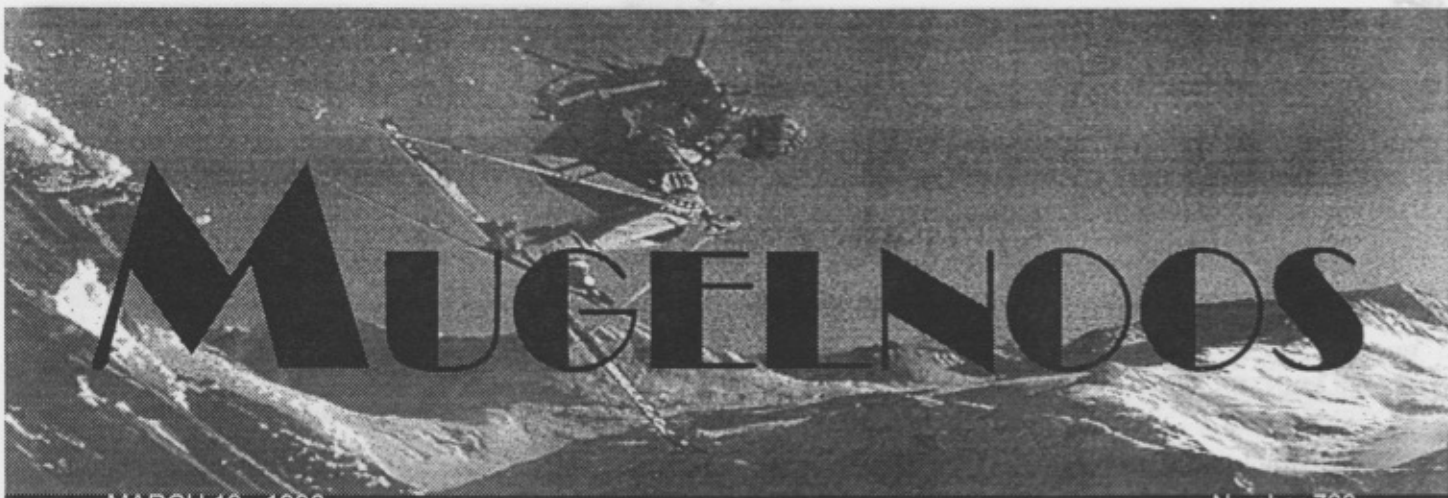


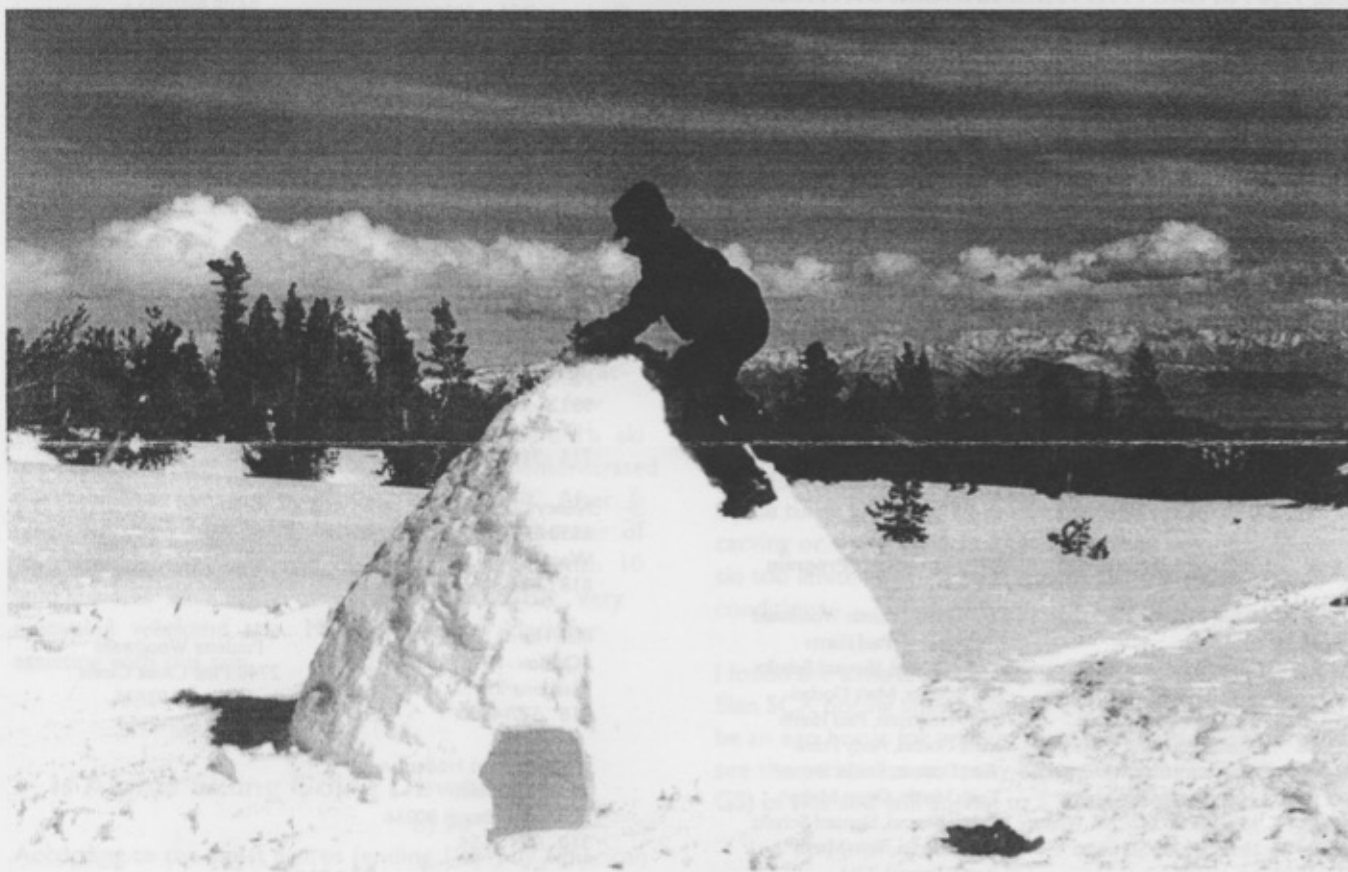
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MUGELNOOS

MARCH 19, 1996

Number 726



SMS SNOW SHELTER COURSE Feb. 10-11, 1996, SAN JOAQUIN RIIDGE

by Reiner Stenzel

Since there was no snow in the local mountains I drove on the preceding weekend to the Sierra Nevada to scout for a suitable place. After spending a night in a storm near Deadman Pass it was obvious where one would need emergency shelters. Six brave souls signed up and ventured without tents to spend the night on the San Joaquin ridge north of Mammoth. These were Mark and Jennifer Bailey, Steve Tuszynski, Ken Kemer, John Armstrong, myself with K9 Tatanka. We met at Mammoth Mtn, skied up the road to Minaret Vista and continued to climb along the San Joaquin ridge. In contrast to the previous weekend, spring weather was here. The view from the ridge was superb: To the East were the White Mtns, to the West Banner, Ritter and

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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3RD TUES EACH MONTH NOV THRU MAY EXCEPT DEC. 7:30 PM GRIFFITH PARK RANGER STATION AUDITORIUM 4730 CRYSTAL SPRINGS DRIVE, LOS ANGELES, CA.

