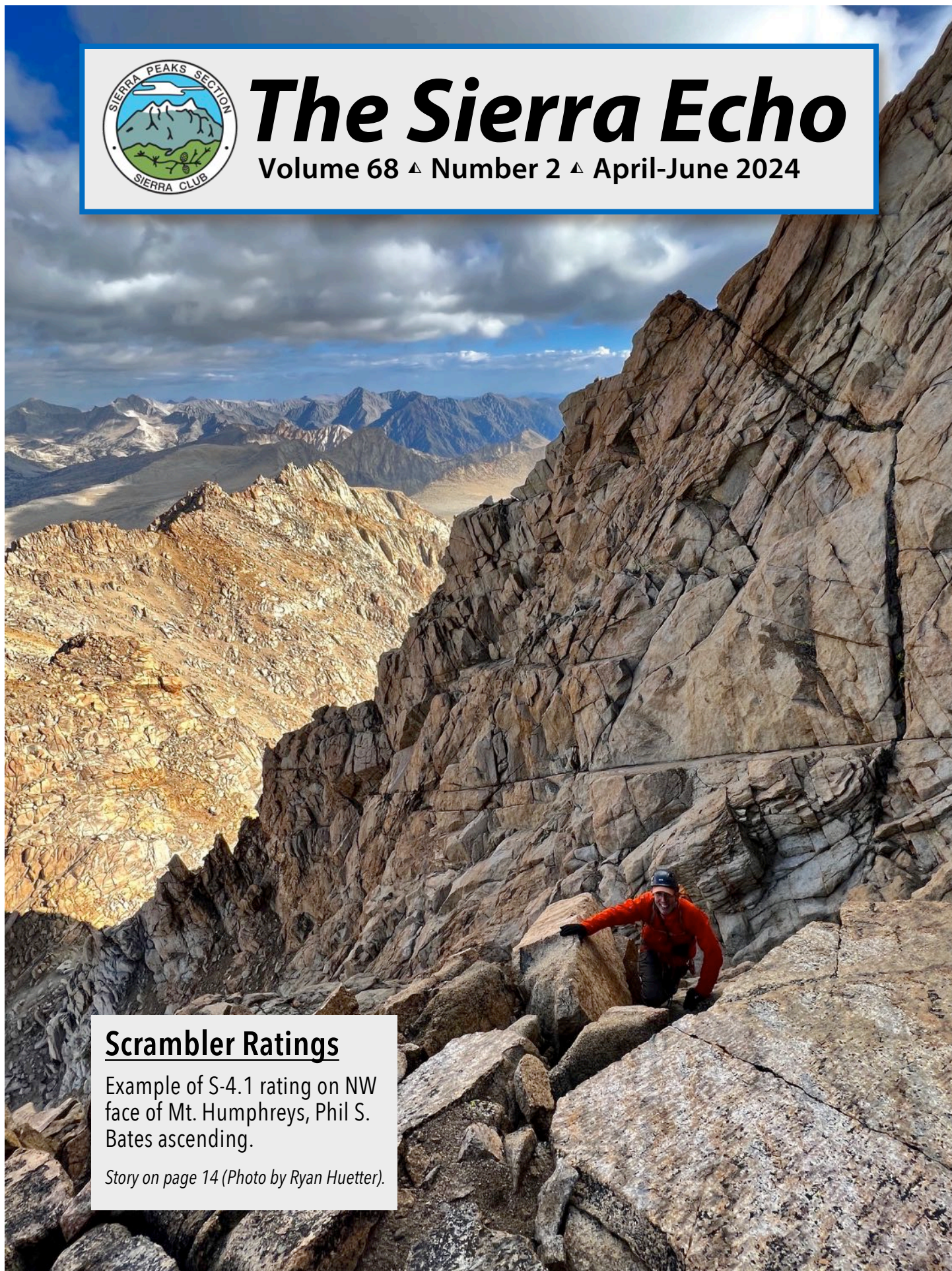




# *The Sierra Echo*

Volume 68 ▲ Number 2 ▲ April-June 2024



## **Scrambler Ratings**

Example of S-4.1 rating on NW face of Mt. Humphreys, Phil S. Bates ascending.

*Story on page 14 (Photo by Ryan Huetter).*



# Echoes from the Chair

I am humbled once again to serve as Chair of the Sierra Peaks Section for 2024. We started the year with a wonderful SPS Banquet. Claude Fiddler took us on an epic journey as he chronicled his adventures skiing, climbing, and photographing the High Sierra. The stories and photographs had us enthralled, and all were delivered in his distinctive humble style. It was apparent why the membership overwhelmingly voted to bestow an Honorary SPS membership to Claude at the banquet. He joins Norman Clyde, Jules Eichorn, and Glen Dawson as the fourth honorary member of our organization. His presentation no doubt motivated us to seek out new adventures in the High Sierra this season—although I doubt many will be busy planning a



winter ski of the JMT, as Claude accomplished in 1978! A huge shout-out to SPS member John Sheehe for recording the presentation and the painstaking work of curating it for YouTube so that we all can enjoy it again and again. See <https://youtu.be/8-iEKRCdfkA?si=kK9QqxpFYOR69Z77>.

Jason Pair

## Save the Date!

We'll be celebrating the seventieth anniversary of the Founding of the Sierra Peaks Section at our next banquet on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Be there or be square!

## List Revision

Following the results of the last SPS election, the SPS Peaks List has been revised. The new 28<sup>th</sup> edition is available here: <https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/sps-peaks-list>.

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# Time to Renew!

Subscriptions to the Echo expire on December 31st. If you haven't renewed, please do so! You can download the renewal form from the SPS web site here: <https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/membership>.

# Election Results for 2024

By Tina Bowman, Election Committee

For the annual ballot, fifty-one responded via SurveyMonkey, three by mail. Elected to the management committee, seen at right from top to bottom, were Jason Pair, Jim Fleming, Laura Newman, Phil S. Bates, and Dylan Kilby. There were no write-in candidates. The measure to revise the rating for Bloody Mountain from class 2 to class 1 passed 49 to 3.

The special ballot to award honorary membership to Claude Fiddler passed 42 to 4. One mail-in ballot for this was received; the other votes were cast in SurveyMonkey.



## 2024 Sierra Peaks Section Management Committee

### Elected

Jason Pair Chair [jasonpair69@gmail.com](mailto:jasonpair69@gmail.com)  
Jim Fleming Vice-chair/banquet [flemingjim174@gmail.com](mailto:flemingjim174@gmail.com)  
Laura Newman Treasurer [sierrapeakstreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:sierrapeakstreasurer@gmail.com)  
Phil S. Bates Secretary [philsbates54@gmail.com](mailto:philsbates54@gmail.com)  
Dylan Kilby Fifth officer/outings [dylanrkilby@gmail.com](mailto:dylanrkilby@gmail.com)

### Appointed

Archives Dan Richter [dan@danrichter.com](mailto:dan@danrichter.com)  
Conservation Chair Sharon Moore [justslm@earthlink.net](mailto:justslm@earthlink.net)  
Echo editors Tina Bowman [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com),  
Beth Epstein  
Echo mailer Tina Bowman  
Emblem Committee Phil S. Bates, Kathy Rich, Daryn Dodge,  
Ron Bartell, Bob Pickering  
IT Support Greg Mason [admin@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:admin@sierrapeaks.org),  
Harry Lagenbacher [admin2@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:admin2@sierrapeaks.org)  
Keeper of the List Tina Bowman  
Merchandise Patty Kline [patriciakline@aol.com](mailto:patriciakline@aol.com)  
Mountain Records Harry Langenbacher [register@langenbacher.org](mailto:register@langenbacher.org)  
Outings Gary Schenk [gary@hbfun.org](mailto:gary@hbfun.org)  
Safety Chair Doug Mantle [sierradoug@icloud.com](mailto:sierradoug@icloud.com)  
Webmaster Joe Wankum [jbwankum@aol.com](mailto:jbwankum@aol.com)  
Asst. Webmasters Harry Lagenbacher [register@summitregister.org](mailto:register@summitregister.org)  
Tina Bowman [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com),

### Regional Representatives

San Diego Joe White  
Central California Daryn Dodge  
Northern California Lisa Barboza



# Welcome New Members!

## Ty Bowman

Ty joined the Sierra club in 1993 a few years after arriving in California from Texas, where he grew up and went to college. He did a Sierra Club outing that year led by a lovely couple from Santa Monica. It was a trip to Langley, but his group split off to do a different peak, which they did not summit. It took him twenty-eight years to get back to the Sierra to climb Langley, which he did two months after summiting Whitney. That touched off a craze in him to do all the California 14ers, now one-third done. SPS member Chuck Schillings introduced him to the Sierra Peaks Section after they climbed Split together. This spring he'll be taking the Advanced Mountaineering Program and working with a guide to improve his rock-climbing skills. He's hoping for less snow and more peaks this year.



## Claude Fiddler

In the last election Claude Fiddler was made an honorary SPS Member.



## Congratulations!

Dylan Kilby has earned his first and second Andy Smatko Explorer Emblems, the first on Sonora Peak on July 23, 2023, and the second on Mount Huntington on September 27, 2023.





## around-the-web/

By Dave Sholle

*Editors' note: Dave Sholle is our correspondent for this column, sharing web links that SPS members may find interesting. If you see something you would like to share with other members, please send it to Dave at [dsholle@verizon.net](mailto:dsholle@verizon.net).*

Some of these links may be behind paywalls.

### Sierra and California

[Three hikers rescued, one missing on Mount Baldy](#)

[Body of missing hiker found on Mount Baldy](#)

[Jerry Gallwas preserving Yosemite climbing history](#)

[New Royal Robbins biography wins Banff Book award](#)

[Royal Robbins biography review](#)

[One man's horrific ordeal in the Eastern Sierra](#)

[Steve Roper's climbing career](#)

[Climber Charles Barrett got away with so much for so long](#)

[Climber Charles Barrett Convicted](#)

### High Asian Peaks

[Mount Everest climbers will need to bring poo back to base camp](#)

[Beyond Sacredness, Into Greed](#)

[Three Americans climb the North face of Jannu and NYTimes article on the climb](#)

### Other

[Avalanche control in Rogers Pass Canada](#)

["Into the Wild" bus moved to museum](#)

[The Burgeoning Science of Search and Rescue](#)

[Belay device overview](#)

[New photos renew a discussion about a deadly expedition on Aconcagua](#)

[Mount Washington became a skating rink](#)

[Ice climbers' responsibility code](#)

[Ski bum culture hits reality](#)

[Mount Washington Rescue report](#)

## We Need Your Stories!

We need YOU to submit reports of SPS and private climbs, Trail Tech articles, Mystery Peak challenges, and anything else you think would be of interest to *Echo* readers! Please send submissions to co-editor Tina Bowman at [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com).

Thanks!

## FREE

### First Year's Membership or Echo Subscription

New subscribers and members can receive their first year's subscription for free! Download the Membership Application Form at <http://sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/new-members#mr>. Please contact the chair if you have any questions.



