Glen Dawson
1912-2016
A Final Tribute
by Bill Oliver
Page 9

Atop Mt. Whitney after the first ascent of its East Buttress, September 5, 1937. See page 9 for full captions.
We still need a volunteer to update the look of the SPS website and perhaps a co-webmaster to help with the general running of the site. Please contact me if you will help out.

We have some good news about summit registers in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. Harry Langenbacher, our Mountain Records chair, is now working with Ned Kelleher, chief ranger at SEKI, on the summit register question. We may be able to keep registers on more peaks than we originally thought would be allowed by the parks. Good news indeed! See Harry’s article for more information.

The chapter’s bylaws committee and executive committee have approved our bylaws changes that were passed in the last election. The revised bylaws and revised policies and procedures document, approved by the management committee at its April meeting, are both available at the SPS website.

Currently, the management committee is working on a revision of the section’s safety policy to bring it up to date. It’s so old that it’s called “Safety Regulations.” On a different front, the proposal to name a peak for Andy Smatko is still alive at the Board of Geographic Names. For some reason the state board didn’t vote on the proposal at its last meeting; apparently, they wanted information from more local entities. The state board meets twice a year, so you can see why this process is taking seemingly forever.

Happy trails and safe climbing,
Tina
Tina Bowman, tina@bowmanchange.com

In this issue:

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- Webmaster
- Management Committee 2016
- Member News
- Register Needs
- Snow Checkout
- Passages: Charles Irving
- Glen Dawson Tribute
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- SPS Treasurer’s Report
- Mystery Peak Challenge
- Fourth of July on the Eastside

SPS Leadership and Lifetime Achievement Awards

It’s time to think of nominating members for the SPS Leadership Award and Lifetime Achievement Award to be given at the next banquet in January. Please send the name of your nominee to the chair, Tina Bowman, along with supporting detail of why this person deserves the award. The Management Committee will then review the nominations.

Cover captions appear with Dawson tribute article, page 9.
**SPS Webmaster**

*By Kathy Rich*

We’re looking for a new SPS webmaster! Basic duties include posting member accomplishments and awards, posting the quarterly *Echo* newsletter, and advertising the annual banquet. Time commitment for these duties amounts to only a few hours per month, but we would love to have someone take the initiative to upgrade the look and feel of the website. Please contact the SPS chair if you are interested: tina@bowmanchange.com

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**2016 SPS Management Committee**

**Elected**
- Tina Bowman Chair chair@sierrapeaks.org
- Jim Fleming Vice-chair/banquet vicechair@sierrapeaks.org
- Alexander Smirnoff Treasurer treasurer@sierrapeaks.org
- Paul Garry Secretary secretary@sierrapeaks.org
- Jeremy Netka Fifth officer/outreach outreach@sierrapeaks.org

**Appointed**
- Archives Dan Richter dan@danrichter.com
- Echo editors Tina Bowman tina@bowmanchange.com, Beth Epstein
- Echo mailer Tina Bowman
- Emblem Committee Paul Garry, Kathy Rich, Daryn Dodge, Shane Smith, Ron Bartell
- IT Support Greg Mason admin@sierrapeaks.org, Matt Hengst matthew.hengst@gmail.com
- Keeper of the List Tina Bowman
- Merchandise Patty Kline patricia_kline@aol.com
- Mountain Records Harry Langenbacher register@langenbacher.org
- Outings Gary Schenk gary@hbfun.org
- Safety Chair Doug Mantle
- Webmaster Kathy Rich webmaster@sierrapeaks.org

**Regional Representatives**
- San Diego Joe White
- Central California Daryn Dodge
- Northern California Lisa Barboza
- Eastern Sierra Shane Smith
Welcome new members!

Rick Abbott

Rick Abbott has been backpacking, mountaineering, and climbing since his dad introduced him to trout fishing in the Bishop Pass area of the Sierra more than fifty years ago. Recently retired, he now has more time to devote to some of the “list completion” goals on his bucket list, such as the publicly accessible California county high points (about 90% completed) the California 14ers (about half climbed). He is looking forward to meeting and climbing with other SPS members.

...and reinstated members!

Eric Abbott

From BMTC in Orange County at eighteen years old in 1970 to now has been a long, winding journey for Eric Abbott. His first SPS trip was in June 1975 (Junction and Keith) with an all-star SPS group, followed by many more trips in the 70’s, including many led by Dennis Lantz and Meridee Muell. (Does anyone know what ever happened to them?)

Very happy to return to the SPS and still loving to climb, he hopes to go on some SPS trips this summer, maybe even a snow climb. He thanks the SPS for training and inspiring him to a good life climbing mountains.

And Congratulations!

Eric Abbott earned his Senior Emblem on Mt. Humphreys on August 8, 2015.
2016 SPS Register Needs

By Harry Lagenbacher, Mountain Records Chair

This table doesn’t tell the whole story, so please contact me at register@langenbacher.org and/or see http://summitregister.org for details and advice. Keep an eye on the SPS Facebook page for occasional summit register news.

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Some encouraging news is that two people have volunteered each their own ideas to help make register containers similar to the old cylinders. A professor has volunteered to have his class make them, if they can ever figure out how to do it. A machinist has volunteered to try to design and construct cylinders if we provide the materials. Neither has promised to do it any time soon, so we will wait and see.

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Birch Mountain SPS cylinder, 2010 (Photo by Matt Hengst)

<table>
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Running snow checkouts and practices for M- and E-leader ratings has been a problem in recent years due to the lack of snow. One of the main technical skills required is to arrest a fall on a steep slope using the ice axe. Of course, this means not only from a sitting position but also head first and on your back going head first.

In order to practice arrests safely, we need a good slope that is moderately steep with snow covering all exposed rock. It is also important that the slope has a decent run out in case one of the candidates is not able to arrest using the ice axe. These particulars make it a bit difficult to run this type of trip in low snow years.

As I slept Friday night at the trailhead in Onion Valley, it snowed lightly with a granular snow most of the night. I figured we would have to cancel the trip for sure as the forecast called for more snow and temperatures in the low to mid-twenties for the next day.

On Saturday morning, April 9, at 5:45am, Neal Robbins and I greeted fourteen excited but bundled-up participants ready to practice or attempt the checkout. They included Jack Kieffer, Phil Bates, Casey Sakamoto, Jaime Kalenik, Saveria Tilden, Jon Valencia, Nick Newman, Derek Tse, Pat Pipkin, Tohru Ohnuki, Matt Jensen, Laurent Hoffmann, Jeremy Laurentowski, and Joe Vaca.

Finally, Enough Snow for a Leader Checkout

By Nile Sorenson

The forecast called for no wind, so I figured we might as well run the check off. Since Jack and Phil were going to check off for E ratings, we had them lead the charge up the hill toward Robinson Lake. After lots of post holes, we found a good slope that met all the criteria and spent the rest of the day doing ice axe arrests, lots of step kicking, rope work, knots, etc.

Casey, Saveria, Derek, Tohru, and Laurent passed the M technical skills portion. Phil and Jack showed us their additional skills, doing a crevasse rescue, and passed their E check off. It was apparent that this group had worked hard practicing all the requirements, so things went very smoothly. As always, it was great to co-lead with Neal and glean from his experience and knowledge. Congrats to all who passed and also everyone else for a productive day. Until next year!
Charles Crandall Irving passed away on April 6, 2016, as a result of a heart condition while driving in West Los Angeles. Born in Aurora, New York, on February 17, 1955, Charles attended Pratt Institute’s School of Architecture and specialized in sound studios (audio visual/media production design) as an architect. In 2005 he took WTC in West Los Angeles and was on the WTC staff for several years.

Although he was alone at the time of death, he was not alone in life. He is survived by a wonderful, close-knit family: five siblings, a nephew, and a long list of friends who loved him. He always found a way to group friends from different backgrounds to do many activities.

With those friends Charles pursued his love of the outdoors. Charles was a member of Southern California Mountaineers Association (SCMA) and the Sierra Peaks Section for over ten years. He was well suited for these hobbies as he was strong and agile, which to the observer, made difficult tasks seem effortless. In fact, Charles was well known to “lie” about the difficulty of routes, but it was always in good fun mainly because he always encouraged people to push their comfort zones to improve themselves. He always lent a patient hand to others and connected those willing to learn with others.

Charles lived a large portion of his life helping others in need. Over the last five years, Charles devoted a significant amount of time training with the Los Pinos Search and Rescue as a ski patroller and was a patroller also at Mt. Waterman and Mammoth. And when his uncle was dying from cancer, Charles dropped everything and moved back east for nearly a year to care for him. Such are examples of the generous life he led.

One of the many things we appreciated most about Charles was his soothing voice. He had a way of being calm even in the face of difficult situations in the mountains or otherwise. One always wanted him on his/her team, in whatever activity it was. His favorite drink was anything with ginger and spicy, and he loved classic rock and reading John Muir’s writings. And we all felt taken under his wings with the smile he gave us. Charles will surely be missed.

Special thanks to Jane Simpson, who was his WTC instructor, for tracking down some details for this remembrance.
1912

Now over a century ago, 1912, it would seem, was a good year for up-and-coming mountaineer/rock climbers to be born. The Sierra Nevada still had untouched Fourteener summits, Norman Clyde had not yet arrived on site and gone wild, and Yosemite Valley was full of “unclimbable” spires and pinnacles. In that propitious year Jules Eichorn popped up on February 7th in San Francisco, then came Glen Dawson on June 3rd in the Mt. Washington neighborhood of northeast Los Angeles, and finally Dick Jones arrived on October 11th in the mile-high city of Denver. Glen’s legendary climbing career would jumpstart when he was eighteen in 1930 when he paired with Jules over four momentous summers, then continued late into that decade partnered with his grammar-school chum Dick. Let us follow along with these two exceptional and finely tuned pairings.

The Sierra Club in 1912 was only twenty years young, John Muir was still living, and the Southern California Chapter (the Club’s first chapter and later named Angeles) had just been chartered the prior November. Glen’s father, Ernest, a prominent bookseller, had joined the Sierra Club three years earlier and before long he headed the chapter’s Local Walks Committee. Ernest served on the Club’s board from 1922 to 1937, the last two years as president. At age nine Glen was presented with a life membership in the Sierra Club, the gift of board member and future Club president Aurelia Harwood, and he thus would save ninety-five years of ever-increasing dues.

The Sierra Club hosted its twelfth annual four-week outing or High Trip that 1912 summer in the southern Sierra, trips that were intended to introduce members to the natural wonders of the Sierra ranges, wonders worth protecting.
These outings had upwards of two hundred participants, some for the four weeks and some for either half, plus a pack train of about twenty-five mules and assorted hired hands and cooks. It soon developed that the trip would split between the mountaineers and the “meadoweers.” Climbing peaks, sometimes in large groups, was popular, but increasingly smaller parties began tackling the more challenging summits. Francis Farquhar, who had notable first ascents to his credit and later became a Club president, took over editorship of the Sierra Club Bulletin (SCB) from 1926 to 1946. This was the “golden age” of Sierra Club mountaineering, and the Bulletin became a leading national publication in this field. Each High Trip was reported in fair detail, in addition to a separate section on Mountaineering Notes.

