

A newssheet 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 Menkes. 2530 Coventry Circle, Fullerton 92633. \$5 per year due in October.

WILDERNESS PERMITS

A frequent topic of conversation among climbers these days are problems with permits. Prior to last summer, climbers could phone up the ranger station and find out if a permit would be available for the comming weekend; then make a reservation for a party and pick up the permit Fri. night as they drove to the roadhead, thus allowing for an early start. Approx 80% of the permits could be arranged this way with the balance held for drop-in.

In an effort to reduce costs, and to be fair to all those requesting permits, a new procedure was introduced (see pages 3&4). The results have been somewhat unsatisfactory. Many people booked permits far ahead so as not to be left out. Often these permits went unused (granted it should be remembered that the weather was somewhat abnormal this season) thus the permits were added to the 50% that were held for same day pick up. How does this affect the climbing community ? A typical weekend climb involves 2 or 3 people leaving L.A. (or some other far away town) after work on Friday. They drive to the roadhead (if they have a permit) sleep in the car or on the ground, eat granola bar in the morning and start up the trail as soon as possible so as to reach their objective, climb, and return to the car early Sunday evening for the long drive home and work Monday AM. As weather snow conditions are important variables, plans are frequently not made more than a week or two ahead of the trip. With the write-in procedure, the turn around time is three weeks. Option number two is to drive up Fri.PM & camp on the lawn of the ranger station, wait in line for your permit-- thus loosing the friday night acclimatization, and insuring a later start, at best--at worst the 400mi plus drive results in the area being "full". A secondary objective may be an option, however climbing is not like hiking, and the secondary objective may be a very poor second. Option number three is to ignore the permit and hope that you don't get caught. Many people are now opting for the third choice, having found the other alternatives unworkable.

If voluntary compliance breaks down, will it then be replaced with forced compliance? Will we see the forest service become an alpine traffic police force looking for violators and issuing costly citations. Would this be a cost effective way of managing wilderness use? Perhaps another policy could be devised that would be workable, equitable, and manageable with limited funds. The need for some changes are clearly indicated, so I wish to put forth some proposals for discussion.

- 1) Return to the old system.
- 2) Issue 50% of the permits by mail as is now done, and let climbers /users arriving Friday night write their own permits out of the 50% held for first come basis. No show permits could be re-issued at 8AM the following day.
- 3) Ranger Stations could stay open 24 hours on Friday night to issue permits (again this would be from the 50% held for first come basis). Permits for Sat entry could be issued after 6PM on Friday. No show permits issued after 8AM on Sat. Permits could be issued from both Bishop and Lone Pine at night for either area with co-ordination by phone. Costs to be made up by closing outlying stations, or closing on Sunday.

MUGELNOOSSTAFF

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NEXT ISSUE:

OCT. 18, 1983

DEADLINE:

OCT. 13,1983

and power Cafeteria (orange Rm.) town LA. parking free. Program, conversations -- Climbers, Skiers, & all guests welcome!

CALENDAR

Ski mountaineers

Oct. 22 SMS POTLUCK (See pg. 5) Rock Climb Section

SEPT. 24-25 Tahquitz:Crandall OCT. 1-2 Owens Ridge: Shields OCT.8-10 Yosemite:Peters OCT.23 RCS Picnic: Shields OCT. 26 BUS. MTG: DWP 7:15PM OCT 29-30Domelands: Vernon=

MUGELNOOS MEETINGS Members are asked to bring 5-10 of their best slides.

SAFETY COLUMN: The Author of the Safety column for Oct will be

RESCUE SEMINAR: OCT 16, led by Tom Jeter.

AAC MEMBERSHIP Anyone interested in AAC Membership can contact Andy Fried, or R.J Secor. Most RCS or SMS Members would Qualify.

VICE CHAIR: Kathy Crandall is no longer serving as V.C. of the RCS. Questions about campsites & picnic should be directed to Virgil Shields. (ed. Thanks-- Kathy did a lot of work-- with few thanks.)

