A Lifetime of Service to the SPS: Jerry Keating Honored

Our Lifetime Award Winner revisits an SPS crucible: Matterhorn ’58, page 17, and remembers SPS founder Roger Gaefcke, page 30.
Echoes from the Chair
By Tina Bowman

It’s looking like a very good year for snow climbs. Be aware in making plans for your 2017 trips that some streams may be quite difficult and dangerous to cross until late season. Safety is always our highest priority.

Even after many years as an SPS member, I am still very excited when I pull out the maps and guides to plan trips and possibilities for the season. I hope you feel that wonderful pull of the Sierra as I do. We are so fortunate to be able to climb in such a splendid range.

The elected members of the management committee have chosen to continue in their previous roles with one exception, so here we go again! We have an excellent crew of volunteers in the SPS—elected management committee members, appointed members, and outings leaders—and we just now have another one. Though she has been climbing Sierra peaks for years, Sharon Moore is a new member, and she has agreed to be the conservation chair. Many thanks to all the volunteers; you help make the SPS a wonderful section.

The one exception mentioned in the previous paragraph is Jeremy Netka, who has served the past two years as the outreach chair/fifth officer. Because of work and family, Jeremy needs to step down. Thanks to Jeremy the SPS has new brochures to help recruit new members, a banner to take to events, and stickers to hand out.

Following up on a suggestion from Kathy Rich, he involved us in the Caltech Alpine Club’s speaker series the past two years, and he surveyed new members about what they’d like from the SPS. Thank you for all of your fine work, Jeremy. Lucky for us, Lisa Miyake, who served on the management committee in 2013 as secretary, is willing to step into this vacant position and has been approved to do so for the remainder of this term per the bylaws. Thank you, Lisa! I know she’ll be another great asset to the team.

The electronic ballot was a success; more people voted than have in recent years. Take a look elsewhere in this issue to read what people answered in response to the survey questions. Leaders, please especially review the answers to the question of how the SPS can help members climb more peaks. Maybe you’ll want to lead an outing or two as suggested in the answers. Members, if you have a question that we might ask on the next ballot, please send it along to me.

Still partly a work in progress, the new SPS website is live now, back under the Sierra Club umbrella. Have a look at http://sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks. Many thanks go to Joe Wankum for taking on this challenge and to Harry Langenbacher for helping out. We were most fortunate to have had Kathy Rich as our web master for many years. Thank you, Kathy, Joe, and Harry!

We’ve made some headway in naming a peak for our first list finisher and extremely prolific climber, Dr. Andy Smatko. Now that the proposal has been approved by the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names, the U.S. Board of Geographic Names will confirm that the Forest Service does support the proposal before placing it on the docket for the next meeting. Once it’s official, we will celebrate with a dedication hike. Stay tuned and keep your fingers crossed!

We’re trying something new this year in reaching out to WTC students, a number of whom participate on trips cosponsored by the SPS and WTC. Offering them several issues of the Echo free this year so that they can learn more about the SPS, we hope to hook them. Because we’re always looking for new members, we’d love to hear from you if you have an idea how we might best reach out to likely prospects. Send any ideas to Lisa Miyake or me; I’ll be sure Lisa gets them.

Happy trails and safe climbing,
Tina

Tina Bowman, tina@bowmanchange.com
Our New SPS Website

The new website for the Sierra Peaks Section is up and running, back under the umbrella of the Sierra Club. Explore it at [http://www.sierraclub.org/sps](http://www.sierraclub.org/sps). (In case you’re interested, the full URL is [http://www.sierraclub.org/angels/sierra-peaks](http://www.sierraclub.org/angels/sierra-peaks).) Joe Wankum, webmaster, explains the reason for the change in website on the home page.

The Angeles Chapter recommends a vote for Jim Dougherty and Karen Maki in the upcoming election for the Sierra Club’s Board of Directors. Note that ballots must be received by April 26, 2017.

Lisa Miyake, our new SPS Outreach Chair!

2016 Management Committee

**Elected**

- Tina Bowman Chair, [chair@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:chair@sierrapeaks.org)
- Jim Fleming Vice-chair/banquet, [vicechair@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:vicechair@sierrapeaks.org)
- Alexander Smirnoff Treasurer, [treasurer@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:treasurer@sierrapeaks.org)
- Paul Garry Secretary, [secretary@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:secretary@sierrapeaks.org)
- Lisa Miyake Fifth officer/outreach, [outreach@sierrapeaks.org](mailto:outreach@sierrapeaks.org)

