

## SAN DIEGO PEAKS CLUB

An adventure hiking club for the intermediate and advanced hiker!

Issue No. 8

May-June 1992

In May the San Diego Peaks Club will be one year old!!!HAPPY BIRTHDAY!! We now have 72 members. At the end of May we will have a birthday hike. The club will turn one, I will turn 40, Dave Hardy will turn 50 and Gail Hanna will turn 52. I hope everyone can help us celebrate!

I have a correction to make for the elevation of Mile-High. It is 5260 feet. The UTM coordinates are 759921 on the Font's Point 7½ minute map. Richard Carey and Gail Hanna put the current register there. Please note: It is not at the 5260 mark on the map, but is at the across the saddle to the west where the other ridgeline comes up.

Welcome new club members Patty Kline, Ted Caragozian, Bob Pinsker, Barbara Raab and Rheta Schoeneman! Patty is very active in the HPS and DPS (She lives in Topanga Canyon). She is an HPS list finisher and past chair of the HPS. Ted, better known as "Ranchita Ted", will be remembered by Sierra Clubbers as the author of the letter to the editor, "Fuming over Zealots", a true epic! He also suggested the newest peak, Palm, which I enjoyed so much that I am making it an EMBLEM peak.(More on this in "trip reports"). Bob is a Sierra Club Singles leader, a brilliant PhD, and the world's greatest procrastinator. You can read how he spent his winter vacation elsewhere in this issue. Barbara is an HPS list finisher and 4wd explorer. Rheta, an emergency room head nurse normally, on weekends turns into a very strong hiker. She is working on the DPS list of desert peaks. She is also a SC Singles leader who is running for the Chair of the Singles section. There you have it, a great bunch!

### Mini-macho y Machette

Terri Sutor, the dynamo that finished the HPS list 3x, is now a mini-machette. She is bagging the SDPC list on weekdays and spending her weekends assisting her husband, Ed, to finish the HPS list.

Bob has also hiked over 50 peaks. Bob who? As soon as he becomes a member I'll remember his last name.

Laurie Jenkins is the latest to earn her mini-machette, on the Thimble hike. Laurie solos a lot of her peaks, thus enjoying "adventure hiking" to the fullest. I have the greatest respect for someone who solos Rabbit. She mountain bikes a lot of the peaks.

### Hiker of the Month

The HOTM for May is Gail Hanna. Gail is an HPS and DPS list finisher. She is also an excellent orienteer who got first in the recent Tucson 8 hour event. Gail injured her leg after only 2 hours of the 8 hour orienteer. She continued on with her partner, club member Donna Gookin, and squeaked by with a close win. (One participant observed, "I notice that all the winners have come in injured." It's true, they were.) You may recall that she was a member of the Mexican Volcano trip that climbed Orizaba (18,700 feet) at Christmas. She is also a frequent leader of hikes. Congrats, Gail!

The HOTM for June is Cindy Outlaw. Cindy is climbing Mt. McKinley (20,320 feet) in June. Hope the weather is good for you, Cindy. Be sure to take a photo of the HOTM pole on top of the peak!!!!

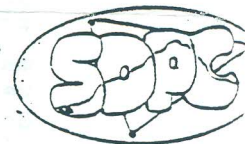
### Membership

Dues are due! Dues are due! Dues are due! Dues are due! Dues are due! Get the hint?! SDPC is a year old and dues are delinquent June 1st.

Here are the club members who have already re-upped: Beth and Ralph Davis, Ed and Terri Sutor, Betty Sterrett, Robin Tucker, Laurie Jenkins, Ron and Leora Jones, Patty Kline and Ted Caragozian. Send checks to Paul Freiman, 4421 Maryland St, San Diego, CA 92116-3902. (619)692-1367. Dues are \$9.00, which will put you in good standing until June 1993. Family memberships are the same price as individuals.