Stoney Point

Many RCS's have been appearing formal leaders and no attendence points--just climbing. There are usually beers at Los Toros after at bouldering sessions at Stoney

Stoney cont; wards for the faithful, however. For info call Kathy Crandall(794-6491), Margo Koss(258-1546) Jim Bryla (701-0702, or Paul Harris (452-0696)

Errata

Last month, I submitted a note urging members of RCS &SMS to break a long and distinguished career of total noninvolvement in politics by voting for a measure to give the Chapter Council Chair a seat on the ExComm. The Chap-ter Council consists of representatives of outings sections. The ballots will be included in the Sept. Southern Sierran. I pointed out that Barbara Reber, a very active SPS'er, was re-fused to be allowed to be nominated to MUGELNOOS MEETINGS: Third Tues.odrun for Ex Comm, because she allegedly each month, 7:30pm, Dept of waterdid not have enough conservation experience (she has since been nominated or Auditorium, 111 N. Hope, down-by petition). I erroneously attributed this refusal to the ExComm rather than the Nominating Committee. While the ExComm did not overide the decision, several members of the ExComm have expressed dismay over the situation and in fact signed Barbara's petition. I still urge a yes vote on this, as it ensures an outings voice on the ExComm. This should not be taken to mean hostility- just beter communication and a finger on the pulse. KC

We have had complaints about the quality of Mugelnoos repro. Sometimes (Aug) we can print an issue-but we can't afford to do this all the time. OCT MEETING. POTPOURRI OF SLIDES! We'll look in to ways of improving the quality (includeing raising the dues). If you have any constructive suggestions contact Dove Menkes. Also if anyone has access to schools which may be able to print for us please let us know.

> OCT 29-30 CLIMB AT DOMELANDS Rockhouse area: Leader G. Vernon Asst. V. Shields.

Kern River Canyon Climbing Guide Needles, Dome Rock, Kernville Rock. \$15.00+\$2.00 Postage; Bigfoot Mountaineering, 2594 Brundage Lane, Bakersfield, Ca 93304 New Pricelist: Fred Camphausen 524 W. Graff, Ridgecrest. "Fire"boots \$64.

FOR SALE: 2 North Face 'Northstar Tents' (4 man) used on one expedition. \$450 ea. Contact; Alois Smrz 823-8628 after 5pm. RCS Class; Members recommending students for T.C. must have the names to LeRoy by Oct. PHIL RABICHOW has applied for membership. Any comments should be sent to Safety Chair by Oct 10. (L.R.)
SAFETY CHAIR would like to thank members

300

INYO NATIONAL FOREST MT. WHITNEY RANGER DISTRICT 1983 VISITOR PERMIT PROCEDURE

A Wilderness Permit, now called a Visitor Permit, is required whenever you enter the John Muir or Golden Trout Wilderness Area. A separate permit is required for each trip. Permits are free of charge. The following procedure to obtain a visitor permit is standard for all Ranger Districts of the Inyo National Forest.

Quotas, which limit the number of people entering daily at a trailhead, are in effect on most trails from May 1 to October 31. Quotas apply year-round for trails in the California Bighorn Sheep Zoological Area. Many trails in the Golden Trout Wilderness do not have quotas. The quotas apply only to overnight permits.

RESERVATIONS: Approximately one-half of the daily quota will be available for reservations. The remainder of the trailhead quota will be available on a firstcome/first-serve basis the day of the hike, with the exception of the Mt. Whitney Trail. The entire quota for this trail will be available on a reservation basis only.

PERMIT APPLICATIONS: Phone reservations will NOT be accepted. Applications to reserve a permit will be accepted by mail or in-person beginning March 1. Any application postmarked before March 1 will not be accepted; it will be returned unprocessed to the sender. To insure fairness, all applications postmarked March 1 will be opened first, then March 2, and so forth through the month. Allow approximately the sender. mately three weeks for applications to be processed. In-person applications will be dated and processed with the mail of the same postmark date. For popular trailheads or busy summer weekends, we suggest you list at least three alternate trailheads and/or starting dates. This will reduce any delay in processing your application should the quota already be filled for your first choice. Trips starting on Sunday through Thursday dates have the best chance of receiving a permit due to less demand on these days. A written confirmation of your reservation will be mailed to you.

