

A newsheet published by and for the Ski Mountaineers and Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter since 1938. Send Subscriptions & address changes to Dove Kenkes, 2530 Coventry Circle, Fullerton 92633. \$5.00 per year due NOW!

SKI MOUNTAINEERS ANNUAL POTLUCK

By 9 am Sat morning, Kathy Crandall's kitchen was overflowing with enthusiastic mountaineer types, sipping coffee, and exaggerating last season's exploits. Steve Bulkie set the tone by wearing an extravagantly colorful pair of Lederhosen.

Walter Boge and Ed Unge added more color as they displayed photos of their XC ski tour in Sweden. (See their slides at the March Mugginoos meeting.)

Tom Duryea and Judy Glenn bicycled 4,000 miles throughout Europe and Egypt. He's back in LA setting up his own law practice and looking for a pr of skies.

Cathy Crandall and Mary Gygax toured up and down Chamoix (the mountains, too) and loved it. Joining them was Jackie and Dale Van D for Mt. Blanc, a conditioning hike before Mt. 3JbPVC, Russia.

June Lane helped Ralph Johnson move to Lake Tahoe. He will be skiing to work and has an extra room...hmm!



"I can believe that... Can't ANYONE here get the lid off the mayonnaise?"

Continued..... page three

RCS PICNIC

As the station wagon laden with tables, hot dog buns, charcoal, and six cases of beer and six cases of soft drinks headed down toward the 210 Freeway, ominous drops of water started to hit its windshield. The drops turned into streams as the car headed toward Lake Perris, and by the time it streaked past the rangers to the base of Big Rock, the driver's heart had dropped below her stomach into the big toe. About 10 hardy souls revealed two points of view - one was that the new stopped rain would leave, never to return again that day (and anyway there was plenty to eat and drink); the other was that noone would come since it was such gloomy weather and we should reschedule the annual RCS Social event for a sunnier Sunday. As I made a final decision to cancel, and so informed the Lake Perris ranger, the sun made a tentative attempt at an appearance and several dozen more people made a real appearance, with the general attitude of "I'd rather drink than climb, anyway." The picnic was on again.

A good decision, as it turned out - since not only was there plenty of drinking to be accomplished, but the sun did overcome its diffidence, the rock dried out, and plenty of climbing was accomplished as well. A general count of those who remembered to sign in revealed some 30 RCS'ers at the picnic, with 12 proficiency card holders, and 30 odd guests and kids (there was a rumor that there was one normal as well). All the routes saw some activity, with The Roof led by Don Pies, and Boogaloo (5.9 variation) led by Bob Landry and by Jim Bryla. Attempts were made on Cheap Thrills, with a great deal of burning rubber, four letter words and vows to come back and "DO IT RIGHT"! Many thanks to Ruth Carter for her deluxe grille, and to the Peters, the Pies, and Anna Hout for obachis, and to Leroy Russ for hot dogs and paper goods from somebody's warehouse. Also to those who stayed and helped load the car with leftover goodies and stuff. Interesting sidelight -- all the soft drinks were consumed as well as the regular beer and white wine. Left over was

continued..page 3

MUGELNOOS STAFF

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MUGELMAILER.....Dove Henkes
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SLS CALENDAR

Table with 3 columns: Date, Location, and Name. Includes entries like 1/8 Local Clinic Goebel, 1/16 Local Tour Boge, 1/15-16 Mammoth area Maloy, 1/23 Local Clinic Goebel, 1/29-30 Pear Lake Crandall, 2/12-13 Training Camp Goebel, 2/26-27 Baldy Hut Secor, 3/5-6 San Jacinto Haas, 3/12-13 So. Sierras Fried, 3/19-20 Baldy Races Secor, 3/26-29 Fish Creek Maloy, 3/31-3 Cathedral Mt Haas, 4/9-10 Morrison Cyn Maloy, 4/16-17 San Geronimo Goebel, 4/23-25 Pear Lake Van D, 4/30-1 (open), 5/7-8 Cleaver Pk Wandershaf, 5/14-15 Lamerck Col Van D, 5/21-22 Thompson Maloy, 5/28-30 Tioga Pass Goebel, 6/4-5 Rock Creek Goebel

NEW RCS MEMBER ROSTER

Please send Margo Koss any changes of name, address, phone, etc., for the new RCS member roster, which will go out with the December Mugelnoos. Send changes by Dec 15. For those who wish it, the roster will list first name of spouse or roommate and sex and age of children (to help people find out whether other children will be on trips for their children to play with, and to help in arranging child care exchanges). If you wish, send this information.