**Appointed**

- Archives Dan Richter, dan@danrichter.com
- Conservation Chair Sharon Moore, justslm@earthlink.net
- *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
- Keeper of the List Matt Hengst, matthew.hengst@gmail.com
- Merchandise Patty Kline, patricjakline@aol.com
- Mountain Records Harry Langenbacher, register@langenbacher.org
- Outings Gary Schenk, gary@hbfun.org
- Safety Chair Doug Mantle
- Webmaster Joe Wankum, webmaster@sierrapeaks.org
- Assistant Webmaster Harry Lagenbacher, register@summitregister.org

**Regional Representatives**

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

Steve Fiorillo

Steven’s wife deserves all the credit for his becoming interested in hiking. She wanted to attend the Sierra Club’s Wilderness Training Course, so he enrolled them both as a present for her 49th birthday. Having loved the class, they began hiking regularly. They love the time they spend together working to keep each other alive on each excursion. After thirty-one years of marriage, they have yet one more hobby they enjoy doing together. They both feel fortunate to be healthy enough to hike the Sierras. He dedicates his SPS membership to her.

Guy Dahms

Guy started his outdoor pursuits with long-distance cycling, migrating to long-distance backpacking. After moving to Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 1980, he caught the peak-bagging bug, and it has been his passion ever since. He has hiked/climbed extensively throughout the Rockies (focus on New Mexico, Colorado, and Wyoming). He stumbled upon the DPS in 1999, and the SPS followed soon after. He has been a longtime Echo subscriber. Other outdoor pursuits include backcountry telemark skiing and exploring the canyon country of Utah and Arizona.

Anne Mullins

After taking WTC in 2007, Anne felt ready to get off the beaten path and explore more of the Sierra. She loves long multi-day backpacking trips, especially ones that involve travel through remote lake basins, and she really enjoys rock climbing. SPS trips are always an adventure, and she looks forward to bagging more peaks.

We also welcome new member Will Whitney.
Our New Conservation Chair!

Sharon Moore  
New member Sharon Moore took WTC in 2004 and began bagging Sierra Peaks on experience trips. After her first Sierra summit on Mt. Silliman, she has gone on to tag many more and plans to continue. She is as interested in the amazing things she sees on the way up as she is in the peak itself, and for that reason has taken on the role of SPS Conservation Chair. To paraphrase John Muir: climb the mountains and get ALL their good tidings.

SPS Ballot Survey Results

Question: What could the Sierra Peaks Section (SPS) do to help you to climb more Sierra Nevada Peaks?

Responses:
Schedule more trips.  
Invent a time machine. (2)  
Sorry, I now live in Colorado. :)  
More M and E rated trips.  
More trips, especially dayhikes. Many peaks can be climbed in one day, but often end up as backpacks on the SPS calendar.

On the ballot for the 2017 management committee, two survey questions were included, one on outdoor-related websites and the SPS site and the other on how the SPS can help members climb more Sierra Peaks. Of the seventy ballots received, including mailed ones, we had twenty-four responses to the website question and thirty-five to the outings question. We thought you might be interested in what people had to say!—the Editors

Offer more non-technical trips that are solely SPS scheduled and don’t feature a training phase.
Reverse the aging process and make me fifty again.
Pay me an annual salary so that I wouldn’t have to work and I could spend all my time climbing peaks.
I need a good climber-type to haul my ass up the more difficult peaks (at a slow pace)!
Time.
Deliberately scheduling, and making easy to identify, more trips for slower hikers. I’m just not as quick as I was when I joined in the 1970s. And I don’t want to be the one too slow who costs other climbers a summit, so I don’t sign up much.
Give the first time climber preference. I signed up numerous times, to be wait listed and never got on the trip. So now I do not even try.  

continued on page 6
I can’t think of anything, off hand—just need to get myself motivated to climb more!
Make me twenty years old again.
More one-day climbs for those of us that can't carry a heavy backpack anymore.
If only someone would resume those "Old-timers trips" that Jerry Keating organized for quite some years.
I’ve finished the SPS list, so for me, lead more explorer peaks.
Maintain a list of leaders in good standing, their rating, and the date they got the rating. This would be helpful when looking for co/asst leaders and also provisional candidates who don’t know who’s available and eligible to evaluate.
Have a function where you can enter your email address so that you get pinged with a link whenever new outings are posted.
Weekday outings would be great!
Again, more incentive to climb non-listed peaks.
It is more about what I need to do. I appreciate what SPS offers.
Slower paced to more remote peaks.
Offer more trips of Class 2 and easier 3 which I know requires enough leaders to do such. Also make it easier to organize carpooling options.
Provide maps with GPS tracks (like HPS), info on type of vehicle needed to get to the trailhead (like DPS), and lead more SPS peaks.
More "social" trips. I am so done with the drive all night to get to the trailhead, hike hike hike, leave system. Maybe once a year, have a car camp, with a few dayhikable peaks nearby.
Nothing. It’s an age problem.
Schedule day climbs at a more leisurely pace such as Dana and Gibbs on separate days.
See if those who have finished the list would consider leading unlisted peaks. There are some nice ones out there (Mt. Francis Farquhar, for example).

