



A newsheet published by and for the Ski Mountaineers and Rock Climbing sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter. Send address changes to Dove Menkes, 1550 S. Highland Ave. Apt. D, Fullerton Ca. 92632. Subscription, \$3.00. This is six page issue.

*4 pages included here* **page 5: missing RCS questionnaire**  
**RCS SAFETY TEST**

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March 16, Once again, the Safety Test was changed from Mt. Pacifico to stoney Pt. thanks to a blanket of local snow. Nine prospective members were put through the standard set of check-off rituals (sometimes referred to as a hazing by participants) and the level of competence was quite high.

Those who have completed all testing requirements are encouraged to make a multipitch climb with a Safety Committee member early in the season since the next membership voting will take place in early to mid-summer. The next Safety Test is scheduled for Sat. Sept 20. DP

This year's Safety Committee includes the following members:

Chairman	Don Pies	(213) 675-5139*
	Francis Cholewa	(213) 392-5979
	Dick DeRusha	(213) 661-9924
	Ron Master	(714) 537-4837
	Ed Nissen	(213) 425-6340
	John Ripley	(213) 692-5050
	Fred Wing	(213) 476-4398
	Emory Yount	(714) 525-5196

### NEW SKI MOUNTAINEERS CENTRAL COMMITTEE ELECTED

Election results are in, the new committee is made up as follows:

Kathy Crandall	Owen Maloy
Andy Fried	Jane McMahan
Mark Goebel	R.J. Secor

The Committee will hold it's first formal meeting on May 27, at this time they will discuss directions and policies. If you have items you wish to have brought up please contact R.J.

Items that will be considered are as follows: Trips to be scheduled, Leadership, Training, Check out for both Nordic & Downhill tours. af

### FIRST ASCENTS IN THE PALISADES

Recent weather conditions and the resultant shifts in the topography of The Pacific Palisades have reopened possibilities of first ascents to eager climbers. It is rumored that a prominent Sierra Club member and author of a popular climbers guide (as well as a peretrator of numerous first ascents himself) is preparing a CLIMBERS GUIDE TO THE NEW PALISADES. Therefore, this article will just briefly address those points necessary for climbers who wish to take advantage of the cool spring weather to try those new "lines" which are continuously appearing to see if they will "go". First, the approach route. (go to page 3)

\* see page two for new address for Don Pies.

MUGELNOOS STAFF

EDITOR.....Andy Fried  
MUGELGRAPHER.....Mark Cole  
MUGELMAILER.....Dove Menkes  
REPORTERS: LeRoy Russ, Don Pies,  
Mark Goebel, Kathy Crandall, Owen  
Maloy, John Wedberg, Dave Perkins

NEXT EDITOR: Dove Menkes  
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NEXT ISSUE: JUNE 17, 1980  
DEADLINE: MAY 13, FRIDAY

MUGELNOOS MEETINGS: THIRD TUES OF  
EACH MONTH, 7:30 PM, L.A. DEPT OF  
WATER AND POWER, 111 N. HOPE ST  
DOWNTOWN L.A. PROGRAM, REFRESHMENTS  
CLIMBERS, SKIERS, GUESTS WELCOME.

C A L E N D A R

MAY 24-26 YOSEMITE (RCS) E. NISSEN  
MAY 23-26 MT. SHASTA(SMS) M. GOEBEL  
JUNE 7-8 ROCK CRK (SMS) S.WEDBERG  
JUNE 14-15 TRAIL CREST(SMS) S.ROBERS  
JUNE 17 MUGELNOOS MTG. RCS HOST  
JUNE 21-22 TAHQUITZ(RCS) L. RUSS

NEW ADDRESS

DON & BARB PIES  
4619 W 130TH ST.  
HAWTHORN CA 90250 675-5139

A FUTURE CLIMBER/ SKIIER?

GLEN PATRICK CAMERON RYAN  
BORN: 1-12-80 11:45 AM 8# 3oz.  
Father Tim states "he started out  
the same as his dad, so it is to  
be expected that he will also be  
a strong hiker.

