

SAN DIEGO PEAKS CLUB

The adventure hiking club for serious hikers

Issue No. 11

Nov-Dec-Jan 1993

I wanted to get this newsletter out 30 days ago, but I have been very busy and I knew the outings would last 'til the end of the month. Visiting the Mayan ruins was a fantastic experience. The canoe trip, Rabbit Peak, Rockhouse Canyon and the Hot Springs hike will be detailed in the "Trip Reports" section.

We have a nice selection of hikes, once again. There are more single day hikes than in the past because time pressures are starting to hit me. I think you will really enjoy the outings. The hike I am most anxious to lead is "Lost Ruin" or "Recluse Spring". See the Outings page for details.

Recently I've become active in San Diego Mountain Rescue and am now "operational" (able to go out on rescues). We have outings each weekend following the 2nd Wednesday. If anyone wants to put on a hike in this time period, then please be my guest. (I feel guilty if I can't fill every weekend with an adventure activity.)

NEW MEMBERS

We have a lot of new members and old ones are continuing to renew. Paul Stuverud, Donna and Edwin Gookin, Phil Rogul and Dave & En Lee Jurasevich have renewed. Dave Mills is in Mountain Rescue with me. Carol Murdock is a peakbagger and meadow meanderer I have know for 10 years. Charles Hummel is a strong hiker I just met. Stuart Gauld moved to SD from back East a couple of years ago and is looking forward to going on some dayhikes. Les Hill is a buddy from LA who just finished the DPS list. Bill Kobrin is a strong hiker I met on a Dennis Richards hike. Steve Cowen is a active and fit hiker who knows all the lawyer jokes. Lastly, but not leastly, is Victoria Cavataio, who is the most wonderful woman in the world. She is also an orienteerer. Club membership stands at 76 members.



**ALERT ALERT ALERT**

Vicki Cavataio and Paul Freiman became engaged November 28!!!!!!!!!!!!!! We expect to set the wedding date in May. More to follow next issue.

HIKER OF THE MONTH \*\*\*\*\*

The HOTM for the month of November is ED SUTOR. Ed is finishing the HPS list (Hundred Peaks Section of the LA Sierra Club). Of the 273 peaks on the HPS list, Ed has done all but four. He will bag these peaks as soon as fire closure is lifted. Ed's wife, Terri, is a three time list finisher and "mini-machette".

The HOTM for December is Carol Murdock. Carol is a new mini-machette (having bagged 50 peaks on the SDPC list). She has 63 peaks. She is also an HPS list finisher, finishing a couple of years before me. She is an advanced leader. She is a nurse who has put on the Wilderness First Aid course for the Sierra Club since 1978!! She trained 44 people this year (35 leaders and 9 nonleaders). She will not hold a training next year, but will resume in 1994. Well done, Carol.

The HOTM for January is Steve Spiller, who finished all 176 trips in Jerry Schad's Afoot and Afield in San Diego County when he completed the Rockhouse Canyon hike (see write-up in trip reports). Starting the end of December, Steve is spending a year in Australia in a school counselor exchange.

The HOTM for February is Les Hill, Ken Olson and Richard Carey who finished the DPS list (Desert Peak Section) together on Halloween. The DPS is a favorite of mine. I take great pride in having finished it, as I'm sure these three machos do. Three grunts to you!

For those of you new to the club, the hiker of the month (HOTM) receives a continuing award called the HOTM (ho-tem) pole. This award is worn on the outside of your pack and helps you go faster!

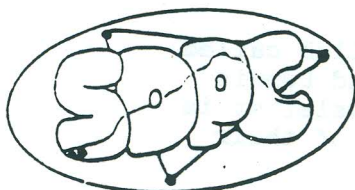
The past HOTM winners (in order) are: Beth Davis, Jim Sugg, Carl Johnson, Al Holden, John Strauch, Terri Astle, Paul Freiman, Dennis Richards, Betty Sterrett, Wes Shelberg, Gail Hanna, Cindy Outlaw, Peggy Crunican & Dave Hardy, Donna Hawkins, Ron Jones, Bob Pinsker and Laurie Jenkins.



