

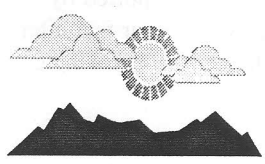
Hiking Horizons

"Taking you to new heights"

A Publication For Adventure Hikers of the San Diego Peaks Club

Vol 6, No 1 (Issue 31)

September-October 1996



Views from the Top

Did everyone have a good time in the Sierras this summer? Are you ready to hike San Diego County again? Let's do it! Got some great trips planned: Return to the Perfect Hike, Gaskill/Lawson, Outlaw Trail, Sheep Canyon area, Pyramid, Borrego Mountain—East and West Buttes.

Who would have expected it? The local Iron Mountain hike June 30 was awesome. Now, I don't know my flowers, but there were brilliant blues, robust reds, buttercup yellows, pearl whites, pantone pinks, luscious lavenders, and every single flower was at its peak bloom, not withered. In all my years of hiking, this was the second best display of variety of color I have seen. Yes, the weather was hot, but it was over in three hours before it got nasty (which it did later that day).

I need to get the records up to date on who has done 50 peaks, 100 peaks and list finish (ie. mini-macho, macho or mega-macho awards) on the SDPC list. Call me if you have done one of these. I know I'm missing a lot of mini-macho winners and I want to honor everyone next issue. Call and let me know if you between 50 - 117 peaks.

Welcome new members Pia Parrish Lincoln, Robert Robenhymer, Mike Salomon, Joe Maguire, Ray Freiwald, and Pat and Larry Klaasen.

DUES ARE DUE

Or to paraphrase Frank Sinatra, "DUES BE DUE BE DUE." You ask, "How do I know if I've paid? You have a hand-drawn happy face if you have renewed :-). You have a frowning face if you still owe dues :-(. I'm probably making a penny an hour.....(What's that, wife Vicki, you say I'm overpaid!) I hope other people don't feel that way. It's important that there be a voice for the intermediate hiking community. Dues are \$15 per year, \$28 for two years and \$38 for three years. SDPC leads new and unusual adventure hikes, canoeing, whitewater rafting; publishes new hikes, consumer alerts, and local news.

AMBUSH AT COYOTE CANYON VETOED BY GOVERNOR

As many of our readers already know, 3.1 miles of Coyote Canyon trail in Anza-Borrego Desert Park were closed to vehicles early this year. The closure to protect fragile habitat resulted from years of urging by Federal Fish and Wildlife, State Fish and Game, State Park, non-vehicle users, and a length public process.

However, after being denied vehicle access to the closed area and later being cited for driving illegally in the park, Assemblyman Bill Morrow (R-Oceanside) promised to reopen the Canyon. Though Morrow's bill passed easily through the Assembly with heavy partisan support, the bill died when Morrow failed to appear before the Senate Natural Resources Committee to present his bill.

Instead, language was inserted into the state budget that allocated (a) \$500,000 to study alternate vehicle routes through the Canyon, (b) \$2 million for preliminary plans, working drawings and start-up construction, and (c) required the road be reopened "until a bypass is constructed"

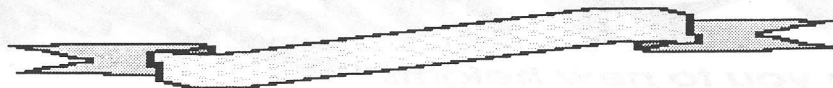
Many environmental groups and concerned individuals responded with articles, letters and faxes urging the Governor to veto the items.

The Governor vetoed \$2 million and the "reopen" requirement and reduced the study allotment to \$250,000. (Thanks to ABF for this report).

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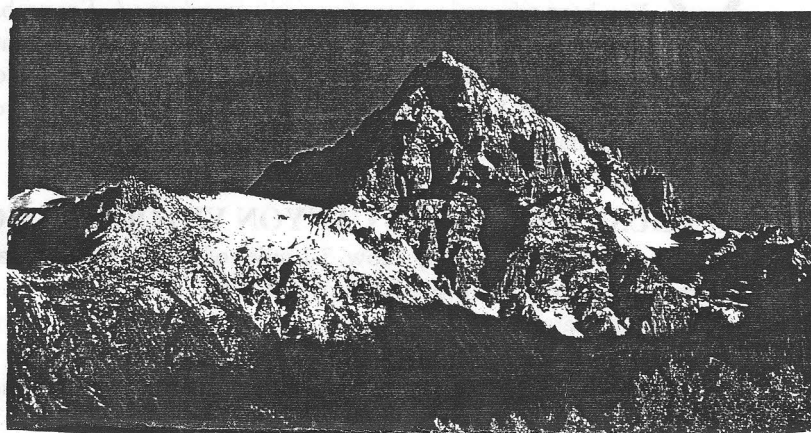
HIKER OF THE MONTH



SDPC members are doing such awesome feats that I feel like I'm getting backlogged in awarding them honors.

SUZANNE PLETCHER receives the HOTM in August for bagging all 54 Colorado 14,000 foot peaks. She list finished July 4 on Mt Sneffels (14,150').

Helping her celebrate her accomplishment was her husband Tim, and fellow SDPC members Mark Adrian, Terry Flood, Carol Snyder and Mark Bender. (Nominated by Terry Flood).



Mt Sneffels in Colorado

The Hiker of the Month award for September belongs to **JERRY HIGGINS** for the arduous job of finishing the SDPC list of 117 peaks.

The Hiker of the Month for October is **SUE HOLLOWAY** for her 50 mile



Grand Canyon dayhike, reported by Sue last issue. How are your feet after the feat, Sue? I'll bet your knees hate you.



[Let's see what our BBB (Bitchin' Broad Brigade) Board of Directors is up to this summer. Now, Terri Astle has 95 peaks on the SDPC list and finished the HPS twice, and Terri Sutor has completed the HPS list four times and the PCT once. Those are some past accomplishments. What have they done lately?]

