

THE MOUNTAIN NEWS

No. 656

December 16, 1987

A Four-Page Issue

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 Pat Holleman, 1638 6th St., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. \$7 per year due in October.

MORE ON WAIVERS

Two recent appellate court decisions raise questions regarding the robustness of the waiver used by the RCS. The following are summaries of these two decisions provided by an attorney.

Bennett v. United States Cycling Federation, 87 Daily Journal D.A.R. 4900 (C.A. 2, August 4, 1987).

Plaintiff signed a broadly worded release form required for participation in an amateur bicycle race conducted by the defendant Federation. The form of the release was identical to one approved by the same court in an earlier case [*Okura v. United States Cycling Federation*]. Plaintiff collided with an automobile on the race course, was injured, and sued the Federation for negligence in permitting an automobile on the course. Plaintiff admitted signing the release but contended that he was not warned that automobiles would be on the track and did not contemplate the particular risk of collision with an automobile when he signed. The court held that **the release would be effective only if it appeared that it was intended by both parties to apply to the particular risk which caused harm.** Defendant is not entitled to summary judgement based on the release because there is a triable issue of fact as to whether the plaintiff should reasonable have anticipated the risk of collision with a motor vehicle when signing the release.

Scroggs v. Coast Community College District, 87 Daily Journal D.A.R. 4943 (C.A. 3, July 31, 1987).

Decedent signed a broadly worded release form required for participation in a scuba diving class conducted by defendant and drowned during class dive. Plaintiff's surviving spouse brought a wrongful death action against defendant alleging that defendant's negligence caused her husband's death. In the release form the decedent expressly waived any claim by his heirs on account of his death. The court held that the wrongful death action is a separate and distinct right which belongs to the heirs and does not arise until death of the decedent. **Contracts seeking to release in advance the right to bring a wrongful death action are not binding upon a decedent's heirs,** and there is no reason to create an exception in "sports risks" cases.

ON-GOING CRACK CLIMBING WORKSHOP

PROGRESS REPORT - NOVEMBER 1987

As of November 28, nine participants have completed "Level 1" by leading six or more Joshua Tree cracks in the 5.9 range: Tom Brogan, Ben Chapman, Claude Lane, Mark Maier, Bob Oelsner, Greg Rzonca, Al Sanderson, Phil Thomas, and Jim Erb. Congratulations to each! The remaining three participants are sure to reach this level soon.

To reach Level 1, a participant must have cleanly led six routes from a list of 12 selected climbs in that difficulty range. Routes actually climbed include: Colorado Crack, Continuum, Gem, Invisibility Lessons, Middle Peyote Crack, Pope's Crack, and Room To Shroom. On November 28, we began working on Level 2 climbs and five people successfully led Watanabe Wall, a strenuous 5.10a crack.

We met four times in November for a total of six sessions to date; 17 more are planned. Many participants have made major commitments to the workshop in terms of training, weight reduction, and hard climbing. The payoffs are highly visible to all of us, as many participants continue to achieve new performance levels.

J.E., T.R.

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Next Issue: January 19, 1987
Copy Deadline: January 12, 1987
Photo Deadline: January 9, 1987

FINAL RENEWAL NOTICE!

If you have not renewed your Mugelnoos subscription for 1988, this is the last issue you will receive! To renew, send a check for \$7.00 written to "Mugelnoos" to the Mugelmailer: Pat Holleman, 1638 6th St., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

RCS SCHEDULE

Jan.10 - RCS Class. Stoney Point
Jan.16 - Big Rock. Emory Yount/?
Jan 24 - RCS Class. Rubidoux.
Jan 30-31-Wagonwheel Greg Vernon/
Tom Jeter.
Feb 7 - RCS Class. Rubidoux
Feb 13-15-J Tree. John Moore/?
Feb.21 - RCS Class. Rubidoux.
Feb.27-28-Xmas Tree Pass. Dave
Perkins/Abe Siemens
Mar. 5-6 -Fossil Falls. Training
Committee.
2nd leaders needed to fill "?" or
trip cancels. Call RCS Chair Donna
Oshaughnessy. 213/320-2891.

GROUP CAMPGROUND AVAILABLE

I have reserved one at J/Tree for my own personal use Jan 23-24, but others may use it. Call Darral Freund at 213/439-4803. Site is at Sheep Pass #2.