INFORMATION

N.P.S WEATHER (213)688-2902  
CALTRANS:  
BISHOP (714)873-6366  
LA (213)626-7231  
JUNE LAKE CHAMPER OF COM.  
(800)462-5576  
FOREST SERVICE PERMITS  
LONE PINE (714)876-4660  
BISHOP (714)873-4207  
MAMMOTH (714)934-2505  
KERNVILLE (714)376-2294  
PORTERVILLE (209)784-1500

NOTICE

May 27, 1980 7:30 PM .....  
Dedication of the ARKEL ERB COLLECTI  
AT THE MALIBU LIBRARY, 23519 W.  
Civic Center Way, Malibu \$2.50 DON.  
PROGRAM: RICK RIDGEWAY 456-6430

MORRISON CANYON 3-29, 20

Ten skiers, 7 alpine & 3 nordic,  
toured the canyon east of Mt. Morris  
and skied the slopes of mt. Aggie.  
The top of Aggie was bare this year,  
but 3 peakbaggers took off skis and  
climbed a few hundred feet to sign i  
The rest of us skied down to the  
gully, & waited. The entire group  
then bombed the gully with nicely  
linked parallel or telemark turns.  
That evening was potluck dinner at  
Owens house followed by stormy skiir  
At Mammoth.

(OM)

JOSHUA TREE MAY 3-4

The weekend of May 3-4 provided near  
perfect climbing conditions for this  
late spring visit to J Tree. Althoug  
no group campsight could be secured,  
30 climbers appeared Sat AM at the  
base of Intersection Rock. There wer  
enough experienced climbers to pro-  
vide leads for the many students who  
attended, and a wide variety of rts.  
were climbed. LeRoy Russ huffed and  
puffed his way up Drawstring's stren-  
uous climbing in what might rate as  
the NOISEST lead of the year.

The big beautiful clouds that drift  
ed in from the west kept the temp.  
within reasonable limits and as the  
day drew to an end some parties took  
off for Rattelsnake Creek., and othe  
local watering holes such as Ginos.  
Sunday found us with 26 climbers,  
the same beautiful weather, and  
plenty of rts. still unclimbed. Virg  
Shields showed up after having done  
Snow Creek on Sat. Dick Mundweiler  
made it in spite of a work related  
trip to Arizona, but had to content  
himself with bouldering Sunday after  
noon as a general lethargy seemed to  
set in. Iain Linn showed us how to  
start the watershoot, but couldn't  
find anyone to follow. By 4 PM the  
last rope was off Intersection Rock  
and those remaining headed home. It  
was a fine weekend. Dave Perkins end  
up with an extra day pack which the  
owner may call for. Many thanks to  
LeRoy Russ for assisting. (DP)

WHITE MT. SKI TOUR

The first joint DPS and SMS tour  
was unfortunately curtailed by high  
winds, but was still successful and  
was enjoyed by seven participants,  
who spent two days touring the Brist-  
elcones in the midst of wind gusts  
and snow showers. The last day we  
skied to Hot Creek to warm up.  
Skiing the desert peaks may seem  
like an odd activity, but in fact  
the peaks beautiful and skiable  
in winter. They do present their own  
special problems, such as the threat  
of a cactus in the sitzmark.

## Palisades cont.

Check with the highway patrol or Caltrans for best approach routes, as these can change on a daily basis. Generally speaking, however, you can drive directly within 1/4 mile of the base of most climbs. Second, Equipment. Equipment for these climbs continues to be somewhat controversial, with authorities generally splitting into two camps. There are those who maintain that only the traditional equipment, such as Everdry Ropes, dirtons, mud hammers, dirt axes, scree screws, and locked-in boots are safe to use on this terrain. They would ban climbers who they feel have improper equipment. The other side of the coin is represented by those who feel modern climbing techniques and equipment (such as dirt slings and aluminum "finger-claws") have evolved in such a way that the use of such equipment not only slows people down but also causes unsightly scarring. They feel that safety lies in going light and fast. They dislike the "Marking" of the routes which occurs, thus depriving future climbers of the thrill of discovering the route themselves. The Traditionalists, of course retort that the climbs by their very nature, are constantly changing, so that no route could be "marked". Further, they say that any scarring that might occur would be undistinguishable from the surrounding terrain. The battle rages on between the "traditionalists" and the "innovators", with the 'clean' climbers chopping roots on some of the classic climbs, and the 'dirty' climbers threatening legal action. This author does not claim to be able to judge which group is putting more artificial impediments between the individual and the experience nor to be able to mediate between the upholders of equipment standards and the light modern types - only to explain the presence of injunction bearing marshalls at the trailheads. However, the uninitiated, if they listen closely, may be able to hear echoes of the immortal words, "could't ve choost climb?"

KC

## A BIRD IN THE HAND -- BALDY COMES THRU AGAIN

Figuring a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush, eleven alpine skiers decided on April 19-20 that they had a known quantity right in their backyard: plenty of smooth, spring corn snow only an hour and a half's drive, plus a comfortable hut at 8500' level on dear old San Antonio (Mt Baldy). So they took advantage of this prospect, and payed off handsomely in what all participants agreed was the best spring tour of the 1980 season! Saturday the slopes under the Devil's Backbone were tried and the day ended with a climb to the summit of Mt. Harwood. This was newest SMS member Kurt Wedberg's (age 13) first ascent on skis. The Group was met on top by five members of the Sierra Madre Search & Rescue who spent the night there (without tents). The run down the steep chute to the Hut was the finest yet of ANY trip.