Our grand dame of hiking, **TERRI ASTLE**, has barely been home this summer. She and member **TERRI SUTOR** have 1100 miles of the PCT completed (Sutor is going around for her 2nd time). Astle is creating quite a stir on

the PCT as word spreads of this "73 year old lady hiking the PCT with a 42 pound pack".

From: Jonathon Eros
<eros@UCLINK.BERKELEY.EDU>
I'm assured that it's an actual thing that happened and not just urban myth...

"In 1994, a woman visiting from the Bay Area embarked on a solo hike to the summit of El Capitan in Yosemite. When she became lost and saw a storm brewing, she called 911 from her cellular phone and asked to be rescued. A helicopter found her barely off the trail and one-fourth to half a mile from the top of El Cap. When the 'copter lifted off and the woman saw how close she was to her summit goal, she asked the crew to set her down on top. When the crew declined, she threatened to sue them for kidnapping."

Well folks, **JERRY SCHAD** has done it again! The author of nine books on outdoor recreation now has **101 Hikes in Southern California** in addition to his popular *Afoot and Afield* series. I got my copy the other day and I tell you, Jerry has done a wonderful job putting together an awesome array of hikes. Now that John Strauch has finished all the hikes in *Afoot and Afield in San Diego County*, editions 1 and 2, I think I'll join him to hike this book.

RALPH AND BETH DAVIS have moved up to LA for Beth's dental hygienist schooling. They are keeping their old post office box, and their new phone number is 310-559-5204.

On a June canoe trip into Algonquin Park (Northern Ontario), we arrived at our campsite and started the Svea to boil water

Continued on page 3

for tea. The Svea makes a rhythmic "Whump Whump Whump" sound until the tank heats up.

One of my companions noticed that a similar "Whump Whump Whump" sound was emanating from several points of the compass in the underbrush around us. We were surrounded by six or seven ruffed-grouse in the bushes that were talking to, and advancing on, the Svea.

Apparently it was mating season.
rmistler@IX.NETCOM.COM (Ralph N Mistler)

I shall be the guest speaker of the San Diego Chapter's monthly meeting (held at the Otto Center near the San Diego Zoo) next month (Fri, Sep. 20 at 7.30 pm).

I'll be presenting a retrospective and a multimedia (a sham because I'll only be using two media) slide show, "Mountaineering, a Love of Wild Places" (I had to choose mountaineering since I'm also chair of mountaineering).

I would be immeasurably flattered if any of you PCS'ers came down but the real reason would not to see/hear me or my slide show. Geoffrey Smith, ex-chapter chair and organiser of the Chapter Bookstore, will have available a few autographed copies of Douglas Adams' latest book, the finale in the much-lauded "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" series.

"So Long and Thanks for all the PowerBars".

Richard Hughes

.....

Mark Adrian reported via email on the recent event of the Boy Scout leaders **STONING A BEAR TO DEATH** in Yosemite. The "thread" of responses was interesting.

Excuse me, but what the HELL do these troop "leaders" think they're doing! So much for the boy scout ethic.

—Mark

Although I don't wish to condone or excuse their behaviour, the explanation is entirely obvious. **The leaders believed that the bear was gay.**

—Richard Hughes

The LA Times reports that the NPS is planning to file charges for 'Destruction of Wildlife'. I'm trying to imagine how big the rocks must have been to kill a 100 lb. bear.

I passed through Onion Valley last weekend and was talking to the ranger there. An idiot camper at Kearsarge Lakes stored food in his tent, along with his two little kids, and was upset when a bear ripped his tent apart, and then ripped apart the backpacks (the kids were not hurt). The ranger (Jason Barbeaux) was very frustrated that the guy just didn't understand that he was the one at fault. His attitude was that if bears were causing problems, they should all be shot.

Joe Baker

Deputy Director, Western Region, Amnesty International USA
jbaker@igc.apc.org

I sent a note about my unhappiness with what occurred to one council of the BSA. However, I found no address for national. Maybe the individuals involved should be kicked out, but certainly, the entire organization (of which I was a happy member - 9 merit badges worth - for many years) could use a great deal of education about behavior outside the city limits. We should do all we can to prevent such shocking incidents.

—William W. Sampson

Rosemary M. Sampson

bsampson@ix.netcom.com

The mailing address for the national office of the Boy Scouts of America is:

Boy Scouts of America

1325 W. Walnut Hill Ln.

PO Box 152079

Irving, TX 75015-2079

You can also phone them at 214/580-2000.

—Bob Baxley

baxley@aol.com

In order to get more accurate **BURRO COUNTS**, the National Park Service in Mojave National Preserve and Death Valley National Park are investigating the use of ultra-high resolution infrared scanners on light aircraft. A contractor, formerly retained by national intelligence agencies, has proposed applying this new technology for civilian purposes.

NPS is planning to test the system the nights of 14 September and 21 September 1996 in Mojave National Preserve by placing 30 volunteers (in groups of 2) each night at precisely-known positions in MNP canyons. Volunteers would show up at a MNP meeting place Saturday afternoon to receive a copy of a topo map section with their assigned location pinpointed. They would be driven to the nearest dropoff point and hike in from 1 to 5 miles in time to be in place by 7PM. They would remain at that point until 7AM Sunday when they would hike out to be picked up at the dropoff point.

NPS is looking for volunteers who can be depended on to hike into rugged desert terrain and camp overnight without getting in trouble. At least one member of each team must be able to navigate precisely with a topo map or have (and know how to use) a GPS unit. NPS will try to provide each team with a radio.

The contractor will be instructed to scan the general area including the volunteer locations but will not be told how many "targets" there are or where located.

For more information or to sign up as a volunteer, contact DVNP Natural Resource Specialist Doug Threlhoff at (619)786-3252.

Please forward this message to any group or person you think might be interested.

Many thanks (and see you out there),
George Barnes, Chair, Death Valley Task Force, Desert Committee, C/NRCC, Sierra Club

(Perfect job...make an ass of yourself and get paid for it!)



WEEKEND OUTINGS



SEPTEMBER 15 GREEN VALLEY -CUYAMACA

Everyone can come out for this trail hike. Length depends on temperature. Early morning start. Paul 583-0266.