# The 2024 SPS Banquet

By Mary McMannes, Roving Girl Reporter

As evening breezes wafted over the courts of Almansor in exotic Alhambra, SPSers came from near and far (even Cincinnati) to reunite and share past and present mountaineering memories. The annual banquet is the highlight of the year, and the Almansor never fails to bring us good food, ample wine, and an uncrowded venue. Thank you, Paul Garry and SPS management who brought it all together. And beyond our own welcomed conversations, we looked forward to climber, skier, photographer Claude Fiddler to bring us his stunning slide show. He's a good friend and neighbor to Doug Mantle, who wisely escaped from Sylmar for residency at Crowley Lake. No one can offer a better introduction than Doug, but alas, he was out collecting volcanoes. Dylan Kirby was an excellent stand-in introducing our speaker later in the evening.

Meanwhile, before Claude actually took the stage, diners put down their forks in great anticipation of personal and public recognition. Chair Jason Pair came to the podium and welcomed SPS founding member, list finisher number three, early management



committee member, and legendary climber Barbara Lilley. SPS list finisher number four and early section pioneer Jerry and his wife Nancy Keating were mentioned as being missed by us. We hope to see them next year. Jason welcomed new members and the latest emblem holders, Tom McDonnell and Bob Pickering. The traditional standing ceremony began as many remained standing and honored as being SPS list finishers. Looking around the room, that's a lot of list finishers (I mused), which indicated a

gathering of some super and committed athletes. Double list finishers were Tina Bowman, Daryn Dodge, and in absentia Gregie boy Vernon and Corrine Livingston. Finally one left standing for a triple list



Above: Banquet speaker Claude Fiddler (Photo by David Sholle). At left: Left to right, Sandy Lara, Roving Girl Reporter Mary McMannes, Barbara Sholle, Tina Bowman, and Pat Holleman (Photo by Mark Allen).





At left: Speaker Claude Fiddler presenting, Kathy Rich, Daryn Dodge (back row), Alexander Smirnoff, Anne Mullins and Paul Garry enjoying the show behind (Photo by Mark Allen). Below right: Ellen and Eric Shumacher. Bottom: Left to right, Daryn Dodge and Randy Bernard (Photos by David Sholle).

finisher, our own incredible Tina Bowman. Doug on a Stick didn't fit in my suitcase; otherwise, he would have popped up eight times for eight list finishers. Yes, eight! Congrats Doug Mantle you truly have wow factor!

Finally, it was time for Dylan and Doug's intro. "Welcome, Claude Fiddler. We hope you enjoyed your meal; we regret it was not practical to provide your



preferred dinner: a fifth of bourbon with Reese's peanut butter cups" (laughter) And so the show began. See the rest of Doug's intro in a sidebar. Claude regaled us with personal stories and photos of famous people who chose to climb with him. Sadly, he mentioned his





*Above left: Chair Jason Pair and former chair Kathy Rich. Right: Isaac Simons and John Sheehee (Photos by David Sholle).*

friends, Tom Hornbein and Allen Steck and their passings in 2023. Tom's famed the West Ridge of Everest and Steck's Fifty Classic Climbs, mere mortals immortalized. They reached old age at ninety-two and ninety-six, disproving the old adage there are no old, bold climbers. Fiddler led us through his album of first ascents, rock climbing routes too various to mention here with best companions we have only read about (them). He said, "I loved the raunchiness of climbing." We loved his enthusiasm. Worthy of mention, Claude was on Everest for Hornbein's 50th anniversary climb, conquered El Capitan 2x, later excelled in cross-Sierra skiing coupled with outstanding photography now published in a coffee table book for purchase. For a seemingly

## ***Doug Mantle's Banquet Intro***

*(Delivered by Dylan Kilby with his additional comments [sorry, we don't have those]).*

Welcome, Claude Fiddler! We hope you enjoyed your meal; we regret it was not practical to provide your preferred dinner: a fifth of bourbon with Reese's peanut butter cups.

In the 70s, SPSers were content tackling peaks including class three, like Mt Winchell. The new climbers guide to the High Sierra, 1972, from our own Andy Smatko, listed no peaks harder than that, as directed by the Sierra Club.

That's about when Claude began stalking rock climbs in Yosemite Valley and especially in Tuolumne Meadows. Class three climbs were not on the itineraries. Planning was different then. Did one ask which cams to include on your rack? What was a cam? Did sources advise when the sun would shine on the route in the afternoon in August? Ha. What, is there no climbers' topo (Claude can relate where and by whom climb topos were invented)? Route? There is no friggin' ROUTE! Point and shoot. Call your shot. That's it.

For many summers, for many, many first ascents, that's what Claude Fiddler was doing. He didn't write them down. Claude! You didn't write them down!!?

Then it was on to the High Sierra. His climbs increased in difficulty as did the Yosemite decimal system just being amended : 5.9, 5.10a , and



*Dylan Kilby (Photo by David Sholle).*





Above left: Alexander Smirnoff and new outings chair, Gary Schenk. Right: Left to right, Dan Richter, Tom Bowman, and Larry Tidball (Photos by Mark Allen).

mild-mannered, quiet-spoken fellow, he has had quite the multi-faceted bold life, and we were grateful to journey with him from the safety of our banquet chairs. Thanks to Doug for sending him, thanks to Claude for a wonderful evening.

As the evening came to a close, we bade our fond farewells. Reflecting on our time together, I thought that during happy hour we were on speed dating with two minutes per conversation. It's always like that. Next year is the big one, our 70th anniversary of the founding of SPS. I'll be there, will you? Spring and summer approach us, and list gathering continues as it's in

the grades too: IV, V, VI. Not content with single peak outings, he all but invented Sierra traverses too, as you read in the flyer. Lucky for us, he DID write all this down, resulting in the first books, the *Sierra Classics: 100 Best Climbs in the High Sierra* and its sequel. Those, along with *50 Classic Climbs in North America*, for many of us, are near-sacred texts.

Along the way, he befriended, climbed with, and mentored a who's who of Yosemite and Sierra legends, from Jules Eichorn to Peter Croft and counting, and we dare say has himself become a legend.

In 1983 he added a hundred-pound camera to his rucksack. OK, it wasn't one-hundred pounds but it was really big, an old German box camera, similar to the type that SPS photographer of record, Tom Ross, used to haul. We assume that, unlike Tom Ross, Claude did not also carry cherry bombs. This was the genesis of the four, thus far, photo books. Of the first, David Brower no less said, "The photos bring natural light to a world that wildness has made perfect." What the heck does that mean? Brower explicates, "Gad, wait till you see this!"

Tom Hornbein, the Everest West Ridge Hero, asked himself why he should write the forward to Claude's most recent book. Well, Tom, maybe because Claude fixed lines and carried massive loads up the west ridge to 27,200 feet for your twentieth anniversary expedition? Dr. Hornbein answers: rather, it's because the photos so well "cherish a piece of the planet," the Sierra.

Claude's day job was supervisor of building and maintenance for Mono County. He recently retired. Could we expect him to recline a bit in the house he built perched far above Owens Valley, with his wife Nancy, an Olympic ski champion and his constant back country partner? Fat chance. There's another book coming, the subject is Alaska's Brooks Range. This comes from his most recent reconnaissance, a 130-mile knapsack epic with the legendary SP Parker: "We are running out of food, the bugs have been hideous, we've been walking through six inches of water over tussock volleyballs; all in all, a suffer fest." Trust me, can't wait to get back.



*Clockwise from right: Left to right, Ron Bartell, Christine Mitchell, and Paul Garry. Barbara Sholle, Mary Motheral, Mark Goebel, Joy Goebel. Jeff Solomon and Phil S. Bates. Dan Richter and Mary McMannes (Photos by David Sholle).*



our blood. Tina and Barbee will trade in used knees with 100,000 miles warranties expired. Gene Mauk and the Mauklings will collect a new eclipse. Hopefully, the Bartellis will bag those remaining winter climbs, 365 on Baldy, February being the cruelest month. Randy Bernard will search for more bad jokes. Former Ohio'ians return to their homesteads for Totality on April 8th, the Sholles, Don Sparks, the Schumachers, maybe Gary-Mary Jo. I'll leave my light on for you. And the hearty will return to the Sierra for yet another peak experience. Climbers, cherish those days, the best of your lives.





*Editors' note: At our most recent banquet in January, Claude Fiddler was inducted as the fourth honorary member of the Sierra Peaks Section. The first was Norman Clyde in 1961. Below are some facts and insights about that remarkable SPSer. Part two on the second and third SPS honorary members—Glen Dawson and Jules Eichorn—will appear in the next issue.*

## The First Honorary Member of the Sierra Peaks Section

*By Doug Mantle*

It's one hundred years ago. We search for the embodiment of SPS-ness. We ask Alexa or AI what is required: "They must summit fifty to sixty Sierra peaks every year, most of which must be first ascents or new routes on challenging peaks." Our candidate can't sift through reams of useless route minutia—they didn't exist—and our ideal would gag on them. And let's find a candidate who will impart his achievements by leading innumerable folks on, say, Sierra Club outings for forty years and publishing 1500 books and adventure stories. This person would be called "the foremost alpinist of California."

Without doubt we have found our man: Norman Clyde. He made well over a thousand Sierra climbs, including fifty times on Mount Whitney and thirty-five times on North Palisade, and 130 first ascents, like Mount Russell, and new routes like the glacier on North Palisade.

His is not just a Sierra legacy, as Clyde made three dozen early climbs in the new Glacier Park with many first ascents, led Glen Dawson's father and party on a tour de force on the Grand Teton, topped remote, challenging Mount Robson in British Columbia, and went twelve times up Mount Shasta— on one such venture he made the 8000 feet of gain in just over three hours.

Clyde was not known as a Desert Peak climber. Yes, he hiked and skied up White Mountain from the bottom. But the desert game means bad roads and capable cars. SPS or John Wedberg relates that they met Norman up Baker Creek once for an outing. Clyde was having trouble with his ancient car. He parked, pulled up the hood, hands on hips, and evinced an expression Wedberg note that "only someone irredeemably ignorant of internal combustion engines could assume." The team replaced an obvious faulty spark plug, and all was well.

But Clyde did make two historic desert climbs. In 1933 Clyde with Glen Dawson and others tackled the toughest possible route on one of the toughest desert peaks, Big Picacho.

The group flew down, trekked, then tackled 5.6 to 5.8 rock and a half dozen rappels on Pinnacle Ridge, including a desperate descent far enough to find a needed pool of water. They were dismayed to find a cairn, this was the second ascent, first was up from the canyon below twenty years before. Glutton for punishment, Clyde returned in 1939 via the



*Norman Clyde utilizing the dulfersitz (Photo Courtesy Norman Clyde-Robert C. Pavlik Collection, Special Collections, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo).*





cactus and boulder barrier known as Providencia Canyon. The second ascent of that canyon was done by Barbara Lilley and company years after.

Tough guy? “Jut-jawed, blue-eyed, ruddy complexion, an animated block of granite,” per Jules Eichorn. Five-foot nine, 165 pounds, Clyde said, “I’d rather catch trout than sleep”; “I’d rather be reading Flaubert then engage in idle chatter [we knew he read Latin and Greek, but French!]”; “If I am going to fall, I would prefer to fall straight down.” The following should cause some consternation among our members, including some list finishers and even a two-time list finisher: “You must sit, stand, or lie on a summit to count it; simply touching the top isn’t enough.” Thus, the picture of him standing erect atop the Milk Bottle summit rock. Part of the legend: “The pack that walks like a man,” “an especially picturesque enormity of skyscraper architecture.”