RCS CALENDAR

JOSEPH TREE TRIP

Meeting places:
11/26 Intersection Rock - 8
11/27 Indian Cove - 3
11/28 Indian Cove - 3
Campsite: Indian Cove, Group Site #1

FOR SALE, TRADE, NEED...

Sale: EB's, size 46 contact LeRoy Russ, (213) 258-1546
Sale or Trade: 7' Head skis, call George Harr, (213) 438-0153
Wanted: Pr of Sk's. Paul Harris 396-6236
Wanted: Alpine skies & Bindings. Tom Duryea.

NEW RCS QUALIFIED LEADERS

Margo Koss -- 1/T
John Peters -- 1/T
Paris Valkoss -- 1/T

\$5.00...\$5.00...\$5.00...\$5.00...

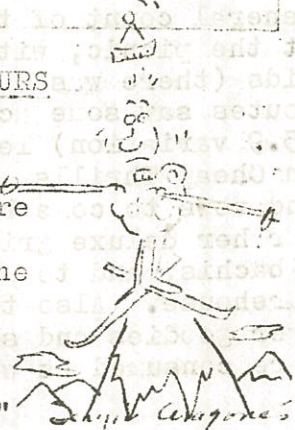
NEW & REINSTATED RCS MEMBERS

Jim Endo, P.O. box 562, June Lake (619) 648-7824 93529
Ron Jenkins, 1155 Freeman Av. Long Beach 90814 (213) 439-3780 (H) (213) 590-2371 (H) (213) 590-2376 (H) after 4/1/83
Ten Lee, P.O. 4822, Carson Ca 90749 (213) 518-4822
Ron Hudson, 18156 Strathern St. Reseda 91335 (213) 342-9544

for Mugelnoos subscription. To Dove Henkes, 2530 Coventry Cr. Fullerton, 92633.

INTRODUCTORY SKI TOURS

will be given to new members wishing to qualify for future ski tours on Jan 8, 16, 22/23, and at the Feb 12-13 Training Camp. See calendar for leader info.



Dec. Mugelnoos Meeting: Film: "Skiing Down Mt. Ranier"

Another SIS leader is pulling up roots and leaving U.S. for the northern wilds of Mammoth Mountain.....Owen Galoy. But he's converted his extra room into an office....sigh!

Mark Goebel just stayed home and collected everyone's postcards. We hope he'll send us a few when he does the Haute Route in Europe this spring.

Well, about 10 A.M. Boyd Balsam reminded us of the purpose of our gathering...to get in shape. So we unleashed eager Larry Bigler who had just returned from climbing in Bolivia and off we went for Mt. Waterman. In the register we all pledged to return when the snow was better and practiced glissading down pine needles to the cars.

Waiting for us back at Kathy's was beer, wine, and piping hot food. George Oliver and Jean Francois arrived in time for the festivities. John Hedberg and George Harr sent their apologies. (John welcomes us at Baldy Hut where he'll be most of Jan, Feb. and March.)

Our Welcome to Dafney Dayland, a long time downhiller, who may be on the verge of joining us on some of our insane trips, at least according to Mike Dayland.

George Oliver left when the white wine ran out, but Paul Harris managed to stick around awhile (there was still some food left).

Jackie Hand

RCS PICNIC....cont

the "light" beer and red wine. An experiment will be attempted. The leftovers will be brought to the first practice climb. The question to be tested: are those same RCS members who are willing to drink anything that is passed around a campfire at night (even Andy Fried's Price of Cucamonga red wine) willing to forego their scruples and partake of "light" beer after a hard day supervising at Stoney Point? Look for the answer in the January Jugelnoos.