NEXT ISSUE: APRIL 16, 1996

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UPCOMING TRIPS:

Date	Location	Leaders / Program
Mar 22-25	White Mountains Ski Tour	Tom Marsh, Paulette Woodward
Mar 23-24	Mt. Baldy	Mark Goebel, Paul Harris
Mar 30-31	Onion Valley-Sardine Canyon	Reiner Stenzel, Howard Schultz
Apr 13-14	Pear Lake, Sequoia N.P.	Ken Deemer, Mark Goebel
April 20-21	Ski Mountaineers Peak	Gerry Holleman, Paul Harris
May 4-5	Mammoth Lakes Touring	Mark Goebel, Andy Fried
May 4-5	Elderberry CYN, Mt. Tom	Ken Deemer, Reiner Stenzel
May 11-12	Hilton Lakes Ski Camp	Keith Martin, Owen Maloy
May 18-19	Mtrs Route Gully, Mt. Whitney	Reiner Stenzel, Howard Schultz
May 25-27	Horton Lakes Ski Camp	Keith Martin, Tom Marsh
May 25-27	Mt. Lassen	Reiner Stenzel, TBA
Jun 1-2	Rock Creek Ski Camp	Pete Matulavich, Reiner Stenzel

UPCOMING MUGELNOOS PROGRAMS

April 16 "Skiing the Sierra High Route" Mark Goebel
 May 21 "Loco Motion" A 1995 Banff Film Festival finalist- skiing and boarding the backcountry at Rodgers Pass, B.C.; plus avalanches and much more.

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<http://www.edgeinternet.com/skmt/>
 for more information contact Mark Bailey via e-mail at INTERNET:102045.3411@compuserve.com

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Notice

Marcia Male will be in town for the Ski Mountaineers Pk. trip on April 20-21, She hopes to see many of her long time friends on the trip.

FOR SALE

Tua Escape S (waxless metal-edge) 210cm, Rottelfella tele-binding. Used 5 times. Retail over \$345. \$160. Tua Transalp (84/64/74) 197cm. New unmounted \$175. Fischer Country Crown waxless 210cm with Rottelfella tele-binding \$50. Leki Poles: Super Extreme-3 Section \$65. HI TEC alpine 50 in. & 48 in. Retail \$100. \$70. Super Makalu Cortec Antishock hiking poles. Retail \$109. \$75. Excel touring pole 150mm. \$30. Synergy internal frame pack. \$50. Al Tapia (805) 242-2205.

cont from page one.

the minarets, and the Southern sky was full of Bishop waves (stacked lenticular clouds). The snow depth exceeded the length of my avalanche probe (>8'). Off the ridge, among some white bark pines, we made our basecamp at about the 10,000' level. Three igloos began to grow out of the snow. Mark and Jennifer built a cozy one-bedroom apartment, John and I decided on a 6' palace, and Steve and Ken worked on an individual style with top ventilation. Hour after hour went by with cutting blocks, stacking them, closing the gaps, digging out an entrance and leveling the interior. By late afternoon the homes were done but we were exhausted. After the last sunrays turned the Whites red, we lit up candles inside the igloos, dined and relaxed. Three illuminated domes in the darkness of the ridge were a pretty sight.

Next morning sunlight got us out of our homes. After breakfast, we spent an hour practicing the use of avalanche beacons. Fastest recovery was accomplished with the new sensitive Orthovox using the field line search method. Later, as the snow began to soften, we started a tour to Deadman Pass (10,220'). The run down on spring-like snow was superb. Snowmobiles transported snowboarders up who practiced 30' jumps on the ridge. We had quite a few visitors at our igloos, among them participants from a ski trip of the Nordic Section/OCSS. Jennifer demonstrated the stability of her igloo by climbing on top of it. After lunch we skied out, barely avoiding a close encounter of my German shepherd with a dog sled team with 10 wild huskies. Back at the cars we concluded our very enjoyable weekend trip. Many thanks to Mark for assisting with this trip.

Is Alpine Skiing Going Downhill?

by Al Tapia

According to the latest figures (ending 1994) by American Sports Data, the number of active Alpine skiers declined 8% during the period 1993-94 (33% during the period of 1988-94). During this same one year period Nordic skiers increased 23% and snowboarders increased 28%. The total number of Nordic skiers is still greater than snowboarders. From looking at the graphs, the number of snowboarder and Nordic skiers should pass Alpine skiers in the near future.