Curmudgeon? He was impatient with hero treatment from the unknowing. However, Margie Waller, daughter of climber Ted, relates that on high trips, after building his customary huge group bonfire, Clyde would tease and cajole like a loving grandfather. SPSer Ret Moore was a young novice hiker with a buddy at Sam Mack Meadow, looking to ascend North Palisade. An old man, he relates,

*Clockwise from top left: Norman Clyde and trademark pack (Photo Courtesy of Eastern California Museum). Norman Clyde (on top) and Francis P. Farquhar on the Milkbottle (Starlight) on North Palisade. Palisades Climbing School, August 1931 (Original photograph by Glen Dawson. Negatives obtained by Michael Rettie in garage sale and subsequently scanned by Rettie to obtain this image. Rettie Dawson Collection, Sierra Club-Angeles Chapter Archives). Bottom: Norman Clyde and fellow camper Mrs. Phil Bettler in the Tetons at Jenny Lake Campground, August 27, 1956 (Photo by Fred Johnson).*



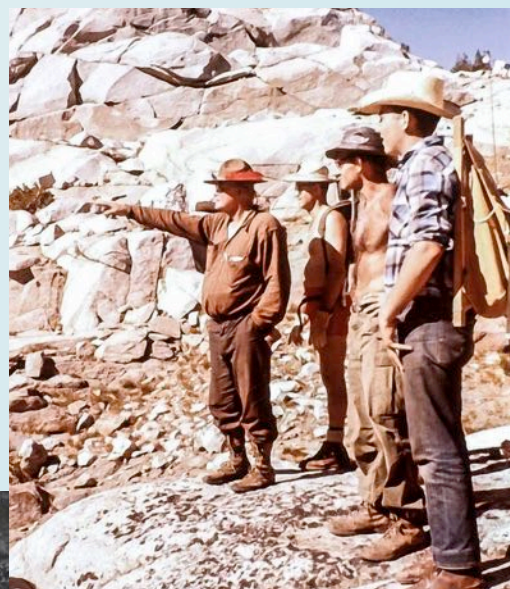
chatted with him about it and wound up guiding them to the top. Norman. Having found Pete Starr's remains on Michael Minaret, Clyde cried tears as Jules Eichorn interred the body. As Jules' co-leader on numerous "cache and carry" youth climbing camps in the 1950s and as a working camp hand on Club basecamp trips into the 1970s, he delighted young and old with his campfire anecdotes, telling tales late into the starry night.

I was a camp hand on a Club base camp trip to Moonlight Lake in 1972; Clyde was scheduled to be along. Imagine my excitement! As fate would have it, Norman passed away that April.

"The greatest California mountaineer of the first half of the 20th century," it was said.

Too narrow an accolade, plainly. Clyde's last written words: "Sierra Heil, Norman Clyde."

A note about High Trips. These were instituted by John Muir as the annual Sierra Club outing, a way of introducing members to the wonders of the Sierra and other ranges and prompting the concept of protection. The trips would last for two weeks with hundreds of participants, yes, all amply supplied by packers. You would line up with your Sierra cup and receive breakfast, thereafter hike to the next campsite with just a knapsack, camp, reload your cup for dinner, and share a monstrous campfire with multiple program offerings. William Colby led the first thirty of them. I was lucky to be along for the second to last one in 1970. We had a naturalist, a climbing leader . . . best trip ever!



Top: Norman Clyde at Sierra Club Base Camp, 1960 (Donated by Jean L. Rosenfeld Collection of Norman Clyde photographs; 1993-001; William E. Colby Memorial Library, Sierra Club.) Above: High Trip, Yosemite, 1921. Norman Clyde circled on left, William Colby on right (Anon 124-25 pan crop, Courtesy Sierra Club-Angeles Chapter History Archives).





## Scrambler Ratings Coverage Expanded

*By Phil S. Bates*

Thanks to numerous contributions by SPS members and other Sierra climbers over the past year, the recent updating of Mountain Scrambler Ratings on the SPS website resulted in more than a one-third increase in the coverage. In February 2024 the website's two tables of Scrambler Ratings were expanded with new ratings for 228 non-technical routes up Sierra Nevada peaks, including an additional 116 mountains. Also, the ratings for twenty-four routes have been revised, reflecting suggested changes by members and other climbers. All new and revised ratings are shown in red text. The two tables covering the official "SPS Peaks List" and "Non-SPS High Sierra Peaks" now provide Mountain Scrambler Ratings for 839 non-technical routes up 549 mountains in the Sierra Nevada, with all twenty-four geographical

*Above: South Ridge of Mount Cotter. Rating S-3.0  
(Photo by Phil S. Bates).*

regions of the Sierra well covered in terms of both SPS and non-SPS peaks.

The table for the SPS peaks provides Scrambler Ratings for the easiest route up each of the 247 mountains on the official SPS Peaks List. In total, there are now Scrambler Ratings for 429 routes up SPS peaks, representing an increase of forty-six routes from the previous year. Ratings were revised for eight routes up SPS peaks. The changes include the easiest route up Bloody Mountain, which was lowered to S-1.2 from S-2.0 after the route's YDS rating was adjusted to Class 1 from Class 2 following approval of the change by a vote of the SPS membership.

The table for "Non-SPS High Sierra Peaks" experienced a quantum leap in coverage to 302 mountains, pillars, and other high points, an increase of 60% over the previous year's listing. The table now provides ratings on 409 different routes, representing an increase of 80% from the beginning of 2023. All but two



of the 302 non-SPS High Sierra peaks with Scrambler Ratings qualify for the Andy Smatko Explorer Emblem by meeting one of the three following requirements: (1) a listed "summit" in the GNIS (Geographic Names Information System) of the USGS, (2) a named peak or spire in R.J. Secor's *The High Sierra: Peaks, Passes, Trails*, or (3) a high point approved by the SPS Emblem Committee as a "special case" Sierra summit that qualifies for the Smatko Explorer Emblem, reflecting such criteria as the high point's degree of prominence, its distance from the nearest Smatko or SPS peak, the required minimum elevation gain and hiking distance, and the climbing difficulty of the easiest route of ascent. All peaks qualifying for the Smatko Explorer Emblem must be located in the Sierra Nevada range and have a minimum elevation of 7000 feet.



*Top: Summit Pinnacle of Mount Darwin. Rating S-4.0. Below: East ridge of Mount Russell. Rated S-3.1 (Photos by Phil S. Bates).*



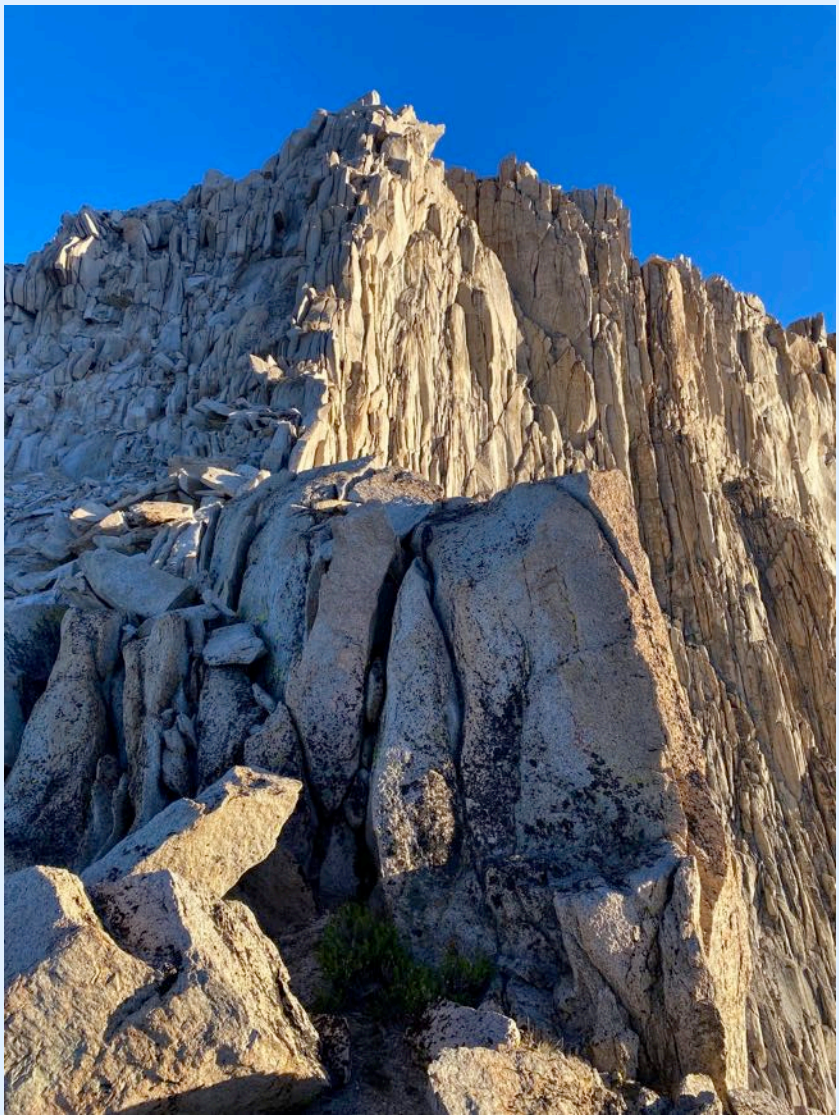


With the expanded coverage, there are now Scrambler Ratings for a minimum of at least fourteen combined SPS and non-SPS peaks in each of the 24 geographical regions of the Sierra Nevada and a minimum of at least twenty-two routes in each region. Many regions have ratings on far more peaks and routes, with the largest coverage for region “Bond Pass to Lake Tahoe,” which includes ratings for eighty-three peaks and ninety-four routes. To facilitate locating individual and nearby peaks, the organization of the table for “Non-SPS High Sierra Peaks” has been improved to include the numbering of peaks within each region and the ordering of peaks by geographic location within each region, starting in the southeast and moving to the northwest in a progression that parallels the geographical ordering of mountains within each region on the official SPS Peaks list.

Scrambler Ratings coverage now includes at least one route up each of the one-hundred mountains on the Vagmarken Club Sierra Crest List and each of the fifty-six mountains on the Tahoe-Ogul Peaks List that have non-technical routes and are located in the Sierra Nevada.

The Mountain Scramblers Rating framework and two lists of ratings were first posted on the SPS webpage in November 2019 and is based on the article “Improving Ratings for Mountain Scramblers,” which was published in the April-June 2019 issue of *The Sierra Echo*. The new ratings framework has benefited from some refinements over the past four years, reflecting comments and suggestions from SPS members and other climbers of Sierra peaks.

To distinguish the difficulty of non-technical mountain climbs more clearly, the Mountain Scrambler Ratings framework divides each of



*South Ridge of Mount Clarence King. Rating S-4.1 (Photo by Phil S. Bates).*

the four, non-technical Yosemite Decimal System (YDS) rating categories into three parts and expands the scope of the ratings. While the YDS ratings only address the difficulty of the hardest section of the route, Mountain Scrambler Ratings also consider the length of the most challenging segments and other factors, such as rock stability, that distinguish the severity of mountain hikes and scrambles. In expanding the scope of analysis, Scrambler Ratings address the extent and challenges of any off-trail travel, the length and difficulty of any scrambling, the steepness, nature, and stability of the terrain and the degree of exposure to hazards. The Scrambler Ratings only address the extent and stability of the most difficult class of rock encountered on a route; the ratings do not address the extent and stability of terrain of lower degrees of difficulty on the route. As in the case of YDS ratings, Scrambler Ratings do not assess seasonal and daily





Northeast face of Middle Palisade. Rating S-3.2 (Photo by Phil S. Bates).

variations in the risks posed by the angle, quality, and extent of any snow that may cover part of the route, or similar variations in the risks posed by water crossings.

