

SAN DIEGO PEAKS CLUB

An adventure hiking club for the intermediate and advanced hiker

Issue No. 7

March-April 1992

I want to welcome new club members Barbara Reber, Ralph Kloessing, and Ron and Leora Jones. Barbara is a 2X DPS list finisher from LA and Ralph just moved here from the Frisco area up north. Ron is the most knowledgeable person on adventure areas in the southwest, plus current editor of the Desert Sage as well as being in charge of advertising for the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club and immediate past chair of the HPS. Leora is currently the treasurer for the HPS and does a lot of the organizational work for events like the recent chili cookoff! Welcome to the club. We now have 67 members.

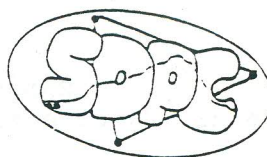
I have received signed waivers back from only 20% of the membership. Come, ye slackers, make haste! Send in the waiver (last page of issue 6).

Since we're on the subject of slackers, I would like to know how to get more of you to come out on our hikes. What are your needs? If I am going to lead a hike only one day of the weekend, would you rather have it on a Saturday or Sunday?

I have decided which peaks to add to the list, so I am sending the new revision to all the members. Last issue, you will recall, we dropped Lyons Pk and Donohue Mtn, so the list stood at 102 peaks. I am increasing the list to 107 peaks by adding Peak 5386, Pinyon Ridge high point, Diablo, Palm and Blue Angels Peak. Pk 5386 is on the Borrego Palm Canyon 7.5' map. Along the San Ysidro Mountain ridge are three high points: 6147' (BM Ysidro), 5855' (which is very brushy) and 5386'. This is a wonderful loop hike. Check the schedule to see when I am leading this. Pinyon Ridge high point (4614'-UTM 510708) is west of VABM Wilson on the Tubb Canyon quadrangle. It adds a little adventure to a trail hike and Terry Astle thought it should be on the list. Diablo was suggested by Terry Astle, John Strauch and Steve Spiller. I had also discovered it (after I published the original list). Monica Dirac and I checked it out in January and both loved it. It had a register on top dating back to 1955! In 1957 it was lead by a woman in the San Diego Sierra Club and 32 members made it! Please take another note pad with you if you go up there. It is on the Agua Caliente 7.5' map, at the top of June wash. More approaches are on the Arroyo Tapiapo map. You can take either trip 5 or 6 (pp.245-247) in Schad's book. We took trip 5. From the end of the road in Sandstone canyon we hiked up the canyon until it hooked to the right. There is a duck on a huge rock and we agreed it was an appropriate place to begin the loose rock ascent. It took one hour from the car to Diablo. Be sure to save plenty of time to look at the wind caves, elephant knees, etc in the Split Mountain area. Palm BM(2697') is the peak above the Calcite mine (Schad,p.211). You will need the Seventeen Palms map. It was suggested by Ranchita Ted as one of the neatest peaks in Borrego. Wes Shelberg tried it and loved it. You start by entering a slot canyon and have to exit the canyon and take good guesses to avoid class 3 climbing. If you pick the right way it is class 2. Blue Angels Peak is just "over the border" in Imperial county, but I will add it to the list anyway since so many people have suggested it (Schad,p.276). I really want hikers to explore this area, if they haven't been exposed to it by Evan Bacas or others. Well, there you have it, the five additions. I hope you enjoy them.

Membership

Dues are \$9 per year. The year runs from June to June. Family membership is the same price as individual membership, since the main cost is mailing. Since we are near the end of the year I will make a concession. \$11 will enroll new members until June 1993!(ie. \$2 for this year and \$9 for next year.) Make checks payable to Paul Freiman, 4421 Maryland St, San Diego, CA 92116-3902. (619)692-1367



Hiker of the Month

I apologize for putting the HOTM on the second page. It should be on the first page! Be that as it may, the HOTM for March is Betty Sterrett! Betty is responsible for the awesome club logo. Thank you, Betty!

The HOTM for the month of April is Wes Shelberg! Wes is San Diego's premier desert rat (shown in photo below). Many is the desert peak that he and I have climbed over the past several years. Wes has a saying, "The desert is a land choice above all others". So true.

Trip Reports

DPS Mitchell, Edgar. John Strauch, Les Hill and I joined the 12 from LA to climb these peaks in Riverside county. Dale van Dalsem lead us to Mitchell and to the base of Edgar, where he asked me to take over up the steep snow chute to the peak. That was cold!

