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MOUNTAINEERS

Nov. 21, 1989 - No. 675

A newssheet 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. SUBSCRIPTION COST IS NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE as a charitable contribution.

SKI MOUNTAINEERS PEAK April 22-23, 1989



This fourth annual attempt at Ski Mountaineers Peak missed again—not enough snow for the third year in a row in spite of the fact that the trip was scheduled 3 weeks earlier than usual. The slopes were icy the first day, but a couple inches of new snow provided some soft spots on Sunday.

Six of us met at Parcher's Camp at about 8:00 am. Just as the big day was beginning, Paul Harris' VW burped an oil plug causing Paul to abruptly change plans however. From South Lake the remaining five took the summer hiking trail up to just below Treasure Lakes, where we camped in some trees near the Treasure Lakes outlet stream at the 10,500' snow line. The weather was nice, but a cool wind kept us on the chilly side.

The ridge towards SMS Peak was mostly bare, so we set off toward the crest under Mt. Gilbert that afternoon. A series of steps and draws provide excellent ski terrain in this area. At the top of the first step, about 500' above camp, the wind was cold enough to keep the snow hard and icy. Undaunted Pat led us up another 200' where we began testing the slope. Our skis clattered a lot without leaving any tracks on bumpy washboards, but skiing is skiing so most of us skinned back up and did it again. On the way back to camp, lower slopes that Nancy Gordon and I had previously telemarked successfully, were crusty and treacherous.

Sunday morning we awoke to 2" of new snow with fluffy flakes still falling. Mark Angevine, a newcomer to SMS, established his credentials for membership by yelling "Party in the pyramid!" whereupon we all crowded under Rose's Chinourd pyramid shelter (a single pole tent with no floor) for a cozy breakfast. By the time we finished the snow had too, so we set off across a frozen Treasure Lake and up a draw towards glacier moraines under Mt. Johnson. It was still cold and windy, but yesterday's fun had whet our appetites for more of the same only steeper.

The requisite slope was soon identified, and Rose, who had been a bit tentative on Saturday, put on an ice skiing clinic while the rest of us resorted to big traverses or carefully choreographed falls to get down. We did this twice (Why not?) before heading back towards camp as it started to get sunny and warm. The prospect of a perfect run caused Pat, Rose, and I to retrace our Saturday route, and we were rewarded with ideal conditions for one last run. Then it was back to camp where we were pleasantly surprised by Paul, who had hiked in after fixing his van.

Sooner or later this trip is bound to find conditions that permit an ascent of Ski Mountaineers Peak. Maybe next year. Don't miss it!—G. H.

THERE'S SNOW IN THEM THERE HILLS !!!

MUGELNOOS STAFF

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Mugelnoos Chair.....Dick Smith
Mugelmailer.....Pat Holleman
Reporters.....Gerry Holleman,
Eddie Nunez, Geo.Wallerstein,
Nancy Gordon, John Wedberg,
Dave Dykeman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A hearty welcome to the youngest member of the Ski Mtneers, weighing in at a hefty 8# 10oz, Sean Bartlett Goebel, son of Mark and Joy Goebel, born October 13, 1989. Applications now being accepted for qualified sitters, weekends preferred.

