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STONEY POINT - A LAST PUSH NEEDED!

For the past four years the Sierra Club, with RCSers spearheading the effort, has been working to persuade the City of LA to purchase Stoney Point and operate it as a public park with the understanding that climbing activities there would continue. Progress was made toward this end, so that in September 1979, the City started condemnation proceedings leading toward purchase. At this point, the City Attorney's office objected because of liability considerations, in effect stopping progress on the issue.

There the matter lay until Councilman Hal Bernson, in whose district Stoney Point lies, decided he wanted to resolve the issue and called for a public meeting February 9 in Chatsworth Park. There Norm Roberts of the City Attorney's office explained his department's concerns regarding potential liability problems. Mr. Roberts and Ron Kraus of the Parks & Recreation Department put forth a "risk management plan" that they recommend for implementation should Stoney Point become a city park. Included were such items as security fencing, guard railings, frequent inspections of the rock and anchors, and on-site supervisory personnel who would regulate climbing activities.

Those of us who have followed the Stoney Point issue closely viewed these proposals with some alarm, for two reasons: 1) the expense involved in instituting them might prove onerous to the City Council and kill the project; 2) the "regulation" of climbing (depending on its exact nature) might not be acceptable to the climbing community.

It became apparent in the meeting that those who had drawn up the above plan had not consulted to any great extent with knowledgeable climbers or those managing presently operating climbing areas. Climbers at the meeting volunteered information on existing areas, and it is believed that when city authorities obtain enough factual data, a modified "risk management plan" can and will be forthcoming--a plan that both protects the City and satisfies the climbing community.

At the end of the meeting, Councilman Bernson polled the citizens and found 100% agreement that the recreational and other values of Stoney Point outweigh the presumed liability risks. They wanted a city park with an absolute minimum of physical "improvements." To this end, Bernson pledged his full support and called for letters to his fellow Council members in support of proceeding with condemnation so the City can purchase the property. He added that although the Council normally follows the recommendation of the Councilman in whose district a proposed park is located, approval may not be automatic in this case because of the opposition from the City Attorney's office.

ACTION INFORMATION

Write to as many members of the City Council as you can, supporting the purchase of Stoney Point by the City. If you live in the City of LA, be sure to write to your own district Council member. The addresses are below.

Letters should refer to Council file no. CF-76-4723 and should emphasize the beauty, historical, and cultural value of the site. It can be mentioned that money from the city budget will not be required for purchase of the land, since sufficient 1976 state bond and "Quimby" moneys are already on hand to fund this project.

Reference can also be made to the February 9 public meeting attended predominantly by local citizens. **LETTERS MUST REACH COUNCIL MEMBERS BY MAR.30!**

It would also be helpful to fill the Council chambers with Stoney Pt supporters when the matter comes to a vote on March 30 (Monday) at 10 a.m.

LA CITY COUNCIL MAILING ADDRESS: (Name and room number), 200 N. Spring St City Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Members by District No., Name, and Room No.: (1) Bob Ronka, Rm 290; (2) Joel Wachs, Rm M39; (3) Mrs. Joy Picus, Rm 281; (4) John Ferraro, Rm M30; (5) Zev Yaroslavsky, Rm 239; (6) Mrs. Pat Russell, Rm 260; (7) Ernani Bernardi, Rm 240; (8) Robert Farrell, Rm 380; (9) Gilbert Lindsay, Rm 230; (10) Dave Cunningham, Rm 237; (11) Marvin Braude, Rm 275; (12) Hal Bernson, Rm 236; (13) Peggy Stevenson, Rm 317; (14) Arthur Snyder, Rm 333; (15) John Gibson Jr, Rm 375.