PERSONAL PICK-UP OF RESERVED PERMITS: Reserved permits must be picked-up at the Ranger Station in Lone Pine (located on the east side of Highway 395 next to the high school). Permits may be picked-up 24 hours in advance of your trip, but no later than 8am on the first day of your hike. Reserved permits will be available to hikers arriving after office hours in the self-serve information station outside the ranger station. Permits not picked-up by 8am will be re-issued first-come/first-serve.

FIRST-COME/FIRST-SERVE PERMITS: Hikers not able to obtain an advanced reservation may still receive a permit as only one-half of the quota is reserved. These permits will be issued the day of the hike. In addition, a few permits may be available after 8am each day from uncollected reserved permits. Reminder - the Mt. Whitney Trail quota is reserved on a 100% basis. Past experience indicates hikers should not plan a trip without first obtaining a reservation.

MAY 1 to OCTOBER 31 - RANGER STATION OPEN SEVEN DAYS A NEEK. OFFICE HOURS:

May, September, & October: 7am to 5pm

June through Labor Day (9/5): 6am to 5pm November through April: 8am to 4:30pm Open Monday - Friday

DREST SERVICE

MAIL APPLICATIONS TO:

MT. WHITNEY RANGER DISTRICT P.O. BOX 8; LONE PINE, CA 93545

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: (619)876-5542

ORGANIZED GROUPS: Parties of ten or more are considered organized.

JOHN MUIR WILDERNESS - No more than 1/3 of each daily quota can be reserved by organized groups. Please check over the trailhead quotas listed below so we can accommodate your group's reservation. When party size only slightly exceeds 1/3 of the quota, the Forest Service is willing to work with groups to try to accomdate their plans. Should this not be possible, we will be glad to help group leaders plan an alternate trip.

GOLDEN TROUT WILDERNESS - On trails without quotas, the maximum group size is 25.

QUOTA PERIOD OTHER INYO NATIONAL FOREST TRAILHEADS: JUNE 15 - SEPTEMBER 15.

MT. WHITNEY RANGER DISTRICT TRAILHEADS

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COTTONWOOD PASS	5/1 - 10/31	40	20	20

SMS POTLUCK ******** SMS POTLUCK **********

All ski mountaineers, would-be ski mountaineers, former ski mountaineers, and the general public, regardless of ski and binding denomination, are invited to participate in the annual potluck and trip planning festival. This gala event begins with assembly at Kathy Crandall's house at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 22, at which time carpooling will be arranged for a grueling hike up an undisclosed peak, to be arranged depending on fire closures and Mark Goebel's fitness campaign. See front of Schedule for equipment requirements. Food can be dropped off at this time, or you may join the merriment at about 5:00 p.m. when the weary wanderers waddle back, whetted for liquid resuscitation (showers). Arms will then be twisted to elicit innovative and powderful trip ideas, and the leaders thereof. Then dinner will be served:

A-H: salads I-O: desserts P-Z: main courses Other: paper plates

There will be a \$3.00 donation to cover fluids and dry goods. For further info: Kathy Crandall, 1025 E. Woodbury Rd, Pasadena, 213-794-6491.

CONFESSIONS OF A SUMMER SKIER

Back in early July, this writer pushed the ski season into Summer by taking one last ski trip to Mammoth. It had been a long season, starting way back in November, and that last trip would have to hold me until new snow came again. For even with a deep snow pack in the Sierra, thoughts of a "12-month-season" faded quickly as sightings of Bottomless-Sun-Cups were soon reported. Drop a tip into one of those and you are finished. Surely such pits are the work of the devil; obvious devices for intrapment. Thus I was convinced, the time for other activities had come. Even if a few smooth patches did exist, getting there would involve much hiking with those long sticks on the back. A rather foolish thing in Summer. What would people think? If only skis could be folded and stowed out of sight in the rucksack.