Kathy Crandall

WELPEARY REINSTATE MEET LETTER

The Almighty RCS,

I appeal to your mercifulness. I humble myself before you, to the lowest of lows, that of a derelict climber without membership in the Highest of Highs, the Almighty RCS. I beg your forgiveness for ever leaving the Section. Climbing the last few years unaffiliated has left my life wanting and unfulfilled.

Please allow me to be reinstated so I may climb with the Greatest of Greats, the masters of the RCS, who can lead me back on the path to enlightenment. I'm willing to give up my foolish ways, to sacrifice and to give to the Section. If allowed back into the Section I will form the lowest of low members such as myself into a viable and giving force to be known as the Lowly Screemasters.

I make amends. I have membership in the Sierra Club. I include the cancelled check as proof, for those who would doubt. I also have made the required four climbs this year!

Again I beg for your merciful forgiveness.

Jim Endo

(Jim, you are forgiven. Welcome back to the RCS fold.)

CLIMBING LESSONS FROM RANDY VOGEL

Randy Vogel has returned from climbing in England, has some time now to give climbing lessons, and says he has especially enjoyed teaching experienced, motivated RCS climbers. He is a very good teacher; he improved my climbing greatly. His Telephone: (714)992-5787.

MEETING PLACE

After a long and arduous search, overcoming high prices and short hours, the Itchey Foot Cafe is undergoing experimentation as our after-the-Jugelnoos-meeting rendezvous.

The Itchey Foot is just around the corner from the DWP. Our very own Elmer Dill (Stan Klein) gave it three stars for his meal (whatever it was). Rumour is that Stan also offers private meal ratings.

YOSEMITE VALLEY, OCTOBER 9-10

How I became the Yosemite trip leader will never be known. Yosemite trips are not exactly plum trips for leaders. They are usually blessed with late returns, injuries, bivouacs, and camp-ground problems. This trip fit the pattern. The first arrivals inadvertently laid claim to a Wilderness Adventures site, for which this leader apologizes. About 35 climbers signed in each day to assault the granite wonders of the Valley. Glacier Point Apron received its usual onslaught of teams. Jim Endo, in an effort to establish homestead rights, led a party up Harry Daley 2 of the 3 days. The Royal Arches received standard ticket line attention. It was rumored that there were a total of 8 parties on the route on October 10. T & E changed their way to the front of the starting line, completing the climb in one day. T & E followed soon after, but several other parties were sooner after, so they enjoyed a bivouac on top. No bivouac details were available at press time. The Nutcracker, the Sequel, and Lower Cathedral Spire were among the many other routes climbed. This leader enjoyed an exceptionally fine climb on Middle Cathedral, the East Buttress, with Don Ries. It truly is a classic. Tom Jeter and Bob Harvey also climbed the East Buttress. The Sentinel Rock Steck-Salathe party (Shields and Sack) were stopped by an accident on the first pitch. Mike, leading, took a fall, resulting in ankle injuries, an overnight stay, and a hell flight the next morning.

The trip leader was ably assisted by John Peters, who is now knighted as an A/T leader for the RCS. John, you'll be sorry. On the personal side, this trip will be memorable because Jim Endo, a former member and architect of the training manual, rejoined the Sierra Club and was reinstated in the RCS, his letter being published in this issue of the "Magelnoos." I am sure other members who joined the RCS in the same era as Jim will get as much satisfaction out of this as I did. Maybe Al Carlson will find his way back, too. Good Advice Dept: The park bear warnings have been personally validated by this leader; store your food in your car at night. Can you imagine an RCS'er wearing a tie and eating in the Ahwahnee--Nelson willis is bringing a new standard to the Section. Candidates for the Leader's Doghouse Award: Ron Hudson and Greg Vernon, for not returning on time the last day of the trip. Thanks, guys.

