

# MUGELNOOS

FEBRUARY 17, 1998

Number 741



At Minaret Crest, the participants give the Skier's Salute!

## Ski Leaders Training, Mammoth December 12 - 14, 1997

Keith Martin

The first joint OCSS, Ski Mountaineer's Ski Leader Training was a resounding success. Ski Leaders from OCSS, Wilderness Adventures and Ski Mountaineers took advantage of the annual program which previously had been hosted solely by the Orange County Sierra Singles. Management of both OCSS and SMS are to be lauded for their support of this program including their contribution of free lift tickets to active leaders to help defray the individual cost of the training.

Ski mountaineering leaders and members who participated included Keith Martin, Reiner Stenzel, Paulette Landers, Michael Dodson, Nonnie DeSurra and Bob Meador. OCSS members included Ernie Hockenstein, Barbara Wolak, Gary Landers, Phyllis Reimann-Dodson, Cyndee Pappas, Donna Specht, and Joann Sarachman. Rosemary Campbell from Wilderness Adventures also joined.

To avoid Iron Boot in the morning and to appease the snow god, we stayed at the Ullr Lodge in Mammoth, a favorite of OCSS's and other groups that go to Mammoth. The lodge has reasonable comfort, accommodations and cost.

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## MUGELNOOS STAFF

EDITOR ANDY FRIED  
MUGELPRINTER ANDY FRIED  
MUGELMAILER PAT HOLLEMAN

## 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: MARCH 17, 1998

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## UPCOMING TRIPS:

Date	Location	Leaders / Program
Feb 20 -22	Fri-Sun Ski Mountaineers	C: Nordic Downhill Practice. Leader: Paul Harris. Asst: Nancy Gordon.
Feb 22	Sun Ski Mountaineers	Ti: Mt Baldy Steep and challenging skiing in Baldy Bowl. Leader: Mark Goebel. Asst: Pete Matulavich.
Mar 7	Sat Ski Mountaineers	Ti: Mt. San Jacinto (10,804'):Leader: Lawrence Pallant. Asst: Paul Harris.
March 13-16	Ti: San Bernadino Ridge	Leader: Reiner Stenzel, Asst: Tom Marsh
Mar 15	Mt Baldy Ti	Ldr: M. Goebel Asst: Ken Deemer
Mar 21-22	Sat-Sun Ti: Mt. Silliman, Great Western Divide	Ldr: Reiner Stenzel, Asst: Owen Maloy
Mar 28-29	Ti: Mt. San Jacinto- Intro Tour	Leader: Ken Deemer, Asst: Pete Matulavich
April 4-5	Sat-Sun C: Mammoth /June Downhill ski practice:	Ldr: Owen Maloy
April 11-15	Ti: Sat-Wed Mammoth -Lee Vining	Ldr: Joe McGuire, Asst: Tom Marsh
April 18-19	Ti: Onion Valley-Sardine Can.	Ldr: Don Pies, Asst: Ken Deemer
May 1-7	Fri-Tue Ti: Mt Williamson-Mt Whitney Crest	Ldr:Reiner Stenzel, Asst: Ken Deemer
May 2-3	Sat-Sun Ti: Mt. Wood,	Ldr: Mark Goebel, Asst: Dan Richter
May 9-10	Ti: Onion Valley	Ldr: Keith Martin, Asst: Owen Maloy

May 9-10 Sat-Sun Ti: Lamarck Col: Leader: Lawrence Pallant. Asst: Tom Marsh.

May 9-10 Sps/SMS Ti: Morrison & Baldwin co-ldrs : Scott Jamison, L Tidball Res. Barbee Tidball

May 16-17 Ski Mountaineers Pk,Ldr Gerry Holleman, Asst :Paul Harris

May 23-25 Sawtooth Ridge Ski Camp Leader: Reiner Stenzel,Asst: G Holleman

May 23-25 Tioga & Sonora Pass Ski Camp Ldr: K Martin Asst: O. Maloy

Jun 13-16 Sat-Tues Northern Ski Advent. Ldr:Nancy Gordon,Asst: O. Maloy

## SMS OFFICERS

Ken Deemer	Chair	Diann Fried	V. Chair
Mark Gobel	Sec./Treas.	Owen Maloy	Outings/safety
Keith Martin	Programs	Eric Klosterman	
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## Mugelnoos Programs

Mar 17 John Fischer-Trans Sierra-Plans,Prep, risk management.  
April 21 Rich Henke-----Ski tours in S.W. US.  
May 19 Brad Jensen----- Spring 97 Ski Ascent of Denali

## SMS WEB PAGE

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

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Saturday was set aside for a field exercise. Each year a different subject is chosen for the field exercise, this years subject was EMERGENCY SNOW SLEDS! An evening meeting had been held at Michael Dodson's earlier in the month to work out the bugs. As participants woke on Saturday morning, a minor rebellion took place. Several of the participants had gone up a day earlier and had already tested the snow conditions. The report: the snow was the best they had seen for a long time! The group was impatient with the plan to go out a short distance from Mammoth Lodge and spend the day doing sled building. A compromise was swiftly worked out. A morning exercise was conducted building sleds in the snow covered golf course just south of the Ullr Lodge with the promise of an afternoon ski tour along the Minaret Crest.