During mid-August, with not a thought of skiing, a friend and I escaped from the heat and humidity, and took a day hike upon the slopes of Mt. San Jacinto. We were traversing Fuller Ridge, enjoying the pines, flowers, and cooler breezes, when suddenly, through a break in the trees there appeared Mt. San Gorgonio and what appeared to be several large snow fields on the south slopes, just below the summit!

At first we thought it impossible, not in So. Calif. after all this heat, and especially not on a south slope, but after rubbing our eyes we were sure. Now these weren't just snow patches, but BIG ones, at least for August, and that old ski-for-12-months idea was born again.

The following weekend, monsoon rains cause a Sierra climb to be cancelled, and I conveniently suggested a Sunday hike of San Gorgonio. I would bring skis. As witnesses and in support were Bill & Gisela Kluwin, and Mary Gygax. With Mary and Gisela setting a fast pace, we were on top in 4 hours, and surprisingly few people along the way even bothered to comment on the seemingly out of place skis. Guess you really have to be wierd to get a comment these days, or those skis left them speechless?

Approaching the summit, the skiing prospects were mostly on rocks and snow just a vision, but then the snows appeared and all was saved. The first run was exploratory with wide turns, but from then on, parallels and telemarks. The snow was firm and soft in the right places, pink in others, and just enough for some fun and a yahoo. Even excitingly steep in spots. Not bad for August! As for September and October, you never know what may appear on distant mountains.

Mark Goebel

BOLIVIA

Andy Fried, Mary Gygax, Horton and Jeff Johnson left LAX june 26 with high hopes of climbing Nevado Sajama 21,425' and Nevado Illimani 21,201'. After making one attempt on Sajama, and two attempts on Illimani reaching near 19,000' and somewhat over 20,000' respectively, we ran out of time and returned home near the end of July. We had problems right from the start, bad fuel, low snow making for more blue ice work, the glaciers were in a dangerous condition, the hard ice would fracture when an ice screw was placed, late starts, and one tent burned in a gasoline fire. All added up to no summits reached. The expedition was still fun "at times" and instantial to the starts of the starts. times" and just maybe we can return some day and finish the job. (HJ)

Suicide Rock, Aug 13-14
Threats of weekend rains apparently discouraged all but a handfull of climbers at the Aug. 13-14 Suicide climb. Those who tempted the chancy weather were rewarded with cool temperatures and mostly sunny skies. Routes climbed covered the entire rock from the favorite Little Murderers ers on the north side to 5.10c crack climbing on the south.

Weekend awards were earned as follows: "Alphabet Soup" award goes to Kathy Crandall for confusing, abusing, and misusing route names. One of her favorite climbs was Duck Chowder (where was the underground grammarian when we him/her). The "Keeper of the quiche" award went to the leader for partaking in an intensive day of relaxing at the base of the Weeping Wall. There was a tie for the "Warren Harding" award between the parties of Bryla, Crandall, and Champman on The Jackal, and Paul Morrell and Harvey on Valhalla for siege climbing (alternating lead climbers to push leader protection higher and higher when attempting an extremely difficult route). And Miguel Rodriguez should be given special credit for the Direct Route on Half Dome.

Bob Harvey and Paul Morrill were on their way up the trail for a late afternoon 5.10 stroll as we decended for the trailhead on Sunday. Just as we reached the car, a downpour drenched everything. Being experienced mountaineers, Bob and Paul were at least carrying the proper bivouac gear-an ice chest with the six essentials.(DP)

RCS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Yes, once again its time for that most grandiose of all events, the RCS Business Meeting. On Oct.26, 7:15 PM in the Cafeteria of DWP, lll N. Hope St. L.A. The course of the RCS for the coming year will be established by those members in attendance. Others who are interested in the functioning of the RCS are invited as observers. Featured at this meeting will be the election of new officers, the presentation of RCS awards, and the planning of our 50th anniversary occuring next year.

An election committee composed of Don Havens (714-642-8653) and Alois Smrz 213-823-8628) has been established. If you are interested in running, or would like to recommend someone, please contact the above. A copy of RCS officer job descriptions can be obtained by sending a large SASE to the Sec-Treas.