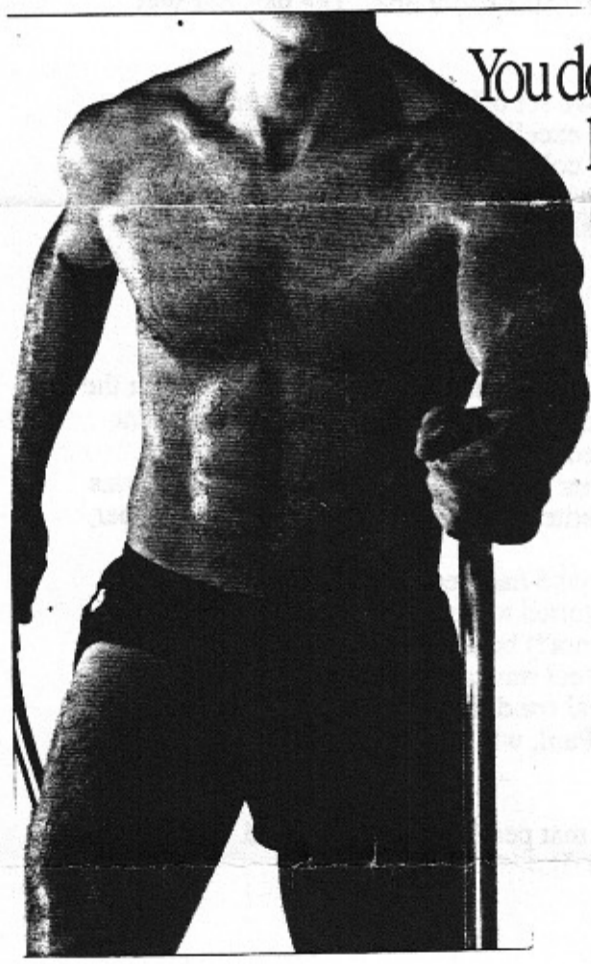
Next Editor: Rosemary Lynch
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Next Issue: January 16, 1990!
Copy Deadline: January 5, 1990

TIME TO RENEW!
Renew your Mugelnoos subscription by sending \$7.00 check payable to "Mugelnoos", to Pat Holleman, Mugelmailer, 1638 6th Street, Manhattan Beach, Ca. 90266

NEXT MUGELNOOS MEETING

Tuesday, January 16, 1990
Griffith Park Ranger Station
4730 Crystal Springs Drive, LA

PAID ADVERTISEMENT
NEW MOUNTAINEERING CLUB forming to run those trips we can't run in the Sierra Club. Organization meetings Nov 15 and Dec 20, 7:30 P.M. at Cal Fed, 270 N.Vermont at Beverly. Name? Help us choose one! Picacho New Years, Spring Sierra snow climbs, and more!



You don't have to
look like a
cross-country
skier to be
one.

