

SAN DIEGO PEAKS CLUB

An adventure hiking club for the intermediate and advanced hiker!

Issue No. 9

July-August 92

In a month that began by celebrating, we have to end it by honoring death. My good friend Wendy Ruess McCully died June 25 at 43. More on that on page 2.

We finished the year with 77 members. Thank you, dear members. Now that we have started another year we have 39 of those members renewed, with more renewing every day. I would like to thank fellow editor Ron Jones for awarding me the honor of "best hiking newsletter". To hear that praise from Ron is indeed the highest honor I know. Ron has been active in hiking circles for over 40 years.

As I did last year, I'm taking July and August off, since it is too hot to hike in San Diego county. The newsletter will publish dayhikes and backpacks by Al Holden, Dennis Richards and Carl Johnson, plus a special once-in-a-lifetime trip by Ron Jones. In September, Oct, Nov and Dec I plan to lead Pike and Cody, Borrego Mtn West and East Butte, Palm again, Collins, Knob, Palms and Elder, Indian Creek trail from Laguna to Cuyamaca, a canoe trip in Black Canyon (below Hoover Dam), a special easy backpack to Carey's Castle and maybe an extra special trip to Havasupai Canyon in Arizona to visit Havasu and Mooney Falls. If you are interested in any of these trips, let me know and I may be able to schedule it on dates that you can attend. I also like to see which activities are the most popular.

Welcome new members Evan Koch, Suzanne Roth, T.C. Cyran and Mark Vogt. Evan is a coworker who is a strong hiker. He went to the first DPS Chili Cookoff with me and proved to be a good horseshoe player as well as a good hiker. Suzanne is another coworker who is good hiker. She is currently on a bicycle trip in Canada. T.C. has hiked and backpacked a few of the 14,000' peaks in Colorado and is an active x-c skier. I know little about Mark, just that he is a strong hiker.

Hiker of the Month

The hiker of the month for July is a couple, Peggy Crunican and Dave Hardy. They receive the honor for their active support of SDPC. They went on the most SDPC hikes last year. Thanks for your support.

The hiker of the month of August is Donna Hawkins. Her husband, Jim, sent me a letter, which I have printed on another page, detailing her achievements. Donna has gone higher and further than I ever dreamt of going. Congrats,

MEMBERSHIP

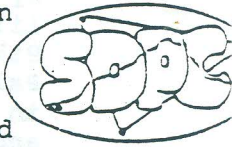
Dues are Past Due! This will be your last newsletter if you have not renewed! And what a pity that would be cause you could not join us in our fun! Dues are \$9.00, which will put you in good standing until June, 1993. Family memberships are the same price as individuals. Send checks payable to Paul Freiman, 4421 Maryland St, San Diego, CA 92116-3902. (619)692-1367.



Wendy Ruess McCully died June 25, 1992 of a cerebral aneurysm. She was 43. The same day my dad turned 77 and we helped him celebrate continued life. The next day her lungs were given to a 29 year old with cystic fibrosis. Her eyes, kidney and heart were also donated to give new life to other people. On Memorial Day weekend John and Wendy were in Canon Diablo to make an attempt on Big Picacho. Wendy was at the stream filling her canteen when she suffered blinding pain and fainted in John's arms. They waited in camp the next day without any reoccurrence before starting back, John shouldering both packs. Upon returning home it was determined that Wendy had torn the disc between her 8th and 9th vertebra. She had been wearing a neck brace since. About 2pm on the 25th she was loading the dishwasher (she loved to cook) and had another blinding pain. John called 911, but there was nothing that could be done.

I first recall meeting Wendy on Avawatz Mtn in Nov 1986. John had his 4wd one week and almost rolled the car. In the past year I had started looking forward to seeing more of John and Wendy. The people in DPS can grow to be an extended family. I'm sure we have all had the response, "Oh Boy, they're on the trip!" I see a lot of people die. I work in the operating room. I have seen my next door neighbor pass away. Same with my beloved grandmother. They didn't hurt. This one hurts very strongly. John is current chair of the DPS. Wendy was the treasurer. John and Wendy have 5 peaks to go on the DPS list. John will carry Wendy's ashes up the last few peaks and they will list finish on an easy peak, Chuckwalla, on October 24-25.

As I have already mentioned, the members of the DPS are like an extended family. The first person I was aware of as I participated on my first DPS trip in December 1984 was 10 year old Tanya Mamedalin. She was a joy that day and a joy to watch her grow. Now she has been accepted to Cornell. Good luck, Tanya! *See photo 4-5*



Randy Danta and Doug Mantle from the LA Sierra Club summited on Mt Everest in early May. Doug looks none-the-worse, but Randy lost a lot of weight and is recovering from frostbitten toes. Doug has to bag Antartica before he finishes the "seven summits" (high points of the continents) in the year 2000 in Australia.