Mecca Hills. Kelly Cummings and I enjoyed the orienteer in Palm Desert on Saturday and joined Malcolm and Susan Fitzurka for a campfire that evening. Kelly had drawn our attention to the constellations and we were all looking eastward when an F-18 zoomed by at an altitude of 500 feet! We appreciated how it was in Baghdad last year. Kathy Deal met us Sunday morning and everyone felt this was a superior hike.

Clunker Classic. Ralph Elliot had over 300 entries with 2 weeks to go on this overwhelmingly popular mountain bike ride.

Red Top and Pepperwood trail hike. Dennis Richards, Mary McLain, Al Holden, John Strauch and I tackled Red Top in 11 hours. The pace and route were perfect. It is a long and strenuous hike, but well worth it. Peggy Crunican, Dave Hardy and Monica Dirac joined Steve Spiller for his hike listed in Schad's book. He took 6½ hours and was back in San Diego at 5pm.

Chili cookoff. Dave and Peggy, Robin Tucker and I met Saturday morn near the southern end of Joshua Tree to hike 2 hours up to the old miner's rock house called Cary's Castle. After a couple of course corrections we found it. Afterwards we met Dennis and Sandy Richards and 45 other hikers at the chili cookoff. There were 11 kinds of chili. Ron and Leora Jones organized the event. In the evening we had a songfest at the campfire and Sunday Ron lead 34 hikers up Spectre, a beautiful mountain.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: Lightweight 4 season, 2 person tent. Sierra Designs, Tiros 1. Brand new, never used! 6#15 oz. Vestibule and doors on both sides, can withstand very high winds. Retail for \$365, sacrifice for \$275 or best offer.

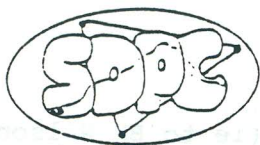
Hi Tech womens size 8½ Yosemite. Brand new, still in box. Retail \$69, will sell \$35.

Mens Asolo trail 2s, size 7 full leather hiking/backpacking boot. Great foot support with heavy packs and long downhills. Retail \$160- used one season, selling because they don't fit. Boot favors a wide foot. If your feet fit these boots you will love them!

Tom Pileggi h 481-6239, w 563-1520

For sale: North Face, 0 degree, long Chamois down mummy bag. Like new, rarely used. \$175 or best offer. Selling because hates mummy, wants to get rectangular bag. Bruce McCandless h 692-1367

For Sale: Campfinder Strobe, Model CF-1. A battery operated strobe light for trailhead marking or general use as a nighttime beacon. Turns on first or second nights. "Sleeps" during day, only flashes at night. \$50 Plus tax and shipping. Richard Carey 224-9300



WEEKEND CALENDAR

- Mar 1 Iron Mtn. Paul 692-1367. Easy local Poway hike. 10 mi, 5 hrs.
- Mar 21-22 Canon Palomar. Baja. Carl Johnson 448-8542. Richard Hughes assisting
Car camp. Carl promises spectacular scenery and a possible
hot springs sidetrip.
- Mar 21 Palm. Paul 692-1367. Join Ranchita Ted and me on Ted's favorite
Borrego climb. This is the newest added peak, above the calcite
mine in Schad's book (p.211-212).
- Mar 22 Pyramid and the Wonderstone trail (Schad p.207). Paul 692-1367.
This is the second of three hikes designed to help Steve Spiller
complete Jerry's book before he comes out with his revised edition.
I didn't think it was that hard, but Jerry sez 11 mi, 4000' gain,
10 hrs.
- Mar 28 6K Ridge. By Burnt Rancheria in Lagunas. Paul 692-1367. Al Holden
designed this hike, one of the BEST in the Lagunas! 5 hrs.
- Mar 29 Pinyon Mountain-North approach (Schad p.229). Paul 692-1367.
Join us as Steve closes the book on Jerry's hikes. Jerry sez 3100'
gain, 14 mi, 10 hrs for this desert trip. I say champagne on the
peak!!! Help Steve celebrate!
- Apr 5 Granite Mtn. Dennis Richards 462-3643. Sierra Club. Dennis is going
to do a loop hike that involves a very small car shuttle.
Dennis saw PETROGLYPHS the last time and will try to find them
again. Check Hi-Sierran for more info.
- Apr 11 El Capitan Open Space Preserve. Gail Hanna 272-5141. Richard Carey
assisting. Sierra Club. Check Hi-Sierran for more details.
This will start at the trailhead parking area off Wildcat Cyn
and go up to the old towers. 11 mi, 3500 feet. All trail.
- Apr 12 Pine Valley Creek. Paul 692-1367. This is a 19 mi hike on a trail
that is beside the creek. It starts in Pine Valley and ends at
Horsethief Cyn and the Espinosa trail. I'm looking forward to this
hike (haven't done the whole thing, but Jim Sugg and Wes Shelberg
have).
- SATURDAY*
~~MAR~~ 28
MAR
- Cottonwood Canyon to desert floor and return. Carl Johnson 448-8542
Jerry Schad assisting. Start at Pioneer Mail in the Lagunas and
descend down Cottonwood Cyn. Sierra Club. See Hi-Sierran for
more info and size limitations.
- Apr 19 Happy Easter!
- Apr 26 The Thimble, Bonny, White, Hob and Goat. This is a reprise of the
first hike I guided for the club. This is one of my favorites.
Paul 692-1367. This will probably close out the desert hiking
season. We will have to move closer in to San Diego from here on.