**MUGELNOOS MEETINGS
CHANGE TO 3RD TUESDAY**

The Park Service schedule at Griffith Park conflicted with our regular meeting night, so mark your calendar on the 3rd Tuesday starting on January 19, 1988.--GH

**SMS BYLAWS PASS
UNANIMOUSLY**

At the November Muglenoos meeting Paul Kenworthy announced that the SMS membership has unanimously approved the changes to the SMS Bylaws. The next step is approval by the Angeles Chapter Executive Committee. Owen Maloy is the chairman of the Bylaws Subcommittee, so this revision task, which began somewhere in the dark past 3 or 4 years ago, appears to be approaching a successful conclusion.

Thanks are due to Owen who prepared the revisions, to Paul who counted the ballots, to the Central Committee who argued over the meaning of obscure clauses, and to the SMS membership who voted their approval.--GH

****** INTRO TRIP RESCHEDULED ******

The January 10 Local Introductory Tour led by Walt Boge and Ed Unge has been rescheduled to January 9. Contact Walt for details.

PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLORADO

Join us for a week in the high meadows, passes, and mountain tops in the Southern Colorado Rockies. Stay in a cabin w/ complete amenities at 7000'+ outside Pagosa Springs, Co. There are many 12,000' peaks in the area. Since this is a "not-for-profit" and un-scheduled trip, the cost is minimal. Air fare, lodging, group trans. and food approx.\$200. Ideal for students or those on fixed budget/adventurers. Contact Jim at 714/892-3564 or Steve at 714/969-1528
Steve Crooks

YEAR-END CLIMB

Mike Jelf is looking for company for 2-3 days at J/Tree to knock off rust and kick back about 27-30 Dec. Students and fellow soft men wel.213/326-3430.

JAN 1-3

FRI-SUN

SKI MOUNTAINEERS

T: OSTRANDER SKI HUT, YOSEMITE: Ski 10 mi (1500' gain) to hut with wood stove/bunks. Sat optional climb of Mt. Buena Vista. Skiers with strong intermediate ability welcome. Send two SASE's to Leader: TOM DURYEA. ASST: PAUL HARRIS.

77 VW VAN: Excellent mechanical condition, am/fm cass, near new tires, bed, table, 213-222-0319.

ICE AXE: 60 cm Chouinard Zero, \$50. Mar Himmerich (714) 838-0423.

Are you a strong XC or downhill skier with an interest in back country skiing? Come ski with the SKI MOUNTAINEERS in the local mountains and the Sierra Nevada. Most trips require at least intermediate downhill ability and metal-edged skis with touring bindings -- either 3 pin or alpine, and climbing skins, and some involve backpacking and snow camping. Contact leaders (see back page) or the Sierra club Angeles Chapter schedule for additional information. If you haven't skied with us before, we ask you first come on an Introductory Tour.

1987-1988 Schedule

Date	Location	Leaders
Dec 5-6	Mammoth Condo Weekend/Leader Training	Kathy Crandall/Owen Maloy
Jan 1-3	Ostrander Hut, Yosemite	Tom Duryea/Paul Harris
Jan 9*	Local Introductory Tour	Walt Boge/Ed Unge
Jan 16	XC Downhill Clinic	Mark Goebel/Gerry Holleman
Jan 17	Local Introductory Tour	Pete Matulavich/Dick Smith
Jan 23-24	San Gorgonio	Andy Fried/Tom Duryea
Jan 29-31**	Ski Mtneers Training Camp (Keller Hut)	Holleman/Fagert/Lynch
Feb 6-7	Mammoth Condo Weekend	Mark Goebel/Owen Malloy
Feb 6-7	Baldy Hut	RJ Secor/John Wedberg
Feb 13-15	Pear Lake Hut	Tom Duryea/Mary Gyax
Feb 20-21	Wilderness Race	Pete Matulavich/Eddie Nunez
Mar 5-6	Yosemite--Nordic Holiday Races	Andy Fried/Gerry Holleman
Mar 19-20	Mt. Hoffman	Andy Fried/Dave Furlong
Mar 26-27	Mt. Perkins via Armstrong Canyon	Andy Fried/Tom Duryea
April 9-10	Baldy Hut	RJ Secor/John Wedberg
April 23-25	Pear Lake	Mark Goebel/Dick Smith
May 7-8	Treasure Lakes/BC Spire/Mt. Dade Joint trip with Sierra Peaks Section	Dick Smith/Pete Matulavich
May 14-15	Ski Mountaineers Peak	Gerry Holleman/Mark Goebel
May 28-30	Mt. Shasta***	Andy Fried/Tom Duryea

See the Angelus chapter schedule for detailed write-ups.

