

THE MUGELNOOS

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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 and address changes to Dove Menkes, 2530 Coventry Circle, Fullerton, CA 92633. Seven dollars yearly (due now!).

LOCAL SKI SEASON IN EARLY START

The San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains got off to their earliest start with enough skiable snow in recent memory. On November 16 your editor skied from the top of West Ridge on Baldy Bowl all the way to his car, completing his 551st trip to Mt San Antonio. On his 552nd excursion to Old Baldy he was accompanied by another venerable old-timer, Chuck Wilts. They met a couple of Frenchmen at the roadhead on December 7th, and the four of them enjoyed two incredibly fine runs down to the Baldy Hut from the top of the Bowl on near-perfect corn snow. (The two Frenchmen were recruited into the Sierra Club and are looking forward to much activity with the Alpine Ski Touring Committee, after their experience on Baldy.) There appears to be about 18" of ground cover in the vicinity of Baldy Bowl at this writing. The trail to the Hut is completely dry. How about giving Old Baldy a shot ..?

LAST CHANCE TO RENEW MUGELNOOS

Dove Menkes wanted your editor to select some choice motivating (threatening..?) words to induce those of you lazy and/or impoverished citizens who have not yet graced the palms of Mugelnoos with seven bucks for your '86 subscription. Suffice to say, remunerations received after January 5th will result in missing the Jan issue.

N O T I C E

Announcing the formation of the Southern California Mountaineering Union (SCMU) for the purpose of promoting participation and training in rock and mountain climbing. The Union plans an active year-round climbing schedule plus a training course. The inaugural meeting will be Wed., Jan 15 at 7:30 PM at the Griffith Park Ranger Auditorium. Everyone welcome. For more information, contact Michael Feldman at (213) 462-0606.

(RS)

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SICI SICI SICI

"The mountain is named for the Rev. Starr King, who was an invertebrate climber." [From *The Boston Globe*, 25 June 1984. Submitted by B. Goldstein, New Center, Massachusetts.]

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NEXT ISSUE: January 21, 1986  
DEADLINE : January 14, 1986

MUGELNOOS MEETINGS:

Third Tuesday of each month, 7:30  
PM, Griffith Park Ranger Auditorium  
4730 Crystal Springs Drive. Free  
parking, program, fellowship.  
Climbers, skiers, guests are all  
welcome.

C A L E N D A R

Dec 21 Ski tour, Frazier Park  
Jan 11 Cross Country D/hill  
Clinic  
Jan 12 Local Introduce Tour  
Jan 18-19 Needles Snow Camp  
Jan 21 MUGELNOOS MEETING

N O T I C E

All RCS activities are cancelled un-  
til further notice, while we try and  
solve the Sierra Club's liability  
insurance problems.

SMS PIONEER DIES

Ski Mountaineers Section old-timer  
Walter Hennies, 76, died of a heart  
attack Sep 29 while hiking in the  
Swiss Alps. He reportedly was hik-  
ing up to the hut on the Matterhorn  
when he was stricken. Hennies, who  
helped build the Keller Hut in the  
1930s, was kidded a lot about his  
german accent. To one such dig he  
was remembered to reply, "I don't  
say 'wope', I say 'WOPE'". (JDC & RDM)

ADDENDUM TO YOSEMITE TRIP WRITEUP

How could I have forgotten -- we  
had an Australian guest on the  
trip, Adam Darragh, an excellent  
climber and good company, too. He  
extended an open invitation to any  
RCSers who visit Australia to look  
him up. John Orange has his ad-  
dress. (MK)

MONT BLANC CLIMBED BY BIKE

For the first time in history Mont  
Blanc (4807 meters) has been  
climbed by bicycle. On September  
14, 1984, two Dutch alpinists,  
Jaap Lampe and Erik Pootjes,  
reached the summit using a Giant  
Mountainbike. The mountain bike,  
or "All Terrain Bicycle", made it  
possible to ride in very rough ter-  
rain and even in the snow on top of  
the mountain. Lampe and Pootjes  
used the popular route on the side  
of the Gouter hut for their ascent.  
If you would like further informa-  
tion, contact Jaap Lampe, Rombout  
Hogerbeetsstraat 98/2, 1052 XK  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Per-  
haps it's time for some FBA (First  
Bike Ascents) here in the States?  
(Amer Alpine Club News)