-R

RCS ANNUAL CIRCUIS

The Annual Business Meeting on Oct 27 was attended by 24 members and several proficiency rating holders. Only one member was purged, for not having made 4 climbs (Ben Arause). Two were "saved" by last minute checks to the Magelnoos (Kent Withers and Adam Paul, whose Magelnoos subscription was paid by an anonymous donor), two by their letters (Lyle Sams and Cain Finn -- of course Cain's offer of hospitality to RCS'ers visiting Scotland has no part in his retention), and one by a testimonial from a friend (John Halcomb). A new proficiency rating holder, Dave Raymond, has created a design for an RCS membership card that we can use in climbing stores that give discounts to RCS'ers.

Some proposed revisions in the bylaws mandated by the national Sierra Club were discussed briefly and have been sent to all members for study. They will be discussed and revised at the November Magelnoos meeting before being sent to members for a vote (if you couldn't make the meeting, send comments to one of the officers before Dec 10.)

Strangely, all of this year's officers volunteered for one more year, and were duly reelected -- Chair Virgil Shields, Vice-Chair Cathy Randall, and Secretary-Treasurer Darjo Boss. Paul Harris and Kent Withers will be the Training Co-Chairs this year, and McKay Huss will continue as Safety Chair.

Virgil spoke again about the problem of getting leaders for RCS trips and encouraged members to do their share -- go through the A/T process and become club leaders so they can lead for the RCS.

The high point of the meeting was the new Section Awards. McKay Huss walked off with the Bellon High Mountain Award for the most climbing days, for which he got a t-shirt that can be read upside down. Paul Harris won the C.I. Rocksoff Award for his ferocious growling and pine cone throwing that so intimidated the little Yosemite bears that they allowed the team to keep its breakfast and lunch for the next day's climb of Snake Dike on Half Dome. The E.B. Twinkletoes Award went to Virgil for his remarks to a fellow participant -- apparently one of the few still ambulatory -- in the wee hours of the legendary Owens Ridge

CIRCUS cont...

cow chip fire; "You're stepping on the Chairman" a special award was created for Tom Jeter, in recognition of his recent commentaries on climbers of the female gender and their husbands and lovers. He will be given the Real Men Don't Eat Quiche Award some time in the near future -- when he least expects it.

Anyone who would like the full gory details of the meeting should send a ~~card~~ to the secretary.

OVERHEARD AT LUNCH ROCK

It has been suggested that we start a new monthly column in the "Mugelnoos," "Overheard at Lunch Rock." Send to the editor (anonymously if you like) any witty/profound/imprudent statements you've heard on climbing trips. The editor can choose whether to publish none, one, or more than one. This month's candidates;

"If you sit on my lap, the side away from the fire won't get cold."
-- Bob Caswell, Owens Ridge

"I only do what LeRoy tells me."
-- Gergo Koss, Mahquitz

"Nothing is forever."
-- John Orange, Suicide

TRAINING COMMITTEE NOTES

RCS - members and proficiency card holders and hangers on: for fun and wine and leftover lightbeer in your spare time, teach real climbing to real people. Note these dates and plan to be there:

Stoney Point: Dec 19, Jan 9, Jan 22
Rubicoux: Feb 6, Feb 20, Mar 6

Real RCS women are urged to make efforts to get to practice climbs in order to give moral support to women students and to help contravene the rumor that the RCS is about to turn into a mini-California Club.

NOT ASHAMED

I joined the RCS class two years ago and I'm still not a "hard man". Then again, I'm not sure I ever wanted to be one.

Becky Devine

Dear Editor,

Please reply to Becky explaining to her that the possibility of becoming a "hard man" would involve a sex change.

Regards,

Tom.

The RCS now has 75 members, having gained 15 new ones, reinstated 3 old ones, and lost 2. There are 105 proficiency rating holders.

SUMMARY IRIS STATISTICS:

	1980-81	1981-82
number of climbing days	51	57
mean number of members at each practice climb	10	18
mean number of guests and proficiency rates at each practice climb	8	4
mean number of members at each non-practice climb	12	15
mean number of guests and proficiency rates at each non-practice climb	16	13

NUMBERS continued..