****SEPTEMBER 21-22 ORIENTEERING TWO-DAY MEET AT PALOMAR****

Come Sat only or camp and enjoy both days, like my family does. This year we expect the meet to be are best ever! Never orienteered before? This is the perfect meet for you! Paul 583-0266.

SEPTEMBER 28-29 9TH ANNUAL BORREGO SPRINGS MOONLIGHT MADNESS BICYCLE TOUR, FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS, AND WATER BOTTLE FIGHT.

Terry Flood 729-8221. Meet the group around 1pm on Saturday, relax. Eat dinner, cocktails and wait for moonrise. Embark on a moderate 20 mile bike ride. Return to camp and hike up Borrego Palm Canyon by moonlight.

OCTOBER 5 TRAILS CONFERENCE. Saturday, 8 am - 4:30 pm. Stallion Ranch, Descanso. See write-up.

OCTOBER 12-13 PINTO CANYON (AKA THE PERFECT HIKE) REVISITED Paul 583-0266. Sign up early, I may have to put a limit on the number.

OCTOBER 19 ORIENTEER AT GREEN VALLEY, CUYAMACA SDPC member Gail Hanna will set the meet. Start times are from 10-noon. Bring the family! Paul 583-0266.

OCTOBER 20 KELLY DITCH, CUYAMACA An easy trail hike before the monster Outlaw trail next week. See Afoot and Afield. (p. 131) for details. I expect to see some of you people who don't normally come on my hikes!

OCTOBER 26 OUTLAW TRAIL Paul 583-0266. I wanted to do it the next weekend, but this date has a full moon! If you want to do back-to-back trips you can join the DPS next weekend.

NOVEMBER 1-3 TRACKING, NATURE AND WILDERNESS SURVIVAL WEEKEND. See write-up.

NOVEMBER 2 PYRAMID-PALM LOOP Paul 583-0266. This is one of my favorite hikes. We start at the Thimble Trail and S-22 at 7 am, take the route to the rock tanks (Afoot and Afield, p.219), climb to Pyramid Peak, then descend to the Calcite mine, bagging Palm before dropping to S-22.

NOVEMBER 3 BORREGO MOUNTAIN, EAST AND WEST BUTTE An easy, fun day as we explore the maze of ravines on the West Butte (Afoot and Afield, p. 229).

NOVEMBER 2 OUTLAW TRAIL. John and Carol McCully 310-545-9677. DPS. 3rd annual 11 mi 8,000' world class conditioning hike to top of tram. Ride tram and cabs back to cars. Meet at 5:30 AM in front of Desert Museum in Palm Springs. For questions or if weather is threatening call leader.

NOVEMBER 9 ORIENTEER AT AGUA DULCE, LAGUNA Paul 583-0266. My favorite orienteering area!

NOVEMBER 9-11 MELING RANCH. Veteran's Day weekend. Carl Johnson 448-8542. Call for details.

NOVEMBER 23-24 SHEEP CANYON AREA, PALMS AND ELDER Paul 583-0266. Plans may change depending on whether we can get a car up "Bypass Hill" near Lower Willows. If we can it will be a car camp, if not, a backpack.

DECEMBER 7-8 SAND AND YAM (UPPER COYOTE CANYON) Paul 583-0266. Two tough, eight hour days.

DECEMBER 21 COOLIDGE (NEAR THE SALTON SEA) Paul 583-0266.

DECEMBER 28-JANUARY 4 COPPER CANYON. Enjoy New Years the right way! This fills up quickly. Carl Johnson 448-8542.

WEDNESDAY WALKABOUT HIKES with JIM SUGG

Jim arranges hikes for Walkabout International every Wednesday. His hikes vary in length and time from 8-16 miles and from 5-8 hours hiking time. They cover all areas of the county within 1 1/2 hours driving time. Many of the hikes are unique to this group! Call 224-7895.

SEPT 4 Cuyamaca Lake and Stonewall.

11 IN-TOWN HIKE— Mission Bay Circuit with Bob Thornton.

18 Monument Trail and Arroyo Seco loop, Cuyamacas.

25 Pine Mountain and Indian Creek loop, Lagunas.

OCT 2 Garnet Peak loop, Lagunas.

9 North Peak, Cuyamaca.

16 6K Ridge, Lagunas.

23 Pine Valley Peak (NEW)

30 Gaskill and Lawson.

ALLEN HOLDEN'S WINTER HIKING

There will be hikes every Monday through April except Nov 11, Dec 9, Jan 20, and Feb 17. I will schedule Wednesday hikes those weeks.

Hikers must call Al (273-2494) for times and trailheads. **NO NEWCOMERS ACCEPTED WITHOUT PRIOR INTERVIEW WITH AL.**

NOV 4 THE THIMBLE. with San Ysidro, White, Bonny and Clyde.

NOV 13 Wednesday. PALOMAR IN AUTUMN. North Loop. Cabins, big trees, pond.

NOV 18 MINE AND CHUCKWALLA CANYON LOOP with benchmark Arena.

NOV 25 PALM MESA. Up from Borrego Palm Canyon.

DEC 2 HELLHOLE FLAT, with Hob, San Ysidro Ridge, Sirens and Goat.

DEC 6-8 DOS CABEZAS WEEKEND. Two hiking groups. Al leads Jacumba Mtn Saturday.

DEC 11 Wednesday. 6K RIDGE. Lagunas. Added exploring Southwest Spur.

DEC 16 SUNSET RIDGE. Straight up from cars. New areas. More rocks, less roadS.

DEC 23 RATTLESNAKE SPRING. Schad's route, with maybe a twist of our own.

DEC 30 GASP AND GRUNT. Exploratory from Lark Cyn camp in McCain Valley.

JAN 6 PYRAMID AND PALM. One-way hike to waiting cars on S-22.

JAN 13 GRAPEVINE AND SENTENAC. Plum Cyn to Bitter Creek Cyn loop.

JAN 22 Wednesday. COTTONWOOD FALLS LOOP. Up the creek to S-1.