SUICIDE ROCK, Aug 24-25

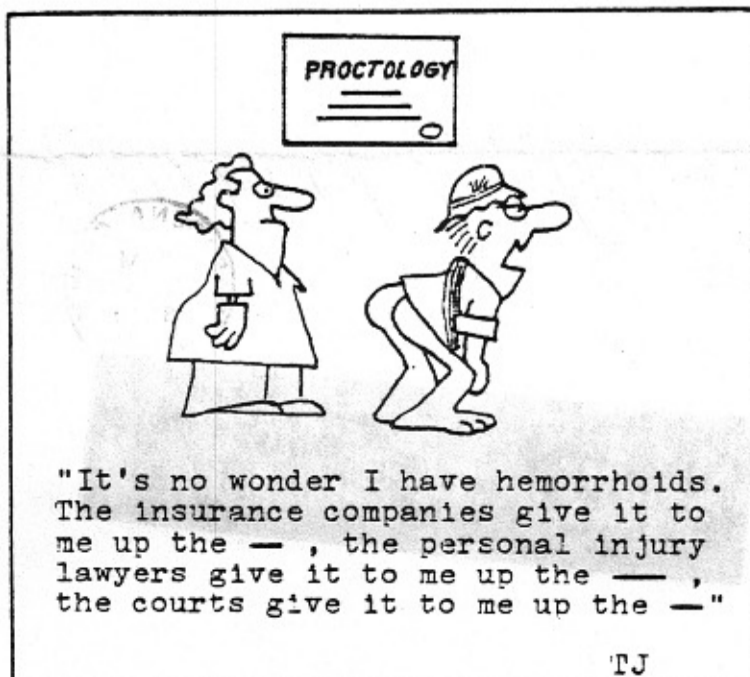
Saturday, it was hot. 12 climbers  
signed in. The heat limited the  
ambitions of some and blistered the  
feet of others. The soft-core hid-  
ing behind the dihedrals at the  
north end of the rock, while the am-  
bitious played on shimmering granite,  
before retiring to the burn wards.  
At dinner it was proposed that:  
accelerated senility is probably  
caused by drinking too much beer  
from aluminum cans. (In the late  
19th century, S. Clemens published  
his discovery that, as for beer,  
too much is just enough. However,  
the question of aluminum transport  
remains.)  
  
Sunday, 15 climbers signed in; just  
as hot. Most sought the illusion of  
coolness at the north end of the rock.  
Sincerest thanks go to Maris Valkass,  
just back from a long trip, for assis-  
ting on Saturday, and to Bob Somoano  
for cheerfully filling in on Sunday.  
(Above from Paul Harris, tho  
not listed as a reporter. Ed.)

by Tom Jeter

Last night I had a dream. I found myself sitting in a courtroom where my RCS pal, Conan "The Barbarian" is defending himself in a civil suite. It seems the plaintiff was hit by a falling rock on a climb, and Conan's liability for this is to be determined. The plaintiff's lawyer carefully screens prospective jurors, and to make sure that each is "in tune with the times" he questions them closely on their television watching habits. To sit on the jury, each must have spent at least a quarter million hours in front of the boob tube (assuring that their brains have been turned into manipulatable mush). To my eyes, the resulting jury of Conan's "peers" looks like a dozen pencil necked geeks dressed in the latest designer clothing as they grin foolishly at each other with Alfred E. Newman "what, me worry" smiles. Between witnesses, the jury members amuse themselves by scratching furiously at California lottery tickets as they chatter excitedly about getting rich quick, and the latest 3 million dollar winner on State sponsored TV. Finally, the plaintiff is on the stand and the plaintiff's lawyer (who majored in Theatre and Drama in college before going to law school) winks at the judge, hands out handkerchiefs to the jurors, and begins the questioning. The resulting testimony is high drama, deserving of an acadamy award, and moves the jury to tears. Suddenly Conan, realizing what is happening, goes berserk, and tries to kick the plaintiff's lawyer in the posterior. However, Conan is subdued by bailiffs and now sits gagged and shackled in his chair, helplessly watching the proceedings against him. The jury deliberates and is ready to announce a verdict - I hold my breath - and wake up in bed drenched in a cold sweat.