Rheta Schoeneman DID get elected chair of the SC Single Section, as suggested in the last newsletter. My source inside the BOD sez that Rheta is doing a terrific job (as expected)!

Cindy Outlaw didn't get to the top of North America (Mt McKinley). A few days before she was scheduled to leave she found out she was pregnant. Well, that's a good reason to get the HOTM award. Congrats, Cindy.

The mini-macho winner in the last newsletter, Bob?, is Bob Pinsker. I finally remembered his name.

John Strauch has 90 peaks on the SDPC list. I'll lead a lot of the peaks he needs to complete the list. John also completed his DPS emblem this year.

TRIP REPORTS

May 17 Manza hike. John Strauch, Linny Sarnecki, Ranchita Ted and his friend "Basecamp" Betty King joined me on a hot, but pleasant day.

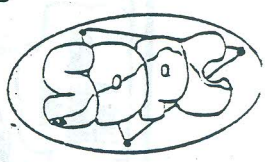
May 30 Pine Valley Creek. Jay Friedman was the only one to join me on this trip, another hot one. This was an excellent new (not yet fully functional) trail. Wonderful!

May 31 Morena Butte birthday hike. Dennis Richards, Gail Hanna, Steve Spiller Terri Sutor, Terri Astle, Carol Murdock, Mark Adrian, Peggy and Dave, and their friend Cheri were on the hike. Gail, Dave, Cheri and Paul had birthdays (along with the club's first birthday). We had a toasty hike, but a strong breeze kept us cool for our celebration at the peak. And WHAT a party! We had champagne, we had noisemakers, we had candles and cake, we had more champagne, we had sparkling cider, and we had fun fun fun!!! I want to thank everyone for a wonderful special day.

WEEKEND AND WEEKDAY CALENDAR

Al Holden is starting Monday hikes with the Sierra Club. He leads adventure hikes combining trail and offtrail in well designed routes. His trips, like Jim Sugg, last 5-6 hours and go 10-12 miles. He is also leading two backpacks. Al's phone is 273-2494. Jim Sugg leads Wednesday hikes for Walkabout International. Jim's phone is 224-7895. Dennis Richards is leading 2 backpacks for the Sierra Club. Dennis' phone is 462-3643. Paul is on vacation from leading hikes during the summer. He will resume in September with wonderous activities.

- July 6 Monday Stonewall loop-Coldspring turnout. Al Holden leads. 9:15am.
- July 7-9 Tues-Thurs BACKPACK. San Jacinto. Al leads. 2 nights Laws camp, 17 mile dayhike of San Jac, Marion, Jean, and the new Drury peak.
- July 8 Weds. Jim leads. Descanso- Green Valley Falls loop. Cuyamaca.
- July 13 Monday Palomar south loop. Al leads. Fry Ck to Boucher Hill. 9:30am Very good hot weather hike.
- July 15 Weds. Jim leads. Laguna. Sunset-Noble Cyn loop.
- July 18-19 BACKPACK. San Jacinto. Dennis leads. Camp at Little Round Valley and dayhike San Jac, Folly, Jean and Marion. Sat-Sun
- July 20 Monday Laguna Meadows loop. New trails Laguna and Sunset AND more! Al leads. 9:15am Very good hike!!!
- July 21-24 Tues-Fri San Gorgonio BACKPACK. Al leads. 3 nights at High Meadows Spring. 5 peaks daybagged each on Wed and Thurs.
- July 22 Weds. Jim leads. Laguna lakes loop. Very lovely.
- July 26 Sunday. ORIENTEER. UCSD. Ron Grayson 598-5730 or Bill Gookin 578-9456. If you want to find out what an orienteer is about this is a great beginner's course. See you there!
- July 27 Monday Middle Peak in Cuyamaca, North loop plus Azalea Spring. 9:15am.
- July 29 Weds. Jim leads. Kelly Ditch trail!!! Cuyamaca.
- Aug 1-2 Sat-Sun San Gorgonio. Forsee Ck trail to Trail Forks Springs. Dennis leads. This is my favorite trail and camp in the Gorgonios. Daybag a few peaks if you want.
- Aug 2 Sunday ORIENTEER Los Huecos, Agua Dulce, Mt Laguna. Bill Gookin 578-9456. Terrific wooded area. Enjoy a day in the mountains.
- Aug 3 Monday Noble Cyn-Sunset trail. Al leads. This is one terrific hike, same one I lead in May. Al designed it.
- Aug 5 Weds. Jim leads. Granite Springs-Oakzanita Peak loop. Cuyamaca.
- Aug 12 Weds. Jim leads. West Mesa-Japacha Peak loop. Cuyamaca.
- Aug 19 Weds. Jim leads. Wooded Hill loop + ravines a plenty. Laguna.
- Aug 22-30 Mayan Ruins Raft trip *****
I've jumped on the chance to go on this Ron Jones/Elden Kidd raft trip and I am very excited about it. See the write-up elsewhere in the newsletter.
- Aug 26 Weds. Jim leads. Coldwater Springs-Azalea Springs loop. Cuyamaca.
- Sept 19-20 ORIENTEER. Doane Valley, Palomar Mtn. Bill Gookin 578-9456. Two day meet. Site of last year's state championships. Hard course.
- Oct 18 Sunday ORIENTEER. Laguna Meadows, Mt Laguna. Eric Lehtonen 484-4435.



