



# THE MUGELNOOS

No. 553 — January 16, 1979

*A newsheet published by the Ski Mountaineers & Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter. Send subscriptions (\$2) & address changes to: Phil Bruce, 544 Eucalyptus, Downey, CA 90243. Published monthly since 1937. This issue: 4 pages.*

## NEW MUGELGRAPHER URGENTLY NEEDED!!

The ancient and honorable position of Mugelgrapher is suddenly open. The Chapter office, which has mimeographed the Noos since November 1970 has announced that it will no longer use its volunteers to run off the newsheet.

What we need is a volunteer to come down to Chapter HQ once a month (just prior to the Mugelnoos meeting) to run the chapter's mimeograph. The machine is motor driven and easy to use—the office staff will be happy to teach anyone. We will attempt to make arrangements for night access if the normal chapter office hours are not convenient.

The Mugelgrapher position is being temporarily filled by Mugemailer Phil Bruce, who has plenty of time since breaking his elbow and arm at Stony Point in December. Phil has agreed to continue as Mugemailer through 1979, so all we need is a mimeographer.

The Mugelgrapher position has been filled in the past by such people as Wayland Gilbert (first one, 1938), Chuck Wilts, the Turneys, and George Shinno. We owe the Chapter office a strong thank you for doing this job for the last 8 years without compulsion or compensation.

If you can spare a couple of hours per month for the Ski Mountaineers and RCS—you needn't be a member—please contact Mug. Chairman John Ripley, 5912 El Rancho Drive, Whittier, California 90606, (213) 692-5050.

(JR)

## A LOOK AT LAST YEAR

It is said that Americans love statistics, so perhaps the following data taken from the Secretary/Treasurer's records will be of interest to RCS members.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS = 71 (Before the axe, membership now at 51)

NUMBER OF CLIMBING DAYS = 67

### DISTRIBUTION OF CLIMBING DAYS AND NUMBERS OF (MEMBER) CLIMBERS:

0-7	5-7	10-4	15-1
1-4	6-4	11-5	16-0
2-4	7-3	12-1	17-3
3-5	8-3	13-0	25-1
4-14	9-0	14-3	28-1

AVERAGE MEMBER'S CLIMBING DAYS = 5.8

It's interesting to speculate about what this means (if anything). For instance, the importance of the number 4 is obvious, but it raises a question, do we belong to the RCS to climb, or do we climb to belong to the RCS?

Winning the honors for most climbing for the year were: First Place, Fred Wing (28); Second, LeRoy Russ (25); Third, Don Pies, Ron Master, Emery Yount (17 each); Fourth, Andy Fried (15); Fifth, Al Carlson, Ed Nisson, Larry Tidball (14 each).

So there you are, for what it is worth. This study was commissioned by LeRoy, who owes the Secretary/Treasurer a beer.

(JS)

## SESPE GORGE—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Despite ideal Indian summer weather—clear and balmy—only six climbers turned out at this beautiful climbing area. The stream bank on the cliff side of the creek has been washed away for about 50 feet, stretching left from the base of the Tree Route to just beyond the Pipe Route and the creek actually washes the foot of the cliff. This requires traverses in order to make dry starts on the various routes in this section.

Mark Cole and Paul Harris managed the Tree Route start by walking right up the ramp and then traversing back left on an easy ledge to the route. This allowed them to avoid the 12 feet or so of 5.4 at the start of the route. How degrading! (Downgrading?) Cathy Crandall and Fred Wing made an easy right traverse to the foot of the Pipe Route and much enjoyed this one-pitch climb. Dave Perkins and Mike Lorr climbed the Zig-Zag Route just left of the descent gully. Mike had a mishap on the descent—at the very bottom of the gully. Reaching the water-level measurement platform after Dave had left it, he failed to note that there was a ladder down from the platform, so he climbed down the rock, and in the so doing, fell and banged his face against the rock—cutting his lower lip rather badly. He was able to drive home (to Ventura) with an escort team of 5, and was there released to his wife for a hospital visit—and sympathy of the best kind.

(FW)

Editor ..... John Moore  
 Mugelmailer ..... Phil Bruce  
 Mugelgrapher ..... Marilyn Moore  
 Reporters ..... Andy Fried, Randy Sheaff,  
 Jim Hoste, Fred Wing, Jim Sharpsteen,  
 Barbara Lilley, John Ripley, Ron Masters  
*Publication of this month's issue courtesy of South  
 Coast Typesetting, 420 S. Euclid, Ste. K, Anaheim.*

Next Editor: Tim Ryan  
 7255 Studio Rd.  
 Canoga Park, CA 91304  
 (213) 886-2211  
 Ext. 2089 (days)

Next Issue: February 20, 1979  
 Deadline: Thursday, February 15

**Mugelnoos meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m. (½ hour earlier for ski mountaineering equipment checkout Nov. thru April), LA Dept. Water & Power Auditorium, 111 N. Hope St., downtown LA. Program, refreshments. Everyone is welcome!