- Feb 20-21 Carey's Castle, by southern Joshua Tree (Indio). Paul 692-1367. This is a GREAT backpack, and it is easy enough for EVERYONE!!! Prior to 1940, a miner named Carey had a mine here, and he built a home underneath a giant rock. The hike goes up a wash for three hours (1000 feet elev gain). We will leave at 6am Sat, drive 3 hours to the start, hike to the "Castle" and have the rest of the day to look for petroglyphs. It is a very beautiful hike and everyone in the club is fit enough to make this one. EASY.
- Feb 27-28 DPS 3rd Annual Chili Cookoff/ Orocopia Mtn hike. Arrive Sat afternoon and relax among 50 fellow desert rats. Last year there were 11 cooks and 40 tasters (tasters pay a small fee to the cooks for the cost of ingredients). Be sure to bring BEAN-NO! Ron and Leora Jones are the hosts. 714-773-5570. 119 N Helen Dr, Fullerton, Ca 92635-3520. Send SASE.
- Mar 6-7 Collins, Knob, Palms and Elder. By Sheep Canyon in Anza-Borrego. This will be a joint SDPC-DPS hike with Ron Jones leading the DPS. This hike was featured in issue #10 (last issue) as being two days of fantasmic hiking. (This will probably be the newest peak on the DPS list next year!). Strenuous.
- Mar 28 Indian Creek trail. I hope to have a joint hike with the Sierra Club on this hike. One group will start in the Lagunas and descend the Indian Creek trail while the other group starts in the Cuyamacas, goes up to Granite Springs, then connects with the other group for lunch and they pass car keys, before continuing on to the Lagunas. Paul 692-1367. 14 miles. Suggestion from the SD Hiking Club.
- Apr 1-8 Grand Canyon. Dennis Richards 462-3643. Dennis has a permit for 8 strong people to hike the NE section of the Canyon. This is from the North Rim to Nankoweap. A SDPC special presentation! Call Dennis today!

WEDNESDAY WALKABOUT with Jim Sugg 224-7895

- Dec 2 Sheephead Mtn with Al Holden as guest leader.  
Dec 9 Cuyamaca Peak-Cold Spring  
Dec 16 Morena Butte  
Dec 23 Mt Woodson loop- NEW TRAILS  
Dec 30 Sombrero Peak  
Jim's hikes are usually 10-12 miles and 5-6 hours. He leads through Walkabout International.



POETRY CORNER

They walked in silence  
for it was late.  
He went ahead  
to open the gate.  
She wanted to thank him  
but knew not how.  
For he was the farmer  
and she was the cow!

Discovered written in register  
at Iron Mtn on Thanksgiving day, 1992.

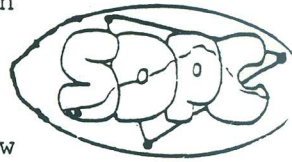
MEMBERSHIP

Now that  $\frac{1}{2}$  year has passed, I do not think it is fair to charge somebody full price for  $\frac{1}{2}$  year membership, so the fee will be \$15 for membership good until June, 1994. Single or family membership is the same price. Send to Paul Freiman, 4421 Maryland St, San Diego, CA 92116-3902. (619)692-1367.

BITS AND PIECES

It's a girl! Dave and En Lee Jurasevich are proud parents of a 19 inch, 7 # 4 oz daughter. Congrats. \*\*\*\*\*

Mark Adrian is blasting the peaks away! Mark bags more peaks in a month than most DPSers bag in a year. Last month on the Halloween list finish he had about 65 peaks on the DPS list, now he's up to about 88. He's a madman! \*\*\*\*\*



Vicki, dog Sunny and I were hiking the Iron Mountain loop above Poway on Friday, working off some turkey stuffing, and they have added two new treats since I mentioned the trail in a earlier issue. First off, for those of you who don't know about this hike: The trailhead corral is immediately off Ellie Lane, which is 0.6 miles north of hwy 67 and Poway Rd, on 67. It is a 9-10 mile loop hike which takes about 5 hours. The only problem was that the loop wasn't complete until recently. The first treat is that they have completed the loop so that it is now longer necessary to sneak on Farmer Brown's acres. The second treat is that there is now a telescope on the peak and the brush has been cut back so you now have a grand view! \*\*\*\*\*

Jerry Schad is done with his revision of Afoot and Afield in San Diego County and the book will be out shortly. (The printer has it). Be sure to ask for the revised edition, not just a new printing. Jerry has reworked all the hikes, plus added new ones, while deleting some. I'm going to buy the new edition as soon as it hits the stores. I think Jerry is the best hiking book author in the world! \*\*\*\*

