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A newsheet published by and for the Ski Mountaineers and the Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter since 1938. Send subscriptions and address changes to Dove Menkes, 2530 Coventry Circle, Fullerton 92633. \$4 per year due in October.

**LOBBYING EFFORT SUCCESSFUL:
STONEY POINT TO BE AN L.A. CITY PARK**

On Saturday, June 5, Stoney Point will be presented as a new City Park to the people of L.A. in a formal dedication ceremony starting at 10:30 am. The Sierra Club is sponsoring a massive volunteer trash pickup of the site on the same day, starting at 8:30 am--see the enclosed flyer.

The Sierra Club Angeles Chapter lobbied for five years to gain City Park status for Stoney Point in coordination with local citizens. The RCS was at the cutting edge, as successive RCS Chairs Fred Wing, Andy Fried, Frances Cholewa, John Ripley and Virgil Shields monitored the lobbying effort. Many other RCS'ers were involved in circulating petitions, writing letters to City Councilpersons, and attending hearings at City Hall and elsewhere. Fred Wing was especially active and his legal expertise invaluable. (Editor's Note: Tom Jeter is too modest to mention his own hard work.)

We all have much to be proud of. John Ripley, as Angeles Chapter Historian, recounted to me, one by one, good bouldering sites in the L.A. area active years ago that have been closed to climbing through development. We climbers could become an "endangered species" if we do nothing to preserve our habitat! Here's one we won!! Come out and join the celebration. It will be a big deal: bands playing, Indian dancers, equestrian color guard, media coverage, etc. etc!!!!

CONVICT LAKE SKI TOUR, MARCH 20

Two years ago we were lucky enough to have some ladies along on this one. This year it was all-male--how dull. Mark Goebel filled in as assistant for Sy Ossofsky, who is still recovering from his fall. Larry Bigler, Rick Campbell, Pat McGaughy, Greg Stevens and Pete Yamagata came along.

Four feet of new snow had fallen at Mammoth and the avalanche danger was rated very high on Friday. Upon arrival at Mammoth things did not look all that bad, and we decided to tour as before up the canyon east of Mt. Morrison, staying well away from steep slopes. When we arrived at Convict Lake early Saturday we were treated to the sight of an avalanche falling down a steep chute on Laurel Mt. Hum. We skied up the willow-infested streambed above the Convict Lake picnic area and toured up the ridge, staying out of the gully below the steep slopes on the Mt. Morrison side. Where the ridge flattens out at about 10,000' we cut left and skied up through the trees to the top of the ridge leading to Mt. Aggie. After a sunny but chilly lunch we toured over to the summit of McGee Mt. and were rewarded by good views down into McGee Creek. Then the predominantly Nordic-equipped group zipped back to lunch rock, which was just enough uphill to make it advisable for the two Alpine skiers to put on skins to climb back. (Neither of us did--preferring to suffer, we struggled stupidly uphill mumbling to ourselves.) Finally over the lip, we cruised back down through the trees and down to the lower ridge and gully, now turning to cement. Not desiring to ski rocks, we picked our way down through the willows. Next time I'll take a chance on the rocks.

This is an excellent tour, with a vertical rise of almost 3,300' --more than Vail. And the climb starts right from the car. RCS'ers will go for that.

Sunday the group split, as planned--four to ski Mammoth, and three to tour San Joaquin Ridge. OM

MUGELNOOS STAFF

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NEXT ISSUE: June 15, 1982
DEADLINE: Wednesday, June 9

C A L E N D A R

- May 22-23 - Lake Sabrina ski tour and climb of Mt. Powell; Ossosky/Yamagata
- May 29-31 - Yosemite Valley; Wing/Russ
- May 29-31 - Mt. Ritter ski descent; Goebel/Wilts
- Jun 5-6 - Rock Creek ski tour and snow camp; Van Dalsem/Goebel
- Jun 12 - Williamson Rock; Yount/Tidball
- Jun 15 - Mugelnoos meeting; RCS
- Jun 19-20 - Tahquitz Rock; Korbut-Weburg/Tidball

JUNE MUGELNOOS PROGRAM

At the June Mugelnoos meeting we will show an extraordinary mountaineering film of R. Sorgato's climb of the West Peak of Lavaredo in the Dolomites. The film Abyss was shot on location and depicts Sorgato's fall of over 140' over a rock overhang, on one of the most difficult climbs in the Alps, and his self-rescue.