The Awards consist of the awe-inspiring C.Y. Rocksoff Memorial Award for that RCS member who has gone beyond the limits of rationality to show that he (or she) is truly a hard-person. There will also be the Hell on High Mountain Award for the RCS member who has managed to out-attend all others on RCS climbs. And finally the E.B. Twinkletoes Award willbbe presented to that member who has unintentionally perpetrated the most outragious activity on an RCS climb. Last year the lucky winners were the recipients of \$15 gift certificates for a meal at the Chart House in Idyllwild. Who knows what lurks in the pot for this year. The winners will be voted for by those members in attendance at the business Meeting.

AND NOW A WORD FROM.....

Alas, Just when it appeared that The Mugelnoos was well on its way to editorial reputability, a glaring specimen declasse infects the text of an unsuspecting climb leader who knew no better than to trust the sign-in sheet comments of our worst past offender, who, in the best of traditions, shall remain forever nameless. The word is "ignominious", fellows, with a variant spelling "ignomious" recognized by the Oxford English Dictionary, but nowhere, repeat nowhere, in the tradition of Anglo-American literati does "ignominous" appear. Need we say more? (The Underground Grammarian)

IN THE "THRONEROOM" OF THE MOUNTAIN GODS

Preparing oneself for a trip such as climbing Mt. McKinley involves much planning and practice. There were six in our party, and we were all committed to working together as a team. We all attended a five-day ice and glacier workshop at Mt. Baker; we went on various shakedown climbs to test new equipment and techniques such as building snow caves, igloos, coordinating our movements as rope teams in snow travel, and learning to haul sleds. There was one technique, however, that none of us really wanted to think about, much less practice: complying with Denali National Park's requirement for disposing of waste other than trash.

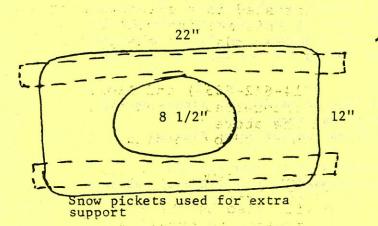
On our last practice trip to the Mammoth area, one of our team members, Mel Johnson, pulled a 30-gallon plastic trash bag out of his pack, dug a hole in the snow, pushed the bag in, stood there with a grin on his face and said, "Who's first." We all looked at each other, pretending that we had no idea what he was talking about; thus he became the first "test pilot." I say pilot because the average plastic bag "john" ends up with someone flying into it.

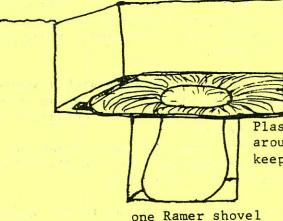
After several uses of the plastic bag, we tried to assess the pitfalls of this waste disposal system at the -20 to -30 degree temperatures we would experience on McKinley. We decided that if we could make the commitment to spend \$10,000 on climbing equipment and clothing to insure our physical comfort and well-being, we could make the solution to the "sitting" problem a priority.

Mel, an engineer by trade, took it upon himself to design a seat. At the close of our next weekly meeting, Mel brought forth his creation: a 12" x 22" piece of 1/2" laquered plywood with all the rough areas sanded smooth, all the edges rounded and an 8 1/2" diameter hole in the middle (he has yet to reveal the person or persons measured to determine the correct hole size). Any other one of us would have been satisfied with this comfortable, smooth seat just as it was, but not Mel. To ward off frostbite, he lined the whole seat with a 1/2" EVA foam pad rated to -90 degrees. As if all this was not good enough, the seat was designed to fit snuggly in the bottom of a sled with no chance of it falling out and sliding into a crevass (a fate almost as bad as losing one's iceaxe).

With hundreds of people climbing the mountain yearly, McKinley is a hygienic nightmare, creating the need for the "plastic-bag-in-the-crevass" requested by the Park. Our seat provided the easiest, safest and most comfortable way of dealing with the problem.

