

THE RUGELINOS

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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 1938. Send subscriptions & address changes to Dove Menkes. 2530 Coventry Circle, Fullerton Ca. 92633. \$5 per year due in October

RCSers Go To Church

Over the Fourth of July weekend, small bands of climbers broke with tradition and sallied forth to Church on Saturday and Sunday. Surviving the trials of rotten rock, they were rewarded by having put up two undocumented (if not totally new) routes on Church Dome. Other, less pious climbers put up new routes on less sacred formations: Rockhouse Peak and Chickenhead Dome. The name of one of the new routes on Church Dome aptly reflected the quality of the rock: Waste, Fraud, and Abuse, 5.8, (this same individual called a new route on Rockhouse "Immaculate Conception", 5.7, because of the purity of the rock). Foreigner's Route, 5.7, on Chickenhead (a.k.a. RCS) Dome was put up by two such chauvinists who also established Long Leg Pinnacle, 5.7. The other new route put up (also on Chickenhead) was Deserted Dihedral (5.6) by a duo neither foreign nor religious. A large contingent assaulted Aqua Man on Bart Dome over the weekend while others enjoyed the two domes within 1/2 mile of camp. There was also a 5.1 swimming hole at the base of one of the domes close to camp - no 5.1 swimming was observed but the quality of sunbathing was high.

As a substitute for the planned Minarets trip, the contrast was quite pronounced. Rather than a long approach, tenuous river crossings, permit hassles, and snow, it was only 4.5 miles to camp, small streams, no trailhead quotas, and dry trail. The quality of the climbing was high with the easiest route cited being 5.6 although most climbers were only a few pitches rather than the many pitches one would find in the higher Sierra. Rather than camping on snow with everyone hiding in a sleeping bag early, the evening campfires were well attended (after all, there was plenty of wood, booze, and Tony Bird with his guitar) and some of the climbers were classy enough to have warm showers, fresh fruit, and in one case, two racks. Only a small number of persons would have gone into the Minarets while 18 persons went into the Domelands Wilderness for a lay-back weekend.

Andre Korbut-Weberg

Tahquitz 16-17 July

An almost uncontrollable hord of climbers, 39 strong, signed in Saturday - as the last person to sign in left a diamond studded gold pen but no phone number, if anyone knows him, please contact him and let him know his pen is not lost. The only information known on this climber is

name: Nick Dibblewitz
address: 405 S. Deathroad Ave.
Trans. 96435
home phone:
emerg. phone: X

and he indicated he was a proficiency card holder. He did not sign out on a climb. With the exception of Angel's Fright and Fingertip Traverse, the various groups spread out across the rock with the most ambitious climbers being Lees and Koenig (Switchbacks and Fitschen's Folley) and Bryla and Mulry (Human Fright and Inominate). The "Most in Love With the Route" award must go to Carter, Powers, and Burger for spending over 15 hours on the roadhead-to-Lunch Rock-to-White Maiden-to-Lunch Rock-to-roadhead loop; runners-up for this award were Jeter, Jeter, and Casacky for North Buttress (an 8 hour loop from Lunch Rock).

The strenuousness of Saturday (or perhaps it was Saturday night) took its toll as only 17 climbers signed in Sunday. Again the climbers spread out over the rock (except for Angel's Fright) so everyone was back at a reasonable hour. The most ambitious climb was Open Book by Harris and Koenig and to Lunch Rock by the leader.

A K-W

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Deadline: Nov, 10, 1983
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MUGELNOOS MEETINGS: Third Tues. of
each month, 7:30pm, Dept of Water &
Power Cafeteria (orange room) or
Auditorium, 111 No. Hope, down-
town LA. Parking free. Program,
conversations--Climbers, Skiers,
& all guests welcome!

C A L E N D E R

Ski Mountaineers
Oct 22 SMS POTLUCK call Kathy
Crandall 213 794-6491

Rock Climb Section
Oct.23 RCS PICNIC: SHIELDS
Oct.26 BUS. MTG:DWP 7:15pm
Oct. 29-30 Domelands: VERNON-SHIELDS
Nov. 5-6 J-Tree: MUNDWILER-ERB
Nov.25-27 J-Tree:MOORE/MUNDWILER

RCS PICNIC

We would like to especially welcome
this year's students Oct. 23 at
Big Rock. A-M bring main dish,
N-Z bring salad or dessert. Call
Virgil(213)798-9621H or 213 3542607
if any questions.