Is Alpine skiing doomed? Not according to some optimistic Alpine ski experts. They feel the super-sidecut skis will bring a revolution to Alpine skiing. These skis will bring beginners and intermediate skier back to the slopes by making the learning curve of skiing equal to that of

snowboarding. See the Parabolic Skis article about these "revolutionary" skis.

Parabolic Skis

by Al Tapia

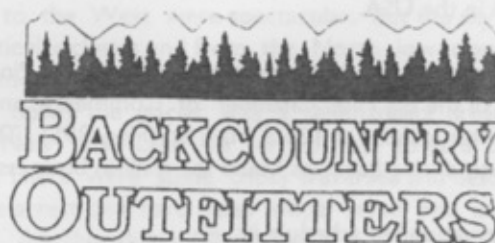
Hourglass, wasp waist, snowboard cut, super-sidecut, parabolic skis as they are officially known are coming in a big way. Easy carving at low edge angles and moderate speeds. Ideal for low intermediates to learn to carve a turn. When these skis are tipped on edge, the slightest pressure applied to the waist initiates a round, short carved turn. The wide tips and tails provide stable platforms that simplify balance.

Elan SCX, Kneissl Ergo were first with parabolics. Next season virtually every ski maker will have a parabolic ski with over 30 models planned. Even a parabolic tele-ski from Fischer called the Telepatic. The Telepatic is Fischer's Evolution Ice made for Telemark turns.

Last season, I demoed the Elan SCX. Visually the tips and tails look twice as wide as the waist of the ski. Because of the wide surface area, these skis are skied shorter than a normal ski. At first, the skis felt odd with no give as far as my being able to make the skis do what I wanted. When I adjusted to the skis, the skis did as advertised by producing consistent low effort carved turns.

I tele-ski because I like the flexibility of doing tele-turns or alpine turns and the ability to vary turn shape during carving or skidding turns. The advanced skier may find the ski too limited except as a "quiver ski" for certain conditions.

I found the almost perfect carved turns produced by the Elan SCX boring after a couple of runs. These skis should be an ego boost for intermediate skiers. Next season will see the parabolics on many different types (all mountain, GS) of skis and will appeal to a broader section of skier.



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1996 Wilderness Reservation Information

At last, the information you've been waiting for! Wilderness reservations will be taken by the Wilderness Reservation Service for the Inyo National Forest starting April 1, 1996.

All quota trails on the Inyo National Forest will be 100% reservable. Reservations will be accepted until two days before entry on the trail. Permits will be mailed to the party leader. If requested, or if the reservation is made within a week of entry, the permit will be sent to the Ranger Station chosen by the reserver. Any unreserved permits will be available starting the day before entry at the ranger station. Permits for non-quota trails will also be reservable.

Mt. Whitney hikers will be required to have a special stamp on their permit to enter the Mt. Whitney Zone no matter what their entry trail is. The zone boundaries are: to the east, just above Lone Pine Lake; to the west, at the outlet of Timberline Lake; and to the north, along the Sequoia N.P./Inyo N.F. boundary to Mt. Russell (on the west side of the boundary line). See zone map for more details. Day hikers will also need a permit to enter the zone. Hikers wishing to hike Mt. Whitney during the full moon without camping will be able to use a day hike permit with a special full moon stamp. Next year an overnight permit will be required. All Whitney permits are reservable.

Reservations will be taken by phone, fax or mail (postmarked no earlier than April 1) at the following:

Wilderness Reservations
P.O. Box 430
Big Pine, CA 93513
(619) 938-1136
Fax & TTY: (619) 938-1137

Hours: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 7 days a week.

There will be a toll free 800 number available April 1 for callers in the USA.

The reservation service will be located in Big Pine in the office of the Big Pine Chamber of Commerce and Visitor center located at 126 S. Main St. (Hwy 395). They will be open during business hours for walk-in business.

