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A newsheet published by and for the Ski Mountaineers and Rock Climbing Sections of The Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter since 1933. Send subscriptions & address changes to Dove Menkes, 2530 Coventry Circle, Fullerton, 92633. \$5 /year due in October.

NEW SIS OFFICERS

The new SIS Officers for 1933-34 are:

- Chair - Kathy Crandall
- ViceChair- Andy Fried
- Secretary/Treasurer - Paul Harris
- Outings Chair - Jackie Van Dalsam
- Safety Chair - Mark Goebel
- Chapter Council Rep - Mike Layland

Many and heartfelt thanks are extended to departing Sec/Treasurer Lloyd Balsam, who has put in many hours on revising the bylaws as amended by the Chapter ExComm. Lloyd has continued to serve as Bylaws Chair until final approval has been obtained both from the chapter bylaws committee and from the membership. Thanks are also extended in large doses to Mark Goebel, who has done a fine job as Chair in the past year! We are looking forward to another good year.

The winter schedule is now being made up to be submitted to the Schedule in July. Anyone wishing to lead a trip should contact Kathy Crandall right away. Also, anyone wishing to be Conservation Chair for the SIS. KC

WHERE DID ALL THE SPRING SNOW GO?

Although the trip leader defected to Switzerland, the SIS trip scheduled to Rock Creek on June 4th and 5th went anyway, with Kathy Crandall leading and Mary Gyan filling Mark Goebel's ski boots. Ten folks appeared at the trail head at the designated departure deadline of 7:30, with the goal of a quick jaunt in to camp and an assault on the bowls before the snow began to simulate uncapped applesauce. The trip leader was overheard explaining to an itinerant Australian that "morning clouds like that don't really mean anything in the Sierra" - shortly before all the peaks in the area became whited out. In view of the accuracy in weather assessment, camp was set up before the group left for the slopes. This allowed the snow extra time to turn to applesauce despite the clouds. Clever these redheads! Eventually, the weather cleared a bit and some nice views were garnered - of the scenery and of the remarkable skiing demonstration by Dave Vanderschaft and Pat McCoughy (one of whom claims he can't parallel, and the other of whom claims he can't telemark. Neither seemed to be hampered by these merely mortal limitations.

Rain drizzled down on us just as we started dinner, forcing us to set up the bar in the tent, where the Assistant Leader's personality defects were dissected and helpful advice on self-improvement was cheerfully offered. Fortunately, the rain did not cause a problem and the sun actually shone the next day. We sought the north facing slopes on Sunday, and discovered that mashed potatoes is more descriptive than applesauce for that snow. Remarkably enough, however, it was reasonably easy to turn in and we got in several runs before heading back to camp. Pete Matulavich demoed stem turns in the sun, while Patti Boyer imitated all by telemarking on Randonee's. M. Unge and Walt Rose nosied out early, while Mary determined to follow Paul Harris up to Marroth to see if practicing on Mill's run would teach her to telemark also. (con'd)

Muzelnoos Staff

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NEXT ISSUE: July 19, 1983
 DEADLINE: July 13, 1983

MUGELNOOS MEETING: Third Tues. of
 each month, 7:30pm, Dept of Water and
 Power Cafeteria (Orange Rm) or Auditor-
 ium, 111 N. Hope, downtown LA. Parking
 free. Program, conversation - climbers,
 stiers, & people welcome!

JULY MUGELNOOS PROGRAMCLIMBING IN NEW GUINEA

During the summer of 1982, the Mout
 Kaijende Expedition entered an unexplored
 area of New Guinea in search of new
 and unvisited caves. The expedition
 was composed of international cavers,
 including RCS members, and led by Neil
 Montgomery and Donna Brckowski. RCS
 member Paul Morrill will present a
 slide show on the successes and failures
 of their expedition.