This was the year that Dick Jones’s family arrived in Los Angeles. In an email to me in September 2001, Glen recalled:

Richard Morris Jones was four months younger than I am. I could always remember his birth date: 10-11-12. I did not let him forget my four-month seniority. We had a friendship that lasted nearly seventy-five years. . . . We both attended Garvanza Grammar School and both were members of the Western Rangers and the Trailfinders, led by Harry C. James and Carl Sharsmith. Dick and I made trips together on foot and by bicycle to the pre-freeway Arroyo Seco, then a wilderness of jungle, streams and lakes to hunt for “water dogs” (salamanders),
frogs and snakes. At the Arroyo Seco Recreation Center we took classes in tumbling in which Dick excelled and classes in playing the harmonica. For years Dick entertained us at campfires playing the harmonica. We borrowed my mother’s Overland and the two of us, and sometimes with Dick’s sister Rachel (“Sis”), took trips to the seaside, mountains and deserts. I went to Franklin and Los Angeles High Schools and Dick to Polytechnic High School where he was on the gym team. He developed great strength in his arms, which helped in rock climbing.

1926

It was the Sierra Club High Trips (HT) that led to the intersection of the lives of Glen Dawson and Jules Eichorn. Glen’s first trip was with his dad in 1926, which went far afield to Yellowstone National Park. As Glen was only fourteen, he was largely left in the care of the elderly naturalist Vernon Bailey, helping to trap mice and chipmunks. His dad, meanwhile, was part of a party of five that Norman Clyde daringly managed to put atop the Grand Teton. Ernest’s 1927 SCB tale tells of being on a thin ledge with the only option onward being a short but near vertical crack with a tiny stream trickling down:

Clyde tried it first and failed. Then I climbed on his shoulders and tried it, but looking down from this uncertain perch, where a slip might have been fatal, I remembered my wife and four children and decided not to risk it. Only for Clyde it is likely that at this point we would have turned back; but at this critical juncture he made a little jump, pulled himself up, and gained the crack above, getting soaked by the icy stream on the way.

1927

This year Jules Eichorn’s piano teacher, Ansel Adams (twenty-five), convinced his parents to allow the lad to come along on that summer’s HT. Among other talents, Ansel headed the considerable trip logistics. Glen and his dad were also on the trip. However, the fifteen-year-old boys would have only met casually, as each did most of his climbing with different leaders. They did both participate in a large party topping Mt. Kaweah. Glen’s climbing journal has this record:

Table Mountain, 13,646—a difficult climb. We went up the north side from headwaters of Kern. We went up a steep snow chimney. Very cold and rainy. Norman Clyde led the party of seven. Large cairn on top. So far as I know, we are the second to climb the peak. [Per R. J. Secor’s High Sierra guide, this NE Couloir route is rated 4th class.] . . . The Milestone, 13,643—a very spectacular peak which can be recognized for miles about. Looks harder than it is. Pretty steep the last part. Wonderful view. We went up from the Kern Kaweah side.

1928

Neither boy was on this year’s HT, which went to Jasper and Robson Parks in Canada. In 1905 Ernest had established Dawson’s Book Shop in downtown Los Angeles. Glen joined his dad in 1928 on a book-buying trip to Europe. Perhaps partly in lieu of missing that summer’s HT, father and son engaged Swiss guides, who led them to the summits of the Jungfrau (13,642’) and the Matterhorn (14,692’). The elder Dawson penned this high adventure in the subsequent SCB (2/29):

I had read of this [Matterhorn] climb and expected a stiff bit of work, but I fancied that the narratives were overdrawn and that for one with Sierra Club training, it would be no special stunt. But the difficult rock work, the slippery precipices, the knife-edges with awful drops on either side, the hand-over-hand climbing of ropes when fingers were all but frozen, and the added danger from falling rocks convinced us that it was “up to the brag.” The triumph more than matched the effort.

Glen noted in his journal: “It cost us about $50 each to make the climb but it was well worth it.” Let me note that, per Google, $50 then would be worth $690 today—and I’m pretty sure Glen would still say, “It was well worth it!”
Glen and Jules both participated in the 1929 HT to the central Sierra. As Ernest was not along, Glen was under the care of the very competent mountaineer Bill Horsfall. With another young man the two made the second ascent of Clyde Minaret, first topped by Clyde the year before. It remained unclear which was higher: Clyde or Michael Minaret. The trio also topped Mt. Humphreys and Mt. Abbot. Separately, Jules was able to join climbs of Mt. Ritter and Mt. Lyell. Both boys, however, were in a group that climbed Seven Gables. Enough! Sensing their kindred, intrepid spirits, at the end of the High Trip the boys agreed that they’d team-up the next summer.

I am grateful to Gwen Rinehart, Dick Jones’s daughter, for providing some quotations from Dick’s 1929 high school journal. She noted, “I think my dad had a less than happy home life, and Glen and his family were so wonderful to him and from them he saw what life could be like.” Here are two entries from the journal:

Feb. 24, Sunday—Glen, Fern [Glen’s sister], Sis and I went to church and then to Santa Monica beach. Glen and I took pictures of sea gulls and pelicans. . . . I don’t know how I will ever repay Glen for the good times I enjoy being with him.

March 9, Saturday—Worked at Dawson’s Book Shop all day. Enjoyed it very much. We [the four above] made candy and ice cream. We boys got dinner for the girls. . . . Oh! These days are wonderful! May I have Glen’s friendship forever.

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All of eighteen now for the HT, Glen and Jules no longer needed chaperones. Often accompanied by John Olmsted, a few years older, they would head out on two-to-three-day knapsack trips on their own. One auspicious day they discovered a lonely manila climbing rope in the commissary. They asked Will Colby, who had headed the first twenty-eight HTs, if they could borrow it. It’s unclear if they mentioned their intent to attempt a climb of Devils Crag, first topped by Charles Michael solo in 1913 and not successfully since. Although he “wasn’t too enthusiastic,” Colby “reluctantly” gave permission—and, as they say, the rest is history. They would never again have to ask to borrow a rope. Glen would later describe their successful ascent of the highest Devils Crag in the SCB’s Mountaineering Notes (2/31): “Three boys not yet of age were very happy.” Indeed, Glen would be the editor of the Notes for five consecutive years. The three lads also achieved the intrepid first traverse from Mt. Sill to North Palisade, both Fourteeners. It was no overstatement for Colby to write of this Outing: “Some youthful enthusiasts, including Glen Dawson, Jules Eichorn and John Olmsted, swarmed over everything that looked formidable in the way of a mountain peak.”

This would be a more fantastic year yet for the Glen/Jules duo, often joined on the HT by Glen’s L.A. friend Walter “Bubs” Brem. Glen had just graduated from Los Angeles High School, primed to start at UCLA in the fall as a history major. I’ll mention just two especially notable climbs: (1) Our duo made the first ascent of the prominent slim pinnacle near the summit of Cathedral Peak, which was later named Eichorn Pinnacle; (2) Joined by Bubs, they also achieved the first traverse from Michael Minaret to Clyde Minaret,
in the process making the first ascent of “Third Minaret” midway, which later was named Eichorn Minaret. Using a leveling tool, Glen finally established that Clyde is the highest of the Minarets (12,264’), followed by Michael and Eichorn.

The HT ended in early August. The climbing for a select few, however, including Glen and Jules, just got even more “uplifting.” Responding to the invitation of Francis Farquhar, Robert Underhill had arrived to provide instruction in proper belayed climbing and the use of pitons. The Harvard philosophy instructor, the top American alpinist of his day, was keen to visit the Sierra Nevada after a spectacular season in the Tetons. The February 1931 SCB included a twenty-four-page article by Underhill on rope management.

A select class of eight “students”—including Glen, Jules, and Norman Clyde—headed to the Palisades. For openers, they made the first traverse from North Palisade to the thin spire of Starlight Peak, the latter’s second ascent. Glen and Jules with Underhill and Clyde then put up a new route on Temple Crag. Two days later these four plus Bestor Robinson and two others achieved the first ascent of Thunderbolt Peak (the last California Fourteener to be topped). It was named for the violent storm that engulfed them on the summit. Only Glen and Jules actually mounted the technical summit block—an electrifying feat that almost short-circuited their budding climbing careers.

On August 10th, the day before their Temple Crag climb, Glen penned a letter to his parents:

*Dear Father & Mother: the trip so far has been keen. Yesterday we climbed North Palisade from this [north] side and also climbed the second highest summit [later named Starlight]. After some of them go back to San Francisco I may get a chance to go down to Mt. Whitney. . . . I have an unusual opportunity, being able to climb with such men as Clyde and Underhill. I am learning a great deal and I may not have such a chance again for a long time. I can climb as well as the best of them but I need more experience to equal theirs in leading ability. . . .

Lots of love, Glen

Two days after their “Tbolt” success, a remnant of five supported by mules was trekking up the Mt. Whitney Trail from Lone Pine. Underhill wrote up their successful ascent of
this peak’s east face for the subsequent SCB (2/32), and Clyde for Touring Topics (12/31). Underhill wrote that as they veered up the North Fork of Lone Pine Creek:

Relieving the pack train of its load, we shouldered outrageously heavy knapsacks (Clyde’s being an especially picturesque enormity of skyscraper architecture). . . . Our party had been gradually decreasing in size as we moved southward to more and more ambitious objectives. We had begun, most of us, up in the Yosemite as part of the Sierra Club Outing of 1931. At the close of that trip, nine, under the management of Francis Farquhar and the invaluable counselorship of Norman Clyde, had moved down to the region of the North Palisade where we had culled a little bouquet of new climbs in spite of four days (believe it of the Sierra or not!) of bad weather. Shifting southward again for our culminating effort, directed upon Mt. Whitney, we finally found ourselves a little remnant of five. . . . The other two members of the group—Jules Eichorn, of San Francisco, and Glen Dawson, of Los Angeles, young natural-born rock climbers of the first water—had never seen the mountain; but neither had they seen any up and down the Sierra that they could not climb, and they were all enthusiasm. [Jules had previously climbed the peak from the west on the 1927 HT.]