The reservation fee schedule is:

Overnight permit (quota trails): \$3.00 per person
Mt. Whitney Zone stamp (on overnight permits): \$1.00 per person
Mt. Whitney Day hiker: \$2.00 per person
Non-quota trails: \$3.00 per person

Payment will be accepted by credit card (Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Discover Card and EuroVisa), check or money order. Checks and money orders must be received at least seven days before entry date if reservations are made by phone.

Expect the telephones to be very busy during April. Mailing or faxing applications may be a more certain way of contacting the service. Questions about trail conditions or other details should be directed to the Ranger Stations.

New for 1997

Reservations for 1997 will be taken beginning six (6) months before the entry date (example: entry date is 7/14, reservations will be taken for that date starting 1/14).

Quota Trails on Inyo National Forest

Mono lake Staton (619) 647-3000

Rush Creek

Mammoth Lakes Station (619) 924-5500

Duck Pass	John Muir Trail
Deer Lakes	Minaret Lake
Red Cones, JMT So.	Beck Lake
High Trail (PCT)	Fern Lake
River Trail	Fish Creek
Shadow Lake	

White Mountain Station (619) 873-2500

McGee Creek	Lamark Lakes
Hilton Lakes	Sabrina Lakes
Mono Pass	Treasure Lakes
Little Lakes Valley	Bishop Pass
Pine Creek	Big Pine, No. Fork
Piute Pass	Big Pine, So. Fork

Mt Whitney Station (619) 876-6200

Taboose Pass	Mt. Whitney Trail
Sawmill Pass	N. Fork Lone Pine Creek
Baxters Pass	(Mountaineers Route)
Golden Trout Lakes.	Meysan Lake
Kearsarge Pass	Cottonwood Lakes
Shepherd Pass	Cottonwood Pass



ROCK CREEK - MOSQUITO FLATS YURT

FEB. 17-199 1996

by Reiner Stenzel

Since Rock Creek Lodge resumed its winter program we decided to rent their yurt at Mosquito Flats for the Presidents Day weekend. Eight participants left on Sat, 2/17, at 9 am from the Sno-Park at the Rock Creek road end. These were Tom Marsh, Mike Bratkowski, Steve Tuszinsky, Diann Fried, Steve Hessen, Eric Ginder and myself. We skied up the snow covered road, stopped by the Lodge, and proceeded to the yurt where we settled down and had lunch. The yurt is equipped with a woodstove, a Coleman stove (White gas or propane), a lantern, and cooking utensils. There are plastic chairs, which are removed at night to sleep on the wooden floor. A restroom is nearby at the trailhead. There is a second similar yurt under development. Some of us slept in it since one yurt is too tight for seven. Eric was equipped for snowcamping. At night the temperature dropped to 5 degrees.

In the afternoon some of us went on a tour to the end of Little Lakes valley. We took the high summer trail since there were some suspicious openings in the lakes. We proceeded past Mack, Marsh, Heart, Box and Long Lake to the chute leading up to the Treasure Lakes. There we left some nice tracks and turned back to arrive just before darkness at the yurt.

Sunday, 2/18, was our touring day. We left at 9am in sunny weather, skied to the end of the valley where Steve T. returned because he did not feel too well. We met four skiers who camped below Treasure Lakes. They advised us that the chutes below Bear Creek Spires where we headed for, contained only breakable crust. So we decided to make a grand tour of the high glaciers below Mt. Dade, Abbot, and Mills. The challenge began with a 1,600' ascent SW of the Treasure Lakes. The 40 degree slopes had soft snow on top of hard slabs which was a challenge for trailbreaking and kickturning. Halfway up, the mood for aborting the tour arose but a look down the slope convinced us that uphill was the lesser trouble. But it finally flattened out at 12,800' we were amply rewarded by soft dry powder snow. The glaciers face NE and it was too cold for the snow to settle. The view over the valley and the rugged mountain walls to the West were spectacular. But the sky was full of lenticular clouds and from the North low clouds were moving in. The forecasted storm was on its way. Skiing down the glacier was a telemarkers' dream come true. Near Mills Lake we turned East toward Long Lake. There were some tricky traverses and descents. A pole arrest on a hard steep slope saved one of our skiers. Another skier's fall cracked a windslab which promptly released a small avalanche. Breakable crust and the 4pm tiredness called for survival skiing techniques. Skinning up or even walking downhill became quite acceptable. The clouds were engulfing the summits, the first snow flurries were coming down, and it got pretty