RCS CALENDAR

Jun 13-19 Fresno Dome Russ/Fried
 Jul 1-4 Minarets Korbut-Weberg/Tidball
 Jul 16-17 Tahquitz Korbut-Weberg/Peters
 Jul 30-31 Tahquitz Russ/Koss

FOR SALE

Size 38 EB's - Call Kathy Crandall
 213-794-6491

CHANGE OF ADDRESS, ETC

Mark Goebel
 15421 Van Buren St - #112
 Hayward City, CA 92655

Jackie Van Dalsen
 New Zip code: 90292

Paul Harris:
 New Phone Number 213-452-0696

Randy Vogel - still available for
 climbing lessons at all levels.
 New phone number: 714-338-7054

FRESNO DOME

Individuals winterested in this trip
 should contact the leader for confirm-
 ation and directions. Good trip for
 non-climbers; nice campgrounds. LR

RCS'ers head for Bolivia

The CALYASONA Nevada Sajama (21,425)
 and Nevado Illimani (21,201 ft) expedi-
 tion to Bolivia will depart LAX on June
 25, 1983. The members are Andy Fried,
 Mary Gygar, Joe Wilcox, Jeff Johnson,
 and Horton Johnson. (Id. Good luck!) EJ

NEW RCS PROFICIENCY RATES

James Heger
 5322 Milwood Ave #3
 Canoga Park, CA 91303
 213-794-5342(h)
 213-833-7343 (w)
 213-251-9222 (weekends)

Dennis Yates
 11351 Sylvan St #C
 No Hollywood, CA 91606
 213-769-2056

RCS APPLICANTS

Bill Atkinson and Claude Lane have
 applied for membership in the RCS.
 Anyone with comments on the applicants'
 climbing safety should contact the
 Safety Chair, Leroy Russ. LR

Bucket Drop

The bucket drop will no longer be held
 at Stony Point. This part of the
 training program will be conducted
 elsewhere. LR

And now -

Contrary to a certain individuals (non-
 RCS) written opinion, the use of a
 mechanical belaying tower and setup for
 the instruction of belaying instruction
 and practice of catching a weight, before
 actually having to catch a falling (live)
 climber is well documented in reports
 and books. It was devised by engineers.
 Of course if this individual is willing
 to provide her body for belaying pur-
 poses, I will gladly provide her with
 the training schedule of the next class.
 LR

OVERHEARD AT LUNCH ROCK

Themen of the RCS exchanging recipes
 (JP, LB, & LR).

Nel Otero, after carrying a litter, com-
 plete with body, down the Tahquitz trail
 and back up empty "This trip was a
 slice of heaven.

GUIDED CLIMBS IN THE SIERRA

Climbing guides Alan Ford and Tom
 Carter, who have new routes at Yosemite,
 (including one on El Capitan) to their
 credit - as well as the circumnavigation
 of McKinley and a ski traverse of the
 New Zealand Alps - are offering a summer
 alpine rock climbing experience for
 beginners to advanced climbers.
 Currently planned are trips to Bear
 Creek Spire, Humphreys, Whitney, Lone
 Pine Peak. Private trips can be
 arranged for groups of 4 or more at
 \$50/day. For further information,
 contact Kathy Crandall 213-794-6491.

ROCK CREEK (Con'd)

Two items of concern emerged from the trip. One was that the snow high up had not been warm enough to densify before consolidating, and that this prevented the development of corn on the east side this year. Second, the leaders should screen trip participants more carefully so that they are not always the worst and slowest skiers on the trip - except when there is trail breaking involved!

Kathy Crandall

BULLETIN _ BULLETIN _ BULLETIN

Although snow on the east side has been miserable, a recent rain storm in the Sierra has changed all that. Dave Beck reports that rain up high, at least in the Mammoth area, has knocked down the sun cups and densified the snow, causing spring corn to appear after all. Better late than never! How about skiing Mammoth on Fourth of July Weekend? KC

TIPS ABOUT BLISTERS

On a recent trip, I learned from Gail Wilts that the secret to avoiding blisters when skiing uphill is to loosen the boots as much as possible, rather than tightening them. A trip participant who was suffering horribly tried this approach, and lo and behold, instant end to pain and blisters.

Gail Wilts, by the way, along with Kimberly Walker Carter, are offering a three day intermediate rock climbing course for women in August. Two days of technique instruction, with bouldering in the Buttermilks, will be followed by a day of multipitch climbing. For further information call Kathy Crandall.