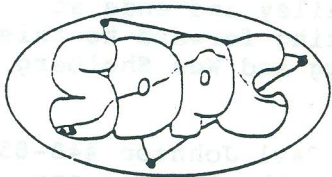
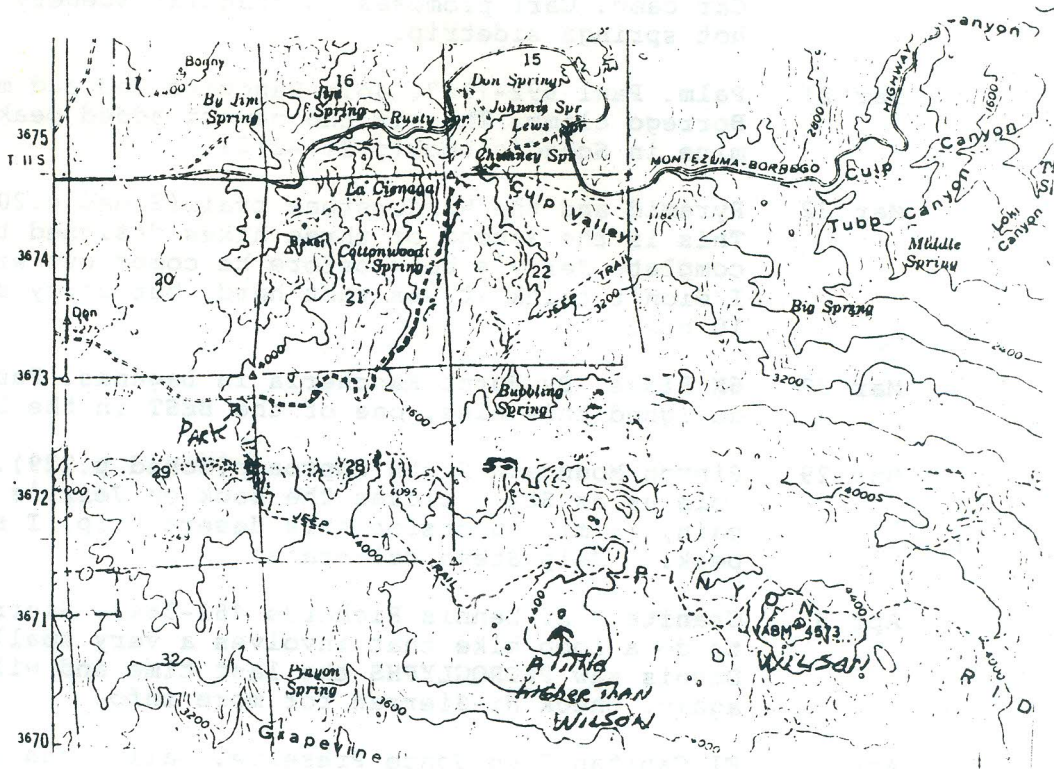
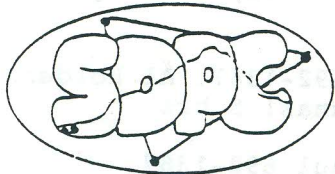
WEDNESDAY WALKABOUTS with Jim Sugg