FOR SALE

Galibier Makalu double boot for expedition use--very warm feet. Plus Lowe insulated supergaiters. European size 44. \$100. Glenn Kaplan, (213) 664-5071.

Wild-X Borglite pile jacket, men's medium. Like new. \$25. North Face Moraine internal frame pack, size regular, fits to 5'7". \$65. Jim, (213) 795-7060, please leave message.

Summer sublet, large furnished one-bedroom in Santa Monica. July and August. Walk to beach. Becky, (213) 394-6597.

Package deal: Trucker skis, 208 cm, Ramer bindings, Lowa boots, size 9, skins, poles, extra hardware. Excellent condition. All for only \$250. John Ribarich, (213) 476-1673.

FOUND

After Pear Lake tour, a poncho. R.J. Secor, (213) 795-5520.

LOST

If you have a plastic case containing the RCS webbing cutter, please call LeRoy Russ.

APPLICATIONS FOR RCS MEMBERSHIP

Phil Thomas and Don Havens have applied for RCS membership. If any individual wishes to comment, please contact LeRoy Russ.

NEW RCS PROFICIENCY CARD HOLDERS

Sam Allen
10409 Tujunga Canyon Blvd.
Tujunga CA 91042
213 353-5704

Ron Hudson
18156 Strathern St.
Reseda CA 91335
213 342-9544

Greg Vernon
2006 Mitscher
Ridgecrest CA 93555
714 446-5724

RCS ADDRESS/TELEPHONE CHANGES

Ruth Carter
1650 B Greenport Ave.
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213 965-1972

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714 828-1059

RCS NOTICES

Safety Climbs. Members of the Safety Committee will advise trip leaders when they are available for safety climbs. Applicants needing safety climbs should call the trip leader to ask for a safety climb reservation. Hopefully this system will reduce the number of calls usually necessary to arrange a safety climb and encourage more prospective members to continue progress toward membership. LR

RCS Safety Committee, 1981-82. Kathy Crandall, Dick DeRusha, Ed Nissen, Don Pies, LeRoy Russ (Chair), Virgil Shields, Larry Tidball, Fred Wing.

Campsite Fee. The RCS will continue to make campsite reservations for all Tahquitz, Yosemite Valley, Tuolumne Meadows and Joshua Tree trips. However, the campsite fees have increased, so that we are forced to begin charging trip participants a small fee. Henceforth there will be a fee of \$2.00 per adult or \$3.00 per family for anyone staying in an RCS campsite, regardless of how many nights are spent. Give the fee to the trip leader. This will require trip participants to continue their unblemished record of cheerful cooperativeness in the face of obstacles. KC

Yosemite Trip, May 29-31. We have reservations in the group campground near North Pines Campground. Park in the Curry Village lot and carry things to the campsite. Meeting place for sign-out on May 29, 7:30-8:00 am, is Curry Village cafeteria.

Music. If you play a musical instrument, bring it with you on trip

RCS NOTICES (continued)

Sierra Trips. Students from this year's class who are interested in attending Sierra climbs, including Yosemite, should do the following: (1) Climb at least two multipitch routes (3 or more pitches) at Tahquitz. (2) Be able to climb at least 5.4. (3) Contact RCS members or experienced proficiency card holders and extract from them promises for climbs.

Trip Leaders: Please enforce trip participation policy. RCS trips are limited to RCS members, guests of members, proficiency card holders and ex-RCS members. Do not allow on a trip individuals who don't fall into one of these categories. Refer them to the Safety Chair. Trip participants must sign Attendance sheets and Route sheets each day of climbing.

Equipment. Mark your equipment. All proficiency card holders should consider getting their own ropes. The Section has a few good ropes, but on the last climbing trips these have all been taken out, leaving some prospective climbers without a rope. (Mammut ropes have been on sale at a good price at REI lately.) (Flavia? A rack too?) Climber's guides also are handy to own.

Runners. Some people appear to feel that climbing provides insufficient opportunity for self-abuse--a small but growing group have been running on trips. If you want to join the morning runs on RCS trips, meet in the campground at 6:00 am.

