

SAN DIEGO PEAKS CLUB

The adventure hiking club for serious hikers
Issue 14 Sept-Oct 1993

Summer is winding down and people are returning from the Sierras so let's do some San Diego hiking. I have three wonderful hikes planned this schedule, plus the October canoe trip. Sept 25 is the Indian Creek hike in the Lagunas that was SNOWED out last March! Oct 2-3 is the Colorado River canoe trip down Black Canyon. Oct 9 is the Lost Ruin (aka Recluse Spring) adventure out by In-ko-pah that was rained out in March. Oct 24 is Pine Creek, a 9-10 hr shuttle hike that follows Pine Valley creek. The schedule will be filled out with Carl Johnson's Baja trips, leads by club members of Sierra Club activities, Jim Sugg's Wednesday hikes, and a fabulous weekend of orienteering at Palomar.

This is a good time to remind people of the goal of the San Diego Peaks Club. The first purpose of the SDPC is to inform the club members of the "intermediate level" activities in San Diego. This is why events are listed from Carl Johnson's "Baja list", the LA and San Diego Sierra Clubs, and San Diego Orienteering in addition to events which I run. The second purpose of the SDPC is to inform club members of the activities of the other members in an attempt to create a community among the active adventure hikers in San Diego and LA.

IT'S TIME FOR PETER TO PAY PAUL

Your name doesn't have to be Peter, but dues are now PAST DUE so it's time to pay Paul. We have started the third year of the club. In this time Paul has lead an average of two hikes per month, two canoe trips, two raft trips and SO MUCH MORE!!!! So pay your \$9 and you will continue to be smiling when you go to the mailbox and find more issues of the newsletter. The dues are designed to cover expenses. The membership is from June to June, so you will be good until June 1994. Paul Cavataio-Freiman, 4868 Austin Dr, SD 92115-3518, (619)583-0266.

NEW MEMBERS

We have three new members: Sally Jo Leitner, Jan Crist and Andy Zielinsky. Sally Jo is a strong hiker I met on a SC PCT section hike led by Terry Astle. Jan Crist is a fine leader from the San Diego Hiking Club who had a gas on the raft trip. No knowledge about Andy Zielinsky yet. This swells the membership rolls to 85!

HIKER OF THE MONTH

September: The HOTM has to go to Mark Adrian. As he was finishing the DPS list on August 21 by Joshua Tree, he had to endure earthquakes and mountain rescues. His story is on pages 5-6. Mark calculated that completing the Desert Peak Section list represents 700 miles of hiking, 300,000 feet of elevation gain and about 50,000 miles of car driving. Way to go, Mark. Can I call you, Mr 87 (ie the 87th person to list finish)?

October: The HOTM goes to Jim Hawkins for climbing Denali. Last issue I reported that Richard Carey had summited on McKinley, but I learned later that Jim and Donna Hawkins also summited about a week later. Donna received the HOTM last year for her adventures in climbing and this month Jim has the honor. Well done and bravo!

LIST ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

At the suggestion of John Strauch, I will add MT GOWER (3103') to the SDPC climbing list. John writes, "Last Sunday I followed the south and east trail in the Mt Gower Open Space Preserve as described by Schad on p. 83 of his new book. The trail kept going for another mile or so after the 3-mile marker and ended at a filled in mine shaft. After that last marker the trail approached the mountain from the north and then swung around the right (west) side of the mountain. When the trail ended it was only about 500' gain and 1/2 mile to the peak, so I went for it. There was a bit of brush. I went to the northernmost summit, which I think was the tallest, but I don't have the Ramona quad to check on that. I then kept going north and rejoined the trail

when it makes it's north approach. The mountain has lots of huge rock slabs, just like at the Audubon sanctuary at Silverwood. The views were nice, but it was cloudy for the most part. Schad describes another route, but I think the one in the preserve is just fine. On the Cleveland NF map it's in the SE corner of J-8, section 27."

SAWTOOTH Mtn (4382') is another peak that will be added to the bag list. This is the high point of the range, located just north of Red Top (Agua Caliente Springs 7½ min). We were rained out of this one earlier in the year. We will try it again around January or February.