- Mar 4 Cuyapaibe BM with Al Holden guiding.
- Mar 11 Lower Noble Cyn loop.
- Mar 18 Pine Mtn-Indian Crk loop with Al.
- Mar 25 Miner's Rd-Deer Park loop

Cuyapaibe and Pine Mountain are on the SDPC list. Jim 224-7895

Pinyon Ridge High Point

Jerry covers this trip very nicely (ie to BM Wilson), except for an error in mileage to the trailhead. Wilson trailhead is 3.0 mi from the pavement(1.9 mi from Cottonwood Spring). The Tubb Cyn map shows the high point. I consider this one of the best hikes for beginning Sierra Club type activities.



Poetry Corner

THIRTYSOMETHING

My age is thirtysomething
and there's nothing that I need
I've money, prestige and power
I'm a corporate VIP

Still I'm lacking something
when I come home to the wife
I just can't shake this feeling
that there's got to be more to life

I'm sick of the long hours
I work to earn a buck
Gonna trade my suit for a hat and boots
My beamer for a pickup truck

I'll say goodbye to the city
to the smog and the traffic jams
Soon I'll be sitting pretty
A country boy will be what I am

Paul Freiman
9-89

Also, for those interested in planning ahead, I am planning the following major outings - let me know if you are interested.

CARL'S
BAJA LIST

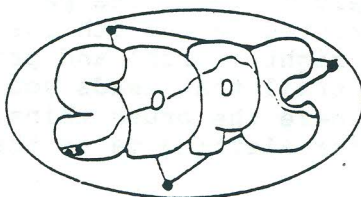
1. Cañon Palomar, canyon and hot springs, carcamp, (backpack ?), March 20-22. Sierra Juarez.
2. Rio San Antonio Falls, 3rd trip, extremely remote and strenuous backpack, May 22-25 - Memorial Day weekend.
3. Paria River-Canyon, Utah, backpack, "worlds best slot canyon", June 18-23.
4. Picacho del Diablo, west approach, possibly spend a night or two at the Meling Ranch, July 10-14 or forth of July weekend - not really that hot.
5. Sierra Tarahumara-train-hiking trip, not luxury or expensive (Copper Canyon) late August - hot.

If you are interested in Cañon Providencia or any other of these trips, please let me know as soon as possible. If you are unable to make these outings - maybe another time.

Carl Johnson

2076 Ventana Way El Cajon, Ca 92020-1043

448-8542



CROCK



Bits and Pieces

Mt Orizaba: Dave Jurasevich and gang (En Lee, Gail Hanna, Mark Adrian, Richard Carey, Fred Bright, Bill Stevens and Bill Rundel) had a successful trip the Mexican Volcanoes over Christmas. One was sick the whole time, but they all had a great time and Gail got to practice her Espanol. Ay, carumba! 18,700 feet, 3rd highest in North America!

Cindy Outlaw is going to attempt Mt McKinley in June!!!!

John Strauch earned his DPS emblem award Feb 22 by climbing Little Picacho. Dave Jurasevich lead the private party. Others included Mark Adrian, Fred Bright, Ken Olson, Russell Glavis, Suzanne Booker and Les Hill.

