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Issue # 764



Tele skiing in British Columbia powder? Nope-just our own Mt Pinos!

# Mt. Pinos Private Trip, Saturday January 13 (by Randy Lamm)

Got a chance to dust off my prehistoric tele setup on the first snow of the season at Mt. Pinos. The day started off in a typical So. Cal post dump traffic jam. Driving up to the Y intersection of the Pinos and Cerro Noreste roads, all the mini vans and snow play vehicles were parked every which way, with the CHP ordering all two wheel drive vehicles to put on chains even though the roads were 90% snow free. Even in a brand new Subaru Forester AWD we were told that "we would be let thru, but we need to carry chains next time." I was thinking about all the bucks spent on AWD - if the CHP is going to force chains on you anyway, I guess my old Volvo is not such a handicap afterall! Pulling into the Mt. Pinos parking lot, we were descended upon by several roaming volunteer USFS parking enforcement officers that immediately gave us-and the two cars that pulled in next to us-tickets for not having the fee demo permit. The word was from the locals that if you don't bother paying the tickets nothing happens. One local remarked that they had 12 tickets over the last year they did not pay and nothing happened yet. Finally, we suited up and started up the trail. There was about 3' at the trailhead and it was pretty easy going not icy, but packed down pretty good. The temps were cool - about 26F at lunch time. After a few miles and about 1.5 leisurely hours we made the 1300' vertical gain to the top. Beautiful clear day with a good view over to Sawmill Mt. As we were eating lunch we watched someone venture out on skinny trak skis to try the open slope facing southwest toward Ojai. The slope was fairly tracked up and looked pretty cruddy. Indeed, the trak skier attempted a long radius turn going about 2 mph and decided to go back to trak skiing. I was thinking that I should stick to the trak my self and come back with my AT gear, but then I thought it's been a while since I attempted a

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#### **NEXT ISSUE**

March issue deadline is March 10th, 2001. All letters, photos, slides, or articles should be sent to Mugelnoos editor, Lorene Samoska, 701 Craig Avenue, La Canada, CA 91011. Materials can be sent by IBM disc or e-mailed to samsei@earthlink.net. Electronic photos and articles are preferred and appreciated.

#### SMS WEB PAGE

The link is:

http://angeles.sierraclub.org/skimt/

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## MEETINGS

3rd Tuesday each month - November through May (except December) 7:30 PM, Griffith Park Ranger Station Auditorium 4730 Crystal Springs Drive, Los Angeles, CA. Newcomers welcome!



WWW.NDW-SEDUITUR.COM

#### Condensed Calendar

- Feb 23-25 Fri-Sun C:Free-Heel Downhill Practice Weekend
  Stay two nights at Keller Hut, with lift ticket and all
  day clinics on Sat. High quality rentals are available at
  \$12. Reserve early. Send a check for \$95 to include
  clinics, or \$65 without, and 2 sase to the Res: Keith
  Martin.
- Feb 23-25, 2001 TI: Weekend at Pear Lake Hut Ski: Ldr: Randy Lamm, Asst.: Mark Goebel.
- Mar 3 Sat TI: Mt. Baden Powell 9,399': Note Change in date. Ldr: Randy Lamm, Asst.: Mark Goebel.
- Mar 10-11 Sat-Sun TI: Baldy Ski Hut Ldr: Mark Goebel. Asst: Bill Lingle.
- Mar 20 Tue Ski Mountaineers Monthly Meeting: 7:30pm Griffith Park Ranger Station.
- Mar 24-25 Sat-Sun TI: Olancha Pk (12,123' Ldr: Mark Goebel. Asst: Keith Martin.
- Mar 31 Apr 1 Sat-Sun Ski Mountaineers/Sierra Peaks TM: Mt Perkins: Ldr:Reiner Stenzel. Co-Ldr: Keith Martin
- April 7, 2001. Leadership Training Seminar. Applications are available at http://angeleschapter.org/ltc/forms/ltc\_application.html or send large SASE to: Don Creighton, LTC Registrar, 2235 W 25th St., #128, San Pedro, CA 90732-4130 Phone: 310-519-0364.
- Apr 7-8 Sat-Sun TI: Onion Valley Car Camp: Ldr: Tom Marsh. Asst.: Gerry Holleman
- Apr 14-19 Sat-Thu Ski Mountaineers/Sierra Peaks TM: Mts Guyot, Joe Devil, Pickering, Newcomb: Ldr: Reiner Stenzel. Co-Ldr: R.J.Secor.
- Apr 17 Tue Ski Mountaineers Monthly Meeting: 7:30pm Griffith Park Ranger Station.
- Apr 21-22 Sat-Sun TI: Tour De Peaklet: Ldr: Randy Lamm, Asst: Tom Marsh
- May 5-6 Sat-Sun TI: Dunderberg Pk (12,374'), Mt Dana (13,374'):Ldr: Mark Goebel. Asst: Tom Sexton.
- May 12-16 Sat-Wed Ski Mountaineers/Sierra Peaks TM: Ldr:Reiner Stenzel. Co-Ldr: Ron Hudson
- May 12-19 Sat-Sat T: Yosemite High Route Trans-Sierra: Ldr: Tom Marsh. Asst: Joe McGuire.
- May 15 Tue Ski Mountaineers Monthly Meeting: 7:30pm Griffith Park Ranger Station.
- May 26-28 Sat-Mon Ski Mountaineers/Sierra Peaks TM:
  Mt Whitney, Mt Muir: Ldr: Reiner Stenzel. Co-Ldr:
  R.J.Secor.