JAN 27 PINTO CANYON. To lower petroglyphs in one long dayhike.

FEB 3 ODE AND KAY. Exploratory loop from Borrego Visitor Center.

FEB 10 PINYON MOUNTAIN. In reverse with a new ridge.

FEB 19 Wednesday. INDIAN CASCADES LOOP. From Pine Valley. Pray for water.

FEB 24 WILSON PEAK, with Pinyon Ridge Highpoint. Loop from Culp Valley.

MAR 3 INDIAN HEAD. A new East side ridge route planned.

MAR 10 IN-KO-PAH SCRAMBLE. Up "Cool", down "Too Cool" washes. Long, tough day

MAR 17 WHALE PEAK EXPLORATORY. From Petroglyph trail. All new. No ducks.

MAR 24 COYOTE MOUNTAIN. Up from Coyote Cyn, to Alcoholic Pass. (May substitute another hike.)

MAR 31 PUFF, MOAN AND WINDY. Goat Cyn trestle, Indian Hill, more.

APR 7 MILE HIGH AND ROSA POINT LOOP. Return via Marble Mtn and Wonderstone.

APR 14 GRANITE MOUNTAIN. The Shelberg route. New ridge, loop, no shuttle.

APR 21 FOUR FROGS-JACUMBA JIM LOOP. Schad's route. Tough up and down.

APR 28 PIKE AND CODY. From Los Coyotes Indian Reservation. A snakey, ticky bushwhack. (May substitute another hike.)



AL CELEBRATING his 70th BIRTHDAY ON THE POODLE HIKE

The Happy Wanderers

Jog or Speedwalk

Call for info-- Donna and Edwin Gookin 286-7958

Gail and John Hanna 272-5141

The Happy Wanderers jog and speedwalk each Tuesday or Wednesday from 6-7 pm. Meet at

SEPT 3 Tues OLD TOWN TROLLEY TROT. Trolley parking area off Taylor St at Congress St.

SEPT 11 Wed CROWN POINT JOGGING PATHS. Crown Pt Shores at the foot of Lamont St.

SEPT 17 Tues MISSION TRAILS BY EVENING. Visitors Ctr corner of Msn Gorge Rd and Father Junipero Serra.

SEPT 25 Wed PATHS OF BALBOA PARK. Federal Bldg in Balboa Park.

OCT 1 Tues SUNSET VIEWS FROM OB. OB Rec Ctr, located at 4726 Santa Monica Ave (off Sunset Cliffs Blvd).

OCT 9 Wed MORLEY FIELD EXPLORATION RUN. Morley Field Rec Ctr, located near intersection of Texas and Morley Field Dr.

OCT 15 Tues MISSION BEACH RUNAROUND. Ventura Cove parking area, east of the Bahai Hotel on W Mission Bay Dr.

OCT 23 Wed OLD TOWN BY EVENING. Old Town Trolley Station off Taylor St.

OCT 29 Tues SPOOKS OF MISSION HILLS. Mission Hills Park and Cemetery located near intersection of Washington Pl and Randolph.

NOV 6 Wed TROLLEY TROT—RUN THEN RIDE. Amaya Trolley Stn located off Fletcher Pkwy at Amaya Dr. Bring change.

NOV 12 Tues BRIDGES IN AND AROUND BALBOA PARK. Federal Bldg off President's Way.



LETTERS

June 19, 1996

I might as well get my two cents in on "Mile-High Mountain".

1. Schad doesn't really take a position on which bump is Mile-High. His opening sentence is "This unnamed, tan-colored massif, which I have dubbed 'Mile-High Mountain' for the elevation of its highest summits,...". Note the plural "summits". His mountain consists of "four distinct, rounded summits" - 5260, 5240, 5300 and 5340.

2. Schad is the one who gave the mountain the name. The destination of the hike he describes is 5340. I think that should be the SDPC peak, too.

3. I'm not impressed with the argument that 5260 is "closer" to one mile than 5340. You could just as well argue that the peak is not a mile high if it is less than 5280'. And the 5300 bump is just as "close" to one mile as 5240.

4. It's that last half mile or so from bump 5240 to 5300 to 5340 that gives this hike character. If you're out there planning to do Rosa also, it's too easy to just get 5260 and you're on your way to Rosa.

So anyway, I've thrown my support to Higgins and Holden in this debate and the vote is now 3-2 for 5340.

--- John Strauch

June 19, 1996

As a matter of clarification I wish to reply to Mark Adrian's letter in *Hiking Horizons*, June-July 1996. In my book *Afoot and Afield in San Diego County*, I did use my own naming conventions for features in certain areas of the county where place names were either sparse or nonexistent. These names remain unofficial. "Mile High Mountain" in the Santa Rosa Mountains was so named because the average height of its summit plateau is about a mile high. A "mountain" can have many peaks, as "Mile High" does. There was no register on Mile High Mountain when I first explored it, so it was up to subsequent

climbers and peak baggers to choose which peak to place a register on.

In the same vein, "Marble Peak" was the name I gave to a light-colored outcrop serving as a nearby reference point for hikers using the Wonderstone Trail—a cross-country route across the Santa Rosas which is described in the first edition (but not the second edition) of *Afoot and Afield*. The "Marble Peak" (4237 feet) on the Anza-Borrego Desert Region Recreation Map published by Earthwalk Press is about 1 mile northwest of the peaklet I was referring to. I could not find references to any Marble Peak on other maps in my files. There's no issue about correctness here, but there certainly is confusion.

Perhaps a committee could be formed within the Peaks Club to work with Anza-Borrego Desert State Park and the BLM to recommend place names to the U.S.G.S. for inclusion on government maps.

A great deal more official nomenclature is needed for features in our local desert, and this project could be fun and creative for those involved.

—Jerry Schad

June 19, 1996

Paul Flashenberg and I were out at Mount Israel last Saturday. It is now called Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve, as opposed to Mount Israel Recreational Area, when we were there in 1993. Oak Valley, the inner valley part of the park is now closed and entirely bulldozed in preparation for a dam and lake.