Climbing Days by Individual Members, 1981-82 Season:

1. LeRoy Russ	41	7. Larry Tidball	25
* 2. Margo Koss	40	8. John Orange &	
3. John Peters	36	* Phil Thomas	24
4. Mike Baca	32	9. Ruth Carter &	
5. Paul Harris	31	Mike Mulry	22
* 6. Anna Haupt &		Median number of climbs	
Tony Bird	26	per member.....	8

- * 1 of Margo's days was before becoming a member
- * 15 of Tony's days were before becoming a member
- * 16 of Phil's days were before becoming a member

Climbing Days by Proficiency Rating Holders, 1981-82 Season:

1. Jim Bryla	34	7. Sue Mason &	
2. Nick Smith	27	8. Jon Nolte	18
3. Maureen Powers	25	9. Suzanne Dallman,	
4. Kay Emerick	22	10. Bob Oelsner, and	
5. Teresa Casacky	21	11. Phil Rabichow.....	17
6. Michael Williams	19		

Median number of climbs per proficiency rating holder: 10

Note: In counting climbs this coming year: (1) credit will be given only to climbers whose names are on the yellow route sheet as having climbed, and they must also have signed the whole attendance sheet. (2) Those who become members during the year will get credit as members for all their climbing days during the year, including the climbs before they became members. (Look out, everyone -- Jim Bryla, Nick Smith, and Maureen Powers are on their way.)

Margo Koss

Dear Mugelnoos Editor,

Enclosed is a piece of fiction. It is one of the losers from the annual Hemingway contest sponsored by Harry's American Bar and Grill in Century City. The idea of the contest is to write one page of prose in the style of Hemingway, also mentioning Harry's Bar in a pleasant way. The winner receives a trip to Florence Italy. Unfortunately, I didn't even receive a complimentary drink at Century City.

He stood on the ledge leaning against the cold gray speckled granite and watched the old man. He could only look at his hands as they gripped the portland rope sheathed in ice. The hands were strong. They were old hands but they worked the rope like they knew no age. He thought how those hands caught many a fall from high places. The old man was the master and now they were climb-as equals.

He clipped the rope through the carabiners. He could see the old man look at him from the corner of his eyes. The fingers of his hands would bend around the woven sheath and grip tightly the line of life that would make them one.

He thought of sleep. It would creep into him oke a cat looking for a warm place in an overstuffed quilt. A gust of cold air ran down the back of his gore-tex parka sending a chill through his body. The old man watched him shiver.

"Keeps you warm when wet," he spoke, knowingly.

The old man looked up at him.

"Wool," he said. "Keeps you warm when wet."

He stared into the eyes of the old man and even beyond the eyes. He knew that the hands were still able to perform with the dexterity of a marlin tailwalking on the end of a wired line.

"It's your lead," he said, snapping the young man awake. The words froze the air in stillness around the massive granite buttres

Loser...cont.

"I'll have my gorp on top," the youth said with a mock air of cheerfulness. And he began the slow delicate ascent of the airy gendarme.

"Ah-ha. Gorp," the old man chortled. And a pleasant war th seemed to fill his being. He looked to the valley below. He thought of the photographs on the dark wooden walls of Harry's where soon he would take this young novice for his first time, just like he took the others so many times before.

"We will conquer t is peak yet," the youth shouted down, trying to be bold.

"There are no conquerors, only survivors," he said softly to himself.

He held the perlon as it moved steadily through his thick fingers. He could feel the ice forming on it again.

glenn kaplan

PENNY PINNACLE? SOUTH FACE?

The route we had chosen was not, according to the book, a particularly difficult one, but yet, interesting in that no pictures were provided, and only a few lines describing its point of origin were divulged. In other words, we were 'ready' for adventure.

Steven and I found the rock with relative ease. What we were to find out after reaching it seemed to disappoint my friend. Wrong face! The route we had chosen was a good mile and a half around this rock on the other side of the formation!