Question: Thinking about other outdoor-related websites that you regularly visit, what features and/or content is most enjoyable and useful to you, and what elements could the SPS use to create this kind of content for the section’s website, http://www.sierraclub.org/sps?

Responses:
Forums posting trip reports like supertopo.com does.

Having available online all back issues of the Echo.
Current trip reports and conditions.
The Alpinist has a wide range of articles, from technical to literary.
Trip reports (with MAPS) are the most useful and desired content.
Combining information; for example, DPS and SPS should combine forces and possibly the sections.
I love peakbagger.com for the usefulness of its reports and especially GPS tracks. I like summitpost for its route descriptions. Basically, an online guidebook is a great thing . . .
Detailed information about the peak (best time to hike, how to get camping permit, nearby places to camp, nearby eating places, latest trip report, up to date road condition, safety updates, etc.).
Trip reports and climbing guide information is most useful, I think!
Nothing I can think of.
I go to Peakbagger.com to research my climbs, specifically, trip write-up, GPS tracks, peak GPS coordinates, and to print maps. I also use Climber.org, SPS, and Summitpost websites to research climbs, but to a lesser extent.
It would be interesting to see SPS list status from Peakbagger.
It would be useful to have an SPS peaks list tab that would bring up the actual SPS list (alphabetical, by zone, and alphabetical listed) that would link you to SPS outings reports, Climber.org outing reports, the associated Summit post page, Mountainproject, wiki, etc., whatever info is available. You could even have a way for users to upload reports or links per peak.
Reports on non-listed peaks.
Trip reports and route information details.
More up-to-date trip reports. Most of the ones I find are ten or more years old.
Maps with GPS tracks (like HPS), info on type of vehicle needed to get to the trailhead (like DPS).
Searchable blogs, postings of current conditions.
Put the content of the Echo on a website so it’s easier to read.
Anything factual regarding access, weather conditions/snow conditions, and routes.
DPS
I like the mystery photo, and requesting short 30-second video clips from the summits of peaks would be fun if possible.
Californiawildlifefoundation.org (board member).
Blog
udos and many compliments go to banquet chair Jim Fleming and SPS management who pulled off another memorable and fun banquet. We all like returning to Almansor Court in Alhambra with lots of parking, no likely chance of fender benders, and appealing and amiable servers. Thanks to Jim, Alexander, and Yvonne who manned the registration table, a lonely job outside the main room of big noisy conversations and reunion excitement. It was a good turnout for Bob Cates’ fabulous slide show about Glen Dawson, plus we all like a chance to hang out with Bob.

Dinner was delicious and wine was flowing. The only minus was Ed Lubin’s failure to protect Mary Mac’s dessert when she was giving Jerry Keating’s award speech. Tina was our favored emcee for 2017, and young and old, we all like that brief limelight during the Standing Tradition. Congrats to the notables—returning SPS chairpersons, thirteen in all, SPS List Finishers (a mighty feat), and favorite SPS founder and List finisher #3 Barbara Lilley. Pats on the back are double and triple for those completing the SPS List more than once, Tina, Greg Vernon, R.J. Secor, and more applause to Doug Mantle who is well beyond number seven and climbing strong. Gift cards were handed out to those leaders who led multiple trips, Neal Robbins (eight), Mat Kelliher (seven), and
Ellen completed the P.C.T. this past year, and Alvin has his Master Emblem, and according to rumor, forty peaks to go for his own L.F. Additional cool new climbers and friends whom we got to know during happy hour were Jake and Sherry Faller, Heidi Motzkus and Steven Fiorillo, and Lisa Hazen.

After a short break, all were eager to hear Bob Cates’ fascinating program about L.A.’s golden boy of climbing, Glen Dawson, who lived a life that others only dream about. Glen, Muir Dawson, and

Phil Bates (six); we are grateful to them because the SPS will flourish only with good outings. Last year’s Leadership Award recipient, Neal Robbins, came to the podium and presented Kathy Rich with her well-deserved Leadership Award for the several hats she has worn and many trips she has led. The Lifetime Achievement Award was a fine surprise for Jerry Keating, who joined SPS in 1958 with wife Nancy. Amazing but true, Jerry and Nancy continue leading trips, now going on fifty-eight years for Jerry, while he safeguards our section’s rich history and keeps track of the original SPS founders. Read more about Kathy and Jerry elsewhere in this Echo issue.