P.S. Members and other Sierra Nevada peak baggers are encouraged to offer additions and changes to the two lists of Scrambler Ratings for non-technical routes up mountains in the High Sierra. Please contact Phil at [philsbates54@gmail.com](mailto:philsbates54@gmail.com) with comments, suggestions, questions, additions, and changes to the tables. Another updating of the Mountain Scrambler Ratings will be undertaken at the end of the year and published in early 2025.

**Wear 'em! Give 'em!**

# SPS TEES



**Front: NORTH PAL**  
**Back: FULL SPS LIST**  
By geographic area with Mountaineer & Emblem peaks highlighted

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## Domesticating the “Dome of the Continent”: Colloquializing Conquest and Control on Mount Whitney

Joseph Esparza,  
Montana State University

*This article is an edited and adapted excerpt from a presentation given at the 2023 Eastern Sierra History Conference in Bishop, California.*

*From the editors—Due to software and formatting issues, notes here are represented by numbers in parentheses with all notes at the end of the article.*

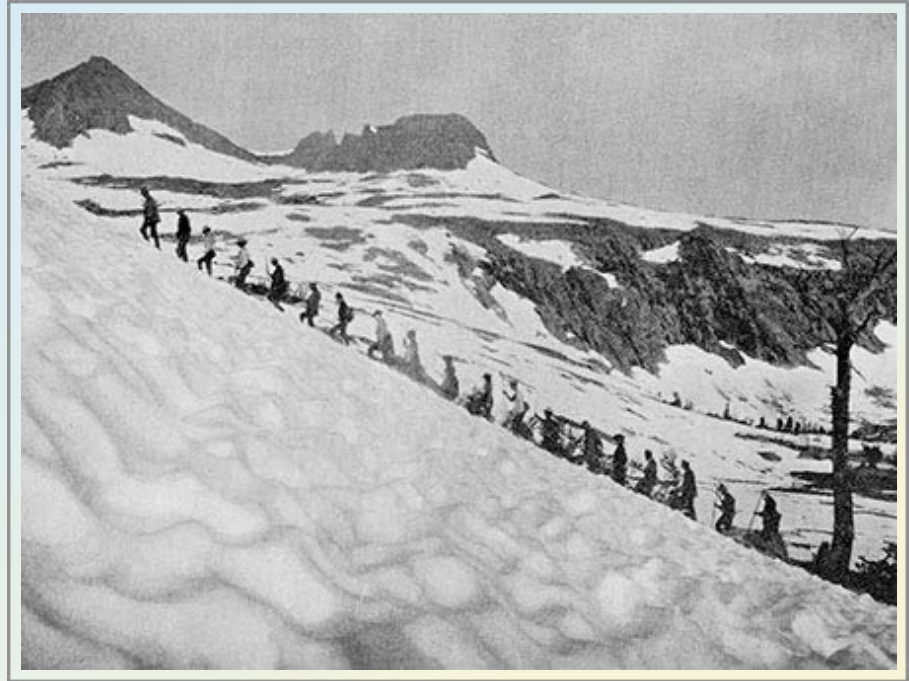
Few mountains tower over their surroundings as Mount Whitney does over its landscape. For many settlers, Mount Whitney became a “landmark mountain” largely because of its association with the imagination of conquest, control, and consumption. At one time, Mount Whitney was a symbol of Manifest Destiny and the “wildness” of the expanding American Empire. Gradually, it became a symbol of a different kind of empire, a recreational one. A *Google Image* search page of “Mount Whitney” will be flooded with pictures of successful climbers showcasing their “conquest” of the mountain—often waving an American flag on the

summit. Conquest, control, and consumption have all come in different forms on this mountain. Over time, Mount Whitney became colloquialized, democratized, and vernacularized. In other words, the mountain

*Above: Men and women summit Mount Whitney, raising the American flag on top of the summit hut. c. mid-1930s. This image encapsulates the ideas of nationalism and vernacular conquest that were imagined on the mountain (1).*



*Photo from the Sierra Club conquest of Mount Whitney in July 1903. One hundred and ten climbers ascended to the west face via mules before hiking to the summit on the early original Mount Whitney Trail on the west side (2).*



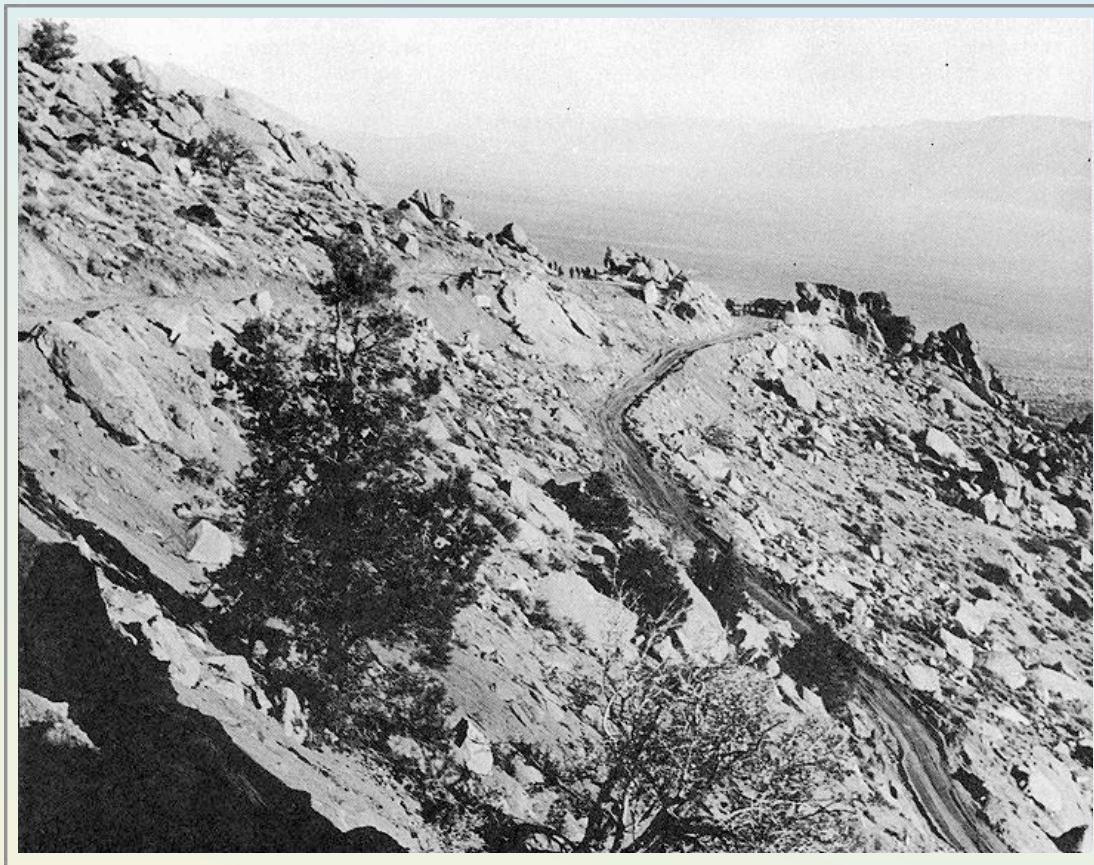
became accessible to “ordinary people” (although typically still upper-class, fit individuals with disposable income) in the post-settler period. “Ordinary” people could “conquer” Whitney by hiking it on a trail blasted out of Sierra granite, “control” its wildness through trails and roads, and “consume” it through recreation and tourism.

Local hiking clubs began having regular outings to the “dome of the continent” in the mid-1880s (3). These groups approached from the western side of the mountain, following the quasi-official path up the “southwest chimney,” which by that time had become a popular unmaintained trail. Groups such as the Sierra Club and the Mount Whitney Club had regular outings across California and the Sierra. In a combination of national and local motivations, the Smithsonian and Army wanted the same thing that local Lone Pine residents wanted: an official trail to the top of the nation (4). During the summer of 1903, Captain Charles S. Young, a high-ranking Black

*Drawing of Mount Whitney and its proposed Tram (8).*







*Construction of the Whitney Portal, "Top to Bottom" Road, c. 1936 (13).*

officer in the army who served as administrator for Sequoia National Park, sent a detachment to the eastern side of the range to preserve meadows from overgrazing. As an additional task, his soldiers were instructed to build an official trail from Guitar Lake on the west face of Mount Whitney to its summit. While Young and his men were working on the new trail, a Sierra Club outing of over one hundred hikers, using mules on the approach, became the largest group to have summited to date (5). By the end of 1903, *The San Francisco Call* reported that there was an official "pathway to the summit of Mount Whitney . . . that will make it easier to reach those famous places." Simultaneously, another group of fifteen soldiers were constructing a trail from the Lone Pine Creek beginning, through the drainage area of the South Fork of Lone Pine Creek. This is the general route that today's trail from the Whitney Portal still follows.

The following year, local Lone Pine resident Gustave Marsh completed the trail to Mount Whitney, financed by the citizens of Lone Pine. Marsh set the trail to go over Whitney Pass and follow the Sierra Crest before dipping

to Trail Crest Pass (13,700'). By July 1904, the full Mount Whitney circuit was completed, and the 1907 USGS map shows the original Mount Whitney Trail from both the east and west (6). A trail had been blasted through the Sierra Crest to assist the growing nation in a common person's conquest of the nation's highest peak (7). A collective social imagination of consumption and vernacular conquest and the desire to tame the mountain would continue to grow.

Other more eccentric proposals were put forth for greater vernacular conquests and touristic consumption of the mountain. One of these was the almost laughable idea of the "Mount Whitney Skyway," a planned cable suspension route carrying visitors from the valley floor near the mouth of Lone Pine Canyon (7,000') to the summit (14,505'). In February 1926, the *Los Angeles Times* ran a full-page article with pictures and images of the skyway and described the idea as a new and better way to "scale the heights of Mount Whitney" (9).

To facilitate the growing popularity of the Mount Whitney Trail, the plans for a road closer to the mountain



began in 1915. From the description, the original plan for the road would have ended somewhere just below the entrance to the original Southwest Trail chimney route (10). Thankfully, this road was never built, and today the area it would have traversed remains one of the more wild and remote in the range. In 1936, A Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp was built at the base of Mount Whitney known as Camp F-28 for Company 2921. This camp housed up to two hundred young men, mainly ranging in age from eighteen to twenty. They were tasked to create a road from Hunter's Flat (6,500') to Whitney Portal (8,300') (11.) Known as "Top-to-Bottom Road," the road allowed visitors to experience the dynamic "scenery of the United States" and would surely become "one of the most popular [roads] on the North American continent" (12). Ordinary weekenders from Los Angeles could now travel to Lone Pine on Friday, take a packed mule train to the summit, and be back in middle-class suburbia on Monday. By the end of the Great Depression, Mount Whitney had been gradually reimagined as part of the nation's growing recreation

industry. The landscape had become domesticated and democratized, and it remains a symbol of the new empire of tourism and recreation.