Mt Israel, by the Efron Forest/Harmony Grove area, and E and W Split Mtn I want to investigate a little further before adding them. Mt Israel was suggested by Betty Sterrett and Split was recommended by Ranchita Ted.

BATTLE MTN, the hilltop by Lake Hodges with the cross, is being deleted from the list at the request of several members.

A new, updated peaks list will be in the next issue. The list now stands at 108 peaks. *****

Bits and Pieces

GAIL HANNA is going to try to bag Mt Rainier around the end of September. May the weather god be with you, Gail. *****

JOHN STRAUCH, finished the SDPC list on 4-4-93, thereby becoming the 2nd "mega-macho"!!!! John was scheduled to finish a month earlier, but the clutch on his Subaru Justy burned up at an inappropriate time. He recently celebrated the new clutch by driving 8000 miles this summer. Part of those miles were driving to DC to compete in the Grand Nationals in bridge. He took 9-12th, barely being beaten by the team that took 1st. He also hiked in Colorado.

ED SUTOR had a wonderful HPS list finish. Helping Ed celebrate were Pam Walker, Terri Astle, Al Holden, Gail Hanna, Terri Sutor, Estrella ?, Russell Glavis, Suzanne Booker, Wes Shelberg, Betty Sterrett, Mark Adrian, Terry Flood and Carol Snyder and yours truly. We had lots of champagne on the peak and more at the cars. What could Ed do to top an HPS list finish? He could retire! That event may happen around Sept 30. Terri and Ed bought land in Nevada last year and Ed is eager to enjoy it. Their house is up for sale. The POTLUCK was a great success. About 25 hikers put down their walking sticks and drove over to the Freiman's for an afternoon of socializing. People asked that we have another, so I will be looking out for another house to have it in around Christmas. *****

People ask me my opinion on GPS DEVICES from time to time and I am now happy to say that I have one! Mountain Rescue bought the Trimble Scout. One of the SDMR team helped write the specs for the government and he had this to say about other brands: Sony- low priced, but untried. Magellin-poor with lack of support from company. He said the Trimble was the only company to fulfil specs. *****

Speaking of SAN DIEGO MOUNTAIN RESCUE, they are going to have a recruitment drive information meeting on Wed, Sept 15 at 7:30 pm at Toler Elementary School, 3350 Baker St. Phone 270-7047 for more details. Learn climbing, tracking, first aid, survival skills, helicopter safety, ELT, and evac skills. *****

FOR SALE or WANTED, you can place a free ad in this newsletter!!!!!!!

GARY SUTTLE of San Diego has bagged the high points of all 48 counties in California. SDPC incorporates 2 of the high points (Blue Angels Peak is on our list, even though it is in Imperial Valley), HPS incorporates 8 of the high points, SPS 5 (or more) and DPS 1. He bagged his last one, North Palisade, last month with Weldon Astle, Terri Astle's son. He was kind enough to provide me with a list of peaks. It is printed on page 9 of this newsletter. Gary has written a book for Wilderness Press. *****

TERRY FLOOD's national SC outing went well, he reports. They bagged Black Giant, Charybdis and Mt Goddard during the trip Aug 7-15. Look for his 3 upcoming trips in the schedule. *****

I want to thank BETH and RALPH DAVIS for making the address labels. It's a lifesaver!

CARL and NANCY JOHNSON have returned from Carl's 4th escapade to Copper Canyon, Mexico's Grand Canyon. Members Steve Cowen, Malcolm and Susan Fitzurka were part of the group of nine adventurers that went on the trip. The trip was "first cabin" and costs ran around \$600. I'm anxious to see the photos tomorrow. I'm dying to do this trip!