On Sunday, Jim and fellow postman Maurice and I hiked up Eagle Peak. Saw you there on the previous Saturday. Then we went over to Three Sisters, which didn't have much water flowing, but the swimming was still good. We saw what looked to us like a salamander in the biggest pool. It was a brown red color and it would stay under a rock then come up for air every few minutes. When we got back to the car, we got talking to a guy who Jim and Maurice recognized because he used to show up at the post office with reptiles to send to customers. He said the "salamander" was actually a California newt and that it is only found in San Diego County in Boulder and Cedar Creeks. —John Strauch

On the way up to the Sierras, we stopped at Astro Burger for a milkshake [(my husband) refuses to be compromised by hamburgers, but I am WEAK!] and ran into Mark Adrian and group, also heading into the Sierras for a multi-day trip. I must report to you, as astonishing as it may seem, that I have finally seen Mr. Adrian in a situation that was NOT life threatening - if you don't count the long-term toxic effects of meat-eating! I did not think that was possible, so I HAD to share it with you!! — Jill

(I don't think you can be harmed by second-hand hamburger smoke, since Mark doesn't eat meat-Paul).

SENTENAC GRANT MOVES CLOSER TO REALITY

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) at its meeting scheduled for August 14 was to have considered staff recommendations for the Transportation Enhancement Activities (TEA) program. Out of 203 projects nominated for funding, the CTC staff is recommending 81 projects be funded for a total of \$41.2 million.

Among the grants up for approval is the California Department of Parks and Recreation's application for \$880,000 to purchase 884 acres of the Sentenac Canyon and Cienega.

"ABF and the Park worked very hard to make a strong case for the statewide significance of Sentenac. It greatly enhances the possibility of funding. Anything can happen between now and September so we remain cautiously optimistic," concluded Lindsay.

The Anza-Borrego Foundation raised the required 12% match, or \$120,000 for the TEA Grant. If fully funded, the TEA grant award plus the match would provide \$1 million for the purchase of 884 acres of rare wetland/riparian habitat at Sentenac.

ANZA-BORREGO FOUNDATION

Since 1967 the Foundation has acquired over 19,000 acres through gifts of land and by purchasing inholdings from willing sellers. The land is then transferred to park ownership. Over the years, 95% of donations to the Foundation have gone directly to purchasing land for the park. For more info call (619) 767-0446.

Revised 3-91, 3-92, 8-93, 12-93, 4-94, and 1-96 by Paul Freiman

History of the SDPC List

In June 1987, hikers Hannah North and Russ Weber (aka Amentia Allegro and Rass Webo respectively) combined their extensive knowledge of San Diego county's terrain with additional information obtained from maps of Cleveland National Forest. The result was a formidable list of peaks and a commitment to bag them all. Life, however, intervened and they moved away, but not before each had climbed about half the peaks. Taking up the cause I climbed every peak and benchmark (BM) on the original register. Then I eliminated insignificant climbs and areas of trespassing. In total I deleted 35 peaks and added 25 new ones. Preparing this list was such an enjoyable exercise that I still get all a-tingle thinking about climbing them again.

Overall the list is challenging, not because the hikes are especially hard (no rock-climbing or class 3 skills required), but because you will need good map reading skills. The 17 peaks preceded by an asterisk (*) are the distinguished Emblem Peaks, winning this designation for the incredible vistas each destination provides to those who seek these adventures.

Speaking of reaching your destination, you may either hike or mountain bike to do so. However, not only are drive-ups and helicopter rides illegal and disqualifying, they will earn you the antithesis of the coveted Hiker of the Month Award which is the Weenie of the Year Award.

Whenever visiting a peak, include as some of your "10 essentials" a pencil, paper, and empty can. The following explains:

Never let them say it
Say it to your shame
That a benchmark went untrodden
And without your date and name!

Wes Shelberg

I want to thank Wes Shelberg, Al Holden, and Jim Sugg for being terrific hiking buddies during the preparation of this list. Also a heartfelt and you-found-me-where-I-live thanks to Terri Sutor for introducing me to adventure hiking. Thanks to my wife Vicki for typing and editing this document.

Maps

Map coordinates are based on Cleveland National Forest (CNF) 1985 map. USGS topos are 7 1/2'. Completion of this list is dependent upon your map reading and orienteering skills (or buying a cheesy GPS device).

Other Notes

"Pyramid", "Mile High", and "Square Top" are three peaks mentioned in Jerry Schad's Afoot and Afield in San Diego County (1986 edition) and nowhere else. The reference Schad is to this book. The following abbreviations found in the list refer to sections of the Angeles (LA) Chapter of the Sierra Club: DPS=Desert Peaks Section; HPS=HundredPeaks Section; LPS=Lower Peaks Section.

GOOD LUCK AND GOOD HIKING!!**The 117 Peaks on the SDPC List**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PEAK</u>	<u>ELEV(')</u>	<u>CNF</u>	<u>USGS</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
	1. Pendleton / Temecula				
	1. Margarita Peak ✓	3185	D5	Margarita Peak	
	2. Margarita Lookout ✓	3065	D5	Margarita Peak	
	2. Rancho Bernardo / Mira Mesa				
	1. Bernardo Mtn ✓	1150	G8		Climb from east.
	2. Black Mtn ✓	1563	G9		Dirt road to top, Schad
	3. Mt. Israel ✓	1346	F8		Harmony Grove area
	3. Palomar / Ramona / Julian				
	1. Agua Tibia Mtn ✓	4779	H5	Vail Lake	LPS, Schad
	2. Eagle Crag ✓	5077	H5	Vail Lake	HPS
	3. Palomar High Point ✓	6140	J6	Palomar Observatory	HPS, Schad
	4. Boucher Hill Lookout ✓	5438	H6	Boucher Hill	Enjoy Palomar! HPS, Schad
	5. Black Mtn (Ramona) ✓	4051	J7		road to top
	* 6. Mt. Gower ✓	3103	J8	Ramona	
	7. Volcan Mountain ✓	5353		Julian	In Preserve, Schad
	4. Central County				
	1. Fortuna Mtn ✓	1292	G10	La Mesa	Schad
	2. Kwaay paay ✓	1194	G10	La Mesa	
	3. Cowles Mtn ✓	1592	G10	La Mesa	Schad
	4. Pyles Peak ✓	1379	G10	La Mesa	
	5. Woodson Mtn Lookout ✓	2894	H8	San Pasqual	Schad
	6. Iron Mtn ✓	2696	H9	Ramona	Ellie Lane trailhead