LITTERS

The five litters purchased by the Rock Climbing Section and the Mountaineering Committee are located as follows:

Tahquitz--Left of chimney at top of descent route

Lunch Rock

Trail below Northwest Recess (on tree)

Suicide--Valhalla

Eagle Pinnacle area

Individuals using the litters are encouraged to return the litters to their proper locations. If they cannot do so, they should call the number on the litter sign. Special thanks to Bob Harvey and Paul Morrill for their help in placing and returning the Suicide litters. One was used by unknown persons on May 1; it was not returned (it was left at the fire station), and the litter slats were broken off.

LR

OWENS RIDGE, APRIL 17-18

As climbs go so far this year, Owens Ridge probably has the greatest potential for climbing. The northern escarpment of this granite outcropping in the SE Sierra is nearly 1,000' high. The rock is occasionally a bit loose due to the minimal amount of climbing done here. An exploratory trip last December (elevated to "adventure" class by an untimely bivouac) proved this to be an area of great interest.

The approach to the north side of the ridge is across 40 acres of private land. Three months of building up a friendship with the owner proved fruitful when he sent us the key to the locked gates on his land. A spring on his property provides a yearround source of cold water, and we also were given access to his well-maintained bathroom complete with sink and flush toilet.

Seven climbers showed up Saturday, which began a beautiful weekend of climbing. The group included five RCS'ers and two guests. Also one hiker, by the name of Mark Cole, made a brief appearance, muttered some comments about the approach and disappeared back into the brush. After a day of unsuccessful attempts to follow routes denoted in a guidebook supplied by China Lake Mountain Rescue, two parties chucked it and went off to put up two moderate six-pitch routes. Other highlights of the climb included my placing 20 RCS signs on the road between midnight and 3 am, the consumption of numerous liters of wine at dinner Saturday night, and a show of appreciation to the property owner by leaving him as a gift something better than the usual six-pack of rotgut. When I called him after the trip he offered us access to his property whenever we desire.

VS

The previous week in the Sierra was rainy. The few cancellations I received were understandable. Eight optimistic climbers met Saturday morning at the "divisible" end of the Mineral King road, which was about 16 miles and a 5,000' gain. Not bad! Nine miles to go on skis. (continued on page 2)

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

I was one of those women who learned not to worry when my husband was on a climb. I convinced myself that he and his fellow climbers were perspicacious, agile and aware enough to avoid certain asinine actions and situations that would prove otherwise. Well, you guys just proved otherwise!

What moron would schedule a climbing activity on Mother's Day, and who were the "moronettes" who went along with this?

My opinion of the RCS has changed greatly since this event. No longer do I see you as a virile and intelligent group, but I see you plodding along and every so often one of you says, "Duh, ya wanna clime dat one? Huh do ya?"

The saddest of all realities here is that each of you is some mother's son or daughter. Happy Mother's Day. PS

APRIL 3-4 NORDIC SKI TOUR AND SOUTHERN SIERRA SNOW CAMP

Well, Mugelreaders, you can fault us for not adhering to truth in advertising, but you can't accuse us of failure to provide a good time and perfect weather. Leader Andy Fried adroitly squashed the snow camp idea by volunteering his snug van, fully equipped with creature comforts. Not that our two sign-ups didn't try anyway: Charlie Gonzalez exercised Latin machismo by sleeping out the first night. Fortunately, common sense prevailed Saturday evening when he joined the group inside. George Oliver, in addition to bringing his virgin tent in need of deflowering, contributed a new face and personality to our SMS outing. Mary Gygax graced the group with femininity and charm.

Saturday, the team skied to the Needles Lookout; Sunday we lunched at Rock Dome and practiced telemarks en route to Ponderosa Lodge, where we parked the v..., oops, camped, both nights.

We relaxed each evening in the bar of the Lodge, where we were subjected to the worst pictures filmed this past decade. The Wicker Man was so atrocious that George, understandably rattled, left personal effects that he has to retrieve in his haste to vacate the premises. This, excluding the two miserable movies, was the only mishap of an enjoyable trip. MG

WHITE MOUNTAIN DESERT HIKE, APRIL 9-11

We were supposed to climb White Mountain on skis from Leidy Canyon on the Nevada side. We were prevented from doing so by the illness of one member of the party, which proved to be a blessing in disguise because we avoided the monster storm which would have driven us off the peak anyhow. But our trip was reduced to a four-mile desert backpack--not a speck of snow to ski on below 9,200'.