MARK just had a communication from the SPS Chairman, who was the assistant on a LA trip he recently went on. He says in his letter to Mark, "... On that trip you used your radio to try to contact friends, and to establish repeater links. Please note that all radios are prohibited on Sierra Club trips. This provision is included on the sign-in sheet that you signed for the Corcoran trip. The only exception allowing radios is for essential navigation or communication equipment as might be used on a vessel. Most Sierra Club members enjoy the remoteness that the mountains bring from the technological society of everyday life. The use of radios and other electronic devices is an intrusion on this solitude and is thus prohibited by the Sierra Club. While I can see the possibilities of the radio being helpful in an emergency their casual use is prohibited. Please do not use your radio on any future SPS trips. If you feel that you need to carry it for use on a possible emergency, keep it in your pack (unused) until authorized by the trip leader to use it in said emergency situations.

WEEKEND OUTINGS

- Sept 2-6 Sierras trip with the Sierra Club. Richard Carey and Gail Hanna 224-9300/272-5141. Bag Mt Tom and 4 Gables. Trip full currently.
- Sept 11 Cowles Mtn with Carl Johnson 448-8542. This is an annual trip that Carl does with the SC (see Hi-Sierran for more info). I use to think that this trip won't be exciting until I hiked it with Mountain Rescue. It is a GREAT trip!
- Sept 15 Wednesday evening, 7:30pm. SD Mountain Rescue Recruitment info meeting. Toler Elementary School, 3350 Baker St (near I-5 and Balboa). 270-7047 or Paul at 583-0266. Learn team skills necessary to survive the the outdoors and see what it takes to become a member of Mountain Rescue.
- Sept 18-19 Orienteering at Mt Palomar with Bill Gookin 578-9456. This is a classic. Two full days of orienteering with the master course setter! Vicki and I will be going up Friday night. Great fun!
- Sept 19 Julian Banjo, Fiddle, Mandolin and Guitar contest. 9-5pm, \$6.00. Bring blanket or low back chair for seating. Info 765-0707 ext 2, 633-1970.
- Sept 25 Indian Creek Lagunas to Cuyamaca hike. I hope we don't get snowed out again like we did in March! This is a 14 mile, 6 hour hike. It takes in my favorite vista, Champagne Pass, from which you get an incredible view of Cuyamaca East Mesa. It is listed on p. 167 of Schad's new edition. Paul 583-0266. Lv Msn Valley at 7:20am
- Sept 25-26 Terry Flood's 6th Annual Moonlight Madness Bicycle Tour, Festival of Lights and Water Bottle Fight in Anza-Borrego. Terry 729-8221. I've heard that this is becoming a cult classic.
- Sept 30 Thursday, full moon Tamarask Beach walk in Carlsbad with Terry Flood 729-8221. Call him to get the time or see the Hi-Sierran for more details.

- Sept 27-Oct 1 Escalante Canyon and More with Carol Murdock 463-1279. Monday Carol will lead a day hike up Phipps wash. Tues day hike up the dry fork of Coyote Wash. W-F is a 3 day backpack down Escalante. More details in the Hi-Sierran. You should have enough time to get to Las Vegas on Friday and make the canoe trip!
- Oct 2-3 CANOE TRIP, Colorado River below Hoover Dam (Black Cyn). Paul 583-0266. Lots of hot springs and relaxation.
- Oct 9 Lost Ruin (aka Recluse Sprs) hike. In-ko-pah area. See Schad's Myer's Valley hike. Paul 583-0266. This hike will be over rocky, bouldery terrain and will be about 6-8 hours. We will visit Frank Nichol's old ruins (he had a paradise up there).
- Oct 9-10 Backpack up the steep Marian Mtn trail to Little Round Valley. camp. Al Holden 273-2494. Bag HPS peaks Foley, San Jac, Jean and Marion. Sierra Club.
- Oct 17 Orienteer, Horse Heaven, Mt Laguna. Eric Lehtonen 284-4435 or Bill Gookin 578-9456. Orienteers start at 10am and take about 1-2 hours. During this time you feel very good about your ability to use a topo map to "stay found". This is a very useful skill to learn.
- Oct 24 Pine Creek (Secret Canyon, p.171 of Schad's new edition). Paul 583-0266. This hike is 9-10 hours in duration. Jay Friedman and I took 8½ hr and we didn't waste time. Follow the old flume trail. You need to be in good shape for this one.
- Oct 30-31 Lost Horse trail backpack. Dripping Springs campground area. Terry Flood 729-8221 and Gail Hanna 272-5141. Last year they opened Lost Horse trail which connects with Dripping Springs trail so that horsemen or long distance hikers can make a long loop trip. The problem with this is that they let Dripping Springs trail get very overgrown. Terry and Gail are backpacking to Crosley Saddle, then daybagging Agua Tibia Mtn and Eagle Crag, spending the night, then returning back Lost Horse trail. See the Hi-Sierran for more details. Limited to 15 strong hikers.
- Oct 30-31 Sierra Juarez and San Luis. Carl Johnson 448-8542 is venturing off to Baja again. I believe this trailhead is about 2-3 hours from San Diego and it's a very lovely area. I had my DPS list finish in this area and would like to go back again. Carl is planning on relaxing this trip (but he can be talked into things)! See Hi-Sierran.
- Nov 6-8 Desert Divide with Al Holden 273-2494. Hike up Morris Ranch trail to bag HPS peaks (Palm View, Pyramid, Lion, Ken). Camp at Live Oak Springs. Call Al for more info.
- Dec 4-6 Rabbit and Villager!!!! Hike up to Villager (5000 feet, 7 miles), camp, dayhike to Rabbit (3000 feet, 6 miles), camp same spot, hike down to cars. If there's time bag Zosel, Crab and Alice, and, if you dare, Ruth BM!!!!!!