RCS FACES FINANCIAL CRISIS

The cost of group sites at Tuolumne and Yosemite is up to \$30/night/site from \$1. Costs are up for the campgrounds in Idyllwild also, and more climbs are scheduled at Tahquitz and suicide than ever before. Therefore, climbers are reminded that they owe \$2 if they use a campsite (\$3/family.) It is likely that this will be raised to \$2/night, so be prepared. As the following trip reports will indicate, the leaders have enough to do without having to chase down climbers for the campsite fees. It is incumbent upon you to find the leader and pay up. This is the honor system, not the "try and get out of it" system. The treasury can't subsidize campsites.

A GOOD CAMPSITE IS HARD TO FIND

Perhaps I should have my biorhythm checked - or the location of the planets? Although I thought I'd kept a rather low profile with the RCS this year, I seem to have managed to draw a lot of verbal - and printed - flak. I thought perhaps a quick run down on the whys and how-to's of campsites might allay people's worries about my short and long term memory banks as well as my anarchistic tendencies.

1. Yosemite/Tuolumne. Reservations for group sites are accepted no more than 90 days in advance for these trips. Our reservation requests were in exactly 90 days in advance. The catch? the RCS is not in exclusive possession of this info. We lost the Yosemite lottery, but won the Tuolumne one - and have two sites for Tuolumne at Labor Day. It is too early just yet for Columbus Day. An aside - had we won the Yosemite lottery, it would have been useful on.,y to Dick DeRusha who has a rubber life boat large enough to sleep in.
2. Joshua Tree. Reservations are accepted far in advance here. We currently have sites for November climbs, including Thanksgiving.
3. Idyllwild. We have three kopitons here, each with drawbacks. A) The state campground is quite desirable, for location and facilities. However, sites are small and must be obtained well in advance through Ticketron during the summer. One can phone and request specific sites (and adjacent sites), but will not be guaranteed getting the requested sites. Moreover, the rangers have been collecting \$3/night for all cars over the allotted 2 per site. Cost through Ticketron - \$7/ni ght/site \$42/weekend.
- B) The county campground. Good location with some remarkably spacious (and flat) sites. Drawbacks: therestrooms are some distance away from the large sites and some people don't care for the campground. Two cars are allowed per site, with

\$1 per additional car (only two tents are allowed per site). At \$6/site/night, \$36/weekend, this is the most economical option.

3) Turkey Creek. Poor location (2 miles from Idyllwild), spacious sites, and good facilities. Reservations can be made up to a year in advance. We will give this campground a shot in August (13 & 14), but it has an added drawback of costing twice as much as the state or county campgrounds (\$40/night - \$20/weekend).

\$5 per additional car, over 12.

In light of general campground pressures on the treasury, a discussion of these options is welcome.

Recent climbs:

Rahquits - April 30. 2 sites were obtained and paid for at state. Climb moved to SE Rahquits. May 14-15. Sites not obtained, as the weather remained unstable, the possibility of a switch guest, the probability of obtaining campsites on arrival in May very high, and the treasury's capability of absorbing more unused sites poor.

Rahquits. May 21-22. This was a last minute switch from The Needles. Too late for advance reservations.

Rahquits. May 23. We lost the lottery. Under water. Campsites were plentiful for those who went anyway.

Rahquits. June 11-12. This climb was added after Part I of the schedule was published. However, after learning of the climb several days in advance, I was able to procure 2 sites at the county campground. The leader, evidently disliking either the sites or the campground, declined to accept the sites and announced that everyone was on his/her own for the weekend.

Rahquits. June 13-14. Three sites at county.

Rahquits. July 15-17. Three sites at state.

Anyone feeling that s/he would be more efficacious in this job is absolutely welcome to it.

Kathy Crandall

MISSE WASHMAN AND RESCUE PRACTICE AT RAQUITS, MAY 14-15, 1933

I thought I was safe leading the second Rahquits climb of the year. However, the trip two weeks previous was rerouted to SE due to snow, leaving me at Turkey Creek with: choose one; (scores, dozens, too many) students and (few, not enough) rope leaders. Eventually everyone was signed out, mostly in ropes of 3. The first climb of the season usually sees a good crowd of students on their first multipitch climb. This, along with wet rock and lingering snow often combine to bring one party in about dark, but wait and see.