Laurie Jenkins moved to the Sacramento area before she was able to wear the HOTM pole that had been awarded to her. She accepted a head trainer position, leaving her part-time athletic trainer position at Palomar. At the end of August she wrote, "Hi! Paul, Got my newsletter last week. I was very surprised to read I am sharing "hiker of the month" for October. Seems unworthy since I have done no peakbagging all summer! I felt so guilty I got the mtn bike out and bagged Hot Springs Mtn last Sunday. Anyways, I had a somewhat productive summer in that I went north to hike the base of Mt St Helens, then attacked the summit only to find 25 yds of visibility because of bad weather. The mountain is doing a fantastic job of recovering itself. I traveled through many fields of lupine and paint brush and was lucky enough to spot two large herds of Roosevelt elk dead centered in the blast zone. The area northeast of the mountain looks exactly like San Diego Backcountry. The only difference between the NW and Southern Ca are that the NW has trees!....". Good luck, Laurie, and keep in touch. \*\*\*\*\*

John Strauch has 97 peaks on the SDPC list. He will probably finish on Mar 6-7 on Elder. \*\*\*\*\*

Please note the Volcan Mountain Celebration (see mention on another page) and try to attend this activity. The San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park committee has worked very, very hard to provide trails to the people of San Diego County. This marks the terminal extension of that effort. The trail system extends from the coast to Julian (Volcan Mtn). Now that it is legal to go there, I will add this to the list of peaks!\*\*

Rob Langsdorf has created a new hiking section in the Sierra Club called the "Pacific Crest Trail Section". Terri Sutor, Terri Astle and Dennis Richards are leading low level hikes. Join them. A partial newsletter is enclosed so you can see if you might have an interest in some of their activities.

Vicki, Sunny the dog, and I climbed Viejas Mtn. I saw many names: Mary McLain and Ranchita Ted, Pam Walker and Terri Sutor, Terri Astle and son Weldon, Jerry Schad, Bob Pinsker, John Strauch and Phil Read with dog Shane. I got to thinking that we should have an award for dogs who bag 25 peaks. The board of directors was assembled and we now have the Bow wow award for dogs that bag 25 peaks. \*\*\*\*\*

TRIP REPORTS

Mexico-Usumacinta River/Mayan ruins float trip: Oh, what a trip! Eight of us (including Robin Tucker, Ron Jones and yours truly) had a grand time on this weeklong trip. We explored five ruin sites, got held up by guerrillas (gave them some food and told them we supported their cause), ate tepasquitly (large rodent, a delicacy), and just had a ball. Elden Kidd lead a fine trip.\*\*\*\*\*

Hot Springs Mtn area: New member, Steve Cowen, and I drove out Sat morn and did some exploring, then bagged Square Top from the Indian Reservation, a different route. On the return Steve chose to rest by a log containing yellowjackets. Ow, those things sting and sting and sting! They got me more than they did Steve. Sunday brought additional hikers, John Strauch, Mary McLain and Ranchita Ted to bag Pike and Cody. We all got Cody, then I left the others while they bagged Pike. I was suffering from heat exhaustion from the previous day. I drank plenty of water, but was lacking Gookinaid ERG (ie the minerals necessary to replentish the body). \*\*\*\*

Rabbit Peak backpack: It was hot, but this time I was prepared with plenty of ERG. Les Hill, Dave Mills and I started at 7:30am, got to Villager at 1:30pm and decided to go for Rabbit. We got back to our packs on Villager at 8:30pm having done 8100 feet of gain and 13 miles.

Canoe trip, Topock Gorge to Lake Havasu. Fifteen funseekers met at Needles for a trip down a National Scenic section of the Colorado river. Five sumptuous meals were prepared for the river rats, the scenery was breath-taking, the campsite was good, and ... well, I would have to say it was the best trip ever!

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Chuckwalla Mtn- McCully DPS list finish. John and Wendy know how to throw a party! 50 friends joined the celebration and the normal potluck was enhanced by a roast pig, flown in for the occasion! It was Vicki's first DPS peak, and one she won't soon forget (her thighs won't let her). Comet, an eight year old golden retriever, got dehydrated and had to be rescued.

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Tipton Mtn, AZ triple DPS list finish. Richard Carey, Ken Olson and Les Hill became the 78th, 79th and 82nd list finishers of the Desert Peak Section. Twenty hikers joined them on Halloween. Very special, you three!

