

RL17 5/95



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Number 719

## Kodak Moments - The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

by Ken Deemer

We all know what sustains die hard and armchair ski adventurers through the long summer months; those glossies of exploits past. (You know, the ones, where the slopes grow steeper, and the corn more perfect). The problem is that we may have a hard time sharing these adventures with our kids and grandkids.

Last summer I picked up a massive tome titled *The Permanence and Care of Color Photographs*, by Henry Wilhelm. It is about 800 pages with more than you could ever possibly care about the archival qualities of prints, negatives, slides, albums, mounting materials, etc. Principal findings have been summarized in *Outdoor Photographer* and *The Wall Street Journal* (of all places), and some are pretty scary.

The author conducted accelerated aging studies using extremely bright lights and other simulated conditions. For me, the most sobering finding was that Kodak paper (you know, the one you are always supposed to request) is hardly better than newsprint for preserving color photographs. In 15 to 20 years, your prints on Kodak paper will probably be yellow and faded with significant loss of detail. On the other hand, prints made with Fuji paper (especially those made after 1992) showed no perceptible degradation after about 50 years of simulated aging! This is the first reputable study of this sort. The author accepts no funding from any manufacturer of products tested. I understand that Fuji was going to promote these findings in its advertising, but is facing some dumping allegations and is laying low. My recommendation: until Kodak gets its act together, always insist on Fuji paper for your prints. Most photo stores will send your negatives to Fuji, which has an excellent processing lab in Orange county. You may want to go back and have some of your favorites reprinted (How about those wedding albums? Did any of your parents have color wedding photos? check them out!).

In addition to paper, several other factors affect the longevity of your color prints; exposure to bright light, heat or humidity is not a good thing. Many less expensive photo albums are made with transparent PVC which can leach into the emulsion and ruin the print. Always check to see that your albums are labeled PVC free. Don't expect color negatives to last forever either. Under ideal conditions, in dark storage, they will last from 25 to 50 years. Keep them in archival sleeves in a cool, dark and dry environment.

Properly cared for, slides will last much longer than color prints. Today's Kodachrome is estimated to last up to 150 years in dark storage. Newer E-6 films, such as Ektachrome, Fujichrome and Fuji Velvia may last even longer! There are some important considerations in viewing slides, however. A significant degradation in Kodachrome slides can occur in less than one hour of cumulative projection time. Fuji Velvia can be projected for about 5 hours before a change is noticeable, while Ektachrome can stand about 3 hours. To protect your valuable slides, minimize the projection time and make dupes to show. Store them in the dark using archival storage pages.

There are some exotic and expensive printing techniques, such as Ilfochrome (formerly called CibaChrome), Evercolor and Dye Transfer, which fare much better than your basic K Mart special. Elliot Porter used dye transfer to make prints which are as vivid today as when they were shot. The real salvation, I believe, will come over the next few years as digital technologies improve in resolution and cost. You will be able to make truly permanent copies of your images which preserve all of the detail of the original. You can also scan and repair damaged or color-faded photos. No doubt we will pass through many generations of standards, devices and media, so you will need to continually transfer images for compatibility.

**THE MUGELNOOS** IS 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. SUBSCRIPTION PAYMENTS ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE AS CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.

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## NEXT MEETING

FALL, 1995 7:30 PM GRIFFITH PARK RANGER STATION AUDITORIUM 4730 CRYSTAL SPRINGS DRIVE, LOS ANGELES, CA.

## NEXT ISSUE: FALL, 1995

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## UPCOMING TRIPS:

Date	Location	Leaders / Program
May 27-29	Mt. Ritter/Banner Ski Camp	R. Stenzel, K. Deemer

## END OF SEASON, NEXT ISSUE FALL 1995. WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF SMS POTLUCK IN OCTOBER

## Mt. Everest climbing crew Making progress.

Longtime readers of Mugelnoos will recognize some of the names in the Commemorative 1995 American Expedition now on Everest. Kurt and Jennifer Wedberg of Bishop (Kurt's father John was long involved with the SMS and now is active with the Alpine Ski Mountaineering Comm.) Paul Pfau will be remembered by some members of the former RCS. Other members are: Colin Lynch, Jay Budnick, George Mallory (grandson of George Mallory who may have been