MUGELNOOS STAFF

EDITOR for February . . . . .John Ripley  
MUGELNOOSMANAGER. . . . .Mark Cole  
MUGELNOOSMANAGER. . . . .Dove Menkes  
RESPONSES: Tom Jeter, Barbara Lilley  
Don Pies, LeRoy Russ, Virgil Shields

NO MORE - make checks to Mugelnoos

MENTOR: Fred Wing  
2264 Roscomare Rd  
Los Angeles, CA 90024  
(213) 476-4398

ISSUE: March 17, 1981  
DATE: Wednesday, March 11

MUGELNOOS MEETINGS: Third Tues of each month, 7:30 pm, Dept of Water & Power Bldg., 111 N Hope, downtown LA. Parking free. Program, refreshments, conversation. Climbers, skiers, guests welcome!

C A L E N D A R

- Feb 21-22 - Sat-Sun. Ostrander Hut ski tour: Duryea/Goebel.
- Feb 22 - Sun. Local checkout ski tour: Secor/Maloy.
- Feb 22 - Sun. Mt Rubidoux training climb: Bayless.
- Feb 28-Mar 1 - Sat-Sun. Walter Mosauer Memorial Ski Race: Secor/Maloy.
- Mar 7-8 - Sat-Sun. Bodie tour: Omberg/Duryea.
- Mar 8 - Sun. Mt Rubidoux training climb: Ripley (if ever in town).
- Mar 14-15 - Sat-Sun. Needles ski tour: Fried/Boge.
- Mar 17 - Tue. Mugelnoos Meeting: hosted by SMS.
- Mar 21-22 - Sat-Sun. Horton Lakes tour: Ossofsky/Maloy.
- Mar 21-22 - Sat-Sun. Fossil Falls bus trip climb: Campbell/Burdett.

RCS MEMBERSHIP PENDING

The Safety Committee has received the membership application of Anna Houpt. As required by the RCS bylaws, the committee is asking anyone wishing to comment on this applicant's climbing safety to contact Don Pies, (213) 675-5139, by March 3.

OLD NOOS WOULD BE GOOD NEWS

The following issues of The Mugelnoos are still missing from the RCS files:

- 1949: Aug, Sep      1962: Oct
- 1950: Sep            1963: Jul, Nov
- 1953: Nov            1964: Jan
- 1968: Mar

1957, 1958, 1959: practically ALL!

The lack of those numbers from the late 1950's is especially galling; that was the period when RCS members & friends were pioneering the big walls of Yosemite Valley.

If you can supply originals (preferred) or copies of any of the above, contact John Ripley, 5912 El Rancho Dr, Whittier, CA 90606, (213) 692-5050.

INFO FOR RCS STUDENTS

Bus Trip, Fossil Falls--students should find an information sheet enclosed.

Proficiency card sign-offs--if you have not completed your sign-offs by the last practice climb, contact LeRoy Russ (213/258-1546) immediately.

Equipment--please check your equipment for RCS property.

LR

RCS STUDENT ROSTER CHANGES

- Lois Darnell, (714) 857-2408.
- Laura Gray, PO Box F, Loma Linda 92354.
- Hersh Kelley, 1450 Marine Ave, Manhattan Bch 90266, (213) 545-4406.
- Michael Swan, 4935 Indianwood Rd #342, Culver City 90230, (213) 558-4836.
- Margo Koss, (213) 796-8832.
- Mike Baca, (213) 728-8394.
- Mariane Santillan, 632 N. 4th St, Montebello 90640.
- Matthew Pasquini, 4771 Mendota Ave, LA 90042, (213) 258-1973.
- Mark Pomerantz, 2030 Kerwood Ave, LA 90025, (213) 553-7264.
- Steve Tulley, 2535 Las Lunas, Pasadena 91107, (213) 792-2801.
- Phillip Thomas, 2442 Norwalk Ave, LA 90041, (213) 258-1915.
- Bob Landry, 4806 Malta St, LA 90042.
- Marty Brittingham, 12132 Marshall St, Culver City 90230, (213) 391-1070.
- Erin Corey, 5930 Hayes Ave, LA 90042, (213) 258-2944.