The next morning, August 16th, Farquhar, being by far the lesser climber, chose to ascend Whitney by the Mountaineer’s Route on its north side, hoping they’d meet up on the summit. The roped climbing began at 10:00, Glen with Underhill followed by Jules with Clyde. Although largely directed by their elders, the boys led throughout except Underhill fronted the short Fresh Air Traverse, the most exposed piece of the climb and where a piton may have been used. At 12:45 they were shaking hands with Farquhar on the summit, a remarkably fast even today. Their speed was largely driven by not wanting to endure a bivouac high up the wall. In concluding Underhill wrote: “The beauty of the climb in general lies chiefly in its unexpected possibility, up the apparent precipice, and in the intimate contact it affords with the features that lend Mt. Whitney its real impressiveness.”

Over the subsequent Labor Day weekend, Glen was joined by his childhood pal Dick Jones plus Bubs Brem in the first descent of the East Face route. Nearly seventy-five years later journalist Jordan Rane penned an article in the Los Angeles Times (3/8/05) about Glen’s recollection of the East Face climb, quoting Glen: “I’ve climbed in many parts of the world and published over 300 books. But of all the things of my
life, that day in August in 1931—well, I still get a good deal of pleasure out of it.”

Momentarily forsaking the high Sierra, let us divert to Bestor Robinson’s scheme to make the “first ascent” of El Picacho del Diablo, at about 10,155’, the high point of Baja California. Robinson could not get Jules Eichorn, but he succeeded in recruiting Norman Clyde plus a strong Los Angeles contingent of Glen, Dick Jones, Bubs Brem, and Nate Clark. Their adventure was detailed by Robinson in the subsequent SCB (2/33). Their expected dayhike from basecamp turned into a three-day epic, as they encountered numerous deep notches along the meandering ridge leading to the twin summits of El Picacho. (It would be several months before they learned that a prospector had achieved the summit alone in 1911, approaching from the less technical east side.)

Glen, Jules, and Norman Clyde led various notable Sierra climbs on the 1932 High Trip, but for brevity I’ll not detail any here. Noteworthy, however, is that quite a few Trippers departed their Crabtree Meadows site after campfire one night to seek out Mt. Whitney with the promise of a glorious desert sunrise. A total of 153 topped out that morning (not a Club record), some no doubt thereby earning the Sierra Club’s coveted certificate for having climbed five peaks anywhere in the world above 14,000’.

This year’s High Trip was the first in which Ernest Dawson was accompanied by all four of his offspring. Glen’s sister Fern had participated in the previous two, but this was the first time for younger sister June and for Muir, nine years behind his brother.) Glen and Jules reunited for this year’s HT, and we’ll focus here on their major project. Under their key leadership, considerable attention was focused again on the Devils Crags, and Glen wrote about it in the subsequent SCB (6/34), recalling first their earlier climb:

The Devils Crags looked difficult. They looked even more difficult than we had anticipated, as three of us, Jules Eichorn, John Olmsted, and I stood on the ridge north of Mt. Woodworth on July 23, 1930. . . . Three years later, on July 25, 1933, Jules Eichorn and I again viewed the peak with some misgivings. The Devils Crags looked as difficult as ever, and this time we had ten picked climbers from the Sierra Club party, whom we had agreed to lead to the top.

Their careful scrutiny actually resulted in fifteen climbers summiting within a short time: four parties by three routes, collectively counting as the third ascent. The next day Glen, Jules, and Ted Waller returned and made the first ascent of the next two highest Crags, and then the weather took a bad turn. They descended a chimney between #1 and #2:

Here we took refuge under a chockstone, expecting that the shower would be over, as usual, in a few minutes. We joked and talked as water began to drip in our shelter.

1933

Atop the south summit of El Picacho del Diablo (north summit in background), June 16, 1932. Rear: Norman Clyde, Nate Clark, and Glen Dawson; front: Dick Jones and Bubs Brem (Photo by Bestor Robinson, Glen Dawson Collection, Angeles Chapter Archives).
The rain came harder than ever. Suddenly, with a great rushing sound, the steep chimney became filled with a torrent. Dirty water, gravel, and even large rocks, came down in a series of waterfalls. We leaped out from under the chockstone, Jules to one side, Ted and I to the other. In a few moments the water had increased from a trickle, which we could catch in our cups to a torrent of alarming proportions. Jules had gone out onto a narrow ledge, where he was soon drenched by water, and what was more serious, was exposed to falling rocks. The roar of water, the lightning and thunder, and the crashing of avalanches were stupendous, but not very pleasant to us at the time. Soaked with rain and spray, we were so cold that we shook all over every few minutes. . . . The Devils Crags seemed to be coming apart. For an hour Jules was forced to stay in an extremely precarious position on a narrow ledge, exposed to falling rocks and threatened with being swept off by the increasing force of the water. At last the storm abated, and Ted was able to pass a rope to Jules and assist him across to our side of the chimney. Slowly we made our way down a few hundred feet of difficult wet rock. It was dusk before we got to timber and a chance to dry out.

In 1989 Jules told me that while stuck on the narrow ledge the hip pockets of his jeans had filled with sand and gravel. Much later in his life Glen noted that he and Jules had survived two harrowing summit storms—this one on Devils Crags and the one two years earlier while topping Thunderbolt Peak.

Following the High Trip, Glen and Jules were each back home just over a week before getting the summons on August 14th from Francis Farquhar to assist in the search for Walter (Pete) Starr, Jr. Glen also recruited Dick Jones. Within a day the boys, Norman Clyde, and others were gathered at Lake Ediza, site of Pete’s campsite. Although Pete was not involved with Sierra Club High Trips, he was indirectly known to members based on his numerous summit register entries throughout the Sierra. Normally traveling fast and solo, he was, at age thirty, now close to completing his Guide to the John Muir Trail and the High Sierra Region.

The climbing team of Glen, Jules, and Dick—one of four parties—focused their search on the nearby Minarets. They ended up climbing both Michael and Eichorn Minarets, and in their search process they also made the first ascent of “Sixth Minaret,” which became Dawson Minaret, the only Sierra summit bearing Glen’s name, although he paired with Jules in climbing the two features named for Eichorn. (Dawson Peak, just north of Mt. San Antonio [aka Mt. Baldy] in the San Gabriel Mountains above Los Angeles, was named for Ernest Dawson in 1920. It is among the 279 southern California peaks on the Sierra Club’s Hundred Peaks Section list.) The fruitless search ended within a few days. Norman Clyde stayed behind and found Starr’s body a week later, high on a Michael Minaret ledge.

Although neither would have imagined it at the time, the search for Pete Starr would be the last time that Glen and Jules, then twenty-one, ever shared a rope. They would not be on another High Trip together, and during later joint Los Angeles/San Francisco Rock Climbing Section trips to Yosemite Valley, the boys would be leading with their own groups. How appropriate, then, that Dick Jones had shared the rope with them, as he would become Glen’s new favorite partner. Of course, Jules and Glen remained dear lifelong friends, having shared a unique high Sierra legacy while phenomenally teamed over four consecutive High Trips (1930-33). I am not certain, but possibly the last time they were together was at a grand High Trip Reunion in Tuolumne Meadows, September 1992, both then eighty. In correspondence with me Glen noted: “On that trip Jules and I
walked on glacial polish at the base of Lembert Dome and recalled some of our climbs.”

In declining health at eighty-eight, Jules passed away at home on February 15, 2000. A month later Glen wrote of his first partner: “Jules was taller than I am, expert in music, and expert in camp cookery. We considered ourselves co-leaders, usually climbing with one or two others but sometimes just the two of us. Jules was always a gentleman, kind and considerate. He climbed with the same verve as he played the piano.”

The Sierra Club’s first activity section was the San Francisco Bay Chapter’s Rock Climbing Section (RCS), chartered in November 1932 with Dick Leonard as chair and Jules Eichorn on the management committee. The Southern California Chapter was not far behind. Its RCS was initially preceded by the new Junior Section. Glen led their first rock climbing session on November 5, 1933, at Eagle Rock, assisted by Dick Jones. In early December the climbers went to Picacho Pk (1920′), north of Yuma and near the Colorado River. (It is commonly known as “Little Picacho” by the Desert Peaks Section, by far the lowest peak on its list of ninety-nine southwest desert summits and arguably the most technical.) Glen and John Poindexter put up a new route along a multi-pitch crack climb to the summit ridge.

In September 1934, with Glen’s encouragement, Art Johnson got chapter approval for the formal creation of the Los Angeles RCS, taking over this activity from the Junior Section. Glen was a founding member of the management committee.

Somewhat concurrent with the rise of the Los Angeles RCS was the development of what would become the chapter’s Ski Mountaineering Section (SMS) in September 1935. This entity was briefly preceded by the Ski Mountaineers of California, organized in November 1934 by Walt Mosauer, a UCLA professor and ski coach. The original thirteen members, mostly from the Bruin ski team, included Glen and Dick Jones, who became quite avid practitioners of this winter mountain activity.

Note: based on their notable climbing achievements, in 1933 both Glen and Jules became members of the American Alpine Club (AAC), at twenty-one likely among the youngest. Francis Farquhar “proposed” Glen, and Will Colby seconded the nomination. (John Muir was a founding member of the AAC in 1902 and he served as its second president.)

1934

(As an aside, the cost to participate in the 1934 High Trip was $70 for the four weeks or $40 for either half. All personal gear to be carried by mule, including bedding, waterproof ground cloth and possibly a tent, had to fit in a cylindrical canvas bag not to exceed three feet in length or weigh more than thirty-five pounds.) The High Trip this year was absent Jules, and it would turn out to be Glen Dawson’s last—and he made the most of it, often teamed with Ted Waller and Jack Riegelhuth. For brevity’s sake, however, I won’t dwell upon it, simply noting, for example, that Glen and Jack made the second ascent of Eichorn Pinnacle. Following the High Trip, Glen partnered with fellow Tripper Tony Chorlton, of the New Zealand Alpine Club, in a circuit that
garnered many northwest U.S. summits including Mt. Shasta and Mt. Rainier, plus Mt. Hungabee and Mt. Temple in Banff National Park.

Shortly after his UCLA graduation in June, Glen set off on what would be a fourteen-month around-the-globe trip. It offered splendid opportunities to advance his skills as both a bookman and a climber. Glen detailed his foreign climbing adventures in SCB articles. Befriending young guides, his exploits began in the Alps with five weeks spent climbing in the Wetterstein and the Dolomites, and included high-level climbing on walls of the Musterstein and Marmolada. He noted that many of their routes “were probably first ascents by an American.”

The 1935 High Trip managed without Glen, but the Dawson family was well represented by Ernest, Fern, and Muir, plus Dick Jones on what would be his only High Trip.

Below: High Trip Bandana Day, 1935, left to right: Frank (Tug) Richardson, Fern Dawson, Muir Dawson, and Dick Jones (Glen Dawson Collection).