This story should compel us to reexamine what our attitudes are as we trudge up slopes, climb snowy colors, scramble the white granite, and gaze down into the valleys below. Do we climb for the vainglory of conquest alone? It is far too easy to commodify the Sierra Nevada. Indeed, as peakbaggers, it is far easier than most of us would care to admit. We can easily "bag" the next peak, to complete an arbitrary peak list, and envision the mountains only as points of personal conquests. If we are being honest, each of us has had moments of commodifying our beloved Sierra. We ought then, from time to time, slow our feverishness simply to be in awe and to rest in the wonder of the truth, beauty, and goodness revealed in the magnificence of the mountain landscape.

Questions and comments welcome:

[josephsparza1@montana.edu](mailto:josephsparza1@montana.edu)

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1) Burton Frasher, "Summit of Mt. Whitney, Highest Mountains in the United States above Lone Pine, CA," digitized by Pomona Public Library, accessed Owens Valley History.

(2) Henry Brown, *Mineral King Country*, from Owens Valley History, "1903 Sierra Club High Trip Photos."

(3) *Inyo Independent*, Vol IV, No. 176, November 1, 1873.

(4) Francis Farquhar, *History of the Sierra Nevada*, (Berkeley, CA: The University of California Press, 1966): 181-183.

(5) Asahel Curtis, "The Ascent of Mount Whitney," *The Camden Chronicle*, November 20, 1903, Image 3.

(6) Mayre Roeser, "The Role of the U.S. Cavalry in Building the Mt. Whitney Trails in 1903," American Mule Museum; Brian G. Shellum, *Black Officer in a Buffalo Soldier Regiment: The Military Career of Charles Young* (Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 2010): 144.

(7) Note: The current Mt. Whitney trail over Trail Crest Pass that created the "99 switchbacks" was re-routed in 1930 and again in 1947. For a brief history of the 1947 trail creation see: Mayre Roeser, "Mount Whitney Trail," American Mule Museum; for a suggested map of the 1930 trail location see: "Mount Whitney Quadrangle," [1:25,000], USGS, 1937. Note: The Summit Plaque was likely placed at the summit celebration for the completion of the High Sierra Route. See Dave Woodruff, "Tales Along El Camino Sierra," Owens Valley History.

(8) Charles H. Owens, "Mount Whitney Ariel Tram Proposal," *Los Angeles Times*, February 28, 1926.

(9) John L. Von Blon, "Mount Whitney Ariel Tram Proposal," *Los Angeles Times*, February 28, 1926, courtesy of Owens Valley History, Visalia Daily Times, March 5, 1926, courtesy of Owens Valley History.

(10) *Inyo Independent*, "Auto Road to Mt. Whitney," August 20, 1915.

(11) Photo courtesy of Rich McCutchen in Emilie Martin, "Inyo National Forest and the CCC," *The Album: Times and Tales of Inyo-Mono*, Vol IV, No. 3 (1991): 11-18.

(12) *Evening Star*, "Road Taps Beautiful Mount Whitney Scenes," August 29, 1936, *Evening Star*, "Parks of U.S. to be Mecca of Millions," March 14, 1937.

(13) Photo courtesy of Rich McCutchen in Emilie Martin, "Inyo National Forest and the CCC," *The Album: Times and Tales of Inyo-Mono*, Vol IV, No. 3 (1991): 11-18.





We've chosen the photo above taken by Mat Kelliher, showing climbers ascending Mt. Emerson on an SPS trip, to represent the outings section. Do you have a photo you would like to see here? If so, please send your submission as an email attachment to [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com) or via USPS to Tina Bowman.

Apr 10 | Wed

LTC

**ER: Advanced Mountaineering Program (Spring 2024): Knots & Basic Safety Systems:** First of four climbing workshops aimed at developing skills for 3rd, 4th, and 5th class climbing both as a participant or a future Sierra Club M and E leader. This will be an indoor workshop held in the evening reviewing ropes, harnesses, helmets, basic climbing gear, and knots in preparation for later workshops. All participants must have prior roped climbing experience and commit to all four classes. To register please see <http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org>. Ldrs: Patrick McKusky, Gregory Mason.

Apr 13 | Sat

LTC

**ER: Advanced Mountaineering Program (Spring 2024): Belay Skills:** Second of four climbing workshops aimed at developing skills for 3rd, 4th, and 5th class climbing both as a participant or a future Sierra Club M and E leader. This workshop will focus on belaying and related principles starting with standard sport climbing all the way up to advanced techniques to move large groups across dangerous terrain. All participants must have prior roped climbing experience and commit to all four classes. Ldrs: Patrick McKusky, Gregory Mason.

Apr 6 | Sat

LTC

**LTC Seminar Spring 2024 #1:** The Angeles Chapter Leadership Training Committee is offering another "hybrid" seminar, all virtual. Learn about essential topics from Sierra Club Values, Conservation, and Safety to best leadership practices, group management, trip planning, steps to leadership, and a First Aid overview, followed by our legendary scenarios. Because there's an online e-learning component and homework and a pre-exam, you'll want to register enough in advance to guarantee your spot as space is limited. Later applications may be accepted on a space-available basis but are not guaranteed, so register early. Come learn all about the best leadership practices of our outings program. Note: Our *Leader's Reference Book (LRB)* was revised in 2022 just as National Sierra Club launched a new Outings Leadership Training ("OLT") presenting the latest training on Sierra Club values, commitments, equity, and more. Angeles is already incorporating these trainings into our own, refining our seminar throughout 2023 and including National's online e-learning. For registration and more information go to <https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/leadership-seminar>.

Apr 13-14 | Sat-Sun

LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS

**I: Navigation: Mission Creek Preserve Navigation Noodle:** Navigation noodle at Mission Creek Preserve to satisfy the basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. Saturday for practice, skills refresher, altimeter, homework, campfire. Sunday checkoff or additional practice. Medical form required from all participants. Send email with contact info (mailing address, phone numbers), navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant: Ann Shields. Note: Early (at least two weeks prior to the event) sign-up for all navigation checkoffs and practices is recommended. These outings require substantial pre-outing preparation work, including completion of both a comprehensive written exam and a route planning assignment that will be mailed to you prior to the checkoff. See Chapter 6 of the *Leader's Reference Book* for more information.

**Please note:** Currently the Sierra Club requires all participants on an outing more than an hour from help to complete a medical form, and leaders for such outings must complete a safety management plan. Both are fairly simple forms, which are available at the LTC web site here: <https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/leadership-outings/forms-resources>.

# OUTINGS

## Leaders in this issue's schedule:

Tina Bowman [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com)  
Regge Bulman [r\\_bulman@fastmail.us](mailto:r_bulman@fastmail.us)  
Ron Campbell [campbellr@verizon.net](mailto:campbellr@verizon.net)  
Lubna Debbini [lubna.debbini@gmail.com](mailto:lubna.debbini@gmail.com)  
Gregory Mason [climb@nosam.org](mailto:climb@nosam.org)  
Tom McDonnell [t.mcdonnell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:t.mcdonnell@sbcglobal.net)  
Patrick McKusky [pamckusky@att.net](mailto:pamckusky@att.net)  
Robert Myers [rmmyers@ix.netcom.com](mailto:rmmyers@ix.netcom.com)  
Ann Pedreschi Shields [apedreschi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:apedreschi@sbcglobal.net)  
Gary Schenk [gary@hbfun.org](mailto:gary@hbfun.org)

Apr 20 | Sat

LTC

**ER: Advanced Mountaineering Program (Spring 2024):**

**Rappelling:** Third of four climbing workshops aimed at developing skills for 3rd, 4th, and 5th class climbing both as a participant or a future Sierra Club M and E leader. This workshop will focus on rappelling using a variety of techniques with a heavy emphasis on redundancy, safety, and efficiency. All participants must have prior roped climbing experience and commit to all four classes. Ldrs: Patrick McKusky, Gregory Mason.

Apr 27 | Sat-Sun

LTC

**ER: Advanced Mountaineering Program (Fall 2023):**

**Anchors & Systems:** Fourth of four climbing workshops aimed at developing skills for 3rd, 4th, and 5th class climbing both as a participant or a future Sierra Club M and E leader. This weekend completes the series of AMP workshops at Joshua Tree National Park and focuses on building anchors and applying previously learned skills in real world climbing situations with multiple participants. All participants must have prior roped climbing experience and commit to all four classes. Ldrs: Patrick McKusky, Gregory Mason.

May 4-5 | Sat-Sun

LTC

**C: Wilderness First Aid Course:** This Wilderness First Aid (WFA) is offered only twice a year. The course runs from

7:30 am to 5:30 pm on Saturday and Sunday in Fullerton plus four hours of video lectures (on-demand) during the following week. Review of course notes and completion of pretest (est. 4 to 8 hours) is required prior to course. This course meets the 24-hour WFA requirement for I/M/E leader ratings. Fee includes instruction, pdf of course notes, and two laminated cards with response protocols. COVID precautions include distancing when possible and masks. Proof of CPR within previous 5 years, signed release of liability, and proof of COVID vaccination status are required to enroll. Fee \$180 (full refund until 4/6/24). For sign-up, see instructions and application at <http://wildernessfirstaidcourse.org>.

May 11 | Sat

LTC

**LTC Seminar Spring 2024 #2:** The Angeles Chapter Leadership Training Committee is offering another "hybrid" seminar, all virtual. Learn about essential topics from Sierra Club Values, Conservation, and Safety to best leadership practices, group management, trip planning, steps to leadership, and a First Aid overview, followed by our legendary scenarios. Because there's an online e-learning component and homework and a pre-exam, you'll want to register enough in advance to guarantee your spot as space is limited. Later applications may be accepted on a space-available basis but are not guaranteed, so register early. Come learn all about the best leadership practices of our outings program. Note: Our *Leader's Reference Book (LRB)* was revised in 2022 just as National Sierra Club launched a new *Outings Leadership Training ("OLT")* presenting the latest training on Sierra Club values, commitments, equity, and more. Angeles is already incorporating these trainings into our own, refining our seminar throughout 2023 and including National's online e-learning. For registration and more information go to <https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/leadership-seminar>.

May 24-26 | Fri-Sun

SPS

**I: Olancha Pk (12,123'):** Join us for a backpack from Sage Flat to Olancha Pass and on to a camp at Summit Meadow, c. 6.5 mi, 3450' gain. Saturday, continue on the Pacific Crest Trail north and turn off cross-country to Olancha Pk and return, c.

***Thinking of leading a trip or looking for info on a trip you've already decided on?***

SPS Safety Chair Doug Mantle invites you to e-chat about it, get his input, flesh out your ideas—[sierradoug@icloud.com](mailto:sierradoug@icloud.com).

**SPS outings can always be viewed online on the electronic Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activities:**

<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/activities>  
<https://sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/outings-schedule>



# OUTINGS

9 mi RT, 2900' gain. Sunday, retrace our route back to the cars with a possible side trip to Round Mtn (9884'). Medical Form required. Please send conditioning/experience to Ldr: Tina Bowman. Co-ldr: Tom McDonnell.