LR

LETTER TO EDITOR

In response to the request for comments regarding a merger of the SMS and the Snow Touring Committee: this obviously would have been the ideal solution in the first place!...When the merger was first proposed several years ago, to form a "Wilderness Skiing Section," it was endorsed by the SMS Central Comm. and draft bylaws were prepared. However, it was rejected by the Snow Touring Comm. because (according to Mark Goebel who was acting as coordinator) they did not wish to be associated with the Mugelnoos meetings or paper.

Even though this might now be resolved, the present SMS Central Comm. has indicated they are unanimously opposed; that such a merger is not necessary since nordic equipment is now permitted on tours. But with the elimination of the requirement to use alpine ski touring equipment, the only thing now separating the two groups (in theory) is passing the Fourth Class Ski Test....

--Barbara Lilley

DROUGHT ENDS(?) IN DELUGE

The second "miracle" of the winter occurred when the drought-producing high pressure ridge was broken down long enough to permit 7-10 feet of snow to fall on the Sierra in 3-4 days, thus assuring a reasonably normal resort and backcountry ski season through the latter part of May at least. So Calif. also received 2-3 feet and hopefully San Jacinto, Baldy (remember the Hut is closed) and San Gorgonio will have adequate cover for the next month or so.

BL

RCS SCHEDULE - 1981

Jan 10	Stoney Pt	Russ
Jan 15	Stoney Pt	Fried
Jan 20	Stoney Pt	Cole
Jan 25	Mt Rubidoux	Bayless
Jan 30	Mt. Rubidoux	Ripley
Feb 1-2	Fossil Falls	Campbell/Burdett (Bus trip)
Feb 15	Big Rock	Yount/Wing
Apr 5	Joshua Tree NM	Stevens/Perkins
Apr 18-19	Joshua Tree NM	Crandall/Cole
May 2-3	Tahquitz Rock	Russ/Tidball
May 9-10	Pacifico/S.T.	Pies (Big Wall workshop Sat, Safety Test Sun)
May 23-25	Yosemite Valley	Ripley/Nissen
Jun 6-7	Suicide Rock	Mundwiler/Lindgren
Jun 20-21	Tahquitz Rock	Shields/Bayless
Jul 3-5	Palisades (N. Fk)	Tidball/Jeter/Fried
Jul 18-19	Tahquitz Rock	DeRusha/Nissen
Aug 1-3	Rock Creek	Ripley/McPherson (Take Mon. off)
Aug 8-9	Tahquitz Rock	Russ/Ryan
Aug 22-23	Suicide Rock	Lees/Yount
Sep 5-7	Tuolumne Mdws	Wing/Tidball
Sep 19	Safety Test	Pies
Sep 26-27	Tahquitz Rock	Korbut-Weberg/Ryan
Oct 10-12	Yosemite Valley	Bagdon/McPherson
Oct 18	Picnic	Crandall
Oct 24	Sespe Gorge	Perkins/Cole
Nov 7-8	Owens Ridge	Ripley/Russ
Nov 21-22	Joshua Tree NM	Mundwiler/Cole
Dec 12-13	Joshua Tree NM	Moore/Wing

} (Leaders switched from Schedule)

JR

1979-80 RCS CLIMBING STATS

Here's what you've all been waiting for: the leader for the last climbing season was Paul Harris with 22 days of climbing with our section. Second place was a tie between LeRoy Russ and Virgil Shields with 21 days. The following is a breakdown of the next five places:

- 3 - Ruth Carter, 17 days
- 4 - Andy Fried, 16 days
- 5 - Dick DeRusha, 15 days
- 6 - Emory Yount, 14 days
- 7 - Dick Mundwiler and Larry Tidball, 13 days

There were 45 actual scheduled climbing days this season, compared to 53 for the last. The average attendance was 8 members and 10 nonmembers per day, compared to 9 members and 8 nonmembers for the 1978-79 season. Also, four climbs were cancelled this season compared to one last season.