Whew, only a fantasy, a bad dream I say, back in the world of reality. Sipping my morning coffee, I get to thinking about my next door neighbor, an elderly Spanish lady who doesn't speak english very well, and lives alone. I used to consider her a little paranoid about our society, with her sticker in the front window reading "The owner of this property is armed - there is nothing inside worth risking your life for". Now I find she really is living in jeopardy, in this case not from a thug as she feared, but from a "friend" who just hit her with a personal injury lawsuit three weeks ago. She related to me that on a trip to a Nevada casino with her "friend", she unwisely had a beer on an empty stomach and was a little unsteady as she walked across the casino floor with him. She may have bumped him, because he fell down and broke his leg. Needless to say, this "friend" who used to visit her 3 times a week, is no longer welcome. Undoubtedly the casino, also named in the lawsuit, is the "deep pockets" target of her "friend's lawyer, but in the process she could find herself out on the street as yet another Orange County Bag Lady. I guess the only thing to do in this day and age is to make sure you have adequate liability insurance, so you don't have to worry! That's strange, I'm wide awake now so why do I still have this cold sweaty feeling ?

"Because something is happening here, but you don't know what it is, do you, Mr. Jones ?" (chorus to Ballad of a Thin Man by Bob Dylan).



# SKI MOUNTAINEERS SECTION

WINTER SCHEDULE  
1985-1986



Date	Location	Leaders
14 Dec	SMS Leader Training	Don Pies/Gerry Holleman
21 Dec	Ski Bagging, Frazier Park	Randy Danta/Doug Mantle
11 Jan	Cross Country Downhill Clinic	Mark Goebel/Kathy Crandall Other SMS Veterans
12 Jan	Local Introductory Tour	Walt Boge/Ed Unge
18-19 Jan	Needles Snow Camp	Andy Fried/Mary Gygax
25-26 Jan	Mammoth Condo Weekend	Owen Maloy/Sy Ossosky
1-2 Feb	Baldy Hut Weekend	R.J. Secor/John Wedberg
7-9 Feb	Ski Mountaineers Training Camp Keller Hut	Mark Goebel/Kathy Crandall Paul Harris
9 Feb	Ski Bagging, Big Bear	Randy Danta/Doug Mantle
15-17 Feb	Pear Lake Hut	Tom Duryea/Mary Gygax
22-23 Feb	SMS Wilderness Ski Race	Don Pies/Mark Goebel
28 Feb-2 Mar	Ski Mountaineers Races Keller Hut	Kathy Crandall/Mark Goebel/ Paul Harris
8-9 Mar	Thor Peak	Randy Danta/Doug Mantle
8 Mar	Night Skiing Mtn High	Eivor Nilsson/Gerry Holleman
9 Mar	Mt. Pinos Local Intro Tour	Pete Matulavich/Andy Fried
15-16 Mar	Baldy Hut Weekend	R.J. Secor/John Wedberg
22 Mar	Local Intro Tour	Mike Layland/Mary Gygax
29-30 Mar	San Geronio	Tom Jenkin/Don Pies
5-6 April	San Jacinto	Pete Matulavich/G. Holleman
11-13 April	Pear Lake Hut	Dick Smith/Kathy Crandall
19-20 April	Sardine Canyon/Onion Valley	Mark Goebel/Andy Fried
26-27 April	Bear Creek Spire	Tom Jenkin/Mary Gygax
10-11 May	Thompson Ridge	Gerry Holleman/Don Pies
17-18 May	Blue Couloir, Mammoth Area	Mark Goebel/June Lane
24-26 May	Bishop Pass Ski Camp	Mark Goebel/Paul Harris
31 May-1 Jun	Tioga Pass/Saddlebag Lake	Gerry Holleman/Eivor Nilsson

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