OVERHEARD AT YOSEMITE: " This
is the first day of climbing
that I haven't had my period".

FUTURE EDITORS NOTE: All Sept.
issues Mugelnoos that had the
rescue seminar flyers inserted
were returned to the Mugelmailer
for additional postage. 20 cents
will cover 4 sheets max. DM

FOR THE RECORD

1969 remains the all-time champion
snow year in the Sierra, at least
south of Tahoe, but 1983 came very
close; several recording stations
including Tioga Pass did exceed 69
though. Snow fell above 8000 ft the
end of Sept. Will 84 be another
El Nino winter? BJJ

THIS IS OCTOBER.
RENEW MUGELNOOS SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW.

VOTE URGED IN ANGELES ELECTIONS
Mugelnoos readers who want to make
sure their vote really counts in
the upcoming Chapter elections can
mark their ballot for just one per-
son: Barbara Reber. In addition to
what has been mentioned in recent
issues of the Mugelnoos, Barbara
is interested in both outings and
conservation and is a leader and
active member of the DPS, SPS, and
HPS. BJJ

BEN CHAPMAN and PAT WALLIN have
applied for membership. Any
comments should be sent to the
Safety Chair by Nov.10. LR

MIKE MULRY sends news from Aspen-
all good. His address is P.O. BOX
1122 Carbondale CO 81623 KC

FRANCES CHOLEWA is alive and very
well in Bishop. She is making
wonderfully sensuous pots; has an
accomadating back yard and would
welcome old friends. Her address
is Brookside Trailer Park# 11
Rt. 1, Box K-32 Bishop CA 93514
(619) 872-1709 PH

LOST AT YOSEMITE
1 camp stool. Call John Peters at
(213)545-3706

The new membership roster is being
printed soon. Anyone with changes
of adress, phone no., etc. please
contact Margo prior to the bus mtg



Lesson one, Olaf, Don't hug the rock!

DOWN WITH PERMITS

It's me again, breaking silence (some of your readers will probably call it "breaking wind") (or, as my three-year-old son says, "The sound like a burp coming out of your bottom"). Commenting on Andy Fried's essay on wilderness permits, I offer a fourth solution to the three Andy lists, namely, junk the whole system. I know this is damnable heresy, but what the hell, maybe it is time to modify the excesses of Sierra Club wilderness policy. Maybe it is time to recognize that the enemy is ourselves, or at least that group of us which form the fanatical preservationist element which has pressured the Forest Service into making it more and more difficult for us lovers of the mountains to visit our beloved objects. Yes, I know, simple solutions for simple minds. On the other hand, there are a lot of us, and we need love too.

Consider:

1. The purpose of Wilderness Areas is to preserve the Wilderness Experience. We used to think this would work because Americans hated to walk. We were wrong. We underestimated our fellow citizens. They need the wilderness experience too, and were willing, hundreds of thousands of them, to walk to get it.

2. The list of prohibitions in a Wilderness Area, including, "Thou shalt not enter", effectively robs the visitor of any genuine wilderness experience. He is subject to citation for camping too close to a lake. If he is in the area sans permit, he feels like a hunted man (and is). I am not saying that most of these prohibitions are not a good idea, in terms of what we ought not to do. It is just that making them laws is basically incompatible with camping in a real "wilderness" (e.g.- the Canadian wilds of the Northwest Territories).

3. Since, because of over-regulation, we are not now having a "wilderness experience" in a Wilderness Area, let's scrap the quota system and let the government agencies stop handing out passes and policing the wilderness, and rather let them maintain the areas and help us enjoy them. Sure, some areas will be a bit crowded; so what? Walk a bit further and leave them behind. I recently made a descent of the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne, an area of Yosemite Park where a rigorous permit system is in force. In two days and 30 miles, we saw fewer than 24 persons. And this in high season (August).

Let's admit we made a mistake and start agitating to get permits out of the wilderness. Down with quotas!