VS

The following are reprints of early Mugelnoos items (from the first year of the Noos)

THE MUGELNOOS

April 13, 1938

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NORMAN CLYDE, who has been acting as custodian of Glacier Lodge-this winter, writes the Mugelnoos of the fine skiing he has had in the region at the head of Big Pine Creek. He made two trips up into the upper basins of the South Fork of Big Pine, "a region never before visited by any rider of the slippery slats." Just after the holidays, Dave Brower, Morgan Harris, Arthur Blake, and Norman Clyde explored the North Palisade Glacier and climbed Mount Winchell. Norman reports that, due to unusually heavy snowfall, there should be good "corn snow" skiing in the high country throughout May.

July 8, 1938

THE MUGELNOOS

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PALISADE PACKING

An all-night bivouac at 14,000 ft., spring skiing, fine fishing, fireworks, super commissaries, practice in snow-and ice-craft, and varied rock climbs, marked the RCS Fourth of July knap-sacking trip to the Palisade region, where 32 camped at Third Lake 10,300 ft. Climbing was rendered difficult by snow unusually deep for the season.

Two ropes of three, including Bob Brinton and Johnny Mendenhall, leaders, Wayland Gilbert, Muir Dawson, Hensel Fremstad, and Walter Hennies, climbed North Palisade (14,254') by the East Face Route on Sunday. Partway up the climb, they found three solo climbers, who, while apparently fast climbers, were unroped and inadequately equipped. The RCS climbers, after answering their calls for help, roped them to the summit, and also taught them to rope down, which so delayed the party that they were unable to get off the face by dark. The party of 9 spent a cold night on a small ledge at the top of the snow chute. Leaders Brinton and Mendenhall, in bringing the large party safely through a difficult situation, clearly demonstrated the efficiency and safety of RCS standards compared with haphazard climbing by unequipped climbers.



Anxious campers at Third Lake, early the next morning, organized a rescue party consisting of Jim Smith, Dick Jones, Howard Gates and Spencer Austin, who found the missing climbers safe.

Other climbs made were: Temple Crag (13,016') - Leader, Howard Gates; Agnes Fair, Bill Wallace, George Wilkins, Bill Davies, Jim Smith and Louis Arnet. Mt. Sill (14,200') - First ascent by a new 4th class route up the Northeast ridge or mattress. Dick Jones and Spencer Austin lead a sequacious group consisting of Ruth Dyar, Joe Monyer and Ray Ingwerson. Regular route - Howard Koster and Don McGeen.

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THE MUGELNOOS

September 1, 1938

TAHQUITZ TURNOUT - NEW ROUTES DISCOVERED

Biggest event in recent RCS activities was the scheduled climb at Tahquitz Rock Aug. 20-21, attended by a choice crowd of 17. The climbs made were unusual. As preparation for the East Face of Whitney over Labor Day, 12 people roared up Angels' Fright. A party of 3 did the White Maiden's Walkway, on the N. face, and proclaimed it the "best route yet." The Finger-Tip Traverse and the Friction Route were climbed several times.

In the meantime, two magnificent new routes were completed elsewhere. The first one completed lies between the Booksellers' (Mechanics) Route and the Finger-Tip, and goes directly over the large prominent bulge on the S. ridge. Approach to the bottom of the Bulge is made by four 4th class pitches along a steep break. Traversing right underneath the overhang, the route goes over one jutting horn, and up with direct aid to another. This route was named Traitor Horn because this second horn looked like a 4-5th class pitch but proved to be tough 6th. First ascent, Aug. 20; Jim Smith (leading), Art Johnson, Maxine Holton. The second new route, so far unnamed, follows a tough 5th class sloping crack around the left corner of the Bulge and joins the Traitor Horn route above. First ascent, Aug. 21; Carl Jenson (leading), Jim Smith, Doug McDonald.

Trip leader Mendenhall and Section Chairman Koster deserve particular credit for training the neophytes for Whitney.

Noos Note:  
12 CLIMB  
ANGELS' FRIGHT