Ski Mountaineers Central Committee  
Chair - Ken Deemer Vice Chair - Nancy Gordon  
Outings/Safety Howard Schultz Sec. \Treas - Mark Goebel  
Programs - Dana Pearce Mugelnoos Editor - Andy Fried

## Ski Mountaineer Leaders

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Paul Harris PO Box 70765 Pasadena 91117 818 577-4800	Reiner Stenzel 519 Almar Avenue Pacific Palisades 90272 310 454-9787
Gerry and Pat Holleman 1638 6th Street Manhattan Beach 90266 310 374-4654	Larry Tidball 1400 W. Edgehill Road, #14 San Bernardino 92405 909 882-6168
Scot Jamison 2517 King Way Claremont 91711-1720 909 626-1712	Todd Yuen 10635 Lynn Circle Cypress 90630 714 220-2599

the first to summit Everest in 1924), Dan Aguilar, Steve Reneker, Jeff Hall, and Jim Litch, Dave Gordon, and Jon Rosen. The team plans to have 8 camps. Climb was due to start on April 2, but due to wind and equipment problems, climbing began on April 6. By April 14 ABC was established and fixed ropes from the 20,000' level to the top of the North Col. at 24,000' (camp 4) were set. As of April 21, camp 4 was firmly established.

Kodak cont.

recommend two mail order catalogs which have a range of archival products for photographic storage and display: Exposures (800 222-4947) and Light Impressions (800 828-6216)

Too much hassle? Try rediscovering black and white. It (both negatives and prints) remains the most archival of materials; to wit the marvelous footage we have seen of the early days of the Ski Mountaineers. In fact, you'll notice that most museums don't even acquire color prints for their permanent collections.

PS haven't had enough? There is evidence that 8 mm video tapes will degrade after not too many years. VHS is pretty good and Hi-8 even better.

#### CLOSING THOUGHTS TO THE 94-95 SKI SEASON.

The snow skiing is by no means over, but the Ski Mountaineers organized trips and monthly meetings are coming to a close for the 94-95 ski season. As I sit here and reflect on the strong winds and deep snows of this season, I realize that it was a fantastic 60th anniversary for the SMS. This year marks the SKI MOUNTAINEERING SECTION as the Premier Backcountry Ski Club in Southern California and one of the oldest in the United States!

The clubs memberships range from Alaska to the Rockies to the Baja Border, and this year with the marketing skills of Ken Deemer we signed on 30+ new members. This clearly demonstrates that people want to be involved once they find out about us. Thank you Ken for your leadership as the 1995 SMS Chair and for your talents in the clubs promotional campaign.

While the SMS has historically been a group dedicated to solely 3 pin skiing, the many calls received from people interested in backcountry Rondonee, Alpine and SnowBoarding trips (no snowmobile or innertube requests yet) shows that the club is a leader in winter skills and must grow to support the increased interests.

We cannot see ourselves as only PIN HEADS. We must embrace the backcountry community and see the role of the SMS as a club for developing friendships, wilderness ethics and skills development for multiple backcountry wilderness activities. I see our mission: To act as a clearing house for people to meet people who do similar winter wilderness activities and to help them do those things enjoyably, safely and consciously.

It is our responsibility to have the vision to grow and the foresight to understand that our programs, meetings and trips help educate backcountry users in the Values and Ethics

promoted by the Sierra Club- I would rather ski with Snow Boarders and Snow Mobilers who understand the Sierra Clubs wilderness values than with the good-time Charlies we try to avoid.

This has been a fantastic year and the show of support of the entire local ski community has been tremendous. I would like to thank the many groups for their continued support in making Backcountry skiing safe, exciting and enjoyable.

A Special thanks to:

The Sierra Club for its organizational leadership in creating wilderness values and environmental awareness which guide our use of the winter slopes.

The activity participants that made our outings and meeting fun and successful.

The SMS Central Committee and Leaders for coordinating a spectacular year of outings.

Local clubs, the Nordic Ski section and the Alpine Ski section for their partnership with the SMS in winter events.