ROYAL ROBBINS

MORE ON WILDERNESS PERMITS

Although the Wilderness Permit/quota system (which is, of course, supported by the Sierra Club) appears to become more restrictive each year--for example, campfires are now prohibited above 10,000' in nearly all of Kings Canyon-Sequoia Park (something which will probably take a fleet of helicopters to enforce!)--it, like other bureaucracies when once entrenched, is probably here to stay (witness the BMT). However, it can be hoped that Forest/Park authorities, at least, will be somewhat flexible and willing to consider comments and suggestions from the public and Mugelnoos readers are urged to write lots of letters during the coming winter months.

In addition to the items mentioned in the September Mugelnoos, other suggestions might be (1) accept phone calls for reservations for the coming weekend on Monday thru Wednesday when hopefully they will not be as busy; (2) provide a slip on the outside of envelopes containing permits to be picked up after hours, on which the actual number of people can be recorded and then left behind to cover last minute dropouts; (3) have weekly as well as daily quotas, starting with Sunday, with any "left-overs" to be given out the following Saturday when job requirements force most people to begin their weekends (4) eliminate permits for day use only (the NPS does not require these) and (5) include warning notices with each permit about the trailhead automobile break-ins.

On the subject of the latter, the Owens Valley is becoming about as bad as Hawaii, altho break-ins occur on the west side of the Sierra as well. It is inevitable--if you haven't been hit yet, you will be. Anything down to a \$2 flashlight is likely to be taken. Leave everything possible at home, mark all possessions with ID number (such as driver's license), take oldest clothes/shoes for car use and consider stashing items of even modest value in a secure place far from the end of the road. Don't consider your trunk safe but do lock your car; this makes the crime of automobile burglary a felony. Report your theft and again--letters--to the L.A. Times and to the Invo Register, Box 787, Bishop. With enough publicity, Owens Valley people who depend on tourism might be persuaded to establish better security arrangements for their visitors.

WHICH WAY IS DOWN?

Recently I was reminded, why I will not say, of the evening when the Hero Of A Thousand Bivouacs ascended Turtle Rock at Joshua Tree and led the benighted out of darkness and error.

This is not about the means, but about the where and how of down.

(Of course we've all practised rappel by match-light & of course we all have the sense to take a garbage bag and a sandwich on a long climb on a rainy day so we CAN get back from where? to here.)

Before you go up, read research ask. How do you get back down? Is it a down-climb, where and how bad (5.6 friction you say)? Is it a rappea, where, how many and how long are they? The rap off Intersection Rock at J.T. will tell you how long your 165 really is. Or a famous Yosemite quote-"we shoulda brought both ropes". If it gets absolutely black should you bumble on or sit down and get out the Snappy Stories (What did the elephant say to the naked man)? Find someone who lived through it.

Yr. reporter needed two trips up the same Turtle Rock to turn the Death Slide Leap into the Devious Down-climb. Paul Harris

YOSEMITE OCT 8-9-10

Even though we had a steady rain until 11:00pm friday nite, 25 climbers showed up on saturday. A mass assault was carried out on the glacier point apron, plus climbs on manure pile buttress and 5 open books, under a variable overcast. Sunday brought good climbing temperatures but visibility dropped to nil at times. Climbs were done on royal arches, glacier point apron, leaning tower traverse, overhang bypass, and nutcracker, with all parties back in camp at a reasonable hour. Claude Lane and Jim Friedberg arrived in camp sunday evening after spending 2 days on the N.W. face of half dome, retreating due to wet conditions on the route. From the valley floor half dome was obscured by clouds most of the weekend. Three parties climbed on monday under clear sunny skies and the trip was concluded at 1:30 with a good time had by all. JP

MSR STOVE RECALL

MSR is recalling all firefly stoves manufactured prior to June 17, 1983. At its expense, MSR will modify the stoves and return them to customers. Two of the stoves components have not measured up under field conditions. High operating temperatures cause failure of the valve stem lubricant resulting in jamming of the valve. The flexible fuel tube will melt if exposed to direct flame, posing a danger. Owners of the MSR Firefly stoves should do one of the following: 1. return your stove to the store where you bought it. 2. Mail it to MSR directly. Your postage will be refunded upon return of your stove. MSR 1222 First Av South, Seattle WA 98134. If you have any questions call MSR collect at (206) 624-7048.

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