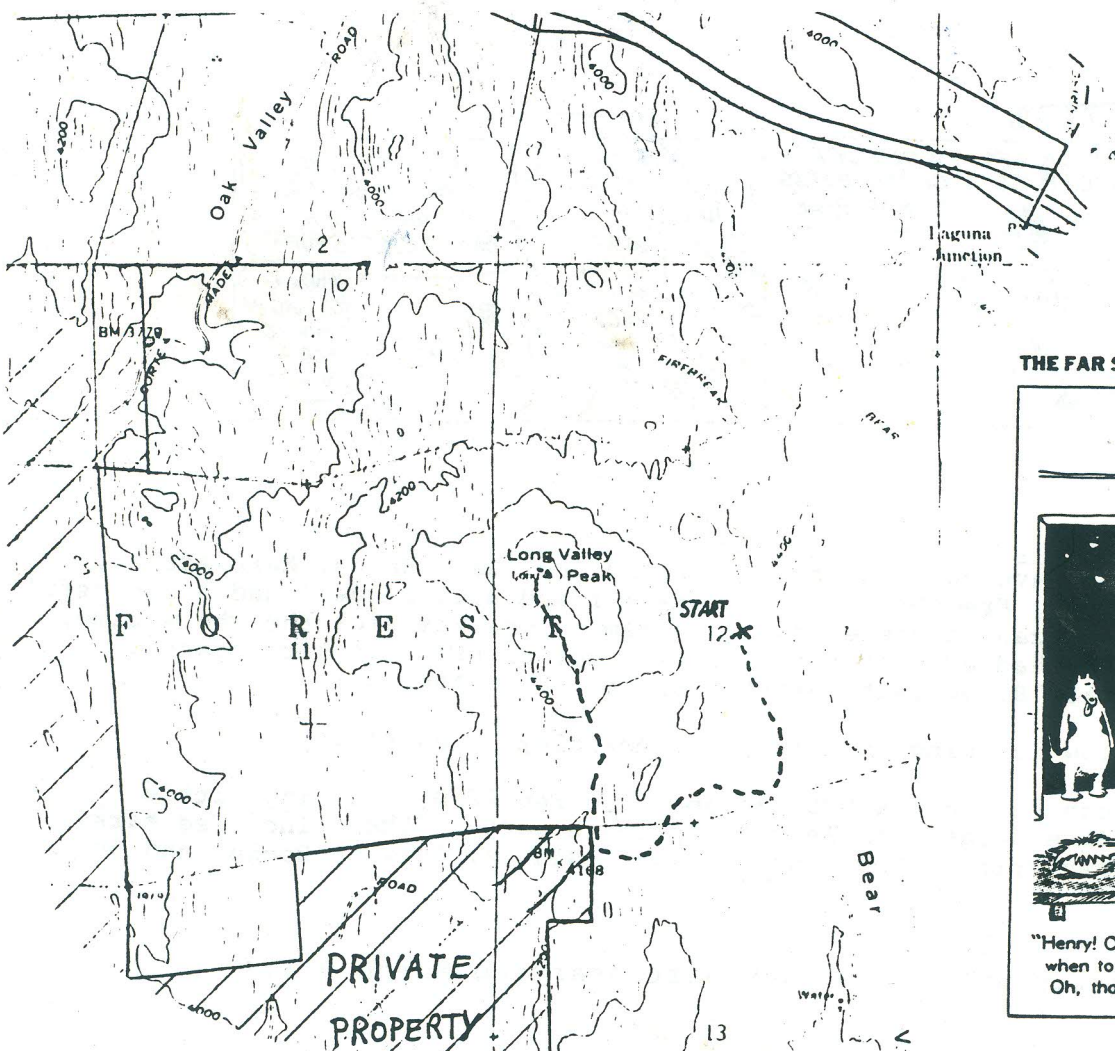
Paul finally goes on dayshift starting March 9!!!!

We get letters!

I got a letter from Russ Weber recently. He is one of the people who started the hiking list. He lives in Grand Junction, Colorado now and is editor of the Colorado Mtn Club newsletter. In 1991 he climbed Mt Shasta, St Helens, Rainier, Boundary(Nevada's highest), Borah(Idaho's highest), Popocatepetl and Orizaba in central Mexico. "Tell Lisa Freundlich I saw her name in the Orizaba register at Senor Reyes place. Say hi to the gang for me".PS "Could you send me Al Holden's address". You see, Al use to be Russ' scoutmaster. You did a great job, Al!

Dennis Richards sent me a letter about Long Valley peak. Laurie Jenkins had told me the same thing. "I'm sending you my proposed route up L.V. Peak that avoids crossing any private property...This is really a neat peak and I would hate to see it get 'popular'. Only 7 or 8 people have signed in...Clipping should be kept to an absolute minimum or better yet none at all."

Well, Dennis(and Laurie), I went out there in January to see what the two of you were talking about and yes, there was a new fence right where you listed it on the map! BUT a trail had been clipped through the brush that corresponded with the route on your map. I think this route will enhance the peak, since there was VERY heavy brush all around. Only my clubmembers are likely to go to the peak. So, add this to the description that was printed in the 5th issue (Nov-Dec 1991): When you get to the fence, turn right (north) and proceed along the fence and you will pick up a trail that leads you through the heavy brush to the 4400' contour, where the brush thins. Proceed to the peak from here. Thanks, Dennis, for alerting me to the possible trespass.



THE FAR SIDE By Gary Larson



"Henry! Our party's total chaos! No one knows when to eat, where to stand, what to... Oh, thank God! Here comes a border collie!"