We were going to yell up at two climbers (male and female) on their way up the formidable North Face and ask them which way was the easiest way to the South Side, but thought better of it and agreed to discover this thing ourselves.

I was beginning to feel a strange energy and could not refute the sensations of being drawn around the rock to what I did not know. Steven was already conciliatory and did not, at first, appreciate my curiosity. But the subliminal has a way of permeating the circumstance and this was no exception. We were happy to get moving at least across if not upwards.

After getting off route twice, getting stuck twice and retreating (one time by rappel for the energetic Steven), and getting caught in brush and slowed by talus, we finally came to what could have been the start of Penny Pinnacle on the South Side of Middle Cathedral Rock.

Hushed in shadows from monolithic Higher Cathedral, we were well into the afternoon, with maybe four hours of daylight left but we couldn't know for sure. We guessed it to be around 2 P.M. and although time was already a factor, we found the route worthy of further inquiry.

What had brought us to this place? Did we belong here? More at hand, were we on route? We had to find out.

Thoughts of loneliness started creeping into my bosom as we set up our anchors and dispatched the rope. Steven was anxious to begin the first pitch, opting for the smaller of the two chimneys. The smaller one, the one on the right, the one with the tree wedged tightly, having fallen God knows how long ago from the notch above-not allowed to res-just sort of hanging there in the middle of the chimney (our chimney?). I tried deliberately but successfully to avoid noticing everything but that first pitch and Steve's progress on it. My eyes would slide away from the route at times to glance at the utter chaos around us. The walls of rotten rock were falling away giving up trees which bent to the pull that grabbed from below no life apparent. The birds we had frightened upon arrival were long gone and I wondered if we were being watched.

"Rock broke the silence as Steven dislodged a small bomb from forty feet above followed by some choice words that were agreeably appropriate if not well-timed. He finished the pitch with spirit and earnest.

Reaching the notch, I congratulated my friend on his fine lead, and for the first time felt at an enjoyable position. Through the notch, we could see clear across the valley to the northeast and to t. Watkins, and the sunshine reassured us. We were still unsure we were on route, however, and made quick steps to investigate further. The next pitch began with an open book twenty feet up and an over-

Penny Pinnacle? cont.

hanging to a boulder that made mantling to the ledge above a matter of aid (#9) Rock. Above, the description fit in a fairly dream-like fashion as we reached what may have been the ledge beneath the summit block. But we found no possibility of a right traverse nor 30 feet face from this position as the block face was fairly unapproachable from our ledge. We were convinced that the access ledge to the traverse below the face must have fallen away at some point in time, erasing the route's finish. It was entirely possible as on that same ledge was a solitary tree with roots that may have aided the collapse. We did not have time for further speculation nor could we savor the moment for more than a moment because, as we had expected, we were losing daylight quickly; and this problem was to be our biggest of the day for the aftermath included four rappels in semi-darkness (the last one from the log in the chimney in near total darkness) and two instances of near stuck rope which aged us a bit.

The next two hours were spent stumbling and fumbling over broken talus in pitch darkness for what must have been the better part of a mile or more to the valley below.

We arrived at the road around 10 p.m. about a half mile from the vehicle we left almost twelve hours before, or was it twelve years? I don't think we'll forget the flashlight next time.

Rick Davis

On..On...

REBUTTAL OF THE "UNDERGROUND GRAMMARIAN" ET AL

This is to rebutt the Underground Grammarian on "Lieback" as well as the renowned "RDM". As senior mountaineer, it's surprising that "RDM" (as Mother of Mugelnoos) allowed herself to be hoodwinked, when she must surely remember what terms like "lieback" actually refer to.

For Mugelnoos readers too young to have experienced dialog between us seniors, here are the real meanings, and origins of terms like "lieback". Take the latter, which described banter between climbers, to wit: "I soloed the Royal Arches sans aid". The lieback: "Marvelous! We did Strawberry Peak's north side and found superb rock!"

