

# MUGELNOOS

MARCH 18, 1997

Number 734

## THE GREAT WESTERN DIVIDE



PEAR LAKE HUT, Feb. 8-9, 1997

by Reiner Stenzel

I played the lottery and won a weekend reservation for Pear Lake Hut. We were five skiers, Steve Hessen, Duncan Livingston, Felix Betschard, Britta Stenzel and myself. On Friday we drove up to the Lodgepole Visitor Center which is now closed during winter. We camped, got our permits and the hut key, and to our delight, a few inches of fresh snow during the night. In the morning we drove with chains up to Wolverton where the tour started at about 10am. Clouds drifted in and out. At the Hump (9,400') we had our lunch break in a whiteout. Shortly thereafter, at Heather Lake, the clouds broke up for a while and the beautiful panorama of Alta Peak in fresh snow appeared. Equipped with avalanche beacons and spread apart we ascended along the high route to Pear Lake Hut (9,200') arriving at about 3:30pm. The snow conditions were superb: 4-8 inches of fresh powder on a firm base. After treating some sore feet we went out to carve the slopes. Sunset turned the western sky and some mountain tops into a red glow. The hut was full of nice people, it was warm, and Britta prepared a delicious dinner. We talked with the ranger lady and other guests about the best skiing and decided for a Sunday tour to Skiers Alta (11,328') northeast of Alta Peak (11,204').

On a crisp clear Sunday morning seven skiers started the ascent toward Alta. Near the top we had a spectacular view of the Great Western Divide beyond the Tablelands. Duncan dared to ascend the summit which involved ascending a corniced wall. The rest of us watched from a safe distance. Then we all started a great run down the northeast facing slopes which had

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**MEETINGS**

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 15, 1997**

ISSUE DEADLINE APR. 11, 1997. ALL PHOTOS, SLIDES, AND ARTICLES SENT TO: ANDY FRIED, MUGELNOOS EDITOR, c/o TEC GROUP, 10727 WHITE OAK AVE. SUITE # 205, GRANADA HILLS, CA 91344. 3 1/2" OR 5 1/4 " DISKS (IBM) OR AT 71237.1270@COMPUSERVE.COM. IF YOU WISH TO HAVE PHOTOS RETURNED AFTER PUBLICATION INCLUDE A SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE. WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST PHOTOS.

**UPCOMING TRIPS:**

Date	Location	Leaders / Program
Apr 5-6	Avalanche Safety - Mammoth	Andy Fried/ Owen Maloy
Apr 12-15	Virginia Lake - Twin Lake	Tom Marsh /Keith Martin
Apr 19-20	Palisade Glacier tour	Mark Goebel/ Gerry Holleman
Apr 19-20	Wahoo Gullies	Reiner Stenzel / TBA
Apr 26-M 4	Trans Sierra: Cirque Crest	R. J. Secor/ Reiner Stenzel
May 3-4	Ski Mountaineers Peak	Gerry Holleman / Paul Harris
May 10-11	Horton Lakes	Keith Martin / Owen Maloy
May 10-12	Mt. Williamson	Reiner Stenzel / TBA
May 17-18	Basin Mtn Couloir	Don Pies / Ken Deemer
May 24-26	Matterhorn Pk/Sawtooth Rdg	Reiner Stenzel / TBA
May 31-j 1	Rock Creek Ski Camp	Pete Matulavich / Ken Deemer

**NEW MEMBERS**

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**SMS WEB PAGE**

<http://www.edgeinternet.com/skimt/>

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**LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE AVAILABLE**

Registration is underway for the Angeles Chapter's Leadership Training Course, a program to prepare Chapter members to become qualified Sierra Club outings leaders. The course begins with an all-day seminar to be held at Griffith Park on Saturday, April 5, 1997. All applicants must be Sierra Club members and have participated in at least five club hikes or trips.

Club members wishing to enroll in the course should send a stamped, self-addressed business-size envelope to Alice Danta, LTC Registrar, 17561 Medford Avenue, Tustin, CA 92680-1950. Completed application forms must be returned to the Registrar not later than March 22, 1997.

**SMS STORE**

We have the following items currently in stock. Ortovox Avalanche Transceivers \$184.03 tax inc. model FI focus 457 khz. SMS patches \$2.00, Pins \$3.00 Contact Mark Goebel (714) 963-9384 (evenings).