**CALENDAR**

- 1/20-21 Alpine Ski Tour  
Mammoth area  
Ossofsky/Lilley
- 1/27 Rock Climb  
Mt. Rubidoux  
Fred Wing  
  
Alpine Ski Tour  
Pear Lake Hut  
Mantle/Shinno
- 2/3 Rock Climb  
Stony Point  
Tim Ryan
- 2/4 Introductory Alpine Ski Tour  
Lieberman/Allen
- 2/10-11 Rock Climb  
Fossil Falls  
DeRusha/Lindgren
- 2/10-11 Alpine Ski Tour  
San Antonio Hut  
Wedburg/Wilts
- 2/17-19 Rock Climb  
Pinnacles National Monument  
Wing/Nissen

**NEW ADDRESS**

Francis Cholewa	Jim Hoste
42D Park Avenue	80 H Street
Venice, California 90281	Salt Lake City, Utah
392-5979	84103

The spring Mugelnoos programs have finalized (at last), as follows:

- Feb. 20 Peak Bagging in Colorado  
(Barbara Lilley—slides)
- Mar. 20 Himalayan Trek by Dale Van Dalsem
- Apr. 17 Ascent of Noshag  
Slides by Mark Goebel

(BL)

**RCS ROSTER**

The Secretary/Treasurer will attempt to publish a new roster early this year. If you know of any changes that should be made, please send them to Jim Sharpsteen, 1916 Bluebird Road, Glendora 91740 as soon as possible. (JS)

**SKI TOUR LEADERS—BEWARE!**

Probably due to the ready accessibility of Ramer bindings, in at least one instance last season, someone showed up on a scheduled ski tour with appropriate Alpine touring gear who had never had any "downhill" skiing practice at all! This was discovered when the group was skiing downhill in an attempt to reach the cars before an approaching storm. So, it always pays to check *all* items listed at the top of the sign-up sheets even on one-day tours! (BL)

**ERIC JONES TO SHOW FILMS ON CLIMBING IN THE ALPS, PATAGONIA AND EVEREST**

Eric Jones will be on the West Coast to lecture and show his films this spring. He will be in the Los Angeles area in late February and early March, then later in San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.

He will be showing his films on the North Face of the Matterhorn, the Dudh Kosi River in Nepal, a ski trip across the Patagonian Ice Cap, and Cerro Torre. He will also premier his new film on Everest, including footage of the Messner-Haebler oxygenless ascent of Everest where he filmed to 26,000' himself.

Eric is an excellent mountaineer with an international reputation. He is a gifted speaker with dry British wit. Anyone interested in mountaineering will enjoy his talks. As soon as dates and places of his various talks have been confirmed, they will be sent to Mugelnoos. (RS)

**DR. LOUIS F. REICHART TO PRESENT PROGRAM ON ASCENT OF K2**

Dr. Louis F. Reichardt, one of the first two Americans to ascend K2, the world's second highest peak, will speak at Cal State University, Fullerton, Friday, February 9 at 8 p.m.

The lecture-slide presentation entitled "The Ascent of K2—a 40 Year American Quest," will be held in the University Center Theatre. It is being sponsored by the Associated Students Program Association.

Reichardt, one of the country's premier high-altitude mountaineers, and Jim Wickwire, a Seattle lawyer, became the first Americans and only the third team in history to reach the K2 summit after four unsuccessful U.S. attempt over a span of 40 years. The 28,250' K2 lies in the Karakoram Range of Pakistan and is second in height only to 29,028' Mt. Everest, the world's highest peak.

A \$2.00 general admission fee will be charged and Cal State students will be admitted free. Seating is limited. For further information call (714) 870-3211. (JR)

**PERMIT ENFORCEMENT RETURNS TO TAHQUITZ**

A meeting was held on December 19 by the U.S. Forestry Services' new wilderness manager for San Gorgonio, Kathy Waller. The rewriting of the area's wilderness plan was the main purpose of the meeting. The six RCS members who were in attendance: F. Cholewa, A. Fried, R. Master, J. Ripley and C. & E. Wilts composed a majority of non-U.S.F.S. attendees.

Topics at the meeting included the enforcement of wilderness permits, quotas for controlling over-use, and the need for a new or improved trail. Ms. Waller stated that she will recommend the enforcement of permits. Climbers will need to consider this for future trips. After heated debate, a limit of 200 climbers was considered a target figure for a quota. The "200" figure would allow an adequate amount of climbers to use the rock during a day. The excess of climbers planning the same route would use alternate routes or Suicide, which is not in the wilderness area, as is done now during crowded days. (RM)

### A NEW (TO US) CLIMBING AREA

We knew we had to be near Christmas Tree Pass when we woke up in the morning to find, only a few yards from where we had been sleeping, a genuinely-decorated Christmas tree. Never mind that it was mostly clothing labels, string, old cans and bottles that adorned the live juniper growing beside the road, it certainly looked like a Christmas tree to us. Eager to find the climbing area, Dick DeRusha and I piled into the car and set out in what seemed a logical direction. After all, neither of us had ever been there before. We had come looking for the "Sindicato Stronghold," a granite climbing area described in the October, 1976 issue of Summit Magazine. After a few miles of driving, and passing several more garbage trees, we arrived at what had to be the place. Confronting us was an impressive panorama of spires, domes, and faces. Leaving the car, we headed for the closest thing in sight, a 500-foot face dubbed Dali Dome. Near the right hand border of this face is an incredible flake system called Wilkinson Sword. To the Sword's left are two bolted face routes. Being much out of shape, I pressed for something easy and we warmed up on a line near the left hand border of Dali Dome. After all, the Sword was likely to keep its edge till tomorrow.