RDM mentions "Up Rope". That referred to one of two ropes used: the Up rope was an old, shoddy hawser used for ascents. Since leader falls were avoided at all cost, Up rope condition was irrelevant. Our best one was the Down rope. If one was fortunate enough to make it up, we didn't want to tempt fate by using a poor Down rope.

Brits call down-roping Abseil, which refers to the famous Rapeller Abner Seil of Munich, who climbed only for the sheer joy of the down trip. Down-roping was (and is) quite dangerous; roll was called among climbers thus descending routes. The French and German word Apell (roll call) was used, which later became Rapell due to down-ropers arriving at the bottom, belching much nervous gas while calling for the Apell.

The origin of carabiner is interesting: long before freeze-dry food, we subsisted on carob simmered in beans. What you now call carabiner was a snap-link. What's now called Bivvy derives from privy, and meant a filthy ledge one sometimes was forced to bivouac on. Runners were climbers that developed gastro-intestinal terror. "Belay" referred to favors bestowed by Beah nickergame. EB's referred to "ego bunyons", caused by extremely tight sneakers worn by over-zealous climbers. Friends weren't all they were cracked up to be.

Ski poles! In the old ski-mountainers, we had members who were ski-Krauts, ski-Czechs as well as ski-Poles. No ski-Brits. Ski bindings were the encumbrances used to hold together cracked ankles, shins, knees and wrists. Gadgets holding boots onto skis were called Bear-traps because of the characteristic odor of the old ski-boots worn. Trousers worn by skiers were called Knickers after the German word "Knicken", meaning "sudden break". These sudden breaks, now called fractures, were common.

Other winter terms: crevasse was a carbunkle on the posterior. Ice-screw was a dastardly deed performed on ice. A bollard resulted when bashing oneself with ice-ax. The holes in axe heads came because most mountaineers smoked cigars and needed a place to lodge stogey's druing rests. Crampons were the excruciating cramps developed on ice after hours of Eckensteining on metal foot-fangs. One can go on and on - but to what avail?

Norman Kingsley

Lay Lay Low

I'm not sure how the underground grammarian will respond to Ruth Mendenhall's note on the lieback, but I couldn't take it lying down. It depends on one's prejudices whether to consider a change from Layback to Lieback to be an affectation or corruption on the one hand or a correction of an unfortunate grammatical misconstruct on the other. But it can't be called a recent fad. I can remember discussions or arguments in the mid 40's of the proper nomenclature, with lieback clearly the winner. However my memory isn't too infallible these days so I made a survey of my meager mountaineering library -- the written word is probably a better criterion anyway. Surprisingly or not surprisingly (again depending on your prejudices) lieback seems a clear winner.

The most authoritative source is of course the Tahquitz Guide and this little gem has used lieback since its first edition in 1956. Almost all other guide books concur, among them Roper's Yosemite Valley both 1st edition 1964 and 2nd edition 1971; also the Climber's Guide to the High Sierra (here it is the Roper edition of 1976 since the earlier editions - Voge 1954 and "preliminary edition" 1949 - appear to use neither), Climber's Guide to the Pinnacles (1966), Wyoming Guide (Bonney 1960), Basic Mountaineering (San Diego group Sierra Club 1965), and finally the earliest books I could find - annual of Ski Mountaineering (edited by Dave Brower 1946) and Henderson's Handbook of American Mountaineering (1942). In all my research I only found two books that used layback, the 1st edition of Joshua Tree (Wolfe 1970) and a book by an English climber Charles Evans -- On Climbing (1956). If anyone knows proper usage it should be the English since they know English better than anyone else. But Evans is the only one I found voting for layback.

I'm sure in the more extensive libraries of Nick Clinch or the AAC one could find other examples, but the most authoritative source of all should be Bob Kamp's Guide to the Needles in the Black Hills of South Dakota since it was edited by RDM herself. This book uses lieback.

Chuck Wilts

On...On...

