes approximating the climax of a Three Stooges short, the food was hanging safely from a tree.

Cathedral Peak was ascended via the Southeast Buttress (Wilts-Austin) route on July 3. The snowy approach caused ice axes and boots to be carried up the 500 foot route. The climbing was found to be very enjoyable in the upper half.

The trio transferred down to Yosemite Valley on the 4th. A day was spent on Glacier Point Apron, highlighted by Clements' lead of the 5.9 Crack Marginal. They climbed Lower Cathedral Spire by the Regular Route on July 6, piously opting to observe tradition by using aid at the 5.9 traverse. Comment: the approach is not short nor, in July, cool.

The waterfalls were extraordinarily full, as were the campsites. All in all, though, they agreed that it was a fine trip.

JR

SKI MOUNTAINEERS CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING, JUNE 7, 1978

The meeting was held at the home of John Wedberg; also present were Ray Shepherd, George Shinno, Cliff Cameron, and Barbara Lilley. Old Business: Proposed merger with the Snow Touring Committee did not occur. New Business: Mark Goebel and Bill Feldmann have resigned from the SMS Central Committee; Ray Shepherd and John Wedberg were elected to fill the vacancies, with Cliff Cameron elected chairman and Doug Mantle vice-chairman. The November-April Mugelnoos program and refreshment assignments were made; a different "host" will conduct each meeting. The November-February SMS schedule was set up to include local "introductory" alpine tours plus one to Pear Lake hut and to the Baldy Hut. Betty Cameron was designated a SMS Qualified Leader. BL

PLANNING FOR NEXT SKI SEASON

Taking advantage of the above normal snowpack, several ski touring areas were "scouted" during June.

6/18: From Union Carbide Mine via Morgan Creek Road, Bear Lake, and Spire Lake to saddle east of Bear Creek Spire. Good intermediate ski slopes. Continuous snow above Bear Lake but lots of suncups; this plus the big bowl south of Mt. Morgan could offer good ski touring by late March or early April.

6/24: Sardine Canyon (from the bottom). Correction to write-up of April tour--after the first crossing of Sardine Canyon, the road continues all the way to the mining camp in Little Onion Valley before returning to Sardine Canyon at about 8000' via a long switchback. Nearly continuous good, smooth skiable snow with minimum of suncups found from 100' below this switchback to above the mine (11,000'). This has to be one of the most easily accessible east facing canyons; even if the snow inconveniently ends between the two switchbacks, climbing up the old trail on the south side offers an alternate escape route. Onion Valley is plowed far enough to permit year-round access to both canyons.

6/25: From Glacier Lodge, after climbing the peaks, a descent on foot was made down the south facing gully from the saddle between Mt. Alice and Peak 12,861'. Except for the steepest section of about 100', continuous (but not very skiable) snow was found to within 200' of the South Fork of Big Pine Creek. Bottom of this gully is reached by leaving the South Fork Trail before the stream crossing and walking east about 1/2 mile thru sagebrush. This gully could be a good one-day tour in late March or early April, combined with Kid Mountain, which has east facing slopes reached by several convenient bridges located downstream from Glacier Lodge (road open all year). BL

TAHQUITZ JUNE 24-25--A STUDENT'S VIEW

by Bob D'Evelyn

To all you RCS members and students who didn't come to the Tahquitz climb, you missed a fine outing. The weather, people, and routes were outstanding.

For us students it was a series of learning experiences such as:

- On the Fingertip our leader, Dale Irvine, seemed to be in a hurry. At the top of the first pitch, he was mumbling something about not having any toilet paper.....
- After dutifully saying "Off belay" upon reaching a ledge, a student dropped Dale's wired stopper and carabiner on the ledge near his feet. If he had lunged for it before it slipped off.....
- There are two ways to start the Trough. One is the real 5.0 crack on the right; the other is a 5.X\*! crack on the left.

The climb leaders tried an experiment on this outing by reserving some campsites at the park. Ignoring the fact that there are two parks and therefore two #11 campsites, this student thinks the experiment was very worthwhile. We hope that LeRoy was able to collect only money from the campers. Ninety cents is a small amount for a place to lay your head, enjoy the "hot" showers, and participate in the camaraderie of fellow climbers.

A passing thought to RCS members: when taking a student up the Ski Tracks, don't tell him about the "step around" until he gets there; then he won't worry about it. Ray Beal tried that approach and it worked great.