**Jun 8 | Sat**

**LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS SPS**

**I: Navigation: Mt Pinos Navigation Noodle:** Navigation noodle at Mission Creek Preserve to satisfy the basic (I/M) or advanced (E) level navigation requirements. Practice skills or checkoff. Send email with contact info (mailing address, phone numbers), navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant: Ann Shields. (This is a backcountry outing; a medical form will be required.) Note: Early (at least two weeks prior to the event) sign-up for all navigation checkoffs and practices is recommended. These outings require substantial pre-outing preparation work, including completion of both a comprehensive written exam and a route planning assignment that will be mailed to you prior to the checkoff. See Chapter 6 of the *Leader's Reference Book* for more information.

## From the Outings Chair

Greetings to all mountaineers,

Many thanks to Phil Bates for his years of service as Outings Chair for SPS. He handled the job and its many changes quite well.

I hope everyone is looking forward to the new season. It's that time of year, scheming on and planning new trips. Outings are the heart and soul of the Sierra Club. Getting people into the mountains to hear their good tidings is what we do. Phil said it best a few issues ago: "... we're really looking for qualified SPS Leaders to lead outings to any SPS (or even non-SPS) peaks—to help fulfill the goals of those lesser experienced peakbaggers! Please let me know if you have any questions about the paperwork requirements. Additionally, please also let me know if you need support on leadership or ratings advancement as well as suggestions for fun climbs."

Thanks for leading in the Range of Light.

Gary Schenk

SPS safety chair Doug Mantle notes that the INYOSAR (Inyo Search and Rescue) site on Instagram is a useful tool for determining the latest safety risks in the Sierra with related stories.

**Aug 3-5 | Sat-Mon**

**SPS**

**I: Olancha Peak (12,123'):** Gourmet Backpack! Join us for our annual Decadent Wilderness Weekend! And for a bonus, grab an SPS Emblem Peak while working off all those calories. Total stats for the weekend: 30 miles, 5700 gain, and more (and better) food than your doctor can possibly recommend. Sat backpack 6.5 miles, 250' gain, 800' loss to camp in beautiful Monache Meadows beside the Wild & Scenic South Fork of the Kern. That evening, enjoy a 5-star dining experience with an Italian theme. Sunday climb Olancha with stunning views reaching from central Nevada into (on a rare clear day) the San Joaquin Valley: 17 miles, 4400' gain, 160' loss; all but one mile will be on the PCT. We'll conclude Sunday with a tasty dinner. Monday return to the cars. This is a Sierra Club backcountry outing; Medical Form required. Send email and cell phone, recent conditioning and your most outrageous culinary ideas to Leader: Ron Campbell. Co-leader: Lubna Debbini. Preference given to recent WTC students.

**Sep 19-21 | Thu-Sat**

**SPS**

**I: Mt Bago (11,868'):** An SPS Intro Trip suitable for newcomers and WTC students. Day 1 hike from Onion Valley to Charlotte Lake, 6.3 miles, 2700' gain. Day 2 climb Bago by class 1 east slope, 3 mi rt, 1500' gain. Day 3 pack out. Medical form required. Send experience and conditioning information to Ldr: Gary Schenk. Asst Ldr Tina Bowman.

**Sep 21 | Sat**

**LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS**

**I: Navigation: Mt Pinos Navigation Noodle:** Navigation noodle at Mission Creek Preserve to satisfy the basic (I/M) or advanced (E) level navigation requirements. Practice skills or checkoff. Send email with contact info (mailing address, phone numbers), navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant: Ann Shields. (This is a backcountry outing; a medical form

Note: Please check the bottom of the SPS home page (<https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks>) or Leadership Training Committee home page (<https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/leadership-outings>) for more training and other outings.

# OUTINGS

will be required.) Note: Early (at least two weeks prior to the event) sign-up for all navigation checkoffs and practices is recommended. These outings require substantial pre-outing preparation work, including completion of both a

comprehensive written exam and a route planning assignment that will be mailed to you prior to the checkoff. See Chapter 6 of the *Leader's Reference Book* for more information.

## Wilderness Permit Info

Most wilderness permit reservations are now made through <http://recreation.gov>. For day use permits for Desolation Wilderness, get a free permit from a local Forest Service office any time of year or at the trailhead in summer. For overnight permits year round, go to [recreation.gov](http://recreation.gov).

### INYO NATIONAL FOREST

Web site: [www.fs.usda.gov/main/inyo/home](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/inyo/home)

All wilderness permits are reserved through <http://recreation.gov>. Follow instructions regarding permit pick up. This includes the "walk-up" permits (and you now have to pay for them!).

Eastern Sierra InterAgency Visitor Center, Lone Pine, CA  
(760) 876-6200

White Mountain Ranger Station  
Bishop, CA 93514  
(760) 873-2500

Mammoth Lakes Visitor Center  
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546  
(760) 924-5500

Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center, Lee Vining, CA 93541  
(760) 647-304

### KERN PLATEAU

Web site: [www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia](http://www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia)

Wilderness permits are required only for overnight stays in the Golden

Trout Wilderness. For trips departing from a Sequoia National Forest trailhead, permits are free via email using the application you'll find at [https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sequoia/passes-permits/recreation/?cid=fsbdev3\\_059517](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sequoia/passes-permits/recreation/?cid=fsbdev3_059517). For entry into the Golden Trout Wilderness from Inyo NF or Sequoia/Kings Canyon NPS, make your reservation through <http://recreation.gov>.

Cannell Meadow Ranger District  
105 Whitney Road  
P.O. Box 9  
Kernville, CA 93238  
Phone: 760/376-3781  
Fax: 760/376-3795

Tule River Ranger District  
32588 Highway 190  
Springville, CA 93265  
Phone: (559) 539-2607

### YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Web site: [www.nps.gov/yose](http://www.nps.gov/yose)

Yosemite wilderness permit reservations become available by lottery twenty-four weeks in advance through <http://recreation.gov>. Any remaining reservations become available on a first-come, first-served basis after the lottery process is complete for that week's reservations up until seven days in advance. May-October walk-up unreserved permits (40% of the trailhead quota) are available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 11:00 a.m. on the day before the intended date at permit issuing stations. Reservations aren't needed from November through April, but permits are required. Trailhead quotas are in effect in winter. See <https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm>.

If your starting trailhead is outside Yosemite NP, obtain your permit from the land agency that manages that trailhead.

### SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NP

47050 Generals Highway  
Three Rivers, CA. 93271-9599  
Phone (559) 565-3766 for permit & trail info. Fax (559) 565-4239

For general information go to [www.nps.gov/seki](http://www.nps.gov/seki). For wilderness permits go to [www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/wilderness\\_permits.htm](http://www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/wilderness_permits.htm).

Up to six months in advance of your trip, permits may be reserved at <http://recreation.gov>. Permits may be self-issued outside the quota period, from roughly mid-September to mid-May.

### SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST (WESTSIDE) ENTRY

Web site: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sierra>

Ansel Adams Wilderness—North  
Bass Lake Ranger District  
57003 Road 225  
North Fork, CA 93643  
Phone: (559) 887-2218

Ansel Adams Wilderness—South  
John Muir, Kaiser, and Dinkey Lakes  
Wildernesses  
Pineridge/Kings River Ranger District  
29688 Auberry Road  
Prather, CA 93651  
Phone: (559) 855-5355

See [https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sierra/passes-permits/?cid=fsbdev7\\_018115](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sierra/passes-permits/?cid=fsbdev7_018115) for wilderness permit information; reservations are made at <http://recreation.gov>.



# OUTINGS

Nov 23-24 | Sat-Sun

LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS

**I: Navigation: Mission Creek Preserve Navigation**

**Noodle:** Navigation noodle at Mission Creek Preserve to satisfy the basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. Saturday for practice, skills refresher, altimeter, homework, campfire. Sunday checkoff or additional practice. Medical form required from all participants. Send email with contact info (mailing address, phone numbers), navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant: Ann Shields. Note: Early (at least two weeks prior to the event) sign-up for all navigation checkoffs and practices is recommended. These outings require substantial pre-outing preparation work, including completion of both a comprehensive written exam and a route planning assignment that will be mailed to you prior to the checkoff. See Chapter 6 of the *Leader's Reference Book* for more information.

## Dare to Lead! Virtual Leadership Training Seminars Set

**Spring Seminars: April 6 and May 11**

Interested in starting on your path to become an Angeles Chapter outings leader? The first step is to take the Leadership Training Seminar offered virtually this spring. The class costs \$15. Get more information and the application here: <https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/leadership-seminar>.

## Yosemite Reservations 2024

**Yosemite Park Entry 2024** (see <https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/reservations.htm> for complete information)

### Mid-April through October 2024 Reservation Requirement

**A reservation will be required to drive into or through Yosemite National Park** on some days from April 13 through October 27, 2024, for those driving into the park between 5 am and 4 pm as follows:

- **April 13 through June 30:** A reservation is required from 5 am to 4 pm on Saturdays, Sundays, and on holidays (May 27 and June 19).
- **July 1 through August 16:** A reservation is required from 5 am to 4 pm every day.
- **August 17 through October 27:** A reservation is required from 5 am to 4 pm on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays (September 2 and October 14).

In all instances, you still pay the \$35/car entrance fee upon arrival (credit card only) unless you have an annual or lifetime pass. Most reservations for all dates from April 13 through October 27, 2024, will be available on [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) on **January 5, 2024, at 8 am Pacific time**. Additional reservations will be available **seven days before the arrival date** (e.g., make a reservation for an arrival date of October 27 on October 20) at 8 am Pacific time. **Reservations are taken almost immediately. Be sure to have a [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) account and be logged in and ready to get a reservation promptly at 8 am Pacific time.** The non-refundable reservation fee is \$2 (this does not include the \$35-per-car park entrance fee). Peak-hours reservations are valid for three consecutive days (including arrival date). Each user can make one reservation for each three-day period. The reservation holder must be in the arriving vehicle and show photo ID at the entrance station.

Your reservation for **in-park lodging or camping, a Half Dome permit, or a wilderness permit** allows you to enter the park 24 hours per day for the duration of your reservation or for three consecutive days (whichever is longer). If you have a [wilderness permit](#) reservation (for backpacking) or [Half Dome permit](#), you do not need an additional reservation. Your reservation allows you to enter the park 24 hours per day for the duration of your reservation or for three days (whichever is longer). If you have a wilderness permit, you may enter the park a day before the date on your wilderness permit to stay at a backpacker's campground. A Half Dome permit does not allow you to camp in Yosemite.

You can visit the Hetch Hetchy area of the park when it is open (sunrise to sunset) without a reservation.