* 7. El Cajon Mtn ✓	3675	J9	El Cajon Mtn	
8. Eagle Peak ✓	3226	K9	Tule Springs	
9. Viejas Mtn ✓	4187	K10	Viejas Mtn	Schad
5. Southwest County				
1. Bell Bluff ✓	3409	K10	Viejas Mtn	
2. McGinty Mtn ✓	2183	J11	Dulzura	Nature Conservancy
* 3. Lawson Peak ✓	3660	K11	Barrett Lake	Schad
4. Gaskill Peak ✓	3836	K11	Barrett Lake	
5. Otay Mtn ✓	3566	J12		Mtn bike road, Schad
6. Tecate Peak Lookout ✓	3885	K12	Tecate	Schad
6. Southeast County				
1. Long Valley Peak ✓	4909	L10	Descanso	
2. Buckman ✓	4641	L10	Descanso	
* 3. Corte Madera ✓	4657	L10	Descanso	Schad
4. Los Piños Mtn Lookout ✓	4805	L11	Morena Reservoir	active lookout in summer
* 5. Morena Butte ✓	3919	L11	Morena Reservoir	
6. Blue Angels Peak ✓	4548		In-ko-pah Gorge	Schad
7. Cuyamaca State Park				
1. Middle Peak ✓	5883	L9	Cuyamaca Peak	HPS, Schad
2. Cuyamaca Peak ✓	6512	L9	Cuyamaca Peak	HPS, Schad
3. Japacha Peak ✓	5825	L9	Cuyamaca Peak	former HPS
4. Stonewall Peak ✓	5730	L9	Cuyamaca Peak	HPS, Schad
* 5. Oakzanita Peak ✓	5054	L9	Cuyamaca Peak	HPS, Schad
8. Lagunas				
1. Chariot Mtn ✓	4680	M8	Cuyamaca Peak	HPS, Schad
2. Roost ✓	4351	M9	Monument Peak	
3. Oriflamme Mtn ✓	4611	L9	Monument Peak	Schad
4. Pine Mtn ✓	5640+	M9	Monument Peak	
5. Garnet Mtn ✓	5669	M9	Monument Peak	HPS
6. Garnet Peak ✓	5909	M9	Monument Peak	HPS, Schad
7. Monument Peak ✓	6271	M9	Monument Peak	HPS
8. Wooded Hill ✓	6160	M10	Mt. Laguna	nature trail
9. Sheephead Mtn ✓	5783	M10	Mt. Laguna	HPS
* 10. Manza ✓	5556	M10	Mt. Laguna	
11. Cuyapaipa ✓	6378	M10	Mt. Laguna	HPS
12. Guatay Mtn ✓	4885	L10	Descanso	
9. Warner Springs				
1. Comb's Peak ✓	6193	L5	Bucksnot	HPS
2. Hot Springs Mtn ✓	6533	L6	Hot Springs Mtn	HPS; lookout isn't pk
3. Pike ✓	5571	M6	Borrego Palm Cyn	
4. Cody ✓	5586	M6	Borrego Palm Cyn	
10. Sheep Canyon Natural Preserve (Coyote Canyon)				
* 1. Collins ✓	4559	L5	Bucksnot, Collins Valley	
2. Knob ✓	3431	L5	Bucksnot Mtn	
3. Elder ✓	3433	M5	Collins Valley, Hot Spr Mtn	
4. Palms ✓	3121	M5	Collins Valley	lovely view
5. "Square Top" ✓	4649	M5	Hot Spr Mtn, Collins Valley	Schad
6. Coyote Mtn ✓	3192		Clark Lake	Schad
11. Around Montezuma Grade (Ranchita to Borrego)				
1. San Ysidro Peak ✓	6147	M6	Borrego Palm Canyon	HPS
* 2. The Thimble ✓	5779	M7	Tubb Cyn	
3. Hob ✓	4853	M6	Borrego Palm Canyon	
4. White ✓	5326	M6	Tubb Cyn	not shown on topo
5. Goat ✓	4232	M6	Tubb Cyn	
6. Bonny ✓	4574	M7	Tubb Cyn	