In all seriousness, as near as I can tell, both members and students enjoyed the climbing. Fred Wing will eventually recover from Jensen's Jaunt.

M I S C E L L A N E A

American Alpine Journal is just out for 1978. The contents include an article on Trango Tower in the Karakoram by local product Dennis Hennek and a note on the North Face of Williamson in the Sierra by John Mendenhall. The club activities section contains a writeup (second year in a row) on RCS activities by Ruth Mendenhall. RCS climbing areas now forgotten are as follows (with date of first scheduled trip): Moro Rock, Sequoia NP (1942); Owens Pinnacles (1957); Pacifico for climbs, not tests (1940); and rotten Strawberry Peak (Angeles NF, 1936). Any takers? JR

THE AAC--IF YOU'VE EVER WONDERED...

The American Alpine Club is the only national organization exclusively for genuine climbers. It does not compete with local clubs such as the RCS; rather, it complements their functions by providing a national level focal point for issues of interest to climbers. It publishes the American Alpine Journal, A A News, and many books, among them the Climber's Guide to Tahquitz and Suicide Rocks. National committees deal with conservation, expeditions, safety, and many other areas of interest.

The club is divided into regional sections which hold occasional meetings, sponsor programs, and look into issues of local interest. No outings are conducted. The Southern California Section was started in 1963 with RCS honorary member Glen Dawson as its first chairman. Every one of the five chairmen have been RCS members at some time; the present chairman is former RCS chairman Pete White.

There have always been certain amounts of mystery and misinformation floating around relative to AAC membership. Contrary to rumor, one needn't have first ascents or Grade VI climbs to join, as the records of many long time members will attest. Conversely, there has not been a recent reduction in standards to bring in money, only an effort to reach more of those qualified.

The basic requirement for membership is three years of active climbing, with importance being given to technical ascents, scope and variety of experience, and types of climbing done. The applicant fills in a resume of his climbing career for the Membership Committee to consider.

Long delays in the processing of applications have been the rule because of the need to contact references for letters. Recently, an alternative short procedure has been developed under which currently active climbers who have been leading fifth class for a least three years and have obtained the signatures of an AAC section chairman and two members can be immediately accepted upon application.

The big stumbling block for prospective members has always been finding references or AAC members to vouch for him or her. The following current SMS/RCS members are AAC members and could serve as references:

Nick Clinch	John and Ruth Mendenhall
Glen Dawson	Sy Ossofsky
Diana Dee	John Ripley
Dan Eaton	Royal Robbins
Bill Feldmann	Tim Ryan
Andy Fried	R. J. Secor
Rich Gnagy	George Wallerstein
Mark Goebel	John Wedberg
Art Johnson	Chuck and Ellen Wilts
Horton Johnson	Gail Wilts
Barbara Lilley	

An equal number of ex-RCS members are in the AAC; those most recently with the RCS include Mike Dent, Bob Kamps, Don Lauria, Alex Saxton, Mike Sherrick, Dick Sykes, and Pete White.

There are many in the Mugelnoos family who are qualified for AAC membership. If you've wondered about joining, consider the above--and don't be afraid to ask AAC members about the club and how to join.

JR

LOOKING BACK:

From the Files of the Mugelnoos

- 5 Years Ago - July 1973: Trailhead quotas were the newest thing and the subject of much discussion. The Schuppes were "grossed out" by their climb of the East Face of Whitney.
- 10 Years Ago - July 1968: A Sierra Club Cave Exploration Committee was announced (what ever happened to it?). Chuck Ray and Burt Turney reported on their climb of the East Face Direct on Whitney (Grade IV).
- 15 Years Ago - July 1963: Sy Ossofsky was recovering from a frostbitten derriere suffered glissading on an RCS trip to University Peak in the Sierra. Chuck Wilts, Al Steck, et al. reported their new-Grade IV route on Clyde Minaret.
- 20 Years Ago - July 1958: Files incomplete--see page two!
- 30 Years Ago - July 1948: A long article presented the biography of Jim and Harriet Bonner's climbing dog Panda. A bad rockfall accident at Strawberry Peak sounded grim enough to permanently stop climbing there--and did, as it later turned out! Chuck and Ellen Wilts explored Suicide Rock and recommended that it be scheduled once a year or so.
- 40 Years Ago - July 1938: The RCS roster showed 53 members. The SMS began the construction of Keller Hut and had its name and insignia registered with the California Secretary of State to prevent unauthorized use. The 'Noos contained the first of May Pridham's Little Gem cartoons ever published.

JR