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WEEKEND CALENDAR

- May 16 Saturday Orienteer-SDO. Filaree Flats, Mt Laguna. Edwin and Donna Gookin 286-7958. A super site. The weather is usually perfect for this meet.
- May 17 Sunday Manza hike. Mt Laguna. This Al Holden designed hike incorporates the new (not yet completed) Sunset trail, the Noble Cyn trail and a beautiful use trail route complete with scenic waterfall. Paul 692-1367. About a 6 hour hike, 1000 feet gain. Easy-mod.
- May 22-25 Rio San Antonio Falls. 3rd trip, extremely remote and strenuous backpack. Memorial Day weekend. "Baja Carl" Johnson 448-8542
- May 24 Sunday Lost Ruin hike. Myer Valley, Jacumba Outstanding Area. See Schad p.278. The route follows Jerry's description at the start, then deviates to Frank Nichol's old house ruins by a spring that doesn't show on the map. About 6 Hours. Moderate. Paul 692-1367.
- May 30 Saturday Pine Valley Creek. This is a rescheduling of the 19 mile, mostly trail hike down the Pine Valley Creek from Pine Valley to Horsethief Canyon. This follows a new, not yet open trail along an old flume route. I want to thank Wes Shelberg and Jim Sugg for my awareness of this area. Paul 692-1367.
- May 31 Sunday Morena Butte. The Birthday Hike!! Happy B-D to Paul, Dave, Gail and the SDPC!!! Champagne on the peak! Be sure to bring your plate, fork and cup for the goodies. This is my favorite local hike, discovered by Paul and route assistance by Jim Sugg and friends. Paul 692-1367. Easy-moderate.
- June 6 Saturday Ken. Join Larry Carleton (578-9427) and Bob Pinsker for a SC hike up the newest HPS peak. The route up is 8 miles, mostly on the PCT. It is a "long moderate" 9 hour hike.
- June 13 Saturday Oriflamme Mtn and the Roost. Lagunas. This is a super hike, mostly trail, but with a bit of heavy brush. The loop will take about 5 hours. Moderate. Paul 692-1367.
- June 14 Sunday Fry Creek-Palomar Mtn hike. This will be a variation of last year's hike that everyone enjoyed so much. Paul 692-1367. Easy.
- June 18-23 Paria River-Canyon. Utah, backpack. "World's best slot canyon". Carl Johnson 448-8542. Sierra Club, Carol Murdock assisting. I sure wish I could do this backpack, but someone else has the vacation days. I sure am envious.
- June 20 Saturday Orienteer. Green Valley, Cuyamaca State Park. SDO, Jeff Jacobs 236-1491. Want to learn to read a map better? Just bring a compass (or rent one) and come out at 10 am. All levels from beginning to advanced. On any orienteer you can call the meet director or Bill Gookin 578-9456.
- June 20-21 Weekend Fish Creek, San Gorgonio Backpack peakbag. Bag Heart Bar, Grinnell, Lake, 10000 Foot Ridge and Constance on this wonderful trip. This is my co-favorite area in the Gorgonios. Dennis Richards 462-3643. Sierra Club, limited group size. This is a treasure of a hike to satisfy those of you who want a backpack.
- July 4th weekend Picacho del Diablo, west approach. "Baja Carl" 448-8542. Very strenuous!! "Not really that hot". Carl should know, he's done this peak oodles of times.
- August 21-30 Sierra Tarahumara (Copper Canyon) train-hiking trip. Not luxury or expensive. Dave and Peggy went with Carl on last year's trip. They give it the highest rating- two COWABONGAS! Baja Carl 448-8542.



WEDNESDAY WALKABOUTS with Jim Sugg 224-789

- May 6 Palomar South loop. Al leads.  
13 Corte Madera  
20 6K Ridge. Al leads.  
27 Pine Valley Creek- North loop. This is a new hike that Jim sez is absolutely FANTASTIC!
- June 3 Morena Butte. Al leads.  
10 Fortuna Mtn  
17 Monument Peak loop.

TRIP REPORTS

- Mar 1 Iron Mtn- Betty Sterrett, Cindy Outlaw and Mary McLain joined me for this Poway trail hike. The wet weather broke that morning and we had a gorgeous day.
- Mar 21 Palm- Ranchita Ted and Borrego resident Jerry Martin lead Beth Davis, Tiki Swain, Laurie Jenkins and me on an absolutely wonderful trip. They lead us through the slot canyons of this calcite infested area, then popped out at the right spot and bagged the peak. A register had been put there by ol' Wes, who had been there several times in the past. On top we admired the artistry of Tiki, a 17 year old from Australia, who makes sketches rather than shots photos of her journeys throughout the world. Ted and Jerry took us on a loop trip and we descended to some natural rock tanks. I enjoyed this area so much I am declaring this new peak an EMBLEM peak! The hike was only the first course. We then traveled down the road to Ram's Hill, where Ralph Davis joined us for a nice long soak before pasta dinner at Jerry's home. And what a home! Two stories, plus basement, this solar efficient palace was quite a contrast to Ted's home, a bus! Beth and Ralph had another event to get to the next day, and Laurie hadn't come to dinner, but Ted, Tiki and I accepted Jerry's gracious hospitality and spent the night.
- Mar 22 Pyramid- Ted, Tiki and I, after a delicious breakfast went out to meet Laurie for the 8 am start. I guess I had forgotten to tell Laurie what time the start was and she took off for the peak at 7 am, solo. We had a great time. Even the small rain showers didn't dampen our spirits (sorry, but I couldn't resist the pun). On top of Pyramid we spotted an orange box 600 feet below on the east side. We couldn't resist the exploration and went to check it out (Laurie had also visited the mysterious box earlier). What was it? How did it get there? You can see for yourself next time you're up there!
- Mar 28 6K Ridge- Dave and Peggy, Lisa Freundlich and Dave Walters joined me for an Al Holden designed hike. This hike follows the 6000 foot ridgeline to the east of Burnt Rancheria in the Lagunas. We had nice conditions, but it was partial whiteout conditions when we were enjoying lunch on top. Pity, because the views are normally spectacular.
- Mar 29 Pinyon Mountain-North approach: Back in 1984, when I was going through SC leadership training they asked us to mark a route on the map of a hike we would like to lead some day. The route I marked was the exact route that Jerry lists in his book(p.229). With me were Steve Spiller, Laurie Jenkins, Tom Pileggi and John Strauch. I wasn't aware of the sheep tanks at Blue Spring. I'd like to investigate this area more in the future. I understand some petroglyphs can be found in the area.
- Apr 12 Sunset trail- The Pine Valley Creek hike originally scheduled for today was canceled and Peggy Crunican, Dave Hardy and I went on a new, unopened trail in the Lagunas instead. This will be close to the hike that is lead May 17 with waterfalls, peaks and creeks.