That evening Dick decided to try his hand at the new sport of tent-flying, a cross between setting up camp and hang-gliding. (We had decided to set up the tent due to the strong winds.) I was skeptical at first, knowing that we would probably be unable to fly in the absence of Inertial Guidance. At any rate, a sufficiently strong gust left Dick airborne, his hand badly cut by the tent's guyline, the tent ruined, and several cactus somewhat disturbed. Needless to say, the next day was spent exploring the area and enjoying the beautiful cactus rather than climbing.

Both of us left the Stronghold wanting to return and we heartily recommend it for a club outing. The rock is similar to that found at Joshua Tree, but the scale is not. The possibilities for climbing seem limitless and probably only a small percentage of the total area has seen climbers. The Stronghold is also easy to reach with a road ending only a few hundred yards from some of the climbs. To reach the area, which is located about 40 miles north of Needles, Calif., turn off Hwy. 95 on Christmas Tree Pass road 5¼ miles north of the junction of Highways 95 and 77. Follow the Pass road east for about 10½ miles. (JH)

### DIA DE GRACIAS Y LOS CONCONOS FUERON A MEXICO

November 23 around midnight found RCS members Wing and Fried and a friend, Karabensh waiting for the tecolote to D.F. Arriving at 5 a.m. they met another friend, Victor de Garcia of Guad., Jal. Wing, Garcia, and Fried next drove to Amecameca to purchase food and water. Shortly after sunset, the trio arrived at the 15,500' huts on Ixty, having just walked through some few hours of wind, rain and hail. When the following day dawned with a whiteout, the party returned to the Cortez Pass area. After a warm night in the Tlamacus hut (which now has both a coffee shop and a restaurant), the party started up Popo. By sunrise of the third day the trio had almost reached the Popo hut. The successful party returned to Mexico City that night for dinner. The following day was spent sightseeing and eating at local spots. As evening came, the party split, with some going to the airport and Victor taking the bus back to Guad. for an early morning class. One member of the group said he couldn't recall a more strenuous three days and nobody disagreed with him. (AF)



Reprinted from *Uber Land Und Merr, Allgemeine Illustrirte Zeitung*, November, 1868  
(EY)

## STONY POINT—JANUARY 7

About 55 students and 11 RCS members showed up for the second practice climb. Thanks to some people who were in between student and member status, there were sufficient instructors to handle the number of students. Shortly before the climb started, some of the members dumped gravel in the holes in the road leading into the climbing area. However it will take several more cubic yards to repair the road. The bucket drop test was offered to those who were unable to complete it during the last safety test. After they were finished, the new students had their chance. Under the watchful eyes of Fred Wing, most seemed to do very well. In addition, rappelling and prusik stations, knots, upper, belay, and climbing stations were offered.

(AF)

## RCS SCHEDULE 1979

January 27	RUBIDOUX P.C.	F. Wing
February 3	STONY POINT P.C.	T. Ryan
February 10-11	FOSSIL FALLS	D. DeRusha/B. Lindgren
February 17-19	PINNACLES	F. Wing/E. Nissen
March 4	RUBIDOUX P.C.	L. Bayless
March 10-11	SUICIDE ROCK	M. Cole
March 24-25	KERN SLAB	L. Russ/A. Fried
April 7-8	JOSHUA TREE	D. Mundwiler
April 14-15	TAHQUITZ	E. Yount/P. Bruce
April 21	SAFETY TEST	A. Fried
May 5	BIG ROCK	B. Lindgren
May 12-14	YOSEMITE	M. Bagdon/T. Ryan
May 26-28	GRAN TRUNO BLANCO	J. Ripley/A. Fried
June 9-10	TAHQUITZ	J. Moore/L. Bayless
June 16-17	DOME ROCK	L. Russ/D. Pies
June 30-July 4	PALISADES	M. Cole/F. Wing
July 9-10	TAHQUITZ	L. Russ/D. Burdett
July 21-22	MT. GOODE	D. Mundwiler/T. Ryan
August 11-12	KINGS CANYON	E. Young/P. Bruce
August 25-26	SUICIDE ROCK	D. DeRusha
September 1-4	TOULUMNE MEADOWS	J. Campbell/L. Masters
September 16	SAFETY TEST	A. Fried
September 22-23	NEEDLES	M. Bagdon/L. Masters
October 6-8	YOSEMITE	F. Wing/D. DeRusha
October 27-28	TAHQUITZ	D. DeRusha/D. Pies
November 3-4	OLD WOMAN STATUE	E. Young/P. Bruce
November 24-25	JOSHUA TREE	J. Moore
December 1-2	TAHQUITZ	D. DeRusha/R. Master