* This trip was originally scheduled for January 10.

** This is really a Saturday and Sunday outing. Keller hut will be available on Friday night, January 29, for those that wish to spend the night there.

***Due to the long drive, participants should plan on leaving the LA area by 1pm on Friday, May 27.

The Western Approach to Charlotte Dome

Since the South Face of Charlotte Dome is becoming more popular with RCS members, I thought I would offer the experience Rick Taylor and I had with the western approach to this fine climb. The trailhead starts at the end of the Cedar Grove road in Zumwalt Meadows. Follow the Bubbs Creek trail for eight miles until its intersection with Charlotte Creek. Charlotte Dome can be seen towering several thousand feet above. We arrived here in about three hours. Beautiful campsites are located here. Beware of bears.

A decent path is located on the east side of Charlotte Creek. Don't try to hike up the west side of the creek! For those hardy souls who prefer lugging their gear higher, there are several fine campsites 1500 feet above. We opted for a more pleasurable experience; we camped on Bubbs Creek. The early morning chill of the mid-October air kept us in our bags later than planned. However, we still managed to break camp at 6:30 AM.

Since enough has been written about the actual climb, I'll just add this: beware of long runouts. The descent is straightforward. We arrived back at the car in Zumwalt Meadows about 7 PM.

The western approach has several advantages compared to the approach over Kearsarge Pass from Onion Valley. First, it's all downhill from your high camp. Second, you can go here earlier and later in the season when snow makes travel near the crest a potential expedition. Most importantly, it's downright easy. It's entirely possible to do this fine climb in a long weekend. The only disadvantage is the extra hour required to drive to Kings Canyon (for a total of six hours from LA). -- (B.K.)

SMS Leaders for 1987-1988 Outings

Walt Boge
13260 Cumpston Street
Van Nuys, CA 91401
(818) 781-4576

Kathy Crandall
1025 E. Woodbury Road
Pasadena, CA 91104
(818) 794-6491

Tom Duryea (New Address)
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Northridge, CA 91325
(818) 349-1702

Andy Fried
9218 Jellico Ave.
Northridge, CA 91325
(818) 993-1891

Dave Furlong
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Redondo Beach, CA 90278
(213) 370-3156

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Huntington Beach CA 92648
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Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
(619) 934-9511

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(818) 795-5520

John Wedberg
1374 Stradella Road
Los Angeles, CA 90077
(213) 472-6768

MT. EVEREST UPGRADED

(Special to Mugelnoos from our correspondent in D.F.)

El Señor Andy Fried nos trae este artículo de un periódico en una ciudad que fuere anómio preventir acción litiga de contravenación de propiedad:

How high is high? Mount Everest has always been one standard, as the world's highest peak. But that distinction was cast in doubt early this year when University of Washington scientists stunned the mountaineering world. Using satellite technology, they recalculated the second-highest peak, K2 in Pakistan, to be 29,064 feet, or 36 feet higher than Everest. Now, however, an Italian team has used similar satellite measurements to put Everest right back where it should be: in first place at 29,108 feet.

Mount Everest, in the Nepalese Himalayas, first was discovered to be the summit of the world at 29,002 feet above sea level by the Great Trigonometrical Survey of India in 1852. Originally designated Peak XV by British surveyors, it later was named for Sir George Everest, a director of the Great Trigonometrical Survey.

Everest subsequently was calculated to be 29,028 feet, and that was the height recorded in history books when it was first climbed by a British expedition in 1953, by Swiss the following year and by Americans in 1963. Until the University of Washington computation, K2 has been listed at 28,250 feet. The Italian team that came up with the new height for Everest also rechecked K2 and found it to be 28,268 feet above sea level.

U.S. mountaineers are willing to accept the new measurements by the Italian survey team led by 90-year-old Ardito Desio. Desio is a respected scientist who also was the leader of the Italian expedition that made the first ascent of K2 in 1954. Bradford Washburn, a distinguished American mountaineer and cartographer, said, "The controversy would seem to be settled the way we always thought it would be settled — in favor of Everest."

K2 indisputably is one of the world's most beautiful mountains, more striking in many ways than Mount Everest. But there can be only one highest — and Everest was, and is, highest.

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Your Subscription has EXPIRED!

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1987 RCS-P