Being only an amateur, the Underground (Overground?) Grammarian must bow to Ruth Mendenhall's historical insight concerning the origins of "layback". Recently introduced to the semantic pedantry of graduate school, ol' U.G. prefers to let sleeping dogs lie or lay or whatever might be proffered -- anything to avoid deep structure analysis of syntax which is the closest thing to acrophobia he has felt in years.

But U.G. would like to turn to simpler matters which apparently need some attention, judging from recent Mugelscript. The last edition featured -- may, regaled us with -- some truly inspired misspelling. We have "grizzley" for "grisly", "negociate" for "negotiate", "forwarn" for "forewarn", "surgen" for "surgeon", "weeklin" for "weekling", "bully's" for "bullies", and possibly "bivied" for "bivvied" (a new word for which precedent has been set by a product name). This is all from the same prolific scribe who tells us more about sex and climbing than we care to ask. Count me as a real climber, TJ, though I'm only a half breed when it comes to being a real man. You see, my father was a man, but my mother was a woman....

(no name...on Gale Drive)
editor

DID YOU KNOW....

The criteria for prestige in the world of backcountry downhill is the creative finesse with which aspirants traverse the edge between control and disaster.

Gordon Wiltsie, Bishop

\$5.....\$5.....\$5.....\$5.....\$5.....\$5.....\$5.....\$5.....\$5.....\$5.....\$5

NOW! to Dove Menkes, 2530 Coventry Circle, Fullerton 92633.

Ski Mountaineers Central Committee Meeting, Oct. 14

The SMSCC held its second meeting of the 1982-3 year at Kathy Crandall's home. Present were SMSCC members: Goebel, Crandall, Fried, VanDalsem, and Balsam; absent: Roberts. Also present: R.J. Secor and O.J. Maloy. The following business was conducted:

- Recommended Sierra Club give priority status to following items from it's master list of national conservation items: a. Nature Protection: 1. Wilderness, 2. Nat'l. Parks, 3. RARE II/release language/USFS wilderness; b. Pollution Control: 1. Clean Air, 2. Hazardous Wastes, 3. Ground Water Pollution; c. Water Resources: 1. Ground Water.
- Chairman solicited nominations be sent to him for awards to be made at forthcoming annual Awards Banquet--Angeles Chapter.
- Updated SMS write-up to appear in Spring Schedule of Angeles Chapter activities.
- Approved in principle the request of Larry Ladd to be permitted to enter notices in mugelnoos regarding his business (he sells climbing and ski equipment), in exchange for discounts to SMS and RCS members.
- Authorized rental of film: "Skiing Down t. Ranier" for Dec.
- Agreed SMS will continue to schedule joint trips with Mother Lode Chapter, corrdinating same with their rep: Pete Yamagata.
- Reviewed LTC Program in the light of concerns expressed by some members recently, principally with respect to effectiveness of the training in relation to needs of sections, rules, vs. policies and frequency of LTC sessions. Jackie VanDalsem, led the discussion, solicited suggestions and will cont. doing so with active members as part of her efforts to help enhance the effectiveness of the LTC program, working with LTC key persons involved
- Reviewed status of by-laws update-project required by Sierra Club and initially reported in July Mugelnoos (SMSCC minutes):
 - 2 year terms and Jan 1--Dec. 31 terms not required for officers.
 - Coincidence of SMS and Club FY not required.
 - SMSCC proposes SMSCC elections be held in Apr, not ar so that main part of ski-touring season can be finished before diverting attention to next year's officers.
 - SMSCC proposes there be 5 members: Ch., V.Ch., Sec./Treas., Outings Ch., plus one at large.
 - A draft has been prepared and is in final edit for circulation to SMSCC members by about 1 Dec. Following incorporation of their comments, goal is to forward to Angeles Ch. By-laws Committee in Dec., and incorporate their comments in a draft for the membership to vote-on in the spring, 1983.
 - Members are invited to submit any specific suggestions promptly to Sec. Lloyd Balsam, 913 Kenter wy., L.A. 90049 by Nov 22!

Lloyd Balsam
Secretary/Treasurer SMSCC

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c/o Dove Menkes
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