AL's MONDAY HIKES with Al Holden 273-2494

Al is restarting his Monday hike schedule, leading for the Sierra Club. He will also be leading three weekend trips. The last four hikes are a lot tougher than the previous ones.

- Oct 18 Indian Creek, Laguna to Cuyamaca via Pine Mtn. This will be very similar to what I am doing on Sept 25.

- Oct 25 Taquitz Mtn, Red Taquitz and Lily Rock. Bag these 3 HPS peaks near Idyllwild.
- Nov 1 Palomar Mtn, Fry Creek, North loop.
- Nov 15 Thimble and Ysidro. This is a GREAT hike! By Ranchita.
- Nov 22 Rosa Benchmark. In Anza-Borrego. A sunrise to sunset hike, about 5000 feet of gain.
- Nov 29 Indianhead. Sunrise to almost sunset. Anza-Borrego. Another tough one!
- Dec 13 Jacumba Mtn via Dos Cabasos and Motrero Palms. This is a beautiful area. This hike is a definite THUMBS UP MUST DO!!

WEDNESDAY WILDERNESS WALKABOUT with Jim Sugg 224-7895

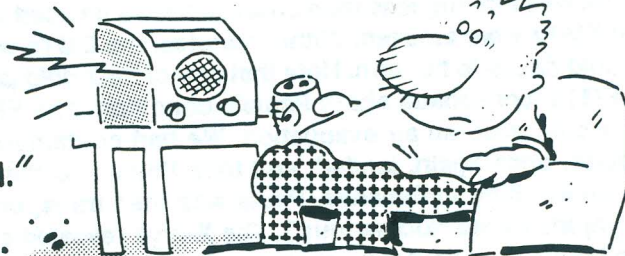
Jim leads hikes for Walkabout International every Wednesday. His hikes are about 12 miles in length and cover all the close in wilderness areas (ie. under an hour auto drive). 5-6 hours long.

- Sept 8 Middle Peak loop. May visit Sill Hill Falls. This is Al's favorite hike.
- Sept 15 Big Laguna trail- Indian Creek trail- Noble Canyon- Pine Mtn loop. Al leads.
- Sept 22 North Peak loop. Cuyamaca Lake area.
- Sept 29 Monument and Arroyo Seco loop.
- Oct 6 Garnet Peak loop. Al leads.
- Oct 13 Bell Bluff loop. This is one of my favorites.
- Oct 20 6K (6000 foot) Ridge. Laguna. This is another of my favorites. Al leads.
- Oct 27 Gaskill and Lawson.

We'll help you climb any mountain.

FRANK & ERNEST by BOB THAVES

THE FOLLOWING
THREE HOURS
OF SILENCE
REPRESENTS
"THE BEST OF
RUSH LIMBAUGH."



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