Our local PSIA Instructors; (Joe McCoy, Dennis Yates, Todd Yuen, Al Tapia and many others) that have provided endless hours in helping us make beautiful turns.

Craig Dostie for his publication "Couloir" with the best equipment and trip reports of any off piste magazine.

Jim Foxworthy of Norpine for a fantastic season kick off with Demo Days at Bear Mountain.

Our local commercial outfitters; A-16, Norpine, REI and Sport Chalet for their continued support with ski equipment and training classes in backcountry skills,

As a final roast for 94-95 ski season, these are leaders and trips I propose for next year's calendar of events.

- Don Pies Instructional Leader for all 4th class ski tests.
- Howard Schultz "Fastern Sierra flight plans and flying out of wind sheers" (Requires own plane and release waiver)." Gear Packing and proper placement of jug wine for overnight ski trips"
- Ken Deemer For all Sierra Sections "Successful Advertising skills, boost your membership"
- Rose-Marie Lynch "Haute Route Cooking skills" We actually need someone to fill her place. Winter meals on trips haven't been the same since she moved to Montana.
- Mark & Joy Gobel "High Altitude Tele turns and diaper changing skills"
- Reiner Stenzel Leading all trips with "Trans." in there title
- Marcia Male Leading the Heli, Tele shoot core in the Tetons.
- Andy Fried "Winterize your Condo and snow shoveling techniques" Requires shovel and Condo.
- Owen Malloy "Annual SMS polar bear club dip"
- Ed Nuniez "Photo apertures for snow caves and white out conditions"
- Craig Do8tie Leading the first Sierra Haute Route Snow Board crossing

cont. P 4

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- PSIA "Level 1 Teaching" Clinic  
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cont. from page 3

- Pat & Jerry H. "Diagonal Glide and Skating. The forgotten SMS sport".
- Paul Harris "Atrocious Headware for 1996".
- Nancy Gordon "Coordinating your ski's with your jump suit. Color is everything next to snow"
- Reiner and Reed Moore Leading "The Manly Man" race around Mt- Ritter and Mt. Banner"
- Rich Heinke Teaching "Lite weight ski touring with your folding kayak".
- Tom Slitter (who?) Teaching Arm Chair ideas and Bibler Tent pitching In your living room.
- Dana Pearce "Cheap gear, skins from rope and glacier goggles from old slides".

Let's close the 1995 season until our famous Annual Season kick-off in October. This being my first year on the Central Committee has been an eye opener to the commitment and planning that it takes to pull off the Many events, trips, meetings, publications and educational instruction for a successful year. Set the standards high, ski hard, have fun, Most of all take a moment to let the Committee know what you liked this year and what you want next.

Dana Pearce  
SMS Programs Chair

## SPRING SKIING ON BALDY:

By Dana Pearce

Another Alaskan Front and Wind Storm was scheduled to blow through. Therefore the Rock Creek trip was canceled. As an alternative a group of four, Ken Deemer, Mark Goebel, Pete Mason, and myself decided to day tour Mt. Baldy.

We set off from the parking area early on Sunday May 7th. The night before a dusting of 2" of new dry snow had fallen and the trail to the hut was a fairy wonderland with trees, manzanita and bayonet cactus covered in a heavy snow blown rehem (German for snow sticking to trees). The trail was bare and dry except for the crunchy powder from the night before. All of the way to the hut we hiked in and out of layers of mist and fog, occasionally catching breath taking glimpses of bright blue skies and brilliant sunshine on the white glistening bowls and peaks above.

At San Antonio Hut we rearranged gear, put on ski boots, and warmed by the wood burning stove. We then began the long haul up the southern face of the bowl. We did some bushwhacking along the bowl ridge and peered down into several of the rock strewn cornices (Too steep and narrow for my liking). Then onto the snow-covered Baldy Peak. We had lunch on the peak and watched 5 or 6 hikers with LARGE packs, ice axes and crampons pass by from the ski lift side.

Mark suggested that we ski over to West Baldy Peak and then do a tour along a western ridge before cutting back to Baldy Bowl. The snow conditions had softened into a nice corn crust with a firm base below. We all cut tight turns as we descended through trees with intermittent fog and sunshine.