7. Peak 5386(San Ysidro Mtn)✓	5386	M6	Borrego Palm Canyon	
8. The Sirens✓	4401	M6	Borrego Palm Canyon	
9. Kay✓	3587	M6	Borrego Palm Canyon	
10. Ode✓	1510	M6	Borrego Palm Canyon	
11. Webo✓	4173	M6	Tubb Cyn	
12. Ted✓	2369	M7	Tubb Cyn	
13. Wee✓	4068	M6	Tubb Cyn	
14. Rass✓	1877	M6	Tubb Cyn	
* 15. Wilson (Pinyon Ridge)✓	4573	M6	Tubb Cyn	Schad
16. Pinyon Ridge High Point✓	4611	M6	Tubb Cyn	
17. Indianhead✓	3960	M6	Borrego Palm Canyon	DPS, Schad
18. Palm Mesa✓	4660	M6	Borrego Palm Canyon	
12. Along S-2 (Scissors Crossing to Ocotillo)				
* 1. Grapevine Mtn✓	3955	M8	Earthquake Valley	
2. Sentenac Mtn✓	3068	M8	Earthquake Valley	
3. Granite Mtn✓	5633	M8	Julian, Earthquake Valley	HPS, Schad
4. Sunset Peak (Yak BM)✓	3657	M8	Whale Peak	Schad
5. Perpendicular Bluff✓	1741'	M8	Borrego Sink	
6. Pinyon Mtn✓	4440	N8	Whale Peak	Schad
7. Whale Peak✓	5349	N8	Whale Peak	HPS, Schad
8. Ghost Mtn✓	3360+	N8	Earthquake Valley	Schad
9. Stage✓	2816	N9	Agua Caliente Springs	
10. Coyote Mtns (Mine BM)✓	1850		Sweeney Pass	Schad
13. Carrizo Gorge and McCain Valley				
1. Jacumba Mtn✓	4512	O11	Jacumba	DPS, Schad
* 2. Red Top✓	4467	N9	Agua Caliente Springs	
3. Sombrero Peak✓	4229	N10	Sombrero Peak	DPS, Schad
4. Tule Mtn✓	4647	N11	Jacumba	
5. Gasp✓	3223		Jacumba, Live Oak	
6. Groan✓	2737		Jacumba	
* 7. Puff✓	2716		Jacumba	by Goat Canyon
8. Grunt✓	2144		Sweeney Pass	
9. Moan✓	2939		Sweeney Pass, Jacumba	
10. Windy✓	2442		Sweeney Pass, Jacumba	
11. Sawtooth✓	4382	N9	Agua Caliente	
14. Santa Rosa Ridge				
1. Dawns Peak✓	6582		Clark Lake	Schad
2. Rabbit Peak✓	6640+		Rabbit Peak, UTM 708994	DPS, HPS, Schad
(Note: Dawn and Rabbit are honorary peaks because they lie outside San Diego county.)				
3. Ruth✓	5070		Rabbit Peak	
4. Villager Peak✓	5756		Rabbit Peak	HPS, Schad
5. Zosel✓	4853		Rabbit Peak	
6. Crab✓	4485		Rabbit Peak	
7. Alice✓	3594		Rabbit Peak	
8. "Mile High"✓	5360		Font's Point, Rabbit Peak	DPS, Schad
9. Rosa✓	5038		Font's Point	DPS, HPS
*10. "Pyramid"✓	3480+		Font's Point	Schad
*11. Palm✓	2697		Font's Point, 17 Palms	Schad
12. Font's Point✓	1294		Font's Point	Schad
15. Split Mountain				
* 1. Diablo✓	2440+		Agua Caliente, Arroyo Tapiado	
2. Split Mountain West Side✓	1690		Harper Canyon	UTM 815-536
3. Split Mountain East Side✓	1690		Borrego Mtn SE	UTM 839-516
4. Vallecito Mtns (East Side)✓	3583		Harper Canyon	UTM 739-584
16. Ocotillo Wells				
* 1. Borrego Mtn West Butte✓	1207		Borrego Mtn	Schad
2. Borrego Mtn East Butte✓	1196		Borrego Mtn	

PATAGONIA IS A PLACE

By Betty Hobert

For months I kept telling everybody, "I'm going to Patagonia." They either thought I was going to buy some new outdoor clothing or replied with "Where is that?" Surprisingly, very few persons had a clue as to the location of Patagonia. It fell into the category of Mandalay or Timbuktu.

Patagonia is a distinct geographical area that lies within the cool temperate zone at the southernmost tip of the South American continent. The Patagonian Andes are shared between Chile and Argentina and have an average height and climate similar to that found in New Zealand's Southern Alps or the coast mountains of British Columbia.

Both Chile and Argentina have an excellent system of national parks. Along the 2000km length of the mountain chain, some 20 parks protect areas of superb alpine and coastal wilderness. Cool temperate rainforests, volcanic cones, alpine lakes and snowcapped glaciated peaks invite the more self-reliant trekker who is seeking something different or free from the hassles associated with travel in countries further north. Patagonia has remained surprisingly unknown outside South America, and seems to attract as many extreme alpine climbers as it does trekkers.

My journey was trekking and confined to the area of Argentina. An adventurous group of 11 of us, mostly from the Los Angeles area, set out from LAX on March 1 st to begin our three week odyssey. The 14 hour plane ride that departed at midnight was loaded with families with small children and babies returning to their homeland. We were served dinner at 1:30 a.m. This was just the beginning of the late night dining that one experiences in Latin American countries.

Our leader, Rudi Beuermann, who originated from Buenos Aires and was accustomed to the night life, announced that we were going to see Buenos Aires on a Saturday night, immediately after our arrival. It was neon city...very much like Times Square in New York City. I couldn't wait to take off the next day on our flight to the city of Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego's oldest settlement.

Termed "land's end", Ushuaia is still a frontier, a land of

pioneers. It has a 360-degree view of snowcapped mountains and a 154,000-acre national park next door. Tierra del Fuego brings the Americas to a ragged end below the Strait of Magellan. The archipelago's name derives from Indian fires glimpsed by Ferdinand Magellan in 1520. The world's southernmost trees are constant visual reminders of the fierce westerlies that rake Tierra del Fuego. Every tree, every grove, it seems, leans eastward. In more protected areas, beeches 40 feet tall thrust sinuous branches out of wildly knotted trunks.

During our first day of trekking, within a luxuriant stand of beech and Winter's bark trees, I forgot we were less than 700 miles from Antarctica. The abatement of each squall was marked by moving clouds and variant sky. Ferns covered the ground,

dotted with the tiny crimson fruit of the devil's strawberry plant, that tasted more like raspberries. We encountered a rotting carcass of a cow, sidestepping the hide and bones still lying on the trail. That afternoon we entered a large area of total timber devastation, a former beech grove gnawed down by beavers, and now vacated by these former tenants. Yet another animal brought from abroad and now considered a pest. According to a local naturalist, beavers were introduced to Tierra del Fuego's streams in the 1940s by an Argentine entrepreneur who hoped to become wealthy marketing their pelts. When beaver coats became unfashionable, no one bothered to trap the beavers, and with abundant food and virtually no predators, they flourished throughout the region.