We were happy in meeting some new people, Ellen and Alvin Walter.
At right: Elena Sherman, Bob Wyka, Kathy Rich, and Daryn Dodge (Photo by Mary MacMannes).
Below: Kathy Rich and Neal Robbins (Photo by Dave Sholle).

buddies Jules Eichorn, Norman Clyde, Francis Farquhar, Robert Underhill, and Dick Jones set climbing records in the High Sierra with first ascents and early (“gasp”) climbing routes during the 1920s and 1930s. Later, Glen roamed the world for over fourteen months with the excuse of book buying and binding, yet that summer, I don’t remember which one, that I came across a register entry of Kathy’s from just a week or two before stating that she had only one peak to go to finish her senior emblem. So I knew it would be a race to the finish. In fact, she beat me by a month while I was up in the Tahoe area picking up some geographic peaks I needed, and so forever we will be #146 and #147 on that list. I couldn’t be happier that we’re forever linked that way.

And all along she has been leading many fine outings for the club and for the SPS, many outings, including Shane Smith’s list finish on Tehipite Dome last September where she managed the belay of all seventeen participants over the difficult exposed final step below the summit.

This year’s recipient of the SPS Outings Leadership Award is Kathy Rich.

Kathy Rich – 2017 SPS Outings Leadership Award

By Neal Robbins

I met Kathy Rich in 2004 when as a WTC student she signed up for my experience outing to climb the north side of Alta Peak. That was a particularly big snow year, and so to keep the outing within the I rating and student abilities that is was designed for, we set our signs a bit lower, on a rocky high point of an adjacent ridge that we called “Altoid Peak.” Well, this class 2.9 scramble of ours was pretty fun. And I remember being quite impressed by the natural rock skills of this rookie WTC student that I had just met, this Kathy Rich. So much so that I recruited her to join me again a month later on an exploratory route up Mt. Agassiz. I would like to think I had some hand in her initial trajectory, but in reality I’m sure that fire for high places and exposed perches was already well lit.

Kathy became a prolific HPS hiker before being corrupted towards the more entertaining Sierra and DPS peaks. She received both her O and then I ratings in 2006, before earning her M in 2008. She ascended to lead the SPS as our Chair in 2009, 2010, and 2011 while also leading WTC WLA Group 1 and thus influencing another generation of climbers and peak baggers.

In August of 2014 she earned the Senior SPS Emblem. I know this well because we’re numbers 146 and 147 on that list. I remember while finishing off my emblem peaks on North Pal or Goddard or Brewer
he climbed major peaks across Europe, the Japanese Alps, and the Bugaboos in Canada. Oh yes, all of this as a skinny young boy in knickers who’d hang up his boots at age twenty-five to pursue other glorious lifetime achievements. It was our sad goodbye to Glen in 2016, when he passed at age 103. Thank you, Bob Cates, for an outstanding show, and we commend you for your

many hours of collecting and guarding Glen’s archives and presenting a show that dazzled and pleased all of us. (See the written story of Glen’s life, thanks to Bill Oliver who published earlier in our Echo newsletters.)

Nighttime had fallen, and the Almansor began drawing the shades and washing dishes, so we knew it was time to go home. We left grateful to all who had hosted us so graciously in our annual celebration of the SPS.
Lifetime Achievement Award for Jerry Keating

By Roving Girl Reporter, Mary McMannes

Congratulations to long-time SPS member, Jerry Keating, recipient of the Sierra Peaks Lifetime Achievement Award given on January 29, 2017, with great appreciation from our membership. Well deserving are both Jerry and Nancy for their dedication to the Sierra Club climbing section for several decades.

It all began in 1957, two years after the SPS had been hatched in 1955, when Jerry and Nancy grabbed the magic ring of peak-bagging following their joining the Sierra Club and aptly being warned by flatlanders not to get mixed up with that wild bunch who led death marches in the Sierra. Thank goodness, they ignored such admonitions and showed up for John Robinson’s and Rich Gnagy’s lead of Olancha Peak in May of 1957. Sixty participants showed up, too, and forty-two stalwarts made the summit, including our honorees. Both were in superb condition after climbing HPS Hine’s peak a few weeks prior, eighteen miles and 5,000 feet gained. We banquet goers were thinking about what we were doing in 1957, such as watching Annette and Cubby on the Mickey Mouse Club; many others simply hadn’t been born yet. Jerry and Nancy climbed for ten years with the SPS along with juggling a job with the United Press International and raising a family when they finally achieved emblem status. In 1972, he was the fourth person to finish the SPS List, following on the heels of Barbara Lilley, L.F. #3 (Smatko and Ross being #1 and #2). A few years later, Jerry was a Triple List Finisher after completing both HPS and DPS lists.