gloomy. Finally, by 5pm, we were down in the valley between the Treasure Lakes and Long Lake. On the way we stopped by the camp of the 4 skiers and they were a bit surprised about the visit at supper time. With fainting daylight and increasing snowfall we followed our tracks along and over the lakes. After 6pm the flashlights came out. Lights from distant campsites confirmed we were on track. Just before 7pm we were back at the yurt. Steve had heated the home and prepared boiling water for his tired and dehydrated fellows. While it was snowing heavily outside we enjoyed dinner in a cozy yurt. After dinner, a champagne bottle was pulled out of the snow, an alligator cake was cut up, and we celebrated my birthday. What a great day it was. It snowed all night long with periodic gusts of wind. The snow covered the top of the yurt, and Eric's tent needed to be shoveled out. It was time to get out of the valley. We skied down the road through a foot of new snow. The cars needed to be dug out. The road was snow covered down to Hwy 395. After all, it was the middle of winter. We all enjoyed this adventurous trip. Special thanks to Tom for assisting and keeping us all together.



MT PINOS - MT ABEL TRAVERSE MAR 2, 1996

by Reiner Stenzel

In a good snow year this traverse makes great but long local day tour. Several storms had recently passed through the local mountains and conditions seemed to be right. Eight skiers met at 7am at the road junction to Mt. Pinos and Pine Mtn Club. Participants were Tom Marsh, Mark Goebel, Susan Lotus, Dennis Wendy, Paul Borkovich, Matt Doody, Duncan Livingston, and myself with K-9 Tatanka. We first drove to the trailhead for Mt Abel (Cerro Noroeste) which is at the Apache Saddle beyond Pine Mtn Club. There we left three cars, squeezed everyone into the remaining cars and drove up

to Mt Pinos. Just before 9am we started our tour on a sunny, spring-like day. An hour later we enjoyed the views from the summit of Mt Pinos (8,831'). To the South Mt Baldy stood out of the San Gabriels, and to the North, above the clouds in the San Joaquin valley, Mt Whitney on the Sierra crest was visible with binoculars. West of Mt Pinos, we descended on breakable crust and some powder patches into a saddle from where one climbs up to Sawmill Mtn (8,715'). We signed the peak register, enjoyed the view from the Sierra Nevada to the Channel Islands, and, after a snack, continued our tour at 11 am. Lured by some excellent downhill slopes we enjoyed too many turns before realizing that we were off the ridge and had to pay for the fun by climbing up a steep densely forested slope. We bypassed Grouse Mtn and headed NW to Mt Abel (8,286'). A trail sign indicated 2mi to Mt Abel and 2.5mi to Mt Pinos. "Piece of cake" was the consensus.

Heading toward Mt Abel we first had to drop about 800' into a saddle (7,618') and then reascend 600'. Unfortunately, the snow petered out and we had to hike through the saddle. In a burnt-out forest we crossed fresh bear tracks. Susan's pace increased (or was it because we carried her skis?). At 3pm we reached the road leading to the Mt Abel ski area. After discovering a sign which said 9(nine) miles to the road end we began counting our flashlights and snicker bars. We decided to take a short cut. Since the upper road had good snow coverage we skied it up to the summit and then continued XC along a ridge due NNW. It was an excellent ski terrain with open forests and gentle slopes which we skied down below the 7,500' level well beyond the Spring near the road. When we ran out of snow we hiked about 500' down to the dry road. The terrain was pretty steep but following a streambed we reached the road at 5pm without incident. Another 30 min walk brought us back to the cars. We were tired but very satisfied with the 8.5 hr ski tour. We had beautiful weather, all sorts of snow, interesting terrain, and a great group of people. After a final car shuttle to Mt Pinos everyone was on their way home. My special thanks to Tom who kindly assisted on this trip on a short notice.