Sunday, several went to Baldy's summit (10,080'), finding it a bit windy and the summit itself too icy for comfort; however the run down the east slopes back to the Hut was the best downhill skiing anywhere. Short-coupled linked S-turns all the way down Baldy's famous "ball bearing corn" capped off the mornings activities. After lunch the group climbed Harwood again, and repeated Saturdays glorious run down the chute to the Hut. They were down to the cars by 4PM and home for an early Sunday dinner. Of the trip's attendees, four were newcomers, and one old-timer (Harvey Hickman) showed up to demonstrate proper fundamental downhill technique to the admiring assemblage. (JW)

## GENERAL KING SKI TOUR -- APRIL 26-27, 1980

This tour was scouted last year with delightful results, and this year as a Section tour it was also a gem. In some ways it was even better, such as a shorter approach march into the valley.

Nine skiers met at Atwell Mill Campground where the road was blocked by snow, with a car stuck in the middle of the patch. We then hiked 5 miles over bare pavement and snow patches to Faculty Flat where skis were mounted for the remaining journey to a campsight south of the Monarch Cr. trailhead. Of note was the heavy storm damage to the road. Due to numerous washouts and avalanche debris, a monumental repair job will be in order.

Following lunch, the group toured up into the hanging valley of Eagle

(page 4)

## Mineral King Cont.

Creek which provided a steep and thrilling ski descent over well consolidated snow. Once back down, everyone joined in practicing turns on a local slope until exhaustion set in. One final activity of the day involved learning to use avalanche beepers, a very worthwhile project. It should also be noted that Tom Duryea successfully popped a Jiffy Pop over the campfire. (another worthwhile project). Although Sunday was marred by clouds and wind, the group reached the major objective, Farewell gap, and the snow thawed into super corn, and everyone skied, telemarked, and skied some more over four miles and 2700 vertical feet. It could not have been better. (MG)

## PRACTICE CLIMB SUMMARY

The 1980 training program began with a new format, an orientation (DWP) covering all the administrative details, which hopefully would reduce the amount of time expended at practice climbs for these details. After strongly advising the students that the classes proceed rain or shine, the first class was cancelled due to mud. We apologize to the students that showed up. After this embarrassing beginning no more climbs were cancelled. The climbs proceeded with the usual characteristics associated with the RCS climbs, those who were there know. This class in our memory is unique in many respects:

- 1) the number of students remained constant thruout the seven days of practice climbs.
- 2) attitudes, willingness and togetherness were much more than in the past.
- 3) Climbing- skill of this class seemed much higher than in the past.

The training committee appreciates the cooperation shown by all students and hopes that the instructors efforts will result in many enjoyable climbs in the future. The training committee also thanks the instructors for their presence, and the efforts that made the program a success. A special thanks to Russ Kirkpatrick and others for the additional efforts of helping clean up Stoney Pt.

The training program ended with something new this year, a buss trip to Fassil Falls (a first?). This trip allowed for more communication between members and students. The trip began and ended well. the following observations were made on that trip:

Climbers are not like wine. Toilets aren't necessary on busses, Climbers have good control. Everybody likes almonds. Tires burn better than wood. Some cigarets smell funny. Everybody enjoys pendelums (particularly when they happen to other people). When a search and rescue team appear, stop all activities, because an accident will find a way to happen. When an accident happens, always hope the victim has a positive attitude. Thanks to Diana Esch, whom suffered a broken ankle. Her concern was missing climbing days, speedy recovery.

Additional thanks to the weatherman for two days of great climbing weather to Fassil Falls for having enough overhangs, cracks, friction pitches and other climbs to keep us all busy. Thanks to Don & Bob Havens & John Sarkaria for their sunday choice. Last of all thanks to the Palmdal Pizza Hut for a quick meal.

The Training Committee.

## White Mts cont.

The Whites offer fine touring terrain, well suited to nordic skis. This tour was planned as an exploration of the Bristolcones, over terrain that allowed for checkout of skiing ability of some participants, long on nordic experience, but lacking SMS paper work. All new participants passed the SMS checkout test, four on nordic equip. and one on alpine equip.

Sunday was spent touring into Hot Creek. we all congratulated ourselves on our good judgement as we soaked in the creek, thoughts going out to the skiers at Mammoth who waited in the lodge for the high winds to die down. (OM)