Oct 24-25 DPS. Call Paul 692-1367. Wendy and John McCully's list finish. I figure between 100-200 people will be on this trip to honor Wendy. Chuckwalla and Black Butte in Riverside county.

Feb 27-28 DPS. 3rd Annual Chili Cookoff and Orocopia climb (north of the Salton Sea). Ron and Leora Jones host. There were 6 chili recipes at the 1st one, and 11 recipes at the 2nd. How many taste treats will there be at the 3rd annual cookoff??? BeaNo will be provided. Call Paul for info and carpool. 692-1367.

TRIP REPORTS CONT.

Death Valley- I canceled Lost Ruin (Recluse Spring) hike over Memorial weekend to climb Death Valley peaks with my buddy Dave Jurasevich. On climbing Wahguyhe Peak we ran across a boundary marker that was dated 1873! On the drive out a herd of wild mustangs galloped across the road 100 feet from us. We spent the night with fellow club members Dennis Richards, Mark Adrian and Ken Olson. The next day we drove down Titus Canyon and hiked The Thimble. What a beautiful trip!

I canceled my last two hikes when no one signed up for Sat, and only one for Sunday. I joined Robin Tucker as she lead the San Diego Hiking Club on Cutca trail (by Palomar-Dripping Springs). Had a great time. Thanks, Robin.

June 18-23 Paria River Canyon, Utah. Carl Johnson lead "the world's best slot canyon", with Carol Murdock assisting. Carl lead a superb trip. There were 13 of us and he did a perfect job of leading. Couldn't be better!

12 June 92

Mr. Paul Freiman
San Diego Peaks Club

Dear Mr. Freiman,

My wife and I have belonged to the club for a little over a year, having been told of it by Beth Davis and Carl Johnson, and have enjoyed the newsletter. Although we haven't taken part in any of the climbs listed we have used the good ideas to go on our own trips. We have been pleased to see women being named as "hiker of the month", especially Gail Hanna with whom we have hiked. You probably have no lack of worthy candidates but I have had the inspiration to put forth my wife Donna for consideration.

Next week, while you read this, she will celebrate her birthday on the Kahiltna Glacier while moving her 150 lb share of the baggage uphill on an attempt to climb Denali. In getting ready for this she has done a bit of hiking in the past year. It included a 25 - mile cross country trip down Death Hollow on the Escalante River in Utah, climbs of Mt Lyell and Dana in the Sierra, two weeks of class 5.4 to 5.10 rock climbing at Tioga Pass, numerous climbs of Mt. San Jacinto with 45 lb loads just for conditioning, plus climbing Mts. Cornell, Marion and Jean, a rather arctic climb of San Geronio last December, this was followed by climbs of Popocateptl and Orizaba, Mexico (5th and 3rd highest in N. America) and lots of just plain hiking. In previous years her "hikes" have taken her twice on to the North Slopes of Mt. Everest - once to 18,000 ft and once to almost 20,000. A climb of Mt. Mera (21,000 ft+) in Nepal, on and on, up and up.

I may be biased, having been her climbing partner for 22 years, but if you need a suggestion here is a good candidate.

Sincerely,
Ann Lewis
Tom Hawkins



ADAM/Brian Basset

POETRY CORNER

'Twixt Fallen Gems

The minutes in a waltz did pass
while ceiling art in shame had froze
two copulating humanoids
and trapezoid portmanteaus.

The creases in my flaxen pinafore
twice circumambulated my personage
and twenty times the blue-jay yonder
croaked in moderato,
aching falsetto...

But all he could sing was perfect rhyme
of lovely face
and framing lace.

Is her meter so rapidly iambic,
Scanning features so curtly monosyllabic?

Has she creases halving her lid of eye
so incongruity shades moiety?
Or rapturous locks deadening
the weightlessness, the capriciousness of her heedlessness?
Stands she as Aphrodite -
effecting pangs of breathlessness?
Or melds her figure with the mold
of slender rapier exquisiteness?

But all he could sing was d.c. coda.

So I lazed amongst my menagerie
of pinafores and portmanteaus
while twice the hours a knockin' came
and twice the evening hung a deeper shade.

but nothing so limped as did his speech
staggering gait, shadow of disease
rooting gems sequentially
so fallen they were,
from her striking visage,
unto the floor.



- Tanya Mamedalin