Mugelnoos needs articles. This is your chance for fame and fortune. Well there is no money involved, but your friends will talk about your exploits! Send articles and photos to the editor listed on page 2 !

HAREM--SKAREM

The Mt. San Antonio Ski Hut now has a storage room for tools and odd "crud" that in 1939 was "The Harem." and the men slept upstairs in "The Skarem!" I had not yet left for the Ski Troops and Margie and I had met at the Ski Mountaineers Annual Banquet & Dance. Now we had danced all evening at Harwood Lodge and she consented to hike with the group that would hike to the hut and spend the night. She must have convinced her parents that she and Bud would be amply chaperoned, and she didn't really realize what an adventure the hike had been until the next day as we hiked down. The floods of the 30's had forced us to reroute the trail. These were called "The Butches."

I mentioned in "The Adolescent Effervescent" how you joined the "Ski Mountaineers", but that was only as an "Associate Member REAL "Ski Mountaineers" passed tests survival, first aid, and avalanche study. An asterisk was placed in front of their name on the roster, and they wore a big badge on their hat.

I mentioned equipment. Having wooden skis you carried quite a repair kit including a spare ski-tip if you broke one off! Later came laminated skis like the Griswolds we used in the 10th Mountain Division. From a leather strap binding and perhaps a bit of inner-tube to help hold the heel down we graduated to cables and springs. In the off-season we kept our skis in blocks spread in the middle so they wouldn't lose their camber. Your boots with laces were good enough for both hiking and skiing, and only the 'super skiers' had buckles. The screws of the steel edges required fresh tightening or a piece could be easily torn off, especially on some thin snow and rocks skiing down from the hut. I had only rounded edges on my flat-top maple skis when I spilled on the headwall, and to this day can see myself sliding on belly and back from the pinnacles to the willows across from the hut! It all sounds pretty grim, but O the excitement and comradeship of it all, and besides an entire ski outfit including skis, bindings, boots, & poles only cost \$25!

Wolfgang Lert in the articles for "le Chronicle du Couloir" Jan/Feb. 1992 says, "The original group of So. Calif. skiers were largely UCLA students who also happened to be Sierra Club members. The group was led by Dr. Walter Mosauer, a herpetologist and biology professor at UCLA...[He] introduced the word "mugel" to these early skiers." There is much more that Wolfgang has to say about getting permission to build a hut only if the group were more responsibly identified, so they became "The Ski Mountaineers Section of the Sierra Club," and later combined with the "Rock Climbing Section" printing this MUGELNOOS

Wolfgang adds this: "GEORGE BAUWENS, a tough old German engineer and outdoor enthusiast...was a slave driver who by constant cajoling, threats, and insults was able to meld our group of 'loafers' into a productive unit...The original hut was built in 1936, and burned down the same year. Fortunately we were rich enough to get burros to carry the big loads up for the rebuilding which was completed in 1937."

We have had several reunions and work-parties since that date, but I will save that telling for later. A photo of the one held at the home of Margie & me in 1969 is now mounted near the hut register.

Next edition: More on the EVOLUTION OF A YODELER !.....BUD

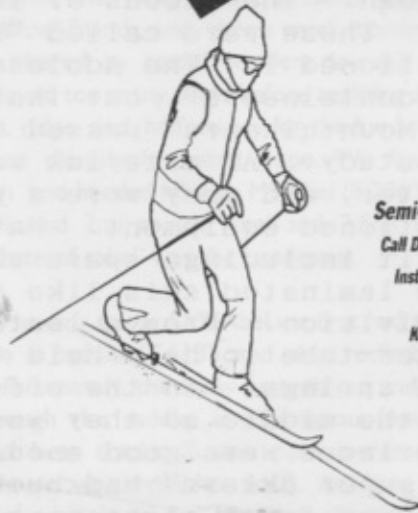


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