

THE MUGELWOODS

Issue No. 584

August 18, 1981

This is a 2 page issue.

A newsheet published by and for the Ski Mountaineers and Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter since 1938. Send subscriptions and address changes to Dove Menkes, 1550 S. Highland Ave. #D, Fullerton, California 92632. Subscriptions \$3/yr.

INSANITY ATTEMPT FAILS!

On the morning of August 2, during a period of mental instability, climber Virgil Shields attempted to run to the summits of all 13 peaks within the San Gorgonio Wilderness of the San Bernardino National Forest before noon of that day. Blaming it upon the excessive stress and anxiety experienced by him as an RCS officer in his interactions with members and students, he started out at 6 a.m. from Camp Angelus (6,000'), after unsuccessful attempts at finding reasons for being elsewhere. With "Gatorade" in one hand and matches and a candle in the other, the first nine miles and 4,700 feet to San Bernardino Peak (10,649') were covered in an hour and twenty minutes. The way was not uneventful for in a display of routefinding superiority, he managed to ascend every little bump on the ridge before finding the true summit.

About one mile, 10 minutes and a mouthful of powdered Gatorade later, he stood on the summit of East San Bernardino Peak (10,691'). Upon reaching Anderson Peak (10,850'), twenty minutes after leaving the last one, he observed that his present enthusiasm was somewhat less than it was originally (also San Gorgonio seemed just as far off as before). He then proceeded to search avidly for the air that his lungs didn't find enough of. After a moment of shriveling in the heat and after placing the usual remarks ridiculing the personal prowess of HPSers in the register, he decided that he should find water before he personally experienced the manner in which a grape becomes a raisin. Fifteen minutes, about a mile later, with less water and less air, he stumbled over the talus blocks composing Shields Peak (10,700'). While signing in upon the massive parapets of Alta Diablo Peak at 10:15 a.m. (10,563') about 20 feet ~~above~~ the trail, in a whimsical moment he remembered the words expounded by other climbers on the frontiers of experience. And as Hillary said, when asked why he climbed mountains, "Because they are there," -- he thought to himself "Why am I here?"

After dragging himself back up to the trail from a water break a few hundred feet below at High Meadow Springs, it seemed quite ludicrous to think that this feat would be accomplished before noon. To avoid having his friends call out the Marines if he was not back at the appointed time, the attempt was aborted at Dollar Lake Saddle at 11 a.m. As he started his descent to Poopout Hill, he looked up at Charlton Peak rising a thousand feet above the saddle and shouted, "You won't get me today!" He immediately tripped over a rock. After unsuccessful attempts at Poopout Hill to solicit a ride back to Camp Angelus from one of the many back-packers he sped by on the trail, he ran the remaining eleven miles back to Camp Angelus to complete this modest thirty-five mile excursion.

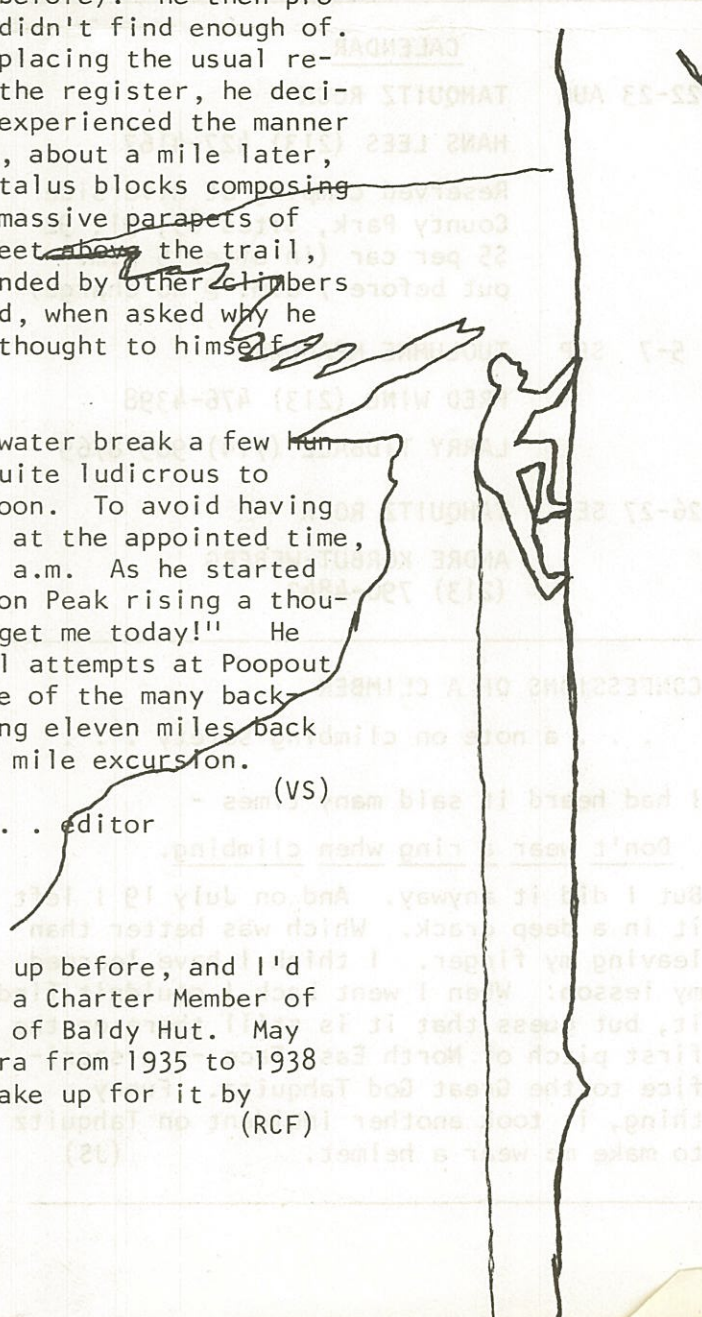
(VS)

... but Al Fowler could have made it . . . editor

WHO ME? -- BUILD A HUT??