MA 1983 Denali Turkeys Expedition





Plastic bag wraps around entire seat, keeping it clean

one Ramer shovel

AND FROM THE AAC NEWS:

The twenty-one First Families of the Swiss resort of Zermatt claim that the vertical real estate of the Matterhorn (all 14,690'of it) belongs to them. "Our families finished buying it in 1618 and nobody is going to take it away from us," said Othmar Julen, president of the town's burghers, in an interview published in the Sunday Times Magazine of London (Feb. 6). Julen is appealing a court ruling that title to the mountain belongs to the municipality as well as to the twenty-one families. Concern about property rights to the Matterhorn was minimal until ski lifts, huts, and a cable car, all of which are controlled and financed by the burgers, began bringing 8000 skiers a day to the lower slopes of the mountain.

Mountainfilm 83
Telluride, Colorado. Last years guest of honor was Gaston Rebuffat, Held over Memorial Day Weekend this was the 5th year. If you are interested in 1984 write to Mountainfilm, P.O. BOX 1088, Telluride Co.81435 or call 303-728-4123.

RCS PICNIC

lis years RCS picnic and general blow-out will be held on Sunday Oct. 3rd at Big Rock, starting about 8:30 AM. The picnic is a pot luck affair ith all liquid refreshments provided by the RCS. All participants must ring a dish to share with others. If your last name begins with A-M you just bring a main dish. N-Z bring a salad or a dessert. For those rare individuals whose talents lie in one or the other categories they are allowed to switch sides. Other Sierra Club members who contribute sufficiently to the pot luck are invited to attend. For more info. contact Virgil Shields (213)798-9621H, (213)354-2607 w.

Mt. RAINIER - JUNE 25-JULY 1

A group of nine climbers arrived in Seattle on June 25th to climb Mt. Rainier. The group consisted of: Ann Bender, Jack Duggan, Stan Gelb, Paul Ivanushka, Bob Ooten, JaY Wulfow, Brooke Roberts, Phil Marquez, and myself.

At the airport we threw all of our gear into two rented station wagons and, springs protesting, we headed towards Paradise. The sun played hide and seek behind the clouds, but no sign of rain. Arriving at Paradise Inn we quickly commandered the bar and checked the weather report, which called for clearing weather.

The next morning we assembled at RMI for a crevasse rescue seminar. The class was held on the Nisqually glacier and was fairly informative. The interesting part of the class was watching the 'experts' run back down the slope when it started pouring on us because they were only dressed in cotton clothes, leaving the 'students' behind with their rain gear. We hiked back to the inn and proceeded to hang our soaked gear in our rooms, while we proceeded to soak in the bar.

The next morning we drove around to the other side of the mountain to make our climb via the Emmons-Winthrop glacier route. After some delay due to a confusion over registration requirements we started off down the 'road', which consisted of a mile of bottomless, gooey mud, with spring runoff flowing down the middle. With our boots waterlogged we eventually reached the former campground and started up the Glacier Basin trail.

Before long we were roped up and travelling on the glacier. We reached Camp Schurman at 8:00 P.M., set up camp and were told by the ranger that a front was coming in the next day. At 1:00 A.M. we awoke and looked outside. The sky was clear, so we decided to make an attempt on the summit. We quickly loaded our packs and headed up. With a full moon we were able to find our way quite easily without headlamps and rapidly made progress. At 11:00 we reached the bergschrund and encountered a stong wind coming off the top. By noon we were on the summit.

A heavy cloud cover was quickly approaching so we did not linger on the summit for any length of time. As we retraced our steps back down the route the cloud cover descended with us, making route finding difficult at times.

We arrived back at Camp Schurman and settled in to wait out the rain. The next morning the rain stopped and allowed us to break camp and head down the slope in a heavy fog.

We were soon back in the forest where the rain started to come down in earnest. At 11:00 we threw our wet, muddy gear in the cars and headed out. We were tired but content in the fact that we were fortunate to hit a window in the weather and were successful in accomplishing our goal.

-Claude Lane

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