## SPS Management Committee Meeting Minutes Monday, November 6, 2023

1. Call to Order at 7pm PST. Present: Jason Pair, Chair; Phil S. Bates, Secretary; Laura Newman, Treasurer; Patty Kline, Merchandise; Tina Bowman, *Echo* Co-Editor; and, Joe Wankum, Webmaster.
2. Standard business and reports
  - a. Approval of minutes (September 18, 2023)—The MC voted to approve the minutes after making corrections noted by Joe Wankum.
  - b. Chair (Jason Pair)—Nothing new to report.
  - c. Vice Chair (Paul Garry)—Not present. Doug Mantle helped to secure Claude Fiddler, a highly accomplished Sierra mountaineer and photographer, as the speaker for the 2024 SPS Banquet, which will be held at the Almansor Court in Alhambra on Sunday, January 28, 2024. Kim Stanley Robinson has conditionally agreed to speak at the 2025 SPS Banquet, provided the dates offered by the SPS do not conflict with his possible Antarctic cruise in early 2025. He should be able to inform us about his availability by June.
  - d. Secretary and Chair of the Emblem Committee (Phil S. Bates)—No new Emblems were awarded during the past two months. The Emblem Committee is reviewing eleven “special case” peaks for qualification as Andy Smatko Explorer Emblems as part of the current updating of the Scrambler Ratings lists on the SPS Web Site. The current Scrambler Ratings update is expected to be completed by year-end and will include approximately 100 new peaks and 150 new routes.
  - e. Outings (Phil A. Bates)—Not present. Joe noted some corrections to the September 18 minutes related to funding and instructors for a future snow travel course. Tina indicated that there were three official SPS outings during the past year, which was higher than the number during the pandemic years but much lower than the historical average for annual outings. One constraint is the availability of certified leaders for such outings.
  - f. Treasurer (Laura Newman)—Laura noted that SPS finances were in good shape and did not pose constraints for the upcoming banquet or any future training courses. There was a discussion about coverage of honorariums and travel expenses for banquet speakers.
  - g. Outreach—no report.
  - h. Merchandise (Patty Kline)—Patty reported three sales of T-shirts and said the inventory of T-shirts remained ample for small, medium, and large sizes (sold out of X-large). Jason suggested the remaining inventory should be brought to the banquet to encourage sales.
  - i. Archives (Dan Richter)—Dan was not present, but indicated via email that there have been no further discussions with his contacts at UCLA concerning the storage of the SPS archives.
  - j. *Echo* (Tina Bowman)—The deadline for the January-March 2024 issue is November 24. She will need the following: Echoes from the Chair, Outings Chair column, Treasurer’s Report, MC minutes for September 18 and November 6 meetings, and any achievements approved by the Emblem Committee.
  - k. Mountain Records (Harry Langenbacher)—Not present.
  - l. IT (Greg Mason)—Not present.
  - m. Website (Joe Wankum)—The LEADERS database will be replaced by a new Leaders Management database around the end of the year. Some MC members (at least the Outings Chair) may have received info on the database change from the Angeles Chapter. If not, you will receive such info in the near future. Data currently in LEADERS will be migrated over to Leaders Management at the time it is implemented. The new database will be fully integrated with other Sierra Club databases. Concerning the SPS website, due to size considerations, the Newsletter Index web page is being split into several separate pages: Climbing Reports, Photos, Passages (i.e., deaths), and other articles. The Photos and Passages pages now cover 1970 to 2023. Other pages will follow in a week or two as soon as they are properly sorted and formatted. The Climbing Reports and Photos of peaks are arranged in the Peaks List order so that reports on peaks can be more easily found for outings (or photos), including multiple peaks.
  - n. Conservation (Sharon Moore)—Not present.
  - o. Safety Chair (Doug Mantle)—Not present.

**(Continued on page 28)**



**(November Minutes, continued)**

3. Old Business
    - a. No old business.
  4. New Business
    - a. Next meeting of the MC is scheduled for 7pm PST on Monday, January 8.
- b. There was a discussion of the upcoming elections of the SPS Board. Jason, Laura, and Phil S. each indicated a willingness to run for re-election. Jason indicated he would contact Paul and Phil A. about their interest in running for re-election. There was a discussion of possible new candidates for the board.

**SPS Management Committee Meeting Minutes  
Monday, January 8, 2024**

1. Call to Order at 7:00 pm PST. Present: Jason Pair, chair; Paul Garry, vice chair; Phil S. Bates, secretary; Phil A. Bates, 2023 outings chair; Gary Schenk, 2024 outings chair; Patty Kline, merchandise; Tina Bowman, *Echo* co-editor; Doug Mantle, safety chair; Joe Wankum, webmaster; and Dan Richter, archivist.
2. Standard business and reports
  - a. Approval of minutes (November 6, 2023)—The minutes were previously approved via email for inclusion in the most recent issue of *The Sierra Echo*.
  - b. Chair (Jason Pair)
    - i) Jason proposed that Claude Fiddler be made the fourth honorary member of the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club. Norman Clyde, Glen Dawson, and Jules Eichorn were the previous honorary members. The MC voted unanimously to approve Mr. Fiddler as an honorary member, and Tina agreed to prepare a special Monkey Survey ballot for a vote on the matter by the full SPS membership. The membership vote will be concluded in time for the Annual SPS Banquet on January 28, when Mr. Fiddler will deliver the banquet address.
    - ii) The 2024 slate of candidates has been made available for voting via Survey Monkey by Tina. The slate includes Jason Pair (chair), Phil S. Bates (Secretary), Jim Fleming (Vice Chair), Laura Newman (Treasurer), and Dylan Kilby (Outreach). Gary Schenk will serve as the MC appointed outings chair for 2024 and the outgoing outings chair, Phil A. Bates, has agreed to assist Gary, as needed.
  - c. Vice Chair (Paul Garry)—Reflecting the limited number of sign-ups received at this time, Paul emphasized the need to increase efforts to publicize the upcoming annual banquet on January 28. Efforts will be re-doubled to circulate the banquet flyer and supplement the posting of the flyer on the SPS Facebook page.
    - i) Although Mr. Fiddler plans to bring his own projector, David Sholle has donated a digital projector (newer than our existing one) to the Sierra Peaks Section and thus ensure a better back-up system for banquets and other future events. Dave will bring the projector to this year's banquet.
    - ii) Jason agreed to email Laura, who was not present, on the best way to assure delivery of the \$1000 honorarium to guest speaker Claude Fiddler.
    - iii) Doug has prepared a brief introduction for Mr. Fiddler at the upcoming banquet. Unfortunately, an unexpected change in travel plans will not allow Doug to deliver the introduction, and Paul has tentatively agreed to deliver Doug's prepared remarks.
  - d. Secretary and Chair of the Emblem Committee (Phil S. Bates)—The SPS Emblem Committee approved an SPS Emblem for Tom McDonnell in November. Tom earned his Emblem with his climb of Mount Humphreys on October 2, 2011. The Emblem Committee approved thirteen "special case" peaks for qualification in

- conjunction with future member requests for Andy Smatko Explorer Emblems. The advance approval of “special case” peaks was part of the most recent updating of the Mountain Scrambler Rating lists on the SPS website. The updated Scrambler Ratings will include 116 new non-SPS High Sierra Peaks and 228 new ratings of non-technical routes up SPS and non-SPS High Sierra peaks, representing more than a one-third increase in coverage. The tables on the SPS Website will be updated at the end of January 2024 after completion of the membership vote on the proposed change in the YDS rating of Bloody Mountain from Class 2 to Class 1.
- e. Outings (Phil A. Bates)—Phil A. indicated his availability to assist as needed the incoming outings chair, Gary Schenk.
  - f. Treasurer (Laura Newman)—Although Laura was unable to attend, prior to the meeting she forwarded (via Jason) the SPS’s year-end 2023 financial reports, which showed a loss of about \$2500 due to subsidies for the 2023 annual banquet. Although the SPS’s three account balances show about \$9700 in resources, Jason expressed his concern about the section’s declining financial balances, especially in light of the prospect of another deficit from the upcoming 2024 banquet. As a result, the MC agreed on the need to discuss future revenue raising efforts.
  - g. Outreach—Assuming membership approval, Dylan Kilby is expected to serve as the outreach chair in 2024.
  - h. Archives (Dan Richter)—Dan indicated that discussions are now moving forward with UCLA concerning the storage of the SPS Archives. A representative of UCLA will be visiting Dan in the near future to review the SPS files and to arrange for their subsequent transfer.
  - i. *Echo* (Tina Bowman)—The deadline for the next issue of *The Sierra Echo* is February 22. Tina also updated the MC on the current Monkey Survey voting for the new 2024 MC and the proposed change in the SPS rating for Bloody Mountain.
  - j. Mountain Records (Harry Langenbacher)—not present
  - k. IT (Greg Mason)—not present
  - l. Website (Joe Wankum)—Nothing new to report.
  - m. Conservation (Sharon Moore)—not present.
  - n. Safety Chair (Doug Mantle)—No new developments to report.
  - o. Merchandise (Patty Kline)—Patty indicated that Laura’s 2023 financial report did not include most of the revenues she collected from merchandise sales over the past year and that she would be consulting with Laura to clarify the status of the missing revenues.
3. Old Business—Nothing to report
  4. New Business
    - a. The next MC meeting was set for Monday, March 11, at 7pm PST and will again be held via Zoom.

<b>Treasurer's Statement Year to Date (1/1/2024–2/29/2024)</b>		
Money In		\$6013.58
Donations		876.00
Interest		0.58
Membership		930.00
Banquet Income		4127.00
Money Out		-\$4710.45
Banquet		-4330.69
Banquet (other)		-4330.69
Speaker Honoraria		-1000
Echo Expense		-205.65
Postage		-80.40
Printing		--125.25
Sales Tax		-0.38
Office Expenses		-120.35
PayPal Fees		-53.38
	Money In	\$6013.58
	Money Out	-\$4710.45
	<b>Net Total:</b>	\$1303.13
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Paypal		\$194.02
Checking		\$7262.58
Savings		\$3568.40
<b>NET WORTH</b>		\$11,025.00



# PASSAGES



## Reiner Stenzel

1940-2023

*By Mark Goebel*

Reiner Stenzel, a longtime member of the Sierra Peaks Section and Ski Mountaineers Section, passed away on December 9, 2023. He was eighty-four.

Reiner earned his SPS Emblem on September 1, 1988; completed the SPS List on September 21, 2002; served three years as SPS Vice Chair and a term as SMS Chair; and led many Sierra outings for both sections. As an accomplished mountaineer and skier, he greatly enjoyed year-round visits to the Sierra, and confidently made many solo outings deep within the range.

*Above: Reiner Stenzel during a ski trip to Rock Creek, 2015 (Photo by Tom Marsh). Right: Reiner skiing to Mt. Silliman, 3/22/98 (Photo courtesy Reiner Stenzel).*

Here's a brief look at some of Reiner's outings. March 2000, Birch Mtn: Bushwhacked carrying skis (very unpleasant), challenging skiing from summit. Gas in Lone Pine only \$2.00/gal! May 2001, Bradley, Center, and Keith: via University Col to Center Basin. Lots of walking, challenging skiing. August 2001, Tunemah, Finger, Reinstein, and Henry: solo, four twelve-hour days. May 2002, Mt Brewer, start from Kings Cyn via Sphinx Creek: Big packs with ice axe, crampons, skis, boots. Summit reached on third day, skied NW face. July 2003, Seven non-listed peaks around LeConte Canyon. The group climbed Mt Woodworth and found the register placed in 1899 by Joseph N LeConte.

Reiner led SMS weeklong Sierra ski traverses including High Route from Shepherd Pass to Pear Lake and Giant Forest; Silver Lake, Rush Creek, northeast of Rogers, Electra, Triple Divide to Badger Pass; Bishop Pass south on JMT to Taboose Pass.