They were not content to be trip participants but gained leadership status, Jerry with an E leadership rating and Nancy with her M. He served as SPS chair and Echo editor; helped form the northern California section of SPS called the Mother Lode Chapter; and, though living in Sacramento, Jerry returned to L.A. to attend SPS meetings while staying at the Biltmore Hotel for $7 a night. Communication between the two sections never failed, thanks to Jerry, and he kept in contact with our SPS founding fathers and mothers, many who had moved north.

Through all these years, Jerry and Nancy continued to lead and coordinate trips, some of them even on the open seas. For an older climbing population, there are the Old Timers or Slow Timers trips, the last one being in September of 2015. For his loyalty and expertise in leading people up difficult and easier peaks, Jerry was awarded the Chester Versteeg Outings Award and in 2016 was recognized at the sixtieth anniversary SPS banquet for continuous leading, nearly fifty-eight years.

Barbee and Larry Tidball both agree with me the Old Timers trips gave us a chance to climb and get to know those legends from the climbing world, whom we’d see only across the room at banquets, wishing we could get to know them better. The campfires were the best, where we heard first hand how climbing was in the 1950s and 1960s. Yep, the peaks got smaller, and the stories got bigger, but Jerry and Nancy had created a section within our section where old and once bold climbers had a place to go and a place to shine. Following in the footsteps and handholds of distinguished senior climbers was heady stuff for some of us younger leaders. No founding members of our SPS have wandered off or dropped by the wayside because Jerry is always in contact with them. At the previous anniversary...
This table doesn’t tell the whole story, so please contact me at register@summitregister.org, and/or see http://summitregister.org for details and advice.

This is just a quick update on the SPS list register needs. There were two more additions than deletions since last year. Nothing new on the SEKI register removal plan (nothing is being removed) or new container production (still using ammo boxes). Keep on signing those registers!

Note: in the table below, “All” means Container AND Book. *Four Gables is bare, box chained to wrong summit nearby

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2017 SPS Lifetime Achievement Award for Jerry Keating (continued from page 11)

banquets—the thirtieth, fortieth, fiftieth, and sixtieth—he always made sure our founders and retired leaders of SPS returned to us.

There’s an old quote, “Be humble for you are made of earth, be noble for you are made of stars.” Both humble and noble, never lagging as a leader since 1958, an incredible archivist who’d give the Congressional Library of Records a run for its money, Jerry Keating is the man who can tell you anything and everything you’d ever want to know about the SPS. We thank his lovely wife Nancy and children (one time, mascots of SPS), who supported him in all his accomplishments and big adventures. Jerry Keating, our Historian Emeritus, Leader Extraordinaire, and Best Friend of the Sierra Peaks Section, we are honored to give you this distinguished award for a lifetime of service with many good years to come.
A Lasting Tribute to the Honorary Members of the SPS—Norman Clyde, Glen Dawson, and Jules Eichorn

By Bill Oliver

An unexpected but amazing journey that began twenty-eight years ago for our Echo readers and me concludes with this article, which summarizes the contents of the Tribute Series on our website. I hope our readers have enjoyed this broad historical review of the “golden age” of Sierra Club climbing in the Sierra Nevada and elsewhere back in the 1930s and will better appreciate this grand legacy that has been entrusted to us.

The kickoff for this journey was the spring decision of the 1989 SPS Management Committee to invite Glen Dawson and Jules Eichorn as the featured speakers for our banquet that December. In synch with this, our members approved a ballot measure conferring Honorary Membership on both, an honor previously extended to Norman Clyde in 1960. “A Tribute to the Honorary Members of the SPS—Past & Present, Part I” appeared in the Echo at the time of the banquet.

I think I figured that I would complete the series in about three issues over a couple of years. NOT! Part II appeared two and a half years later, followed by a fifteen-year gap. With incredible support from Echo editor Sara Danta, I then wrapped up the series in four consecutive large Echo issues in 2007-8. I had previously written a final tribute to Jules Eichorn following his passing at eighty-eight in 2000. Glen’s passing at 103 in 2016 prompted his final tribute last year. (A Final Tribute to Norman Clyde, who passed on at eighty-seven in 1972, resides in Part VI of the Series.)

By far the greatest personal reward of this effort was the warm friendship so graciously extended to me by Jules and Glen, as well as by Glen’s other climbing partner, Dick Jones. My life was immensely enriched by the generous sharing of their youthful climbing exploits plus the wisdom and charm of their elderly years. I’m especially indebted to Glen for his “hanging in there just for me” for the completion of the Series.