For future reference, one should never conclude that good snow conditions in the Sierra mean good, or even any, snow in the Whites. Last year we had little snow in the Sierra, but as much in the Whites as the year before. This year one can step across to the porch on Mammoth's main lodge, and must ski downhill to get on Chair 1; but the Whites have less snow. There is still plenty of good snow high up, of course. We simply never reached it.

While there is a lower-than-usual snow cover on the Whites, Glass Mountain had plenty of snow and prospects for our May tour looked good.

After retreating, two of us drove to June Lake over Route 120 (legally closed, but clear of snow). After an excellent dinner at the Carson Peak Inn, we hoped to spend the next day skiing June or touring in the area, but the monsoon rains discouraged us. We stopped by to describe the snow conditions to Dave Beck, who was supposed to be leading a week's ski tour in the Whites. He was alternately phoning the weather bureau and peering out the window muttering things like, "It does seem to be clearing a little." We were then treated to an outfielding demonstration by one of the Ossosky's many cats, and finally headed for home without ever having placed a ski on snow.

Those who cancelled out of this tour to stay home and watch TV are to be congratulated for their perspicacity. We did enjoy the desert, the scenery, and the dramatic cloud formations during the storm. OM

MINERAL KING, APRIL 17-18

The previous week in the Sierra was rainy. The few cancellations I received were understandable. Eight optimistic skiers met Saturday morning at the "drivable" end of the Mineral King road, which was about 16 miles and a 5'000' gain. Not bad! Nine miles to go on skis. (continued on page 5)

(continued from page 4) Mark Goebel took the lead with two strong Nordic skiers training for McKinley, Steve Hansen and Brian Holthausen, close behind. A few intermittent dry patches of road slowed us down but we made it to the cabins for lunch.

The first energetic souls to arrive heaved snow off one cabin porch where we all set up the kitchen. Then off and upward to get a glimpse of Sunday's objective: the White Chief Bowl area. Snow was glistening but firm. The sun was out in full force. Few clouds. A great day.

We skied up a gully to a saddle with a view of Farewell Gap. No time to venture onward to scout White Chief. Tomorrow. A graceful descent back down to camp.

Alba Hall hauled out a myriad of canned goods and a steak for dinner. Larry Bigler drank to Owen's health and Paul Harris began carbo loading in anticipation of tomorrow's climb.

6:15 breakfast. Off by 8:00. Difficult to keep up with Ralph Johnson. Mark headed for the saddle, then west and up to get a view of White Chief. Not good. A large avalanche had wiped out most of the side of the mountain. A traverse over to Farewell Gap.

Snow got better the farther up we went. The group was strong and swift. Then in precision formation we glided down the canyon to camp.

Lunch and out by 2:00. Mark and I met the Forest Ranger who lives at Alwell Mill most of the winter. Has phone, a 4x4 truck, skis, and a southern drawl that welcomes most any visitor.

JVD

PINS ACROSS THE SIERRA

April 24th, with our usual early start, we--Paul Morrill, Bob Harvey, Paul Harris and Andy Fried, in order of finish--heaved our packs and staggered up Symmes Creek. At 7,500', skins and skis; life did not improve, the Killer Heat doing what it did every day to snow, mind and body. The trip up Shepherd Creek lightened by contemplation of the tracks of climax avalanches, lateral moraines and all. Anvil Camp, water nearby, if someone else went to get it.

Shepherd Pass not as steep as in memory (the rest of the High Route we'd seen only in slides); the heavy snow easing the passes, we skied up Triple Divide and up and down the pass north of Pk 11,830. Milestone and Glacier Ridge were still serious. Here, the first of our Geographic Colloquia. We regret having spent only 8 hours total in this pleasing diversion. Mushed on to the headwaters of the Kern. At camp, passed by an Alpine group, changing edges in the air with packs on.

Over Milestone in a snow shower, as always, the Two Dots, Morrill and Harvey, disappearing rapidly up it. The next morning a helicopter dropped a message asking if any of us were two missing skiers (later found). In a close vote, a majority agreed we weren't even lost.