There was a slight error in issue 583 that has come up before, and I'd like to keep the record straight. Even though I am a Charter Member of the Ski Mountaineers, I had no part in the building of Baldy Hut. May and I were living at Florence Lake in the High Sierra from 1935 to 1938 so I was not available. However, I have tried to make up for it by attending as many work parties as I could

(RCF)



MUGELNOOS STAFF

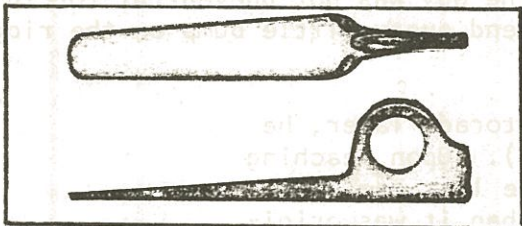
EDITOR Emory Yount
MUGELGRAPHER Mark Cole
MUGELMAILER Dove Menkes
REPORTERS: Bob Frampton, Paul Jacobson,
Don Pies, Jim Sharpsteen, Virgil Shields

NEXT EDITOR: OWEN MALOY
4591 Green Tree Lane
Irvine, CA 92715
(714) 551-5495 (h)

NEXT ISSUE: September 15, 1981
DEADLINE: September 9, 1981

MUGELNOOS MEETINGS:

THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. DEPT. OF WATER AND POWER
111 N. HOPE ST., DOWNTOWN L.A.
PROGRAM, REFRESHMENTS.
CLIMBERS, SKIERS, GUESTS WELCOME.



CALENDAR

- 22-23 AUG TAHQUITZ ROCK
HANS LEES (213) 427-4167
Reserved camping at Riverside
County Park, Sites 85, 91, 92
\$5 per car (in after 5 p.m.
out before 7 a.m. @ no charge)
- 5-7 SEP TUOLUMNE MEADOWS
FRED WING (213) 476-4398
LARRY TIDBALL (714) 989-8769
- 26-27 SEP TAHQUITZ ROCK
ANDRE KORBUT-WEBERG
(213) 790-4842

CONFESSIONS OF A CLIMBER
. . . a note on climbing safety . . .

I had heard it said many times -
Don't wear a ring when climbing.
But I did it anyway. And on July 19 I left
it in a deep crack. Which was better than
leaving my finger. I think I have learned
my lesson. When I went back I couldn't find
it, but guess that it is still there on the
first pitch of North East Face -- a sacri-
fice to the Great God Tahquitz. Funny
thing, it took another incident on Tahquitz
to make me wear a helmet. (JS)

NEW BOOKS

The HUNK GUIDE to Orange County.
Randy Vogel, Bonehead Publishing, 1981.
\$3.50 63 pages
This pocket-size booklet is a new and
interesting climber's guide to Orange
County. If the routes at Corona del
Mar seem hard, the ratings in this guide
will show why.

ADDRESS CHANGES:

PAUL JACOBSON
34062 Callita Drive #B
Dana Point, CA 92629

THE MUGELMAILER REQUESTS ADDRESS INFO FOR

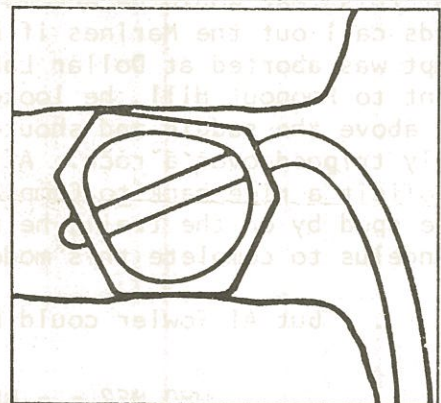
BILL FELDMAN
CHRIS FOREMAN
CHERYL MANTLIK please/thanks

RCS NEW MEMBERS

- DAVID BUSDEICKER
1805 N. McClay
Santa Ana, CA 92701 (714) 543-7275
- JOHN HODGMAN
5005 New York Avenue
La Crescenta, CA 91214 (213) 248-0729
- BOB SPROUL
19520 Citronia Street
Northridge, CA 91324 (213) 886-1969
- KENT WITHERS
1355 Berkeley Street
Anaheim, CA 92804 (714) 828-5309

RCS MEMBERSHIPS PENDING

The RCS Safety Committee has received
applications for membership from JIM
KORB and JOHN ORANGE. Anyone wishing to
comment on these climbers' safety should
contact DON PIES by Aug 28 (213) 675-5139.



TOWERING INFERNO

I'd like to comment on the article
"Towering Inferno" (July MUGELNOOS) - I
believe D.P. captured the spirit of rock
climbing and conveyed a sense of fright,
awe, determination and conquest. For me
this is the substance of this sport.
After a lengthy reprieve I feel like
climbing again. Thank you, D.P. (PJ)