One major positive to that big time gap was that by 2007, thanks to Bob Cates, I had access to the huge Glen Dawson photo collection in the Angeles Chapter Archives. I additionally had key support from John Ripley in accessing the LA Rock Climbing Section archives and Mugelnos newsletters.

Readers may notice that I have much more coverage on Glen than Jules. This primarily reflects the fact that Glen was by far the more abundant chronicler and photographer of their youth, with a large collection of articles by him appearing in the Sierra Club Bulletin. His writing no doubt foreshadowed Glen’s becoming a renowned “Bookman” and publisher, as evidenced by his lifelong career as co-owner with his brother Muir of the illustrious Dawson’s Book Shop, established by their dad in 1905.

Accessing the Tribute Series on the SPS website.
Note: the “old” website is still available as we transition to the new one.
Old: http://sierrapeaks.org/aboutsp.htm
then scroll down.
New: http://sierraclub.org/sp5—select About Us and then Section History—or directly here: http://sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/tribute-series.

Unknown to our readers, three articles below contain bonus pages of additional photographs that did not appear in the published Echoes. Who would have guessed!
The collected *Tribute Series* then is composed of nine articles:

1. Introduction to the Series (written in 2008, but added to site in 2017);
7. Tribute Part VI—“Passing the Torch, 1939-2008,” April-June 2008 *Echo*, 36 pages (4 bonus);

We are all deeply indebted to *Echo* editors Beth Epstein and Tina Bowman for their extended hard work in crafting the beautiful Dawson Final Tribute, as well as all our issues, and to SPS webmaster Joe Wankum for skillfully assembling and preserving the collected Tribute Series for the edification and enjoyment of present and future readers. Without their dedication and countless volunteer hours we would be much the poorer by far. And a final heartfelt thanks to Glen and Jules for gifting us with their intrepid pioneering exploits and enduring good cheer.

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**Save the Date!**

**Annual Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Awards Banquet**

**Sunday, May 7th, 5:00 p.m.**

Mark your calendar to celebrate Angeles Chapter awardees, leaders, and volunteers.

Join us as we honor all of our entities and leader achievements, meet old friends, make new friends, and cheer on the awardees. Speakers, presentations, awards and Silent Auction treasures. All profits benefit the Angeles Chapter.

Reservations are $40 per person. Get the reservation form on the Chapter Website at [angsc.org/banquet](http://angsc.org/banquet).

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Left to right: Tina Bowman, Bill Oliver, and Beth Epstein at the 2017 SPS banquet (Photo courtesy of Bill Oliver).
One conversation at our banquet table was about hikes on the Pacific Crest Trail. Four of those SPSers at our table have been assiduously hiking sections of the PCT, and we thought our readers might enjoy reading a bit about their reasons for doing long-distance hiking. Here’s what two of them had to say.
—The Editors

Why I Hike The PCT

By Gary Schenk

In a word: Wanderlust.
Peakbaggers are well acquainted with this. One side benefit of pursuing a list is it gets you to places you might not otherwise know about. What’s around that bend? What’s on the other side of that ridge? What’s up on that mountain?

Chasing peaks on the list has taken me over Bishop, Olancha, Shepherd, Taboose, and Kearsarge Passes. But hiking the PCT introduced me to the interior passes that I had seen but never tramped across.

Plus there’s a certain soothing zen about it: hike, eat, sleep, eat, hike, eat, sleep, etc., etc., etc.

Many years ago a small boy and his dog were splashing up a creek in southwest Indiana. Rounding a bend, the boy was startled to see a bridge. It took a while to figure out that he’d walked all the way to the bridge over Millersburg Road, a bridge his school bus passed over every school day.

Now he was in awe, seeing it from a whole new perspective.

That’s what the PCT is all about.

The PCT

By Mary Jo Dungfelder

What draws me to long distance hiking? It is the pure pleasure of walking and the simplicity of putting one foot in front of the other, carrying all I need from one day to the next, meeting and connecting with others.

Above: Gary Schenk on Section E of the PCT south of Tehachapi (Photo by Mary Jo Dungfelder). Left: Mary Jo Dungfelder at camp on the JMT (Photo by Gary Schenk).
SPSers on the PCT (continued from page 15)

doing the same thing, gorging on yummy food after the
exertion at resupply points, having the heightened
awareness of my senses, and then repeating the process
over many days. It is a journey that connects me with
nature.