Over the summers of 2013-14 at age seventy-three, Reiner hiked the Pacific Crest Trail, 2600 miles, averaging twenty miles a day. As if that wasn't enough, he also climbed some Sierra peaks along the way.

In his professional career, Reiner was a highly regarded professor at UCLA in the Physics and



# PASSAGES



*Clockwise from left: Reiner on the summit of Thunderbolt 6/3/01 (Photo by RJ Secor). Reiner on the highest point of the PCT/JMT, 5/26/13 (Photo courtesy Reiner Stenzel). Reiner on Joe Devel Peak, 4/17/01 (Photo by Mark Vogt).*



Astronomy Department. He retired in 2011. A review of his scientific work is here: [UCLA Physics & Astronomy](#).

Reiner's writeups are amazingly detailed, down to the number of fish he caught. Maybe it's the scientist in him. Watch for his final report; I hope he is skinning towards a summit to link tele turns down a slope of cold powder.

Reiner Stenzel—SPS list finisher #59 on Three Sisters on September 21, 2002, leader of many Ski Mountaineers Section outings, and Emeritus professor of physics and astronomy at UCLA—died on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Please see his obituary and memorials from colleagues, students, and family at <https://www.pa.ucla.edu/reiner-stenzel-memorial.html>.



## Reiner Stenzel

By Ruth von Rotz

I met Reiner Stenzel Memorial Day weekend in 1992, skiing Mt. Conness. He led his grad students—Tetsuo Fukushima from Japan and Guerman Golubyatnikov from the Volga in Russia—on their first mountaineering trip along with a friend, John, and me. Reiner’s leadership and love of adventure influenced my ski mountaineering journeys immensely. Through subsequent trips, especially the summer solstice trip in June 1995 skiing Dana Couloir, I met so many new friends who are still my friends today. Reiner influenced many others in the world of mountaineering such as Tetsuo. In 2016, I received a letter from Tetsuo’s widow, focused on how Tetsuo’s mountaineering career taught him life-long lessons. Also in May 2001, Reiner and Ron Hudson led a joint Ski Mountaineers Section/Sierra Peaks Section trip to climb/ski Mt. Bradley, Center Peak, and

Just before publication we learned that Randy Bernard passed away on March 24th. We’ll have a “Passages” article about him in the next issue.  
—The Editors.



Mt. Keith. Patty Rambert and Scott Koepke were other participants, and this was Patty’s first mountaineering trip. After that she was hooked and climbed many, many peaks with a new-found love for the mountains. Many of us now remember that adventures with Patty started with rock climbing and the trip with Reiner and Ron.

One can tell lots of stories from Ski Mountaineers Section (SMS) Reiner-led trips, such as the Bradley, Center, and Keith ski/climb. That trip was as eventful as most. We started out with a red sky in the morning and weathered a blizzard on our climb into Center Basin. We summited Mt. Bradley the next day with the help of Ron and Reiner skillfully placing fixed ropes for the soft snow. The next day with a 4:00 a.m. start, we all climbed Center Peak by about 11:00 a.m. with a class 4 summit block. It was a bit fun as we all had different ways to get the peak. Reiner prussiked with a fixed rope, Ron took two long steps, Patty and Scott used rocking climbing shoes and I did a shoulder stand in socks. Next, only two of us, Reiner and yours truly, continued on to climb Mt. Keith (13,976’). By the time of our late 4:30 p.m. summit, the steep NE slopes had crusted over, so we retreated part of the way with ice axes. Then memorably we skied perfect corn on our west facing slope and arrived back at camp at 7:30 p.m. Then, memorably again, I was so tired after this fifteen-hour day that Reiner cooked for both of us, or I would not have even eaten. That day might have made a marine cry as it was a tough one! The adventures were not over as the

*Reiner’s grad students and friends atop Mt. Conness, 5/31/92. Left to Right, back row: Guerman Golubyatnikov, Ruth von Rotz and Reiner Stenzel. Front: Tetsuo Fukushima and John (Photo by timer, courtesy Reiner Stenzel).*

# PASSAGES

next day we climbed up to University Pass. Scott, however, had a lung problem, and Reiner went down to Scott. Reiner and Ron carried Scott's pack, and with many rest stops everyone safely made it out to the cars.

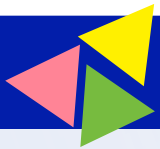
In closing, Reiner's meticulous trip reports, photographs, and contributions to *The Mugelnoos* are legendary gems for the history of the SMS (and assisted me in this memorial). Somehow after my grandparents from Altadena passed, I ended up with two issues of *The Mugelnoos* that were addressed to Edward Danner and Hedwig Roethlisberger in the late 1930's. These were my Swiss emigrant grandparents and ski mountaineers. I wonder whether they met in this group. Originally, I signed up for Reiner's SMS trip to Mt. Banner/Ritter because my mountaineering father had told me about his ski adventures on those peaks. Due to lack of snow, that trip turned into the private trip to Mt. Conness on which I met Reiner. So it is with serendipity that this Northern Californian ran into the SMS through Reiner. Even though it has been close to twenty-five years since I skied with Reiner, the memories are great and mountain friendships through this organization are priceless—so thank you, Reiner.

*Below: Ron Hudson (left) and Reiner Stenzel helping the author to reach new heights on Center Peak 5/14/2001 (Photo by Scott Koepke). Right: Ruth von Rotz and Reiner went on to the summit of Mt Keith the same day (Photo courtesy Reiner Stenzel).*

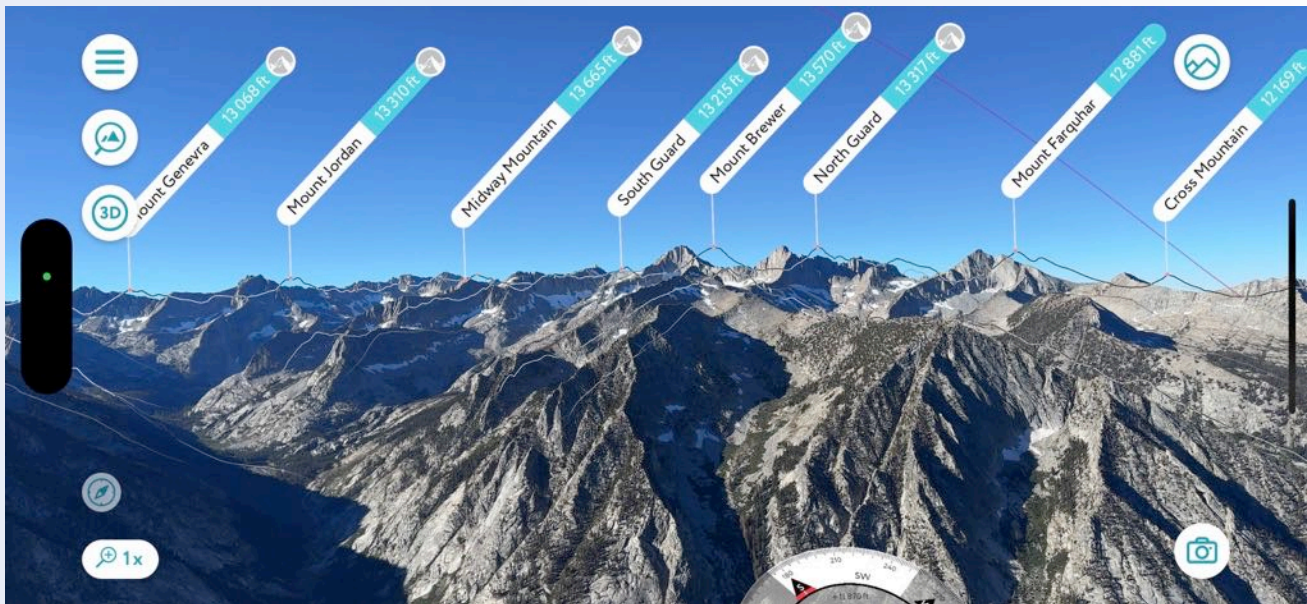


*(Continued on page 29)*





# Mystery Peak Challenge Answer



First to answer—and correctly—what peaks could be seen and where Julie Coleman was standing when she took the picture in the last challenge was Ron Bartell. Here's what he submitted: "Photo taken from Mt Bago, Brewer just left of center, North Guard just right of center—got these off the top of my head. Had to do a little research to get Farquhar (right of North Guard), since I didn't remember its new name—we used to call it Notch Peak. And cheating (peakfinder app) got Jordan (far left), Table, and Midway (never would have got them on my own), and South Guard (wasn't sure if it would be visible)." Well done, Ron! Lance Dixon also nailed it—or should we say "pinned it"?—because of this note and photo from Lance:

I got back into my office at work yesterday, and today I randomly glanced at some really old Sierra panoramas I had put up there (now faded to brown and white). It's exactly the same view of Brewer from Bago as in that mystery peak photo. I had totally (consciously) forgotten about it, but the profile of Brewer from that angle must have been embedded in my subconscious. Photo was taken in the late 1980s.





# Mystery Peak Challenge

This occasional just-for-fun puzzle is for you to figure out which Sierra peak or peaks are featured in the image. If you have a fine mystery peak puzzle to challenge *Echo* readers, please send it to [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com). We welcome any mountain images, including those from popular culture—imagery used and abused in film and print!

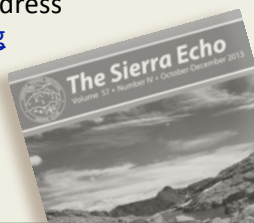
This photo was taken by Tina Bowman on a hike to climb a Vagmarken Sierra Crest peak, perhaps a bit of an unusual angle for viewing this SPS peak. Which one is it? What's rising to its right in the picture?

Send your answer to Tina Bowman at [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com).



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## *The Sierra Echo*

is a quarterly publication of the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter. For more information, see the back of this newsletter. All questions, copy, and photo submissions should be directed to Tina Bowman, Editor, *The Sierra Echo*, preferably via email at [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com). The *Echo* will be available as a PDF download at the SPS website and via a link sent to all SPS members and *Echo* subscribers.







# The Sierra Echo

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Publication dates are Mar 15, Jun 15, Sept 15, and Dec 15. All text submissions for publication—including trip reports, articles, etc.—can be submitted in electronic format such as MS Word (preferred), Pages, email, or through regular U.S. mail (electronic format is preferable). Photos may be submitted as electronic files (jpeg, tiff, or Photoshop in a resolution high enough for print media) or submitted as prints or slides. If submissions are to be returned to you, please include a return envelope with sufficient postage. **All submissions should be sent to Tina Bowman or emailed to [tina@bowmanchange.com](mailto:tina@bowmanchange.com).**

**Deadline for all submissions is three (3) weeks prior to the publication date, i.e., Feb 22, May 25, Aug 25, and Nov 24.**

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**Peaks List** Copies of the SPS Peaks List can be downloaded from the website here: <http://sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/sps-peaks-list>.

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**Awards** Send notification to Secretary Phil S. Bates: email [philsbates54@gmail.com](mailto:philsbates54@gmail.com). Awards merchandise is available through Patty Kline at 7409 Hermosa Ave, Yucca Valley, CA 92284, and include emblem pins (\$20) and SPS section patches (\$5). Make checks payable to SPS. All prices include sales tax.

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**Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter  
Sierra Peaks Section  
3250 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1106  
Los Angeles, CA 90010**

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