HOORAY!
A hearty THANK YOU to Diane and Andy Fried for hosting this years Ski Mtneers Pot Luck extravaganza once again.
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- UPCOMING LOCAL INTRO TOURS  
Dec 16 Local Intro Tour  
Reiner Stenzel & Pete Matulavich  
Jan 6 Local Intro Tour  
Walt Boge & Paul Harris  
Jan 13 Cross Country Downhill Clinic  
Mark Gorbelt & Dick Smith  
Jan 20-21 Mt San Jacinto  
Reiner Stenzel & P. Matulavich  
Jan 26-28 Ski Mtneers Training Camp  
Anna Zordan & Mark Goebel  
Feb 3-4 Mammoth Condo Wknd  
Kathy Crandall & Owen Maloy

~~~~~  
STAFF POSITION OPEN

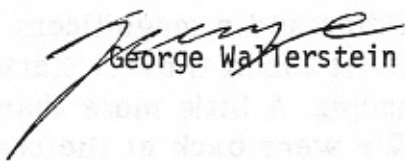
The Mugelnoos is looking for an energetic person to assume the role of Mugelnoos Chair. Responsibilities include arranging for monthly editors (during winter months only), coordinating the pickup and delivery of printed Mugelnoos to the monthly meeting, as well as learning everything there is to know about our illustrious publication. Interested telemarkers please contact current Chair, Dick Smith at (213) 376-4977.

Mr. Andy Fried
9218 Jellico Ave.
Northridge CA 91324

Dear Andy:

The memorandum issued by the President of the Sierra Club, Mr. Cellarius, published in the April issue looked so much like a similar notice that a friend of mine in Germany sent to me that I thought you might be interested in publishing the latter. You will, of course, excuse the roughness of my translation and the inclusion of a few German words or phrases that are difficult to translate.

Sincerely yours,


George Wallerstein

Memorandum

To: Conductor
Assistant Conductor
Concertmaster
First Trombonist

From : Richard von Hillarius, Director General

Subject: Clarification of Insurance Restrictions on Conductors
and their Subordinates

My urgent note of 29 Sept. 1989 informed you that the Allgemeinesicherheitsgesellschaft, GmbH, has cancelled our insurance against damage claims by members of the chorus and orchestra because of cases brought against the conductors of the Darmstadt Bach Chorale, The Hohenbrunn String Nonet and other entities. To prevent possible law suits being filed against our organization of a similar nature you are hereby given notice that the following practices will no longer be permitted:

1- The chorus will not be directed to sing fortissimo even when the score is so marked. If the score is marked forte the chorus must be instructed to sing a quiet forte. The reason for this is a suit brought against Ernst von Schnickelfritz, conductor of the Darmstadt Chorale, by a soprano in the chorus who claimed that her voice was permanently damaged when she was directed to sing fortissimo during the Gloria of the B-minor Mass.

2- Conductors may not use batons longer than six inches. This is based on a suit brought by the first chellist of the Hohenbrunn String Nonet who claimed that her eye was permanently damaged when inadvertently hit by the conductor's baton during the climax of P.D.Q. Bach's No. No, Nonet.

3- No conductor or first trombonist will ever direct or permit a trombonist to attempt a tone lower than low H. This unfortunate requirement must be imposed because of a suit brought by the first Trombonist of the Hamburger Konzertfleisch Verein who claimed that his right shoulder was thrown permanently out of joint by the requirement that he play a low H very loudly at the beginning of the "Seit Umschlungen Millionen" section of Beethoven's Ninth. This case is particularly troublesome because the trombonist in question had recently signed a five year, eleven million dollar contract to pitch for the New York Yankees and has, in turn, been sued by Georg von Steinbrenner for nonfullfillment of contract.

I trust that this directive will eliminate any possible doubt or confusion on the part of our conductor, other officers and all non-commissioned officers of our orchestra.

In addition, the Conduction/Insurance review Task Force is hard at work to determine if a way may be found so that these and all other prohibited activities may again be conducted.

Mt Gibbs (12,764')

May 13-14, 1989

Gordon-Dykeman