1935

1936

In addition to time in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, this year Glen also took up climbing in North Wales (Great Britain), the Caucasus (Soviet Union), and the Japanese Alps. He waited a week below Mt. Elbrus (18,510’), the highest peak in Europe, without getting suitable weather conditions for an attempt. He also traversed Fujiyama in Japan, noting that on the Sunday following his ascent 11,300 persons were on top in a twenty-four-hour period. He wrote, “After having climbed in a dozen different countries, I can agree with John Muir and Clarence King that our own High Sierra is the finest and most friendly of all.”

Glen was back home in Los Angeles by mid-August—in time to join the Labor Day RCS trip to the Mt. Whitney area. In addition to a couple of nearby first ascents, Glen teamed with Dick Jones and Art Johnson in attempting a new, more direct route up the broad east face of Whitney. However, they didn’t get very far, chiefly because of fresh snow. Glen had longingly eyed this alternate more direct line in 1931 when Underhill and Clyde were studying the face the day before their first ascent with Jules Eichorn. He would be back!

1937

(As an aside: in April Glen was elected to the Sierra Club’s board of directors, which coincided with his father’s stepping down. Glen’s service would continue until 1951, although he was not active during his Army service in World War II.)

This would prove to be a phenomenal year for the team of Glen Dawson and Dick Jones. Over the Memorial Day weekend the joint Los Angeles and San Francisco RCS contingents swarmed all over Yosemite Valley. Glen, Dick Jones, and Bill Rice made their first climb of Higher Cathedral Spire. (After two unsuccessful attempts in 1933, Jules Eichorn, Dick Leonard, and Bestor Robinson finally topped Higher Cathedral Spire in April 1934. In the end they were forced to employ pitons for “direct aid” [hanging or standing on the piton] for the first time in the Valley.)

The Los Angeles RCS was back in the Mt. Whitney area over the following Labor Day weekend. With better conditions than the previous year, Glen and Dick Jones, joined by Muir Dawson, Howard Koster, and Bob Brinton, again attempted their “Sunshine Route” on the east buttress of Whitney (also known as the Sunshine-Pee wee Route). On September 5th they were set, and the two rope teams made it up their new East Buttress route in three and one-half hours. Four pitons had been placed for safety (not direct aid). Glen wrote in his 4/38 SCB story: “The East Buttress is slightly more difficult than the usual East Face route; both are interesting routes for experienced climbers.”

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of this climb in 2007, Glen wrote the following response to my query:

In 1931 it was the vision of Francis Farquhar to climb the east face of Whitney. He selected the participants. The real leaders were Robert Underhill and Norman Clyde. Jules and I did what we were told. In
1937 it was my idea to climb the East Buttress. I was the leader and selected the participants, although it was a cooperative leadership. The East Face is a big undefined wall with lots of loose rock. The East Buttress is a clearer route with mostly solid rock. It is my favorite climb but, so far as I now remember, I made it just once.

Bob Brinton led the first rope team with Glen. Depending on the guide, the East Face is now generally rated at 5.4-5.6 and the East Buttress at 5.6-5.8.

(Preliminary side note: “Discovered” by RCSer Jim Smith, Tahquitz is a large granite formation above the town of Idyllwild in the San Jacinto Mountains. He put up the first route on Aug. 22, 1936—the Trough, now rated at 5.0. It became a favorite playground of the Los Angeles RCS and it remains a world-class climbing mecca.)

Just a month after their East Buttress success, on October 3rd, Glen and Dick Jones made a special effort on a frightful Tahquitz route to push it higher than any previous attempt—and they completed it. Bookseller’s Route, now more commonly called Mechanic’s Route, took sixteen pitons with Dick in the lead, though with still a very long runout pitch. In a 1990 interview with me, Dick noted that he “breezed up it,” and that he was “really feeling good that day.” At the top Glen exclaimed: “Wow, what a lead!” Following the second ascent by John Mendenhall and Carl Jensen, in 1939 Ruth Mendenhall wrote to a friend about the climb: “It is so ghastly, and so utterly unprotected, that there is no justification to it, and it will probably never be climbed again” (Woman on the Rocks—the Mountaineering Letters of Ruth Dyar Mendenhall, edited by Valerie Mendenhall Cohen, 2007). Many years in the future this route would be hailed as the first 5.8 climb in North America. It was Glen’s only Tahquitz first ascent.

Their wanderlust evidently not yet sated, later that same month Glen and Dick were seeking new challenges in Zion National Park. Along with RCSers Homer Fuller and Wayland Gilbert, they made the third ascent of the Great White Throne—but the first that did not require a Park rescue. They then stumbled upon the fact that the East Temple had never been climbed, thus their new target. On October 26th Glen and Dick each led a rope of two. Glen reported in the 4/38 SCB: “Not until we used a three-man stand were we able to unrope on the pleasant forested summit area. The 1100 feet of elevation had taken five and one-half hours of unhurried climbing, much of it exceedingly difficult.” They built a bonfire to signal success to their companion below and to keep warm for their topside bivouac. Glen continued:

In the morning we walked around the rim watching the sunrise bring color to the maze of canyons and walls. . . . Although we had started the previous morning just to explore the approaches, we had stayed thirty hours. . . . New and unusual ascents still abound, and to anyone familiar with Yosemite or Tahquitz climbing, we can recommend Zion National Park for an ideal vacation.

Now pretty much a lost art, “back in the day” courte-échelle (short ladder) was a practiced climbing technique. Though a three-man stand would be quite a stretch, it was not considered cheating.

From the vantage point of sixty-five years later, in correspondence to Bob and Maureen Cates in February 2002, Glen Dawson wrote: “The year 1937 was in many ways the apex of my
climbing career—with the first ascent of the East Buttress of Mt. Whitney, and climbs in Zion National Park of the Great White Throne and the first ascent of the East Temple, and in Yosemite Valley the Higher Cathedral Spire.”

Note: Glen somehow overlooked including here the Mechanic’s Route! In all five of these climbs he was paired with Dick Jones, his cherished boyhood friend since grammar school days. (Dick passed on at age eighty-two on June 16, 1995.)

1938

Though perhaps past Glen’s “apex,” 1938 featured further major adventures. But first—January 29th marked the appearance of issue #1 of the Mugelnoos—“Published by and for the Ski Mountaineering Section of the Sierra Club, edited by Agent for Programs and Propaganda [Glen Dawson]; Circulation Manager Dick Jones.” Produced out of Dawson’s Book Shop, evidently it was an instant success as #2 appeared just four days later. Before long issues steadily came out at two-week intervals, and within two months it had become the joint publication of the SMS and RCS, reflecting the huge overlap in their memberships. As of #7 Glen passed the editorship to Ruth Dyar (who would marry John Mendenhall in September 1939). Ruth shepherded the newsletter for forty years. The “Noos” continues to be published intermittently by the SMS. The latest issue, #815, however, was labeled “Spring–Summer–Fall 2012.” It focused on congratulating Glen on his grand 100th birthday celebration. (The RCS is no longer extant, its demise related to insurance issues. Its legacy directly continues, however, as the Southern California Mountaineers Association [SCMA], founded in 1986.)

The first week of April found a few tough SMSers on an adventure that would make headlines in the Los Angeles Times, 5/22/38:

Perfectly conditioned for their arduous undertaking, five So. California members of the Ski Mountaineering Section of the Sierra Club recently completed a winter ski trip from Whitney Portal to the Upper Kern Canyon in Sequoia NP over 13,300 ft. Whitney-Russell Pass. . . . The epoch-making party consisted of Howard Koster, Dick Jones, Philip Faulconer, Glen Dawson and Robert Brinton.

They then double-backed to Whitney Portal, having established the W-R Pass as a winter trans-Sierra route.

The annual joint Los Angeles/San Francisco RCS Memorial Day weekend trip to Yosemite Valley found both Glen and Jules Eichorn leading routes, though not together. Glen made his first climb of Lower Cathedral Spire. He and brother Muir also led repeated ascents of the Washington Column to Lunch Ledge for the training of those less experienced. Just a few days later Glen was enroute back to Zion, this time accompanied by Bill Rice and Bob Brinton. The trio succeeded in claiming the first ascent of the Sentinel. By mid-August Glen had assembled a strong team for the first Los Angeles RCS foray into alpine Canada. The account of
their expedition appeared as a featured article in the 6/39 SCB by Spencer Austin, “Climbing in the Bugaboos.” The other team members were Muir Dawson, Bob Brinton, Howard Gates, and Homer Fuller. With considerable exposure and great boldness they succeeded in the third ascent of Bugaboo Spire (10,250’), first topped by Conrad Kain in 1916 and which he ranked as his most difficult Canadian climb. (The peak has twin summits, both about the same height according to Kain. Faced with threatening weather, the RCS team did not continue to the other summit, which is now known to be the higher.)

1939-40 was a time for many RCS folks to get serious about “settling down.” Dick Jones wed Adrienne Applewhite on August 18, 1939; the best man was Glen. Then on November 15, 1940, Glen tied the knot with Mary Helen Johnston; best man was his brother Muir. Mary Helen had been active with the SMS for a couple of years, and she soon joined the RCS. Their union, which produced a son, two daughters, seven grandkids and, so far, nine great grandkids, lasted sixty-two years, until Mary Helen’s passing in November 2002 at eighty-six.

Another key factor leading to Glen and Dick’s stepping back from climbing was the loss of their dear friend Bill Rice in a climbing accident on the Grand Teton in June 1942. In 1990 Dick Jones told me that he and Glen cried for a week following the tragedy, and that it “had taken the fun out of climbing.”

World War II, of course, scattered Sierra Club climbers far and wide: some like Dick working in armaments production, and some like Glen serving in the armed forces. Glen and others involved with the SMS taught ski mountaineering classes at Belmont High School in Los Angeles. This was part of a recruitment program of the National Ski Patrol for mountain troops. Glen provided a quick summary of his war service to me in an email on 2/22/08:

I was not drafted until 1943 when I was 31 years old. I took basic training at Camp Hale [Colorado] and took two notable trips—a New Year’s climb of Mt. Elbert and Massive [the two highest Fourteeners in the state] and the Trooper Traverse from near Leadville to Aspen. I taught skiing to two classes. . . . I became a T/5 or corporal. I was sent to Seneca Rock in West Virginia but, before doing any teaching of rock climbing, was transferred to the 85th Mtn Infantry [part of the famed 10th Mountain Division], Camp Swift, Texas, where I was acting squad leader. Just before going overseas I was transferred to Headquarters Company 85th to become a clerk to Major Kober, Intelligence Officer. [The division, though not Glen directly, engaged in heavy combat in northern Italy]. . . . I was on my way to Japan when the war ended, and I returned to my family and bookselling.
Glen failed to mention something that was noted in the 5/10/45 Mugelnoos: “Glen Dawson was awarded the bronze star for service on Mt. Belvedere, Italy.”