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excellent powder snow. At lunch some of the skiers had to descend to the hut to return home. Four of us decided to head into the Tablelands in the afternoon. After ascending for a couple of hours we reached the plateau. It is a vast open terrain of untracked rolling slopes. But time ran out and we had to return after 3pm. Powder gave way to breakable crust. Felix crushed it with his randonee skis, I tried not to crush it with my fat powder/crud skis (Dynastar BIGS). Before darkness we were back at the hut just in time before the clouds rolled in from the valley. The last act of the day was the ascent of Pear Lake Hut. The snow covered the entire roof. After some sidestepping to the chimney it was a short, fast and steep run down the 45 degree roof. At last, I can say to have skied Pear Lake Hut.

Monday morning we had to ski out. It was a pity to leave such a beautiful place on a gorgeous day. The upper route was fairly icy. Beyond Heather Gap breakable crust was abundant. The run down on narrow forest trails with full packs was character building. But everybody made it safely down to the cars. After all, it was a great weekend of backcountry skiing with a fine group of people.

## More Hot Sites On The World Wide Web

### Organizations:

<http://www.gorp.com/aac/aachome.htm>  
<http://www.culturenet.ca/acc>  
<http://www.ul.ie/~mci/uaa.html>  
<http://www.outdoorlink.com/accessfund>  
<http://www.climbnet.com/AMGA>  
<http://climb-on.com>  
<http://www.wca-climbing.org>  
<http://www.mra.org>  
<http://www.gorge.net/hra>  
<http://www.expeditionresearch.org>  
<http://www.mountain.org>  
<http://www.mtnforum.org>

American Alpine Club  
 Alpine Club of Canada Home Page  
 UIAA  
 Access Fund  
 American Mountain Guides Assoc.  
 American Mountain Foundation  
 World Climbing Association  
 Mountain Rescue Association  
 Himalayan Rescue Association  
 Expedition Research  
 The Mountain Institute  
 Mountain Forum

### Publications, Etc:

<http://website.westcliff.co.uk/homepage/couloir>  
<http://www.climbing.com>  
[http://microship.ucsd.edu/Expedition\\_News](http://microship.ucsd.edu/Expedition_News)  
<http://outside.starwave.com>  
<http://www.rockandice.com>  
<http://www.climbnet.com/theclimbingshow>  
<http://www.couloir-mag.com>

*Couloir*  
*Climbing*  
*Expedition News*  
*Outside Online*  
*Rock & Ice*  
*The Climbing Show*  
*Couloir*

### A Few Interesting Odds And Ends:

<http://www.primenet.com/~mids>  
<http://www.yahoo.com/Recreation/Outdoor/Climbing>  
<http://kcd.com/ravenswindow>  
<http://cirrus.spri.umich.edu/wxnet>

Big Wall Home Page

Climbing art by John Svenson  
 WeatherNet

<http://www.climbnet.com>  
<http://www.csac.org>  
<http://www.encis.es/avent>  
<http://www.sportiva.com>  
<http://www.infosphere.com/petzl>  
<http://www.Marmot.com>  
<http://www.rei.com>  
<http://www.orgear.com>  
<http://www.eznet.com/mgear.html>  
<http://www.mungopark.msn.com>  
<http://www.patagonia.com>  
<http://www.pbs.org/nova>  
<http://www.royalrobbins.com>  
<http://www.webpool.com/extreme>

ClimbNET  
 Cyberspace Snow & Avalanche Center  
 Exploracion y Aventura  
 La Sportiva  
 PMI/Petzl  
 Marmot Mountain, Ltd.  
 REI  
 Outdoor Research (Inc.)  
 Mountain Gear (Inc.)  
 Microsoft Mungo Park  
 Patagonia, Inc.  
 PBS's NOVA  
 Royal Robbins, Inc.  
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Feb. 22 • Ski With A Demo Team Member Clinic

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Feb. 22-23 • SMS Tele Practice

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Feb. 23 • Telemark and Free-heel Ski Games

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Mar. 22-23 • Spring Tele Festival

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Pre-register with Bear Mt. Tele program

For more information or to register call or write:

Bear Mountain Ski Resort-Telemark Program

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