This was scheduled as a joint SMS-SPS trip to San Joaquin Mtn, but we only had one participant, Reiner Stenzel. As we breakfasted at the Glass Creek Campground prior to heading up Deadman's Canyon, Reiner casually mentioned that Tioga Pass Road opened Friday. Within minutes, we were in the car and headed for Tioga Pass Road. Just before passing the entrance station, we were treated to a view of six Bighorn Sheep within 10 feet of the road on the steep north side. We stopped the car 100 feet beyond this amazing sight and quickly got out to observe the sheep effortlessly bound up the steep cliff. We parked the car at the Mono Pass Trailhead, put on the boards right next to the car and were rewarded with a most exquisite tour to the summit of Gibbs and a magnificent 360° vista of a most scenic area in the Sierra. At lunch time, it started snowing, and the clouds seemed quite menacing. A little more than one inch of snow fell during the descent. We were back at the car by 6:40 PM more exhilarated, than tired. Having survived some rubbery entree at Nicely's in Lee Vining, we bedded down at the Lee Vining Campground for the night with visions of fresh tracks and primo skiing to come the next day.

When Tioga Pass Road is opened, Nicely's opens at 6 AM; we arrived at 6:15 eager to fuel our bodies for another crack at the Dana-Gibbs area. At 8 AM, we skated swiftly across the Dana Meadow on glorious hoar frost. Although the Dana ridge was blown bare of snow, the Dana-Gibbs saddle was prime, and Reiner took advantage of his fine conditioning to get there with amazing speed. I headed for the bowl beneath the Gibbs ridge; and Dave, still recovering from an ailment that slowed him down considerably, pattered around the lower slopes. It truly was a magical and memorable ski weekend.

OLD TIMER TUTORS TOTS: LOUSY LESSON LEARNED FROM LEDGES

Two pinheads and three alpiners dismissed an old-timer's advice regarding the snow in the Mt Whitney area, cancelled the scheduled trip and took a shot at the Ebersbacher Ledges, Lower and Upper Boy Scout, Iceberg, and the Mountaineers Route. One of the five (Wedberg) had cautioned about the reputation this area had gained over the years for less than hospitable snow conditions, but, what the heck, it was a beautiful summer-like weekend.

Untangling the skis from the willows in North Fork wasn't bad, nor was trudging past the ice waterfalls in the blazing sun, nor was melting snow for water at camp above Upper Boy Scout, nor was negotiating the Ledges carrying skis. All this was child's play compared with skiing down to Whitney Portal thru rotten snow. So rotten, in fact, that in the boulder field below the Ledges skis were forsaken temporarily in hopes of relief thru booting it; but this only resulted in plunging in to the armpits.

Craig Dostie, Jamie McReel, Bill Lingle, Vince DesRochers and John Wedberg agreed that changing this to a private trip well ahead of time was prudent, since no scheduled trip would endure such outrageous conditions. There were several redeeming features, however: the weather was gorgeous, the fellowship and camaraderie was supreme, another name was added to the Chute Corps (Lingle), and Wedberg's hairy white legs aren't white anymore. (JW)

MAMMOTH TO YOSEMITE TRANS-SIERRA
(PRIVATE TRIP)
APRIL 16-22

Another drought year. Another Trans-Sierra trip down the drain? No way. Our six day trek across the Sierra had:

- perfect, perfect weather
- the best skiing ever (honestly)
- a steep, thrilling ascent of Mt. Lyell (and a 3,000 foot ski run)
- lazy, sunny 9-10 am morning start times.

If you get nothing more of this article, remember this: The Mammoth to Yosemite Trans Sierra is definitely more interesting and much easier when skied from East to West. Just ask Andy Fried.

We had arranged for the trip to consist of two parties; one starting in Yosemite (Andy/Dianne Fried, Eric Schumacher) and the other starting in Mammoth (Greg Jordan, Howard Schultz, Nancy Jensen and Eddie Nunez). We had exchanged cars before the trip so our own cars would be waiting for us at the finish.

The Mammoth to Yosemite trip is often done in four days. We had planned for seven days and planned to use the extra days to climb a few mountains.

Sunday, Day 1

We spent Saturday night at the newly purchased Fried/Russ luxury condo. We had a comfortable breakfast at the Stove restaurant and returned to the condo to pack. We walked 10 minutes to the bus stop, caught the shuttle to the Mammoth's main lodge and began our trip.

We chose to climb along the San Joaquin ridge rather than go through Agnew meadows. What a route! Dave Beck refers to it as the best Ski tour in California. No wonder. Banner/Ritter/Minarets on the left, Mono Lake on the right. It's spectacular. We skied along the ridge and topped out on San Joaquin Mtn late in the afternoon. We skied down the north side in fine snow and camped thirty minutes later.

Monday, Day 2

Clear, perfect weather. We could see our destination, 1,000 Island Lake from our camp. Getting there would be harder than it looked. The the west slopes were melted out and we had to occasionally carry our skis. We set up camp on the west end of the lake, climbed up the the Ritter/Banner saddle and skied in and around the slopes -- again good snow.