It is time to end this piece on Glen Dawson’s renowned climbing career, when as a youth he teamed first with Jules Eichorn and later with Dick Jones in many amazing and daring climbing exploits that ushered in the modern era of this sport. It was a time when climbers wore tennis or basketball shoes and no harnesses or helmets, used static Manila ropes, and yet romped exuberantly over many formerly “unclimbable” peaks, pinnacles, and walls.

In its sixty-one-year history the Sierra Peaks Section has awarded only three honorary memberships, as allowed by its bylaws with a vote of the membership. The first went to Norman Clyde, presented by SPS Chair Jerry Keating at the Angeles Chapter Banquet in 1960. At the SPS banquet in 1989, Chair Bill Oliver presented honorary memberships to Glen Dawson and Jules Eichorn. On this occasion Glen, with support from his brother Muir, gave a marvelous program on early Sierra Club climbing. An illness prevented Jules from attending, but he spoke via a video recording.

Indeed, starting around his late seventies and then for nearly thirty years, Glen presented or was featured in many programs for climbing audiences, including the SPS again, the SCMA and the Southern California Chapter of the AAC. He commonly introduced himself as “a historical curiosity, perhaps a living fossil.” This quiet, gentle man never boasted of his exploits, but he was well aware of their historical significance. His amazing recall along with his dry humor and self-deprecating manner endeared him to all. He knew he had led a blessed life—both in his climbing and bookman careers and in his family.

Ever the adventurer, quite late in life Glen compiled a list of all the outdoor stair climbs in the greater Los Angeles downtown area and then topped them, though perhaps not signing a register. He also set the goal of making it to the summit of all the downtown skyscrapers, which he achieved without a delay though needing special permission for one or two.

At 103 Glen departed this earthly realm on March 22, 2016, heaven-bound to rejoin beloved family, friends, and partners. Although the oldest, he outlived his three siblings as well as all the companions of his High Trips and RCS/SMS young manhood. We can imagine that Jules Eichorn and Dick Jones may have saved some “unclimbable” heavenly spires on which to once again share a rope. Belay on!
Accomplishments and Notes

Glen Dawson received major recognitions from the Sierra Club:

- Life Membership #14, a gift of (later Club President) Aurelia Harwood, 1921
- Francis P. Farquhar Mountaineering Award, 1973
- Honorary membership in the Angeles Chapter’s Rock Climbing Section, 1977
- Honorary membership in the Angeles Sierra Peaks Section, 1989
- Walter Starr Award for continuing service by a former board member, 2011.

I am indebted to these members of the Angeles Chapter History Committee for their key support over many years in assembling and providing materials used in this retrospective: Glen Dawson, Bob Cates, and John Ripley; and also to Dennis Kruska for Glen’s poem, among other contributions. I have felt especially gifted and blessed in my twenty-seven-year friendship with Glen, which has greatly enriched my life.

My six-part series, “A Tribute to the Honorary Members of the Sierra Peaks Section: Norman Clyde, Glen Dawson and Jules Eichorn,” which ran from 1989 to 2008 in the SPS Sierra Echo, is available here: http://sierrapeaks.org/aboutsp.htm

Michael Rettie has created a wonderful website, with many photos shot by Glen Dawson and Lewis Clark, that focuses on Sierra climbing in the pivotal summer of 1931—http://www.thehighsierra.org/mountaineering_summer_1931.htm


5/23/16

Above, left to right: Glen Dawson, Bill Oliver, and Jules Eichorn at Dawson’s Book Shop, April 20, 1990 (Photo by Muir Dawson. Author’s Collection). Below: Glen Dawson’s tombstone at the Riverside National Cemetery (Keith Dawson Collection).
I first did this route climbing all four peaks with three buddies back in 1980 at twenty years of age. It was my first real mountaineering experience, so I was keen to get a chance to go back and climb these peaks a second time.

The group met at the Mono Meadow trailhead (6522’) near Glacier Point on Thursday morning. Participants on the PCS trip were Kathy Rich (co-leader), Sandra Hao, Jim Ramaker, and Aaron Wilcher. After hiking down to Illilouette Creek, we then traveled southeast up the drainage to Merced Pass Lakes, then proceeded up towards Red Peak Pass a few miles and camped near a creek (a distance of 12.5 miles for the day).

On day two, we hiked about a half mile short of Red Peak Pass, dropped our packs, and headed over to the first climb of the trip, Merced Peak. We hiked up to the saddle northeast of the peak, then followed the northeast ridge to the summit (class 2). Although the weather was a little threatening with dark clouds hovering above, it eventually cleared up. We then returned to our packs and hiked up the trail only a couple hundred yards and dropped our packs again, this time for an ascent of the class 2 south slope of Red Peak. The climb was more bouldery and loose than climbing Merced Peak, but still a good ascent. Back at our packs we found a good location to camp very nearby off the trail. We got two peaks that day and only carried our packs maybe two miles.

On the morning of day three we went up and over Red Peak Pass, dropping down the trail about a third of a mile, then struck out cross-country towards the saddle about half a mile north of Red Peak. Once over the saddle, we continued down to a meadow at the foot of the massive southwest face of Gray Peak. This meadow is a beautiful camp location near a stream with running water. It also appears to be seldom
visited by other hikers. After an hour break setting up camp and getting a bite for lunch, we set off for Gray Peak. Most of the climbing was class 2 scree and rock, with the last hundred feet of gain to the narrow summit ridge more like class 3. We got back down to the meadow around mid-afternoon, so we had some time to relax in the sunshine before dinner.

Early on day four, we left our base camp below Gray Peak and hiked with daypacks over the northwest shoulder of Gray Peak. Our goal this day was the amazing pillar of rock known as Mt. Clark. Reaching a saddle, we dropped down to Lake 10,162, then followed its western side. We then climbed a forested chute to the sandy slope due south of Mt. Clark. We reached the saddle southeast of the peak with a big drop off on the other side. We continued up the ridge until finally finding the one spot on the ridge where we could descend (class 3) the other side and cross over to the milder northeast face of Mt. Clark. Naturally, this crossing was almost at the base of the vertical rock face of Mt. Clark itself! After traversing around to the northeast side of Mt. Clark on sandy slopes, we put our route-finding skills to the test, looking for the easiest set of ramps and cracks leading up the northwest ridge of Clark. Secor’s book labels the north side of the peak as the easiest approach to the summit, but still going class 4. However, I remembered that many years back we found a class 3 way to the top on this side. We finally put together the right set of ramps and cracks to reach the northwest ridge about 100 to 150 feet north of the summit blocks, keeping the climbing to class 3.

After a minute or so hiking on the ridge, we came to the point where one drops down the west side of the ridge to follow the route Secor describes. Astoundingly, Secor only describes this class
route in his book when in fact continuing along the ridge to the summit blocks stays class 3, although it is a little airy. Nevertheless, we investigated the Secor route and found it to be indeed class 4, maybe even Class 5.0 or 5.1, and tremendously exposed. We decided this route was too unsafe for the group and retreated back to the ridge. Everyone, except Jim, followed the top of the ridge to the summit. This final ridge run looks more difficult than it really is, but stays class 3.

Meanwhile Jim had decided to drop back down off on the east side ridge below the summit to look for the fabled “Suzuki” variation that apparently goes class 3. Some years ago Bob Suzuki and Jim had climbed this route, so Jim wanted to find it again. Sure enough, ten minutes after the rest of us had reached the summit, Jim showed up having found the route. We decided to descend this route, which starts just north of the final summit blocks of Clark. It turned out to be an excellent series of steep ledges and cracks leading down to the sand, but never exceeding class 3.

We then returned to camp below Gray Peak. After an hour’s break we decided to pack up and descend the Red Creek drainage for a few hours so we wouldn’t have too long a hike out on the last day. Dropping down the Red Creek drainage was a little steep and brushy at the start. But then we got to a nice, open and forested section of the creek where the cross-country travel went quickly. We crossed the creek once to the south side to stay on easier terrain on the banks of the creek high above it. At about 7700’ elevation where the ground leveled out, we set up camp in the forest for the final night of our trip.

Next morning, we packed up and returned to the Illilouette Creek Trail, but not before becoming briefly mired in a dense stand of aspen that was on our route. Once back at the cars, several of the group decided to drive out to nearby Glacier Point. The crowds were bad, but the view was spectacular. It was a nice finale to a great trip!
We thought readers of the *Echo* might be interested in reviewing and commenting on the drafts of the forest management plans and environmental impact statements for the Inyo, Sequoia, and Sierra National Forests. See below for links to more information on the plans, meeting dates, webinar, and more—the editors.

Subject: USDA Forest Service Inyo, Sequoia, and Sierra National Forests Land Management Plans Revision Update

June 9, 2016

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

We have begun the 90-day public comment period for the draft environmental impact statement and draft forest plans for the Inyo, Sequoia, and Sierra National Forests. During this time, we are holding public meetings, tribal forums, and a webinar to engage with you in discussions about these documents. We welcome you to attend these events.

Please take note of these updates!

- **Public Webinar Registration:** If you plan to attend the public webinar scheduled for Tuesday, June 28th from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., you need to register on-line in advance of the webinar. You can do so via this link: [https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7694478403371813122](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7694478403371813122)

- **Species of Conservation Concern lists:** Corrected species of conservation concern lists have been posted to the project website: [http://tinyurl.com/r5earlyadopters](http://tinyurl.com/r5earlyadopters)

For more information about these forest plan revisions, visit the project website: [http://tinyurl.com/r5earlyadopters](http://tinyurl.com/r5earlyadopters)

**Public Meeting Schedule: June - August 2016**

**Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra National Forests Draft EIS and Draft Forest Plans**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 28</td>
<td>12-1:30p</td>
<td>Public Webinar (12-1:30p)</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 29</td>
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<td>August 1</td>
<td>6p-8p</td>
<td>Cerro Coso Community College 101 College Pkwy, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546</td>
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<td>August 2</td>
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<td>Cerro Coso Community College Eastern Sierra Campus</td>
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<td>August 3</td>
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<td>August 4</td>
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<td>Clovis Memorial Veterans Hall</td>
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Upon returning we’ll break camp and pack out, 4.5 miles before ascending Needham Mtn, 4.5 mi RT with 2600’ gain all.

Epic happy hour will ensue on the shores of Crystal Lake. Sun Lake, 4.5 mi, 3400’ gain all on trail. A refreshing swim and an epic happy hour will ensue on the shores of Crystal Lake. Sun we'll wake early and traverse Crystal Pass to Amphitheater Lk before ascending Needham Mtn, 4.5 mi RT with 2600’ gain all XC. Upon returning we'll break camp and pack out, 4.5 miles and 400’ gain.

Participants should have good physical and altitude conditioning and be comfortable on 3rd class rock and loose talus. Send e-mail with hiking resume and recent experience to Ldr: Neal Robbins, Co-Ldr: Mat Kelliher. #Hikethe100

Outings

We’ve chosen the photo above showing Mat Kelliher leading a group down Mt. Warren 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 or via USPS to Tina Bowman.