The downhill run was very challenging and offered us all an opportunity to test our forward and backward skiing skills, tight jump turns, rook skiing and side slipping. After more bushwhacking, several mid-slope traverses, some trail scouting and a final decent into the valley bottom, we found ourselves at a beautiful stream and tumbling waterfall to refresh ourself at. We then caught a snow shoot that took us right to the top of the South Bowl, caught our breaths, and then carved beautiful sweeping turns back down to San Antonio Hut.

Hiking out the wind-blown snow had melted the trail was soggy and a drizzly fog persisted all the way to the cars, It was a beautiful windless day on Baldy day shared by the four skiers.

## Local Tours - Mammoth Lakes; April 22-23

On Wednesday, the local report was, "Breakable Crust." Obligation and a little optimism got us to the parking lot of the ranger at 7:30. There we met five other incorrigibles. A very short conference, and we started off to Morrison Canyon.

A good day, sunny and cool, snow from the parking lot at Convict Lake, Indeed a little crusty. We stopped to eat and ponder at the base of the first large bowl in the canyon. Maybe there's some blown-in powder in the trees behind the cornice on the left margin? Nancy Gordon and Gerry Holleman sped off. Following on, the rest of us notice what they, heading straight up the bowl had clearly noticed, the snow in the middle here is softening up.

Leaning on the poles and looking up at the ever smaller Gerry, one realizes that the top is a lot farther than it looked from the bottom. But then it always is. Gerry reappears, skiing down, it looks like pretty good snow. Gerry climbs back up with the slowest of the rest of us and on arriving says "gee, that wasn't very hard" With all the witnesses around he is safe. For now.

Skiing back down, It is pretty nice snow, we get some good tracks. Lunch in the warm sun. Nap time? No, the other side of the canyon, up through the trees must surely be good snow. A desperate trudge (for some of us) to the top of the ridge, a grand view of the back side of McGee covered with post-card snow and a ski back down through heavy and excitingly variable snow. Time to get back down to the cars before the sun is off the snow. At least the crust had thawed into something less treacherous. The best snow of the day? The last hundred yards of corn, making turns around the sage brush to the cars. Those of us who were not sure we still could ski were reassured.

Why not Duck Pass tomorrow? Forget that it's more or less North-facing. Minor Collinsworth, capping a sterling effort with good sense, allowed that he would go and practice the art somewhere a little less exciting and would see us later.

The ski up was fine, sunny and warm, in good company. Until the last slope to the pass, where breaking through the wind crust into the cold powder our skis immediately acquired unshakeable lumps of snow the size of large cats. There are people in this world who have very small vocabularies of very bad words. Some of them are women.

Lunch at the top. The ski down was a hunt for the least bad snow most of the time. A couple of really elegant egg-beaters were demonstrated. Through the trees down into

ColdWater Canyon, sometimes on nice snow and sometimes on what appeared to be nice snow, from a distance. Lawrence Pallant and Ken Harris, new to us this trip managed this descent with elan and speed. When we reached the road, Gerry said and we all concurred; "These guys have passed the test".

The Lake Mary Road had become a mire in the late afternoon sun. Slogging along watching Pat Holleman glide effortlessly off into the distance.

A good trip, thanks to all who showed up and especially to Nancy Gordon my fearless Assistant Leader and to Gerry Holleman, for breaking all of the trail.

Paul Harris

FROM: Gerald W. Holleman, 72763,514  
TO: Andy Fried, 71237,1270  
DATE: 5/14/95 9:10 PM

Re: Trip Report

## Ski Mountaineers Peak - The Southern Route

May 13, 1995

Twelve enthusiastic skiers reached a ridge just below the summit in cold, windy, whiteout conditions. We retreated a bit down the lee side, ate lunch, and prepared for a ski ride down through the trees. What is wrong with this picture?

For one thing, Seth Clark's new releasable Voile binding had failed. The purple plug that sets the spring tension popped out because the black outer cylinder had developed a crack on the bottom side. The hose clamp in my pole repair kit was too small, but Mark Goebel had one large enough hold the cylinder together so that problem was solved. Plastic boots and cable bindings have made releasable Voiles quite popular, so an adequately sized hose clamp in your repair kit can avoid an unpleasant walk.