Colby Shoulder, Dave Beck's book is right, isn't as steep as it looks. Fine skiing down. Over Triple D., great skiing down to Glacier Lake, an early camp; Morrill's Solar Plant, a large boulder plastered with snow.

Off to Glacier Ridge, glad to have crampons; a marvelous swim to the top by Mr. Harvey; on skis up and over the next pass, the snow always better, at last the top of Table Meadows, a super run down to 9,600' and fog. Up and down to Pear Lake. Warmth, light, civilization--dry boots tomorrow? A note on the door: "One more pass to go--Mark Goebel." Thanks, pal. In the hut book, Chuck Wilts: "The best snow in 35 years." (Down from Winter Alta the next day, we believed it.) Six already surprised residents were joined by still another group, of five, a pleasant evening, with a dryland lesson from a Nordic downhill teacher.

A day at the hut, and the next day the only really hard skiing of the trip, down to Wolverton, a smiling ranger asking for our permit, a call to our ride (inexpressibly large thanks to Diann Gill), and with a cry of "beer, beer, rivers of beer" we proceeded at a record pace to Giant Forest. A late afternoon in the gutter, an early evening in the new bar, saved by our ride, so home to hot water.

A truly marvelous trip, through a range remarkably transformed by snow and clear weather.

PH

BIG ROCK, APRIL 24

Thirty-eight climbers turned out--a nice balance with 40% women. A rattlesnake also attended. Routes included the Trough, Wedunit, Puppy Dog, Cratermaker and the Sierra Club Route. The weather was superb.

HL

GLASS MOUNTAIN, MAY 1-2

Three participants joined leaders Kathy Crandall and Owen Maloy for a second try at skiing Glass Mountain. From the road we spotted several bowls which looked fabulous and we headed toward a dry ridge just below and west of the bowls. A strenuous backpack of four miles and 1,800' of gain brought us to a lovely campsite just below continuous snow. We popped our skis on and headed up and over toward the bowls, to be greeted by some of the worst snow ever seen by most trip members. The late March blizzard followed by the April rain-storm had produced a layer of sugar snow covered by some breakable crust in spots, which was covered by slush. We managed to reach a ridge with a phenomenal view, still some distance from the bowls. A quick poll revealed complete consensus that the proper route on Sunday was out to the cars and straight to Mammoth. There we all enjoyed spring skiing on Alpine (three) and Nordic (two) skis. Notable highlights of the trip were the variety of alcoholic beverages shared Saturday night and the gourmet eggs prepared Sunday morning by Mike Bannister, Emmet Ricksford and newcomer Nils Jorgensen. Equipment report: Voile bindings are wonderful. Leader's recommendation: hike Glass, ski Mammoth. KC

TAHQUITZ, MAY 1-2

Larry Tidball's reconnaissance of Tahquitz Rock in his Spad the previous week indicated that the rock was relatively free of snow. His flying observation proved correct; 36 students, guests, members and cardholders were greeted with two days of pleasant climbing weather without too much step-kicking.

For some reason, the Larks garnered most of the climbers, including those not with the RCS. The Maiden received one party on Saturday and one on Sunday. Student Betsy Reifsnider was introduced to marathon climbing by Stan Klein--12 hours on the Uneventful (?) North Buttress, winning honors as last in on Saturday. Scott Bailey won Sunday's award with a 5:00 return from Frightful Variation of the Trough. Alan Baty deserves special mention for his prusiking ability. Alan fell off the Fingertip Traverse on Sunday. After falling Alan utilized his prusiking skill to ascend the rope and get onto the route again after being tied off (somewhat belatedly) by belayer Margo Koss. Congratulations, Alan, for lessons well learned.

 * Make sure you carry 3 prusik loops when you climb! *
 * Rope leaders, if your second is not carrying 3 prusik loops, *
 * do not take her/him on the climb. *

Compliments to Anna Houpt on her leading; the Maiden and Fingertip fell victim to her new direction. What caused this change of pace? Or is it, I dare to lead those who dare to follow?

Tahquitz quotes: "Ropes are not infinite." "I just do what LeRoy tells me." "She is a very small person and she takes many very small steps." "I guide him." "I feel better now that I know I fell off Fingergrip (5.8) and not Fingertip (5.3)." LR

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