Our second day trek took us to Altos Del Valle, a camp where we saw many varieties of sled dogs, and a white wolf. The trek that day took us through a forest that reached the ruddy sphagnum bogs of the moorland. Composed of thick dome-shaped mats of mosses, lichens, liverworts, ferns, and a few reeds, the bogs

were soft and spongy underfoot. If not careful, it was possible to break through the surface into deep layers of treacherous, oozy mud and organic debris. Eventually, we gave up as the mossy ground squished wetter and wetter around our boots and then it started to rain. We kept hiking around Lake Esmeralda, well named for the green waters the resulted from the melting glacier that formed an amphitheater around us. Turning back to our



BETTY IN PATAGONIA

original starting point, rain became heavier and the ground muddier. Arriving back at the hut, soaking wet, we were welcomed by our hosts with a warm fire and a delicious Italian meal with wine.

Leaving Ushuaia for the next leg of our journey, we flew to Rio Gallegos. Rudi had arranged for us to rent a mini-bus with a driver for the rest of the trip. Luis, our driver, spoke no English but was very reliable and helpful. The next day we had an 11 hour drive through an expanse of Argentina's flat, semiarid steppes, which lie in the rain shadow of the Andes. This segment yielded our first glimpse of a herd of guanacos, a relative of the llama, and a magnificent condor. We finally lumbered into Calafate, with the Andes towering behind us.

The next day yielded what would be one of the highlights of our trip. We drove to Parque Nacional Los Glaciares, where the landscape is totally dominated by ice age glaciation. The spectacular centerpiece of the park, Glaciar Perito Moreno, was our trekking destination. With columns of ice the size of twenty-story buildings crashing into the lake, creating floating icebergs that jostle for space in the glacier's three mile wide face, the glacier periodically dams up a major branch of Lago Argentino until the immense pressure of the backwaters eventually breaks the ice wall in a marvelous show of natural forces. Every so often we heard a sound like thunder as another piece of ice calved off into the waters. It was raining as we boarded a inflatable boat that took us around to the portion of the glacier where our hike was to begin. Our guide outfitted us with crampons and we proceeded to follow closely in his foot tracks to inspect Glaciar Moreno in its awesome detail. Words cannot describe its beauty. All I can think of is the brilliant color of the blue white ice that flanked us as we took our careful steps.

Only one more bus ride separated us from the wilderness and one of Argentina's most famous mountains—Cerro Fitzroy, Argentina's equivalent to Wyoming's Grand Tetons. We drove on a bumpy dirt road to Chaltan. You won't find Chaltan on most maps, since it is essentially a brand new settlement on the south shore of Lago Argentino. It was like being transported back in time to

America's western frontier. Among the dozen or so structures was a church, small market, bakery, restaurant, hosteria, police station, and a necessity to any new community—a chocolate shop. Hammering workmen gave evidence of more works in progress, along with simple plywood signs marking future locations. Off in the distance was a beautiful towering peak—a sheer, tooth-shaped spire. Glaciers and snowfields and spectacular lesser peaks added the necessary backdrop to make this a world-class mountain scene. This was the Fitzroy range: Cerro Torre, Aguja Standhardt, Torre Egger, Cerro St. Exupery, Aguja Poincenot, and Monte Fitzroy. All were wrapped in their characteristic wreath of clouds.

We settled into a small hosteria, with intermittent electricity, a dining table, backpacking stove, and no sink, where we could prepare our meals. There was a wood stove outside that got fired up for hot showers after 7:00 p.m. The next morning we departed with the howling wind blowing us to the trailhead right behind the hosteria towards Rio Blanco and our three day backpack around Monte Fitzroy. As we moved along, the sight of so much mountain majesty hurried us on before the view of Fitzroy would disappear in the clouds. We decided to make camp early before crossing Rio Blanco. The next day this crossing proved quite challenging. It took some time to determine the best way to cross over the rushing waters. We chose the high rocky bank overlooking the Rio Blanco. The trail passed nearby a gleaming white, heavily crevassed glacier above which was Fitzroy itself, a dagger of granite leaping more than two miles into the sky. We made camp at the last trailcamp site, Piedra Del Fraile, next to Rio Electrico, cradled in an amphitheater of snowcapped mountain views. The next day we woke up to rain, dried out our tents, and packed out along Rio Electrico, where Luis, our driver, met us at a junction where the river crosses the road. We spent another night at the "Town of Tomorrow" before heading north to the lakes area and Bariloche.

Bariloche, the largest city in the Patagonian Andes, resembles a Euro-

pean alpine resort. It is noted for its many chocolate stores. Some of these are small shops and some are the size of supermarkets. We spent several days with Bariloche as a home base.

During two days of this segment, we backpacked to Laguna Frey, the mountainous region above Bariloche. The last 1,000 elevation gain was straight up and challenging. The two-story stone refugio off in the distance was a welcome sight. It reminded me of the approach to the summit of Mt. Whitney. There was a flag pole outside the building, and the flag flapping in the wind turned out to be a large Led Zeppelin scarf. Patches of snow were still melting, and marshy rivulets were running into the lake, similar to the Sierras in early fall. We spent the night at Refugio Frey, where they served us a spaghetti dinner. Viewing the Clouds of Magellan and other features associated with the sky of the southern hemisphere that evening was awesome. The sunrise the next morning was spectacular. I rushed outside to take a picture of the sun rising on the spires of the cathedral mountains surrounding the building, and caught a shot of it reflecting on the waters of Laguna Frey.

The last leg of our trip out of Bariloche was traveling to San Martin De Las Andes, hiking along the Chilean border, and being guests at a estancia for a barbeque. We traveled through parts of Los Arrayanes and Huapi Nacional Parques. We saw many jungle-like forests, beautiful lakes, condors, black neck swans, poplar trees turning gold, and rock formations that rivaled Arizona.

Back to civilization in Buenos Aires. This was our final day before the 14 hour flight back to L.A. It was the first day I wore shorts. It rained all day. We visited the family mausoleum where Eva Peron was buried, found a salad bar, and listened to late night jazz down in a basement. It was a wonderful three weeks crammed with many adventures, not all related here. I am anxious to go back sometime to experience some of the missed corridors, especially the Patagonian region of Chile. Yes, Patagonia is indeed a Place. It is also metaphor for The Ultimate!