The other problem (Ski Mountaineers peak is a couple thousand feet above tree line.) resulted from nature's taunting trick of providing a lot of snow and then withholding access on the weekends by sending storm squalls through. By Thursday the Sierra weather forecast had deteriorated to the point that the trip was rerouted to San Gorgonio in hopes of staying south of the storm track. A flurry of last minute phone calls had reached 14 potential participants and established that we could get a permit at the Mill Creek Ranger Station where we met at 7:30 am Saturday morning.

It was raining at my house on Saturday morning with a forecast for 30% chance of showers through the weekend, but the current activity was reported to be from LAX west so we continued anyway. Near San Bernadino there was a slight break in the clouds, but then the drizzle returned and the forecast on Peter Mason's all weather radio went up to 60% chance on Sunday. The media predicted devastation for the Mother's Day brunch set, but 12 skiers showed up ready to ski. I wasn't so sure.

After a few minutes of discussion, we decided on a day trip instead of a backpack and switched to Baden Powell where the approach hike is a lot shorter. The rain picked up on the drive over to BP, but at Rte 138 the overcast opened up to blue sky and cumulus clouds. At Vincent Gap a cold wind was frosting the tips of pine needles, and we couldn't see much snow except on the backside of Mt. Baldy which was totally covered. It wasn't raining though, so off we went.

On the hike up, snow patches began to appear at 7500', and total coverage began soon after that. In open areas the sun had softened the snow, but in the shade step kickers left thin little scratches in the surface. Farther up the clouds returned, the visibility dropped to about 100 yards, and it got colder.

The ski down was fun for some, but closer to terror for others. Newcomers Sam Adams, Craig Hoehstetter, and Al Christensen (Chute Corps candidates all three.) skittered over the icy surface in low, tight telemarks and SMS stalwarts Mark, Nancy Gordon, and assistant leader Paul Harris showed their usual prowess. The rest of us turned a little and side slipped a lot, while I worried about losing someone in the poor visibility. Mark helped with that problem by doing his foghorn imitation at each new collection point. Farther down the visibility improved, but close encounters with trees became more prevalent, and by the time we took our skis off most everyone had said hello to a tree well.

Back at Vincent Gap a cold mist had coated our car windshields with a thin layer of ice, Sam's stereo had been ripped out of his Trooper, and Lawrence Pallant commented that we had done more hiking than skiing. The skiing is what we remember though. We're due for a Memorial Day break in the weather, and the June suncups should be later this year. - GH.

# YEAR END SURVEY

Set the standard HIGH for the 1995-1996 ski season.  
Now is the time to start thinking about your participation in next years club activities and programs.

Here is how the schedule looks for the 95-96 season.  
It is up to you to help the Central Committee fill in the events in between.

October 95 - LA and San Diego Season Kick off Potluck Dinner and Ski Swap

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

May , 96 Seasons End,

Let the Committee know what you thought about this years events and what you want for next year.

**NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO GET INVOLVED  
PULL OUT PENCIL, PAPER, ENVELOPE AND STAMP.  
ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS**

What did you like this year?

- Trips
- Meetings

What could be better?

- Trips
- Meetings

Special Requests? What do you want for next year? What can you contribute?

- Meetings
- Outings

Do you want to get involved? As a

- Leader
- Committee Member


Other comments?

**ADDRESS AND SEND IT TO:**

Dana Pearce, 12012 Herbert St. Los Angeles, CA 90066

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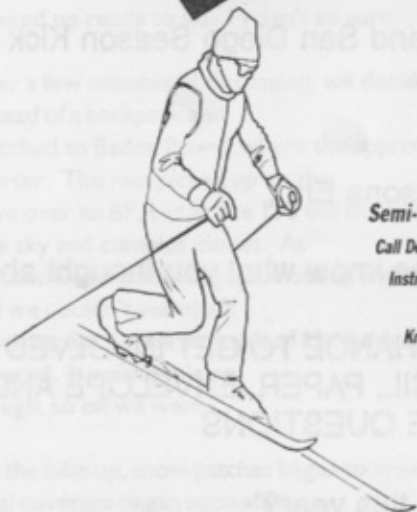
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