All participants industriously constructed sleds and then gave them a test run. The first group ready to run was headed by Michael and Reiner with Bob as the victim. Bob was securely tied and wrapped up with a tarp on top of the sled. To guard against the cold, he braced himself with a couple of swigs of medicinal Schnapps. A second sled constructed by Keith, Cyndee and Ernie was used to haul Gary around for a couple of laps. All found the exercise stimulating and informative. Pulling those sleds was hard work in the fresh powder conditions. Reiner conducted a brief beacon refresher exercise and then we all returned to the Ullr for a snack and preparation for the afternoon tour.

Michael led the group on a beautiful tour along the Minaret

Crest, starting and returning to the Mammoth Lodge Parking area. The snow conditions were excellent, the weather was ideal and all had great fun. Reiner and Keith tested out some walkie talkies which Reiner had brought to the exercise and found them to be a great aid in keeping the two ends of the group informed. Definitely something which might become standard equipment on future tours both from a safety as well as a convenience point of view.

Saturday night we feasted on dinner catered by Mats'u's. After dinner we conducted a leadership exercise. A scenario was presented with various problems and safety concerns. Everyone gave input as to what kinds of issues the trip leader needed to confront and what criteria should be used in his choice of solutions. Many of the suggestions were novel and informative, and the group participation was invaluable to all.

Sunday the group went to the Mountain for a half day clinic. Those with advanced skills skied with Urmas Franoisch while the intermediate level skiers worked with Bob Meador with some assistance from Owen Maloy. A storm came in on Sunday and we had fresh powder on groomed slopes the whole day with only minimal crowds. Perfecto!

Planning for next years Ski Leaders Training will take place in May. We need input from OCSS and SMS leaders (and future leaders) as to what skills they would like to see taught and what changes they might like to see in the format of the program. Thanks to all the participants for their enthusiasm and support in making this year's program a success.



Michael Dodson tucks Bob Meador into his sled while Bob securely grips his medicinal Schnapps.

## NEVER TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING ?

My first thought was, since there is little useful local snow that Mt Pinos was the place. With this Walter Boge agreed. Then the predictions and looking at the sky made us think that a storm of some sort was coming in. What we didn't know was where and how much (if any) the snow would fall. We also began to doubt that plowing the Mt Pinos road was a priority with Kern County, so may be Waterman? Or maybe Pinos? After what might laughingly be called considerable intellectual effort, Walter and I decided on Mt Waterman Friday night. Newcombe's ski report was really optimistic. We called and spoke with or left messages for the people who had indicated that they were interrtested.

On Saturday morning I went out to Roxford to head off any who missed the message, while Walt went to the Angeles Crest turn-tff to meet the rest.

Thin snow and good ice on the road past Three Points, but not a lot of snow in the trees, but skiers like farmers must be optimistic until the truth cannot be refuted. After a little wandering around, the nine of us got organized and walked up the logging road to the first turn. I hadn't seen so little snow in a lot of years, perhaps since my first trip up there with Mark Goebel many years ago. There were groves of buckthorn in the road that I had never seen before.

We skied up on a light crust, with clouds blowing up from the canyons to the south, vaporizing as they crossed the ridges towards the desert. Our hopes of enough sun to soften the crust were never met.

A pleasant conversational lunh on top; the wind had stopped, the clouds were still over us, a beautiful absolute blue sky to the east and north. A glorious day.

Down on an accelerating crust concealing fast snow, rocks, pine needles and dirt. Back country skiing at its classic best. Lots of craters but everybody having a good time.

After a little adjusting of new equipment, we skied back down the road, fast and fun on top of the crust, wedges around the blind corners, tuck and run for the up-hills. Back at the cars by three. A good day. We'd been out on our skis.

P. Harris

### TRANS-SIERRA SKI TOURS

with **John Fischer**

\$440 per person with group of five

### YOSEMITE BORDER CROSSING

April 18 - 25

June lake to Wawona

### SIERRA HIGH ROUTE

May 2 - 9

Symme's Creek to Wolverton

### CIRQUE CREST/MONARCH DIVIDE

May 16 - 23

Palisades to Cedar Grove

**CALL (760) 873-5037**

## SKIING THE SIERRA CREST 300 MILES FROM WHITNEY TO YOSEMITE ORLAND BARTHOLOMEW--SOLO--1929

If that title arouses your curiosity you can read the details in a wonderful publication that I was introduced to in 1997.