Visit the SPS website for an even more up-to-date listing of upcoming trips at www.sierrapeaks.org

Also, please check at summitregister.org whether a peak needs a register book or pencil before you go on a climb.

Jun 24-26 | Fri-Sun
SPS, WTC
MR: Black Mtn (13,289’), Diamond Peak (13,126’), Mt Mary Austin (13, 051’): Fri we’ll backpack to camp below Baxter Pass, 6 mi and 5000’ gain. Sat we’ll climb Mt Mary Austin, traverse the ridge to Black Mtn, descend into the bowl between Black and Diamond, and ascend Diamond Peak’s south face before descending to complete a circle back to camp, 6 m and 5000’ gain. Sunday we’ll attempt any peak missed on Saturday, if needed, and pack out, 6 mi. Ice axe, crampon, helmet, and recent alpine snow experience required. Participants must be in very good condition, have alpine snow experience, and be comfortable on 2nd class rock and loose talus. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Send e-mail with climbing resume and recent experience to Ldr: Neal Robbins, Co-Ldr: Paul Garry.

Jul 9-10 | Sat-Sun
WTC, SPS
Mt: Needham Mtn (12,520’): Are you ready for some more 3rd class rock scrambling? On this outing we cross the southern end of the Great Western Divide before climbing a remote 3rd class peak, Needham Mtn. Sat we’ll backpack from the Sawtooth Pass trailhead in Mineral King to Crystal Lake, 4.5 mi, 3400’ gain all on trail. A refreshing swim and an epic happy hour will ensue on the shores of Crystal Lake. Sun we'll wake early and traverse Crystal Pass to Amphitheater Lk before ascending Needham Mtn, 4.5 mi RT with 2600’ gain all XC. Upon returning we'll break camp and pack out, 4.5 miles

Jul 22-24 | Fri-Sun
WTC, SPS
I: Mt Izaak Walton (12,077’): Backpack into the Sierra National Forest and John Muir Wilderness, northeast of Shaver Lake, for climb of Mt Izaak Walton in the Silver Divide. Fri take the water taxi across Lake Thomas Edison ($21.00 roundtrip) and hike up the North Fork of Mono Creek to camp at beautiful Mott Lk, 7.5 mi, 2400’ gain. Relax at lake and enjoy happy hour. Sat climb Izaak Walton from the northeast, 2.5 mi, 2000’ gain, all steep, rocky cross country. Return to camp, probably via a loop route to the south, 4.5 mi, 1500’ loss and 800’ gain, a total of 7 mi and 2800’ gain for the day. Sun early start hiking out the 7.5 miles to catch the morning ferry. Comfort on loose x-c talus needed and helmets required. Permit fee at the trailhead, $5.00 per person. Send email with experience and conditioning, phones and carpool info to Ldr: Beth Epstein. Co-Ldr: Anne Mullins.
**OUTINGS**

**Leaders in this issue’s schedule:**

- **Misha Askren** 322-935-1492  misha.askren@gmail.com
- **Jeffrey Attijera** 714-724-0515  jefattij@gmail.com
- **Lisa Barboza**  lisa.barboza@gmail.com
- **Phil Bates** 949-786-8475  philipabates@gmail.com
- **Richard Boardman** - 310-347-4371
- **Tina Bowman** 562-438-3809  tina.bowmanchange@gmail.com
- **Lisa Buckley** 949-644-9886  lgbuckley@gmail.com
- **Ron Campbell** 714-962-8521
- **Ed Cottone** 949-679-1636  ecottone@yahoo.com
- **Daryn Dodge** 530-753-1095  daryn.dodge@oehha.ca.gov
- **Diane Epstein** - 818-247-0455  diane@charter.net
- **Beth Epstein** - 562-439-0646  b.epstein@verizon.net
- **Paul Garry** 310-399-2334  pgwarry@earthlink.net
- **Sridhar Gullapalli** 310-821-3900  sridhar.gullapalli@yahoo.com
- **Matthew Hengst** - 949-264-6507  matthew.hengst@gmail.com
- **Laurent Hoffmann** - 949-295-5980  laurenthoffmann@outlook.com
- **Mat Kelliher** 818-667-2490  mkelliher74@gmail.com
- **Jack Kieffer** 714-522-1376  jockorock42@yahoo.com
- **Rod Kieffer** - 310-259-9938  rodkieffer@yahoo.com
- **Peter Lara** 562-665-9143  jaret supplies@gmail.com
- **Sandy Lara** 562-421-8143  spperling1@verizon.net
- **Lisa Miyake**  lmiyake@gmail.com
- **Patrick McKusky** 626-794-7321  pamckusky@att.net
- **Anne Mullins** 323-698-6455  hire2thepeak@gmail.com
- **Robert Myers** 310-829-3177  rmmyers@ix.netcom.com
- **Jeremy Netka** 323-401-1039  jnetka@gmail.com
- **Kathy Rich** 323-256-3776  kathrynarch@gmail.com
- **Dan Richter** 818-970-6737  dan@dancrichter.com
- **Georgette Rieck** 310-396-6397  tworiecks@aol.com
- **Neal Robbins** 310-540-5089  neal.robbins@l3com.com
- **Gary Schen** 714-596-6196  gary@hbfun.org
- **Ann Shields** 818-637-2542  apedreschi@sbcglobal.net
- **Bill Simpson** - 323-683-0959  simphome@yahoo.com
- **Virginia Simpson** - 323-683-0959  ollienivan@yahoo.com
- **Steve Smith** 760-382-0764  ssmith4@yahoo.com
- **Homer Tom**  hikerhomie@gmail.com

**Jul 29-Aug 2 | Fri-Tues**  SPS, WTC

**M:** Mt Reinstein (12,586'), Tunemah Pk (11,894'), and Finger Pk (12,404’): Join us for three remote peaks on the west side of the Sierra. Fri hike on the Woodchuck Tr from Wishon Reservoir over Crown Pass to Halfmoon Lk, camping probably when we reach the Blackcap Basin Tr (14 mi, c. 4,000' gain). Sat we'll continue to Portal Lk (3 mi, 1,200' gain), make camp, and head to cl. 2 Reinstein, then back to camp (another 7 mi, 2,300' gain). Sun we'll cross Kettle Ridge and trek to cl. 2 Tunemah and back to Portal Lk (c. 11.5 mi, 5400' gain). Mon, we'll recross Kettle Ridge and go for Finger Pk, either via the southwest couloir (cl. 3) or farther but easier cl. 2 southeast slope, then retrace our steps to camp (up to 9 mi and c. 3100' gain). We may move camp back to our first night's camp (another 3.5 mi). Tues, we'll hike back to the cars (14 or 17.5 mi, 1300' gain). Ldrs: Tina Bowman, Paul Garry.

**Jul 30-31 | Sat-Sun**  SPS, WTC

**I:** Mt Starr (12,835'): Gourmet Backpack! Join us for Decadent Wilderness Weekend XIII as we try to prove that there can't possibly be too much of a good thing! Bright and early Sat morning (well, 8 a.m.), we'll trek a harrowing 2 mi, 1,000 ft through the treacherous wilderness to Box Lake. After resting from our labors, we'll dig deep into our packs for appetizers, salads, entrees, desserts, fine wines and, of course, linens, brass candlesticks and pink flamingoes for dinner. After a lavish breakfast Sun morning, climb Mt Starr, pack out and try to get to Pie in the Sky before the freshly baked pies run out. Send your most outrageous culinary idea to Ldr to qualify. Split $56 wilderness fee at trailhead. Ldr: Rob Robbins, Asst-Ldr: Phil Bates.

**Jul 29-31 | Fri-Sun**  SPS, WTC

**ER:** Mt Clark (11,522'), Gray Pk (11,573'): Join us on a strenuous adventure into southern Yosemite to climb these two classic peaks in the Clark Range. Fri hike to base of Mt Clark from Mono Mdws trailhead, 10 mi and 3300' gain. On Sat climb Mt Clark via its southeast arête, then traverse its south ridge to Gray Pk before looping back to camp, 6 mi and 3800' gain. Sun we'll reverse the backpack, 10 mi and 1300' gain. Participants must have very good conditioning, have roped climbing experience, and be comfortable on exposed 3rd class and loose talus. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Send e-mail or SASE with climbing resume and recent experience to Ldr: Neal Robbins, Asst-Ldr: Phil Bates.
Call for Outings!
By Gary Schenk, Outings Chair

Leaders, it’s not too late to schedule an outing. With the OARS system there’s no longer a six-month lead time needed to get your trips in the schedule. Getting people into the outdoors is the most important thing we do. Truly, mountaineering is the heart of the Sierra Club. We have a very good list of trips this year, but it’s always great to have more outings.

Leaders, please, if you are planning a restricted “M” or “E” trip, give extra lead time for the Mountaineering Oversight Committee approval process.

Provisional leaders, please make sure that the Provisional Lead Committee has approved your trip before submitting your trip for publication.

If you have any questions of concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at gary@hbfun.org.
reverse our backpack with 13 mi and 3000’ gain including 4 mi and 2000’ of x-c. 42 miles & >16K’ gain for the outing with the majority being cross-country. Participants must be in excellent condition, comfortable on exposed 3rd class and loose talus, and have ice ax and crampon snow climbing experience. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Send e-mail with climbing resume and recent experience to Ldr: Neal Robbins. Co-Ldr: Jack Kieffer.

Aug 12-14 | Fri-Sun WTC, SPS I: Pilot Knob (12,245’): Join us for this moderate three day WTC Experience/SPS Introductory Trip into the gorgeous Humphreys Basin west of North Lk in the Eastern Sierra Nevada. Fri we’ll meet near North Lk (9,345’) and pack in at a relaxed, but determined pace west along creekside trail up past a series of gorgeous alpine lakes to and then over Piute Pass (11,423’) before dropping down into the spectacular Humphreys Basin and making our way north to our camp for the weekend near the SW shore of Desolation Lk (11,400’). Expect a day’s total of about 7.5 mi with 2,600’ gain. After setting up camp, relaxing a bit, and perhaps catching a fish or two, we’ll settle in for a festive Happy Hour under waxing gibbous moon, summer night skies. Saturday we’ll head off x-c first to the north for a pleasant stroll up to the summit of nearby Four Gables, then back to the south and then west past a series of small lakes followed by a steep ascent to a saddle and then west to the summit of Pilot Knob. After thoroughly enjoying the spectacular views surrounding us up there, we’ll head back to our camp for a day’s total of about 11.5 m and 3,700’ of gain. Back at camp we’ll celebrate with an even more Festive Happy Hour than the night prior. Sun we’ll pack up and then head out the same route we came in on. Awards for the tastiest Happy Hour contributions will be given each night! Amateur anglers need a valid CA fishing license. Priority given to current WTC students. Permit dramatically limits group size, and permit costs ($46) will be split among the group. Email recent conditioning and experience, including high altitude experience, WTC (if any)

OUTINGS

Dare to Lead! Fall Leadership Training Seminar Set for October 1, 2016

Becoming a Sierra Club outings leader starts with curiosity and a love of the outdoors. What better way to step up and lead than by taking advantage of the training opportunities that the Angeles Chapter’s Leadership Training Committee provides each year?