Contact trip leaders for more information

The Mugelnoos is a newsletter published by and for the Ski Mountaineers Section of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter since 1938. Send subscriptions and address changes to: Pat Holleman, 1638 6th Street, Manhattan Beach, CA.90266 \$7 per year payable to "SMS." Due in October. Subscription payments are not tax deductible as charitable contributions.

(Continued from page 1)

tele turn, and I should at least try it once - just to remind myself why I don't tele. I was glad I tried. Even with the old lace up boots and long ex-alpine skis I was able to turn without planting my face first. Actually it was pretty easy. The snow was surprisingly good, not quite Rocky pow, but definitely a grade above the usual Tehachapi Tar. We practiced our turns until the slope was totally packed down and headed over to the Microwave Tower hill. Even the face of Microwave Tower which I usually find to be frozen cut-up crud, was easy to ski. After eating up the 50' of vert on micro tower hill we headed back to the main trail and skied out to the car in about 45 minutes. After getting stuck in a traffic jam while waiting for some San Joaquin Valley dudes to pull their pickity up out of the snow bank, we took a break at the Frazier Park Truck Stop to sample some of their fine hot chocolate and headed home. All in all a fine trip to Mt. Pinos. Next month - the Southern California Expedition to Kratka Ridge!



## **Snow-Starved Downhill Weekend**

(by Owen Maloy)

The weekend of January 6-7 was supposed to be an opportunity for SMS members to hone their skiing skills. Besides the leaders, Andy Fried and Owen Maloy, one person showed up -- Bill Lingle. Saturday Andy and Bill skied Mammoth Mountain (Owen was sick), but gave up after two hours of skiing ice mixed with pumice gravel. Andy cooked an excellent dinner, and we all got to watch Chicken Run.

Sunday we opted for a tour on light skis around Lake Mary, where the conditions were better. Wax of the day: universal klister. The photo shows Bill and Andy at the Coldwater turnoff.

The following Thursday, January 11th, three feet of cold fluffy champagne powder fell at Mammoth Mountain.





The Mugelnoos editor is soliciting ski photos for the Photo Gallery. Submit your backcountry ski photos to: samsei@earthlink.net

Note: new email address

For Sale: Tua Escape S (waxless) 210 cm, telemark binding, used 5 times. Retail over \$345, sell \$95. Tua Transalp 197 cm. New, never mounted. Retail \$270, sell \$125. Dynastar Telmark 205 cm, telemark binding, like new. Retail: \$345, sell \$95. Dynastar Gaurou Alpine snowboard 163 cm, Original Sin LOFO alpine bindings, like new. Retail \$645, sell \$175. Fischer Country Crown (waxless) 210 cm, telemark binding. \$30. Dynastar CrossComp Alpine 205 cm, Marker M48 Titanium bindings. \$90. Leki Poles: Super Extreme-3 Section, new: \$65. HI TEC Alpine 50 in. & 48 in., new: Retail \$100, sell \$70. Excel touring pole 150 cm: \$30. Synergy internal frame pack. \$50. Al Tapia (661) 242-2205.

For Sale: Ski Tours in Southern California: New book on crosscountry skiing in the local mountains. See www.ski.drydog.com. By Club member & Mugelnoos subscriber Dan Anderson.

Pete Yamagata's Northern Sierra Peaks Guide can now be accessed online at http://www.lanset.com/pyamagata It contains useful information in skiing the peaks of the Northern Sierra, and vicinity.

Mugelnoos

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