Heavy snow on the north side and the desire kept most parties lined up to do the Fingertip, Angel's Fright (snow on first pitch), Frightful Variation of the Brough, and the Maiden. Other more valiant parties headed off to do the Tong Climb, The Swallow, and Somewhere on the Lark. These three parties were all trying to win the honor of Last Party Part along with a group on the Maiden. Virgil thought he had waited long enough to win with a return time of 7:50 am, just beating parties at 7:30 and 7:40. However, a real sleeper pulled through to win at 8:30. This party, who will remain anonymous but whose initials are JK, JG, and DG said they waited half way up their last alpine pitch until they saw Virgil's headlamp back at Lunch Rock before topping out.

Sunday's ranks were somewhat reduced to 30 from 33, AT's 11 hours hauling rope and clinkeres up the Maiden left her arms too worn out to climb. After getting Saturday out of everyone's system, I figured on an early return for Sunday with everyone warned to be back by 8:30, OR TSS. My relaxing at Lunch Rock was soon interrupted by the return of one of the students from the south side looking for the litter.

Flavia Gullet was leading the Left Ski Track about 35 feet out on the first pitch, when she slipped and fell 10 feet above a #3 stopper. The stopper held the headfirst fall after a projecting horn flipped her over while spraining her ankle. Fortunately, this stopper held, for 2 lower placements pulled out due to the upward jerk of the rope caused by the line of the climb. This type of climb requires the use of opposing anchors near the belayer to direct the rope so as not to lift out placements during a fall. This will be the subject of a future safety article.

Other RCS members and students in the area had Flavia on the ground when we arrived with the litter. Much thanks to John Grance, Tel Otero, Scott Bailey, Leroy Russ, Mike Jelf, and James Meyer for helping to carry the litter down. By the way it takes 7 people 2 hours to carry a loaded litter down from Lunch Rock. More thanks to Leroy, John, and James for helping to carry the empty litter back.

NIGHT WATCHMAN (Con'd)

The leader arrived back at Lunch Rock just before 3:00, expecting to be stampeded by returning climbers. However, 5 parties returned after 5:00 with the last two returning at 6:15. My public apology to Stan Klein, but I really did not know the speed with which the two students I put on his rope would drag him up the fingertip Traverse.

Prerequisite for leading at Tahquitz: 4 unread novels per weekend and a strong headlamp. Thanks to Virgil and LeRoy for assisting. Please, members let's be more reasonable about our return times. Larry Tidball (Ed note: It should be clear to all readers why two of the parking places at the campsites are reserved for the Leader and the Asst leader. Please do respect this, never taking the last sites unless it is clear the leaders already are back)

TAHQUITZ; MAY/21-22

Another trip switch - prospective Needles leader, Andy Fried, hearing rumors of snow from the rangers on the spot, transferred the trip to Tahquitz and to the Assistant Leader, Margo Koss. Larry Tidball (not having had enough late nights at Lunch Rock?) volunteered to assist, so the trip went. And went. And went. And went. Two more late nights, compliments of a certain Bird who lures beautiful young women onto epic climbs (beware Virgil - two unplanned bivouacs already may mean he's going for your record). Tony, Linda D'Evelyn, and Blair Margot did jamcrack and Piton pooper Saturday, and Linda and Tony did El Whampo Sunday. 16 people climbed, and fingertip, White Maiden, Jensen's Jaunt, Traitor horn, and the Frightful Variation were ascended with great enthusiasm. Comments like "First Tahquitz climb - lots of fun!" (Bonnie Katayama) abounded. Margo Koss

TAHQUITZ ROCK (6/11-12)