As home to one of the largest outings programs on the planet, the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter’s many groups, sections, and committees sponsor thousands of trips ranging from beach barbecues to mountaineering expeditions. You can take the first step toward becoming a leader by attending a class offered this October 1st, location to be determined. Deadline to register is September 17th.

The seminar covers all the basics of leadership. Experienced leaders will tell you how to plan a trip, prevent problems on the trail and make sure that everyone—including you—has a great time. They’ll also explain good conservation and safety practices. And they’ll give you tips for getting your “O” rating quickly and then, if you choose, pursuing more advanced ratings.

The all-day class costs $25. The application is on-line at angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc. At this same site, you can pore over more of LTC’s upcoming offerings, which are also on the Schedule of Activities page.

Mail the application and check, payable to Sierra Club, to Steve Botan, LTC Registrar, 18816 Thornwood Circle, Huntington Beach 92646. You also can reach Steve by email (ltcregistrar@hundredpeaks.org) or by phone (714-321-1296).

Scholarships are available for those with financial need. Apply to LTC Chair Anne Marie Richardson AMLLeadership@gmail.com
Area & Group, along with contact and vehicle/rideshare information, to mkelliher746@gmail.com for trip status and details Ldr: Matt Kelliher. Co-ldr: Jeremy Netka.

Aug 12-14 | Fri-Sun  WTC, SPS
I: Mt Florence (12,561'), Vogelsang Pk (11,493'): Enjoy the beautiful Yosemite high country on this strenuous climb to Mt Florence and Vogelsang Peak. Fri, backpack on trail 10.25 mi, 2,700' gain from Tuolumne Mdw on the Rafferty Creek trail passing the Vogelsang High Camp to Bernice Lake. Sat: class 2 x-c climb to Mt Florence 7 mi RT, 2,500' gain. Sun pack out to cars 10.25 mi with a 1 mi, 850' gain side trip to climb Vogelsang Peak. Send email (preferred) or SASE with conditioning/experience to Ldr: Paul Garry. Asst: Anne Vogelsang. Send email (preferred) or SASE with conditioning/experience to Ldr: Paul Garry. Asst: Anne Vogelsang. Send email (preferred) or SASE with conditioning/experience to Ldr: Paul Garry. Asst: Anne Vogelsang.

Aug 20-25 | Sat-Thurs  SPS
I: Kern Pt (12,730'), Picket Guard Pk (12,303'): Join crazed leaders for two remote class 2 peaks in the Sierra. Backpack Sat over tough Shepherd Pass and camp near the pass or possibly farther in (11 mi, 6200' gain). Sun: will join the John Muir Trail and then the High Sierra Trail to Junction Mdw (11.75 mi, mostly downhill). Mon we'll go up the Colby Pass Tr to make camp and climb Kern Pt (8 mi, 4700' gain). Tues, climb Picket Guard (2700' gain) and move back to Junction Meadow (8 mi for the day). We'll retrace our steps on the HST and JMT on Wed to the junction with the Shepherd Pass Tr or beyond (8.75 mi, 3200' gain). Thurs: we'll ascend and descend Shepherd Pass and celebrate (14 mi, 1800' gain). Ldrs: Tina Bowman, Gary Schenk.

Aug 24-28 | Wed-Sun  SPS
ER: Triple Divide Peak (12,634'), Glacier Ridge (12,360'), Whaleback (11,717'): Spend five days in a very remote section of the Great Western Divide to climb 3 SPS peaks including Triple Divide Peak, an SPS Mountaineers peaks. Wed backpack entirely on trail from Marvin Pass TH to Shorty's Cabin, 20 mi and 4000' gain. Thur climb Triple Divide Pk's north face and west ridge via Glacier Lake, 9 mi and 4000' gain. Fri climb the east face of Glacier Ridge, 7 mi & 3400' gain. Sat climb Whaleback's 4th class north ridge, 5 mi and 2700' gain, then break camp and begin the pack out. Sun finish the pack out, 20 mil and 3200' total backpacking between the two days. Participants must be in excellent condition, have roped climbing experience, and be comfortable on exposed 3rd class and loose talus. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Send e-mail with climbing resume and recent experience to Ldr: Neal Robbins. Co-Ldr: Jack Kieffer.

Aug 26-28 | Fri-Sun  WTC, SPS
MR: Mt Conness (12,590'), North Pk (12,242'): Join us on this three-day backpack to a peaks usually done as day hikes on the far eastern edge of Yosemite NP. Fri we'll pack in through the gorgeous, aspen-lined Lundy Canyon; carefully make our way up and over the steep and loose Lundy Pass; and then make camp alongside one of the many "alpine jewel" lakes east of Saddlebag Lake for a day's total of about 4.0 mi with 2,400' gain. Ample time should be available for fishing, swimming, or snoozing in the shady breeze after setting up camp and before settling in for a boisterous Happy Hour under "waning crescent moon" night skies. Sat morning we'll make our way as the sun rises to scramble up onto the CI 3 northern ridge of Conness until reaching the east buttress. We'll turn to the west here and continue our CI 3 romp along the east ridge all the way up to the summit of Conness. After enjoying the phenomenal summit views, we'll head back to camp for a day's total of about 7.0 mi and 2,300' of gain, and partake in additional leisurely lake lounging and another festive Happy Hour. Sun: we'll rise before the sun again and make our way over to the east ridge of North Pk for another fun scramble up through CI 3 terrain to the summit of that fine peak. We'll partake in the views up top and then return to camp (4.0 mi RT, 1,950' gain) where we'll pack up and head out. This is a restricted mountaineering outing requiring current Sierra Club membership and submital of the Sierra Club "Medical Form." Participants must be in excellent condition and be comfortable at high elevation on exposed 3rd class rock. Helmet, harness, belay device, and experience with their use required. Permit severely restricts group size and permit fee ($36) will be split among the group. Email Sierra Club number, contact info, climbing resume, recent experience and conditioning, and carpool info to Mat Kelliher for trip status and details. Ldrs: Mat Kelliher, Beth Epstein. #Hikethe100

Sep 9-11 | Fri-Sun  SPS, WTC
MR: Seven Gables (13,060), Gemini (12,866): Join us for a deep penetrating probe into a remote and spectacular area of the Sierra National Forest where we'll spend 3 glorious days of unmolested lakeside camping. We'll set out on Fri from the

The SPS management committee is looking for a volunteer with the time and talent to revamp the SPS website, especially the home page. Interested? Please contact Tina Bowman: tina@bowmanchange.com
Bear Ridge TH near Lk Thomas Edison for a fairly strenuous backpack to lakeside camping at Lou Beverly Lk, 12 mi & 4000’ gain all on trail. On Sat it just gets better. We’ll climb the Northwest Slope and West Ridge of 3rd class Seven Gables, an SPS Mountaineers Peak, descend its South Slope to Seven Gables Pass, climb 2nd class Gemini and then loop back to camp. Totals for the day: 9 mi and 4500’ gain mainly all x-c. On Sun we’ll break camp and reverse our backpack, 12 mi and 1500’ gain all on trail. Participants must have very good conditioning and be comfortable on exposed 3rd class and loose talus. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Send email with climbing resume and recent experience to Ldr: Neal Robbins. Co-Ldr: Phil Bates.

**Sep 17 | Sat**

LTC

**Deadline to register for the Oct 1st Leadership Training Seminar. For information, see the LTC website ([http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/](http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/)).**

**Sep 18 | Sun**

LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS


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](http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/) for more information. Send contact information (including mailing address) and your qualifications to the leader as soon as possible.

**Sep 23-24 | Fri-Sun**

WTC, SPS

**M: Three Sisters (10,572’), Dogtooth (10,302’):** Join us for a leisurely romp and late season party outing with a bit of fun 3rd class mixed in for good measure. Fri backpack from Courtright Reservoir to Clff Lk, 5 miles and 1200’. Saturday we’ll climb 2nd class Three Sisters before wandering over to Dogtooth and its 3rd class summit block, 4 mi and 2000’ gain. Sun we’ll reverse the backpack out, 5 mi. World-class gourmet happy hour both nights. Participants should be comfortable on exposed lounging and loose good times. Experienced gourmet back-country food preparation required. Send email with hiking resume and recent experience to Ldr: Neal Robbins. Co-Ldr: Jeff Atijera.

**Oct 1 | Sat**

LTC

Leadership Training Seminar: Become a qualified Sierra Club leader. For information, see the LTC website ([http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/](http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/)). Next seminar: Spring 2017.

**Oct 5 | Wed**

LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC

**M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP14): Basic Safety System:** First of four climbing workshops open to Sierra Club members with prior roped climbing experience. Today’s indoor evening workshop of four hours reviewing ropes, harnesses, helmets, and basic climbing gear will take place in Pasadena. As space is limited, priority will be given to those who commit to all four workshops. Send email or sASE, phones, Sierra Club number, resume to Ldr: Dan Richter. Asst: Patrick McKusky.

**Oct 8 | Sat**

LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC

**M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP14): Belaying:** Second of four climbing workshops open to Sierra Club members with prior roped climbing experience. Today,

SPS outings can always be viewed online on the electronic Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activities: [http://angeles2.sierraclub.org/activities](http://angeles2.sierraclub.org/activities)  [http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sps/outingsAwesome.asp](http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sps/outingsAwesome.asp)
OUTINGS

at Stoney Point in Chatsworth, focus is on belaying and principles of anchor building. As space is limited, priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send email or sase, phones, resume to Ldr: Diane Dunbar. Co-Ldr: Richard Boardman.

Oct 8 | Sat
LTC, WTC, HPS
I: Navigation: Beginning Clinic: Spend the day one-on-one with an instructor, learning/practicing map and compass in our local mountains. Beginners to rusty old-timers welcome, and practice is available at all skill levels. Not a checkout, but it will help you prepare. Many expert leaders will attend; many I-rated leaders started here in the past. 4 mi, 500’ gain. Send sase, phones, rideshare info, $25 deposit, refunded at trailhead (Sierra Club) to Ldr: Diane Dunbar. Co-Ldr: Richard Boardman.

Oct 15 | Sat
LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC
M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP14):
Rappelling: Third of four climbing workshops open to Sierra Club members with prior roped climbing experience. Today, at Stoney Point in Chatsworth, focus is on rappelling. As space is limited, priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send email or sase, phones, resume to Ldr: Dan Richter. Asst: Patrick McKusky.