Our fellow Ski Mountaineer, WOLFGANG LERT, is on the Editorial Board of "SKIING HERITAGE," and back issues are available once you have sent in your annual subscription fee of \$25. Here's the address:  
INTERNATIONAL SKIING HISTORY ASSOCIATION  
499 TOWN HILL ROAD  
NEW HARTFORD  
CT, 06057

Wolfgang's Article "Mountain Dreaming in California" highlights a new book of quick takes on the pioneers of the Sierra Nevada. Back issues feature Aspen, Anderl Molterer, Friedl Pfeifer, Gretchen Fraser, & the 10th Mt- Division.

I mailed the editors copies from the series I wrote for the Mugelnoos" and UCLA Ski Team skiing in the 40's- Donors make the publication possible as the \$25 is only 1/2 of costs. Join us!

BUD HALLEY



## MT PINOS , Sat Jan 17, 1998

by Reiner Stenzel

Ten skiers met at 8 am at the intersection Mt. Pinos/Pine Mtn Club on the Frazier Mtn Pk Rd. These were Pete Matulavich, Diann Fried, Bahram Manahedgi, Tony Bird, Mike Rector, Maya Hostettler, Bettina Soestwohner, Ron Geiger and Lynne Frick. After waiting half an hour for four no-shows we drove up to McGill Cpgd, left three cars, and carpoled up to the Mt. Pinos parking lot at the road end. By 9:30 am we skinned up to Mt. Pinos, three on Randonee gear, the rest on telemark boards. It was sunny and a bit windy. The snow was frozen crust since it had rained the day before but the snow coverage was adequate (1'-3'). As the group stretched out, the leaders at the front and end stayed in contact with my new toys: lightweight Motorola radios, 7 ozs, 2 mi range. On the summit of Mt Pinos (8,831') we were high above the clouds covering the San Joaquin Valley. 100 mi to the North the Sierra Nevada rose out of the fog. 50 mi to the South some Channel Islands were visible. The wind disappeared and it became a beautiful day. After a stopover

at the Condor Point we skied down the steeper Northern slopes of Mt Pinos. Initially, the snow was solid crust, then breakable crust, and finally soft snow on lower South facing slopes. After a snack at the 8,400' Saddle we skinned up and climbed Sawmill Mtn (8,818'), another HPS peak. We enjoyed a pleasant lunch with views from Mt Whitney to Santa Cruz Isld. Then it was time to yo-yo on the slopes North of Sawmill. Initially we had planned to ski down into the town of Pine Mtn Club but this adventure was not possible due to a high snowline. Thus, we headed back to Mt Pinos and by 2:30 pm began our long descend to McGill Cpgd (7,400'). This involved a lot of challenging forest skiing in all sorts of snow: frozen, breakabel, soft, and mush. Maya showed us how to handle any snow on alpine gear (provided you start skiing right after birth). Although we generally followed the North Ridge Trail we often took XC short cuts on inviting slopes. Eventually, the snow became intermittent and we headed back to the road. After half a mile of walking we reached the cars at McGill Cpgd around 4 pm. Bahram shuttled the drivers back to the upper parking lot. By 5 pm we were all ready to head down home, tired but satisfied from a full day of backcountry skiing. Thanks to Pete for his help in leading this trip with a fine group of excellent skiers.

### 1998 Schedule of TELEMAR SKI EVENTS

#### FEB 20"CHASING FUNKEY SNOW" SEMINARS \$68

Strong Intermediates and Advance Skiers only - goal is to ski any and everywhere. Tricks for skiing steeps, bumps, crud, smooth, fast, hop and jump turns, and more!

Includes lift ticket and 4 hour clinic 10 AM-Noon and PM-3 PM

#### FEB. 21-22 Ski Mountaineer's Free-heel Training Sessions

All day clinics tailored for: Beginner - working on basic skills needed to do the Telemark and other free-heel turns.

Intermediate - explore tactics on how to ski changing snow conditions and terrain. Advanced - work on steeps, bumps, crud,

smooth, speed, hop and jump turns, etc. Includes lift ticket and 4 hour clinic 10 AM-Noon and 1 PM-3 PM To register and for more information Contact: Paul Harris: 818-577-4800

#### MAR. 20-21 SPRING - TELEMAR WORKSHOP \$68

all day clinics tailored for: Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced--- includes lift ticket and four hour clinic.

#### MAR. 22SPRING TELEMAR AND FREE HEEL GAMES

BEAR MOUNTAIN Programs subject to change without notice.

For updates, call **TELEMAR SKI PROGRAM 909-585-2519 ext.348**



Mt. Pinos tour 1/17/98 Lunch on Sawmill Mtn.

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