#### BITS AND PIECES

Robin Tucker has attained another milestone, that of GRANDMA! Robin's daughter gave birth to Kaira. Daughters seem to run in the Tucker family line.

Jerry Schad is putting the finishing touches on the revision of "Afoot and Afield in San Diego County". He is deleting 12 hikes and adding 28! Some of the hikes that he will be deleted will be merged in the text (eg. Fortuna Mtn-west approach will be dropped, but mentioned and mapped). Some hikes are being dropped because of developments, some because the vegetation is getting too heavy, and some because of ranger request. The new edition will be coming out late in the year, probably.

Steve Spiller has one hike to go to finish all the hikes in Jerry's book: Rockhouse Canyon 25 mile backpack, 4000 feet of gain, 16 hours. Gee, I may lead it in the fall.

Mark Adrian informs me that Pat's Ski and Sport has closed shop in SD. He called a branch store and was told that they have closed 3 of 7 shops recently.

#### WANT ADS

For sale. Raichle mountaineering boots. All leather, medium weight, stiff, Norwegian welt, excellent condition, with innersoles. Fit size 7½ to 8 or female equivalent with wide heel. \$40. Gail Hanna 272-5141 (7-9pm).

#### BERNARDO and BATTLE MTNS

Bob's letter points to a problem with gaining access to Bernardo Mtn. I researched this recently and came up with two ways:(1) North I-15 to left on Via Rancho Pkwy all the way to Del Dios hwy. Just before Del Dios turn left on Lake and follow it to the county park at Lake Hodges. Hike to the southeast side of the mountain on a county trail, then leave the trail and find a use trail up to the peak. Yes, the mountain is on private property(Mr. Turner), but the east face is not going to be developed. It is to remain open space! It is not hostile or adverse trespassing and local hike there frequently. This drive in is only good on Weds and weekends when the park is open. Otherwise, turn left on Via Rancho Pkwy a short way to left on Ave Hacienda. Right on Calle de la Paz, and another right at the end, then left on Calma. There is a trail between two houses you can use to get out to the lake trail system. This was told to me by Peggy Gentry, Chair of the San Dieguito River Park Trails committee. She asks that we not park on Calma when using this route, because the people on the street do not like their spaces being taken up by fisherman, etc. Battle Mountain has the same situation as Bernardo, ie. that the east face is open space and will not be developed. It is climbed by locals daily. This is also not hostile trespassing. Just respect the property (no spray painting, etc). I have Battle Mtn on the list because of historical significance. During an Indian battle a 'brave' soldier escaped the 32 miles to the fort at Presidio and got reinforcements. When I first came to San Diego I use to hear of the Sierra Club having an annual jaunt from Battle to Presidio (then, of course, Mayor Pete Wilson and the city council let the developers exempt the growth plan ad nauseum until we have today's mess). Let me know if you would like it taken off the list. It's not much of a hike, but I enjoy the cross and the reflections.

#### Dr. Bob's and Alan's letter

I want to intro the next two letters on the following pages. Dr. Bob Pinsker displays what happens when first attempting adventure hiking. Yes, I had very similar experiences when establishing the route on Morena Butte, when doing Bell Bluff and Bernardo. These mistakes are my mistakes too. Bob, you will make less errors as time goes on, since your judgement gets better. But I'll bet you have more fun adventure hiking than you would if you were taken up by someone who knew the way!

Alan Coles is the Chair of the HPS. I was upset at the way some of the HPS was obtaining the peaks (see past newsletters). He wrote this as a response. I abbreviated his letter to me to the appropriate parts. I believe the HPS will move away from the current "any way you can bag a peak counts" and return to the real reason we peakbag, to explore different areas.