Peak bagging involves many of the same elements, but
the goal is slightly different. We hike to basecamp, push
ourselves to get the peak; of course, nothing beats the
satisfaction of ticking off one more peak from the list, back
to basecamp and perhaps out to home. Long distance
hiking—especially the PCT, JMT, AT, High Sierra trail or any
other multiday hikes—has an advantage of covering much
territory with a little more low-key, stop-to-smell-the-roses
flavor. There’s time to take pictures, lounge around a lake,
talk to fellow hikers, smell the forest, take in the delicacies
of the desert, and savor the ability to look around often,
not just from the mountaintop. My age is outpacing my
ability to be a list finisher. Speed is important in peak
bagging. I can still knock a few off every year with
understanding leaders, but life requires us to adjust our
goals sometimes. Long distance hiking still takes me to my
beloved mountains and all things along the way. New
lightweight equipment makes it more and more appealing
all the time.

Volunteer Opportunity in
Yosemite National Park

The Yosemite Conservation History Center
(formerly known as LeConte Memorial Lodge) is a
National Historic Landmark building that
represents the rich heritage of the Sierra Club in
Yosemite Valley. The building houses several
interpretive displays, a children’s nature corner, a
wonderful library, art projects, and evening
programs.

Since 1904 a curator and Sierra Club volunteers
have provided information to park visitors. Today
the program welcomes over 15,000 visitors to the Sierra Club’s spiritual home in Yosemite Valley, and volunteers
are needed now as the building reopens for its 113th season on Wednesday May 3, 2017.

Volunteers spend a week in the park, assisting the club’s curator Bonnie Gisel, PhD., by interacting with park
visitors and carrying on the Sierra Club tradition of helping others appreciate and protect our natural
environment. Volunteers get free park admission and camping in a group campsite during their service week.

**Potential volunteers must**

• Be outgoing and comfortable interacting with park visitors
• Have visited Yosemite within the last two years and have current park knowledge
• Be familiar with current Sierra Club programs and initiatives
• Be able to stand for up to three hours per day
• Tent camp only
• Bring their food and supplies
• Not bring children, pets or guests.

To become a volunteer for the 2017 season, please contact Bonnie Gisel at 209-347-7300.
Distant Echoes / Matterhorn Peak, ‘58

We thought now and then you might enjoy photos and stories from the early days of the SPS. In 1956, the first year of official SPS outings, one trip went to the Bridgeport area to climb Matterhorn Peak. Two years later another well-attended SPS trip ventured to Matterhorn Peak. On the descent, the first significant accident on an SPS outing occurred.—the Editors

Note from Jerry Keating: The 2½-page accident report was authored by Bill Sanders, the SPS vice chair in 1958, and noted that this was the SPS’s first accident. The report had this ending: "Let's try to make it the last." Following is the account portion of the report:

Early Sunday morning, the group started out for the peak from the base camp. The ascent was made via a snow-filled chute just east of the peak. The main group reached the peak and returned to the head of this chute. Then it headed for another chute further east with George Wallerstein for a glissading descent. This other chute was decided on for the descent because it had a runout at the bottom and contained no rocks. Meanwhile, the slowest members of the party, a group of five, reached the head of the chute used for the ascent and were accompanied to the peak by John Robinson. Members of the main party forged ahead of George Wallerstein.

From the Angeles Chapter Schedule No. 168, June-September, 1958

JUNE 14-15, 1958 SAT.-SUN SIERRA PEAKS

Matterhorn Peak (12,281')—9:00 a.m.: A beautiful snow ascent of our northernmost emblem peak. Leave upper Twin Lakes campground 9:00 a.m. Sat. Pack 5 miles to camp with wood and water. Snow and ice axe climbing practice Sat. afternoon. Sun. climb peak over steep snow and return to cars. Must have ice axe and lug soles. Crampons optional. Driving 800 miles, but worth it. Leaders and Trans.: JOHN ROBINSON and GEORGE WALLERSTEIN.
**Matterhorn report, cont.** and reached the head of the chute to be used for descent at intervals in scattered fashion. They immediately attempted glissading. Several of the members lost control in the glissade and slid head over heels down the chute. Finally, John Robinson and his slow group reached the head of the chute of descent. Learning of injury below, they carefully walked down kicking steps on the way.

*From the August 1958 Issue of The Sierra Echo:*

**SPS SCHEDULED TRIP**

Matterhorn Peak (12,281') June 13-14, 1958 JWR (John W. Robinson)

Thirty-seven Sierra Peakers and guests made a spectacular snow ascent in beautiful weather of the Matterhorn (Sierra, not Alpine edition) the middle weekend of June. Armed with ice axes and some crampons, they chopped their way up the steep snow couloir just east of the peak early Sunday morning.