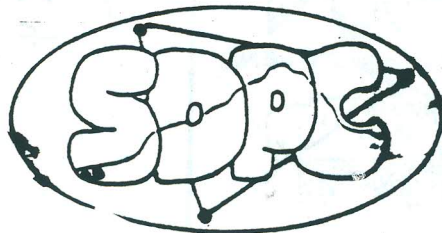
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Agua Dulce (Laguna Mtn) orienteer. The weather was perfect, the orienteer-ing was delightful. About 50 ROTC students joined us to practice their skills. \*\*\*\*\*

Rockhouse Canyon, Anza-Borrego. As mentioned earlier, this was Steve Spiller's book finish (the last of the 176 hikes in Afoot and Afield in San Diego County. John Strauch, the only other person to have done this feat, lead us by a good route. This is very beautiful out here and I advise everyone to backpack this trail. You can do it as a much shorter and easier hike if you don't go all the way to Nicholias Cyn. \*\*\*\*\* Calcite mine (Palm) hike. I called up most all the members for this hike. The combination of Jerry Martin's hospitality and Jerry and Ranchita Ted's leading abilities make this a hike that shouldn't be missed. Eight adventurers found a bighorn skull and bones at the peak. \*\*\*\*\*

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Do these trips sound like fun? Then what are you waiting for, go on a ADVENTURE hike!





# VOLCAN MOUNTAIN CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1992 AT 1:00 P.M.

Farmer's Road Airstrip just North of Julian

In event of rain the event will be moved to

Camp Stevens

(See map for both locations)

## YOU ARE INVITED TO HELP CELEBRATE

the County's recent acquisition of 477 acres of RUTHERFORD RANCH for the San Dieguito River Park. Rutherford Ranch is a pristine 11,000 acre ranch which includes the Volcan Mountains north of Julian.

AT TODAY'S EVENT we will also kickoff the "Buy a Piece of Rutherford Ranch" program. This major new program will give individuals and organizations an opportunity to participate in the most significant land preservation effort in southern California.

You are welcome to join in a vigorous hike at 10 a.m. led by an experienced naturalist. Reservations only - call the JPA office, 595-5398 by December 4.

Short guided (one hour) hikes will begin after the ceremony, around 2:30 pm. (no reservations, just wear sturdy shoes!)

Hot apple cider, muffins and pastries will be donated by the Volcan Mountain Preserve Foundation and the San Dieguito River Valley Land Conservancy - a local country band will provide the music.

## DIRECTIONS

THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL SECTION NEWSLETTER Vol 1, #3.

A new section is being formed. It is for those desire to get away from the city and explore distant places. Our major focus will be hiking parts of the Pacific Crest Trail, but our meetings will also provide a place for peak baggers to meet. In addition we will encourage members to do service on the lands we love to explore, such as trail building and maintenance; clean up parties for campsites and trails; and other environmental restoration projects. We would love to have you join us.

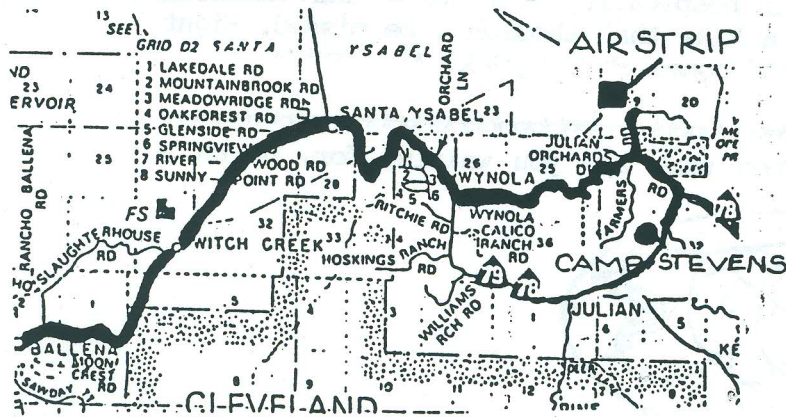
Who can join us? During 1992 you can become a charter member of the PCT section if you are a member of the Sierra Club. Our bylaws will call for non-charter members to hike 100 miles of the PCT to become voting members.

What will be the benefits of membership? Great meetings, a quarterly newsletter, and a chance to meet other hikers interested in exploring the PCT and the mountains and deserts of the west.

Annual dues are \$10. To join the PCT Section make out your check to "Sierra Club - PCT Section" for \$10. Write your name, address, telephone number and a brief summary of your PCT experience on a sheet of paper. Send check and data sheet to PCT Section, Avenida Mirola, La Jolla, CA 92037.

## VOLCAN MOUNTAIN CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 6, 1992 - 1 p.m.



- Meet at Farmer's Road Airstrip
- Camp Stevens. alternate location (In case of rain)

↑ New section of Sierra Club ↑