27 climbers enjoyed a breezy day (Sat) of climbing everything from the Maiden to Consolation. Tony Bird continued to widen his 1st place margin for late returns. Out of consideration for this leader, he did return by 6:42 am, minus his glasses, so I guess he was climbing blind. Camping arrangements were reminiscent of earlier years, whereby overnite arrangements were not provided. Will the reservationist please bring us back to the eighties. Students Cal Wong and Katayama provided John Orange with the necessary impetus to make a quick ascent of the Maiden on Sunday, with a change of assistants from Bob Lindgren to Maris Vallhass to Margo Koss. The group (22) continued to enjoy fine climbing weather. Dennis Yates and James Weger fearing the leader's wrath rappelled off Sahara Terror to return by 6:30 (ouch!!). Student Bonner Mendel had her Tahquitz debut on the Finger tip Traverse and could only be restrained from enjoyment. LeRoy Russ

SAFETY TIPS
JUST A MOMENTARY LAPSE
Virgil Shields

While climbing in a popular climbing area not too long ago, my partner took a 25 foot leader fall which should only have been 8 feet. It was determined later that he had accidentally reached down past his last anchor and grabbed the rope which he then clipped into his next anchor. Being in a strenuous section of the pitch, he didn't notice the resulting zig-zag in the rope. Therefore, when pulling up on the rope to clip into the next higher anchor he virtually pulled himself off the rock. One might see a bit of humor in this situation caused by a momentary lack of attention. The consequence though was a serious injury requiring an evacuation.

Rock climbing and technical mountaineering can be safe and enjoyable endeavors. But the potential for serious accidents always exists if we suffer from lapses of attention. It is always important that the climber not only plan ahead but be continuously aware of where he or she is.

LAPSE (Con'd)

Before you move across the rock, you must plan your route. If you fall as a result of this plan, it is more likely to be a controlled fall than an out of control nightmare. If your anchors fail when they shouldn't who can you blame but yourself. Each climber must understand the limitations of their equipment and the importance of reliance upon style and practice. When climbing in unstable terrain be aware of the consequence of ungainly movement and pick your path carefully. And although we may not be able to prevent the rock from falling upon us from above, we should be aware when such a possibility exists and remain attentive.

I used to think I was immune to situations which caused my partner to take a 25 foot leader fall. On a recent climb, though, while liebacking (ed. laybacking? lying back?) up an extremely wet and moss filled crack, preparing to traverse a wet and moss covered face, I looked down and observed that the source of my rope drag was two crossed anchors. Although the 20 foot fall which resulted was due more to wet moss than to rope drag, it reminded me that I must always remain on guard lest a momentary lapse become an unwanted disaster. (This article, along with Tom Jeter's article in May's Mugelnoos, begins a monthly safety column by the RCS Safety committee. Each member of the committee will provide an article, cartoon, drawing, etc promoting climbing safety. Leaders are encouraged to share their safety thoughts and ideas by submitting same for publication. LR)

CALL FOR SAFETY BLOOPERS

When I was an RCS student, the Training committee chairman told me that I would someday reflect on my activities as a learning climber and cringe to think about some of the dumb things I did. This prophecy was fulfilled after one season of climbing.

Our safety guru, LeRoy Russ, has directed me to write one of the Mugelnoos safety articles for next winter. I would like this article to be a collection of confessions from climbers who have innocently violated some basic safety rule and realized luck had spared disaster. E.g. clipping yourself to belay anchors with your pants belt instead of your harness. Keep your write-ups short and anonymous. Send them by December to Don Pies, 4610 130th St., Hawthorne, 90250. Next year's training class will appreciate the inside scoop of what really can happen on a climb and hopefully can avoid duplicating the act.

"COMPLIMENTARY" SIERRA CLUB LIFE MEMBERSHIP DISCONTINUED

The following is an excerpt from a letter received from Club HQ in San Francisco on the above subject: "Several years ago the staff researched the issue of complimentary life memberships and found that an old Board directive had been misinterpreted throughout the years to the point where members were being advised they could receive a complimentary life membership automatically after 30 years of continuous membership. The original directive was intended to cover cases of economic hardship where the person had been a member for 40 years or more. The National Membership Committee discussed complimentary life memberships and has officially asked Group and Chapter people not to promote this class of membership since it is not in the spirit of what the Board intended. In fact, the policy of providing this benefit automatically does not and never has existed. Barbara Lilley

THE MUGELNOOS

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Stamp