Tuesday, Day 3

We elected to forego climbing Ritter in favor of using this day as a set up for climbing Mt. Lyell the next day. We climbed over Island and Donahue passes and instead of descending down into Lyell Canyon, turned west and camped at the base of the canyon leading up to Mt. Lyell.

Wednesday, Day 4

Good Choice. Mt. Lyell (13,000+ and the highest point in Yosemite Park) is an excellent climb. We left our tents and heavy packs at camp and skied up onto the Lyell Glacier and up to a saddle just below the peak. The next 200 feet is quite steep. Ice Axe steep. With the steep slope and spindrift blowing it was definitely an alpine moment!

After topping out, and lunch, we began to ski down to camp. The first 1,000 feet were so-so, the next 1,000 feet was the most perfect corn snow ever.

We packed up camp, climbed out of the canyon and skied down Lyell canyon, whooping and yelling at the good snow and our overall good fortune. Near the bottom of Lyell canyon, the good snow turned into frustrating sugar snow. We reached the base of Lyell canyon and camped at the first campsite.

Thursday, Day 5

There wasn't a lot of snow in Lyell canyon, and we spent the day taking our skis off and on for literally the entire day. Near noon, we stumbled upon the Fried/Schumacher team who had yet to ski single moment downhill. We reached Tuolomme meadows late in the day, found the "hut" had only two available bunks, and skied down the road an hour and camped in a spectacular meadow with views of the Unicorn and Cathedral peak.

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15th ANNUAL PRINT EXHIBITION AND SALE

Saturday, December 2, 1989

Sponsored by the Camera Committee of the Angeles Chapter, this years Exhibition and Sale should be the grandest ever. Among the hot items available are autographed copies of Mountain Light by Galen Rowell, and Quiet Light by John Sexton, which was just published.

Auction preview begins at 6 PM; auction from 7-9 PM, at the Los Angeles Photography Center, Cultural Affairs Dept., 412 S. Parkview St., LA. Refreshments, door prizes, free admission and parking make this an event to see.

Selected prints are on display from Monday, Nov.27 through Saturday, Dec.2 at the LA Photography Center prior to the auction.

For additional information, call the Photo Center at (213) 383-7342 or the Chapter Office, at (213) 387-4287.



from p. 5 ...

Friday, Day 6

On the sixth day we woke up to overcast and windy skies. The weather had finally changed. The klister I was using on my Karhu comps continued to work well (I had used it since arriving in Lyell canyon). We skied down a long downhill grade (yeah), and past Tenaya Lake . While resting at Olmstead point we heard a faint noise. It was the the snow plow working its way in from Yosemite. The plow left us a 2 foot section on which to ski. It was enough. We skied to the snow creek turnoff, had lunch and descended into the valley, a long 20 plus mile day. No sooner had we reached Greg's van when it began to rain. At that point we postulated the Fried/Schumacher team was somewhere in the 1,000 Island Lake area, huddled in a tent with snow piling up outside, perhaps second guessing their decision to travel from west to east...

EFN

IN THE NEXT ISSUE.....

Sierra High Route, an epic article of a seven day journey thru talus and powder, by Scot Jamison.

Be sure you renew!



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652 Marine Ave.
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
1989 RCS-R

THE MOUNTAIN DOGS

September 12, 1989 A 1page issue.

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SKI MOUNTAINEERS SECTION

COME TO THE ANNUAL SMS POTLUCK DINNER, EQUIPMENT SWAP AND SKI TOUR PLANNING SESSION!

WHO'S INVITED: All SMS Members and Friends

WHEN: October 14, 6:00 p.m.

EQUIPMENT: Bring any backpacking, skiing, climbing equipment you would like to sell/swap.

WHERE: Diann and Andy Fried's home. 9218 Jellico Ave. Northridge

POTLUCK: Last names beginning with the letter:

A-G	Bring	Salads
H-M		Main dishes
N-Z		Desserts

TRIP PLANNING: The section needs ski tours and leaders for the March-June 1990 schedule. Bring trips you would like to lead. We need local tours as well as Sierra tours. If you can't attend, send write-ups to: Reiner Stenzel, 519 Almar Ave., Pacific Palisades 90272. Write-ups are due before October 31, 1989

HIKE: Anyone interested in a hike contact Andy Fried, (818) 993-1891

ANDY AND DIANN 'S HOME