Oct 22-23 | Sat-Sun
LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC
M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP14): Rock climbing techniques and anchors: Fourth of four climbing workshops open to Sierra Club members with prior roped climbing experience. This weekend completes the series of AMP workshops at Joshua Tree National Park and focuses on climbing and anchors. As space is limited priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send email

Wilderness Permit Info

In addition to the permit information described below, most reservations for the Inyo National Forest and the Desolation Wilderness up to 48 hours in advance of entry can be handled at: http://recreation.gov

KERN PLATEAU
Web site: www.fs.fed.us/sequoia
Cannell Meadow Ranger District
105 Whitney Road
PO. 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
Reservation requests for summer trips (mid-May through September) are accepted from 2 weeks to 24 weeks in advance on-line or by writing to
Yosemite Association
PO Box 545
Yosemite, CA 95389
By phone: reservations for summer trips are accepted by calling (209) 372-0740.

Obtain your free permit from the Wilderness Permit Station nearest your departure trailhead. Call (209) 372-0200 for permit station locations.

If entering park from Cherry Lake in the Stanislaus National Forest to Kibbie Lake and Lake Eleanor in Yosemite, you must get your permit from the Stanislaus National Forest Ranger Station on Highway 120 in Groveland. Call (209) 962-7825.
If entering the park from Chiquito Pass in Sierra National Forest, permits for the whole trip must be obtained from the forest Service in North Fork. Call (559) 877-2218

SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NP
Web site: www.nps.gov/seqe
47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271-9599
Phone (559) 565-3766 for permit & trail info. Fax (559) 565-4239

SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST (WESTSIDE) ENTRY
Web site: www.fs.fed.us/r5/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
Pine Ridge/Kings River Ranger District
29608 Auberry Road
Prather, CA 93651
Phone: (559) 855-5355

Sierra Echo • July-September 2016
Nov 19 | Sat LTC, WTC
M-R: Navigation: Workshop on 3rd class terrain: This navigation workshop is limited to individuals participating in the Indian Cove Navigation Noodle and is intended to explore special navigation issues that arise on 3rd class terrain. Class 3 rock travel experience required. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Helmets and medical forms required/group size limited. Send email/sase, SC#, cl 3 experience, conditioning, contact info to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co-Ldr: Jack Kieffer.

OUTINGS

or sase, phones, Sierra Club number, resume to Ldr: Dan Richter. Asst: Patrick McKusky.

SPS Management Committee Meeting, April 11, 2016, 7:00 p.m. at the Home of Alexander Smirnoff

1. Call to order. Present: Tina Bowman, chair; Jim Fleming, vice-chair; Paul Garry, secretary; Alexander Smirnoff, treasurer; Jeremy Netka, outreach; Harry Langenbacher, mountain records; Dan Richter, Archivist.
2. Standard business and reports
   a. Approval of minutes. Done previously by email.
   b. Chair.
      i. By-laws approved and posted to website
      ii. The Geographic Names Board requested more input on Andy Smatko Peak nomination. Item should go on July Board Agenda.
   c. Vice Chair—banquet planning
      i. Date and location set for 2017 banquet at Almansor Court (January 29, 2017). Jim to request Palm Court room.
      ii. It was decided to ask Bob Cates to give a presentation about the life of Glen Dawson.
      iii. Jim to ask venue to set up bar sooner and not to order any pink wine next year.
   d. Outings. No report.
   e. Treasurer’s report: Current balance is $9,225.
   f. Emblem Committee Report—No report.
   g. Outreach. The committee discussed the growing number of users on the Facebook page and the need to provide more content to keep page active.
   h. Archivist. No news to report.
   i. Echo
      i. May 25th deadline for next Echo. Need minutes by then.
      ii. missing older issues on website. With the larger website we now have, we can restore links to the missing issues. Still need to scan old issues for posting.
      iii. Paul to prepare obituary for Charles Irving.
   j. Mountain Records—A new wilderness steward has been appointed at SEKI, and Harry has begun a dialogue with him regarding criteria for maintaining registers in wilderness areas in SEKI as part of the recently adopted Stewardship Plan. Harry is working with Tom Murdock to retool the Dawson Register before it is placed on Thunderbolt. He is also working with a Cal Poly class on casting aluminum cylinders.
   k. IT No report
   l. Website—Discussion about posting on Facebook for a web designer to redo the SPS page. The committee decided to have sierpeaks.org emails received through the website to be forward to each committee member’s personal email address.
   m. Conservation. We still need a conservation chair.
   n. Safety Chair—No report.
   o. Nominating Committee. Some people have been asked to run but declined.
3. Old business—Policies and Procedures revised for Lifetime Achievement Award approved for posting on website.
4. New business
   a. SPS Welcoming/conditioning hikes—Jim volunteered to lead intro hikes to Owens and Lamont Peaks.
   b. Potluck/June Meeting. It was decided to hold a potluck after the June meeting at Tina Bowman’s house on June 19 at 6:00.
   c. SPS Safety Policy. We need new safety policy to mirror Chapter policy. Tina to prepare a draft for committee review.
   d. Jonathon Bourne membership. No action was taken.
   e. Next meeting date (announce in Echo and on website): Sunday, June 19, 2016.
Nov 19-20 | Sat-Sun | LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS  
I: Navigation: Indian Cove Navigation Noodle: Navigation noodle at Joshua Tree National Park to satisfy the basic (I/M). Sat for practice, skills refresher, altimeter, homework, campfire. Sun checkout. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: 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. Send contact information (including mailing address) and your qualifications to the leader as soon as possible.

Dec 11 | Sat | LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS  
I: Navigation: Warren Point Navigation Noodle: Navigation noodle at Joshua Tree National Park for either checkoff or practice to satisfy the basic (I/M) level or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. To participate, send email with contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: 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. Send contact information (including mailing address) and your qualifications to the leader as soon as possible.

| OUTINGS |

SPS Income Statement 05-08-2016

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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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**OVERALL TOTAL** | **770** | **1,100** | **560**  | **315**  | **130**  | **65**   | **45**   | **10**   | **193**    | **(336)**  | **2**      | **(2,332)** |
The painting’s title reveals the answer: *Humphreys, Basin, Four Gables, Mt. Tom* by Robert Clunie, 16 x 20, original oil on board, Collection of Wynne Benti, Coons Gallery. Stop by the gallery at 2399 N Sierra Hwy (highway 395), Bishop, CA 93514, on your way north out of Bishop to see the painting and say hello to SPS member Wynne.

Dan Richter was the first to respond with the correct answer, followed by Richard Carey, Ralph Wright, Mort Testerman, Ron Bartell, and Nile Sorenson.
**The Fourth of July in the Owens Valley**

*By Tina Bowman*

In the Owens Valley this Fourth of July? Want to do something there for the holiday? You have options! One is to view the fireworks in Bishop hosted by the Bishop Fire Department at the airport; they should be visible just about anywhere in town.

But let me tell you especially about the celebration in Independence. With a name like that, you know that this tiny town goes all out for the Fourth. If you’re in town on the third, there’ll be live music and a dance from 8:00 p.m. till midnight in Dehy Park at the north end of town.

The Fourth gets going with a flag raising ceremony at 6:15 and pancake breakfast from 6:30 till 9:00 in Dehy Park. Want some exercise before those pancakes? Run or walk in the 4K or 10K race (registration opens at 6:30, races start at 7:30). If a race is a bit much after climbing, how about taking a walking tour of historic Independence, starting at 8:30? Meet in Dehy Park. Or wander around the arts and crafts show on the courthouse lawn; it opens at 8:00.

Happy and full, stake your claim to a spot on the curb of Edwards Street (highway 395 to you) and enjoy the parade up and down the few blocks of town. It begins at 10:00. Or enter to be in the parade! PCT hikers often march in the parade, and I’ve seen kids on trikes entered. The parade starts at the south end of town, goes north till the town peters out, and comes back south, this time loaded with various awards. Once upon a time, viewers lobbed water balloons at the entries, and sometimes entrants lobbed some back. The killjoys have banned this practice, which is too bad because it’ll be hot. Wear a big sun hat and try to score a spot in the shade!

Once the parade is over, the fun keeps going. At noon there’s a pie social at Dehy Park, followed by a spelling bee at 12:30 and old-time kids’ games—think potato sack races and the like—at 2:00. The deep-pit BBQ runs from 4:00 until 6:30 also in Dehy Park; you can watch the preparations for this feast much earlier in the day. It’s the town’s version of the former DPS tradition of a burro roast.

And then the piece de resistance—fireworks! You have viewing options. If you pay to enter the airport, you’ll get to see all the ground fireworks as well as the fine aerial displays. Lots of people line 395 to watch from there, which is a bit scary with the traffic going by. I’ve gone a short ways up the Onion Valley Road (Market Street) and had a great view of the fireworks, albeit none of the ground displays.

And if you are on the eastside in the mountains with a view of the valley, perhaps you can watch the fireworks from there!

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**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. We welcome any mountain images, including those from popular culture–imagery used and abused in film and print!

In honor of the Fourth of July, we thought we’d show a little patriotism with this mystery photo taken by Beth Epstein. Your challenge is to name where the photo was taken. For bonus points (not that we’re counting!) tell us which peaks are visible to the left and right of the pole. Good luck!
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), WordPerfect, email (electronic format is preferable), or through regular U.S. mail. 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.

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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Subscriptions $10 per year, due by January 1, delinquent after March 31. Subscribing to the Echo is a requirement for active membership in the SPS. A suggested donation to the section is $25.00, which includes the $10.00 subscription and a $15.00 donation to the SPS operating fund. Thank you for your support of the SPS. Submit new subscription applications and renewals to the SPS Treasurer, 1701 Paloma St., Pasadena, CA 91104; include your Sierra Club number. New applications received after Oct 1 are credited to the following year. Only one Echo subscription is necessary for multiple members of a family residing at one address.

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Advertising Private activity announcements and advertisements are accepted at the following rates: $1 for the first four lines and $1 each additional line. Other announcements and product/service advertisements are $1 per line or $25 for half-page space. Send copy and check to the Echo Editor, payable to SPS.

Address Changes Send to the treasurer via email treasurer@sierrapeaks.org.

Peaks List Copies of the SPS Peaks List can be obtained by sending $1 and a SASE to the SPS treasurer, 1701 Paloma St., Pasadena, CA 91104.

Missing Issues Inquires regarding missing issues should be directed to the section mailer at: newsletter@sierrapeaks.org.

Awards Send notification to Secretary Paul Garry: email secretary@sierrapeaks.org. Awards merchandise is available through Patty Kline at 20362 Callon Drive, Topanga, CA 90290 and include emblem pins ($15) and SPS section patches ($5). Make checks payable to SPS. All prices include sales tax.