Until the descent, everything was fine and everybody was happy. A steep snow couloir about one-half mile east of the peak was picked as the route down because it was the only one clear of rocks. Unfortunately, the group did not stay together and the snow in the couloir was icy. These two factors brought disaster to the assistant leader and near-disaster to several others. George Wallerstein slipped during the descent, went out of control, and stabbed himself through the leg with his ice axe. Luckily, the artery and muscles were missed, so he was able to slowly and painfully limp back down to the cars. Several others went out of control and tumbled also, but luckily they were not injured except for a few scratches and bruises. A full report of the accident is enclosed elsewhere in this issue.

Top: Barbara Lilley (red shirt) looks up route of descent as the slowest members of the party negotiate the icy part of the chute. Bottom: Looking down descent route with some climbers in sight far below (Photos by Jerry Keating).
Apr 8-9 | Sat-Sun  
LTC, SPS, DPS  
M/E-R: Snow: Sierra Snow Checkoff/Practice:  
For M & E candidates wanting to check off leadership ratings. We welcome others who wish to practice new techniques. Restricted to SC members with some prior basic training with the ice axe. Send SC#, climbing resume, email, H&W phones to Leader: Nile Sorenson. Co-Leader: Neal Robbins.

Apr 15 | Sat  
LTC  
Leadership Training Seminar: Become a qualified Sierra Club leader. For information, see the LTC website [http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/]. Next seminar: Fall 2017.

Apr 19 | Wed  
LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC  
M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP15): Basic Safety System: First of four climbing workshops aimed at developing skills for 3rd, 4th, and 5th class climbing both as a participant or a future Sierra Club M and E leader. This will be an indoor workshop held in the evening reviewing ropes, harnesses, helmets, basic climbing gear, and knots in preparation for later workshops. All participants must have prior roped climbing experience and commit to all four classes. To register please see [http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org](http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org) Ldr: Matthew Hengst. Assts: Dan Richter, Patrick McKusky.

Apr 22 | Sat  
LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC  
M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP15): Belaying: Second of four climbing workshops aimed at developing skills for 3rd, 4th, and 5th class climbing both as a participant or a future Sierra Club M and E leader. This workshop will focus on belaying and related principles starting with standard sport climbing all the way up to advanced techniques to move large groups across dangerous terrain. All participants must have prior roped climbing experience and commit to all four classes. To register please see [http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org](http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org) Ldr: Matthew Hengst. Assts: Dan Richter, Patrick McKusky.

Apr 22-23 | Sat-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

Visit the SPS website for an even more up-to-date listing of upcoming trips at [http://www.sierraclub.org/sp](http://www.sierraclub.org/sp)  
Also, please check at [summitregister.org](http://summitregister.org) whether a peak needs a register book or pencil before you go on a climb.
planning assignment that will be mailed to you prior to the checkoff. See Chapter 6 of the Leaders Reference Book for more information. Send contact information (including mailing address) and your qualifications to the leader as soon as possible.

**April 29 | Sat**  
LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC  
**M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP15):**  
*Rappelling:* Third of four climbing workshops aimed at developing skills for 3rd, 4th, and 5th class climbing both as a participant or a future Sierra Club M and E leader. This workshop will focus on rappelling using a variety of techniques with a heavy emphasis on redundancy, safety, and efficiency. All participants must have prior roped climbing experience and commit to all four classes. To register please see [http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org](http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org)  
Ldr: Matthew Hengst. Assts: Dan Richter, Patrick McKusky.

**May 6-7 | Sat-Sun**  
LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC  
**M/E-R: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP15):**  
*Anchors and Real World Application:* Third of four climbing workshops aimed at developing skills for 3rd, 4th, and 5th class climbing both as a participant or a future Sierra Club M and E leader. This workshop will focus on rappelling using a variety of techniques with a heavy emphasis on redundancy, safety, and efficiency. All participants must have prior roped climbing experience and commit to all four classes. To register please see [http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org](http://www.advancedmountaineeringprogram.org)  
Ldr: Matthew Hengst. Assts: Dan Richter, Patrick McKusky.

**May 7 | Sun**  
Angeles Chapter  
**Annual chapter Banquet:** Make your reservations by April 26th for the banquet to be held at Brookside Country Club near the Rose Bowl. For more information see [http://angeles.sierraclub.org/news/blog/2017/01/save_date_annual_sierra_club_chapter_ awards_banquet_sunday_may_7th_2017_5pm](http://angeles.sierraclub.org/news/blog/2017/01/save_date_annual_sierra_club_chapter_ awards_banquet_sunday_may_7th_2017_5pm)

**May 19-21 | Fri-Sun**  
LTC  
**C: Wilderness First Aid Course at Harwood Lodge:** The course runs from 7:15 am Friday to 5:30 pm Sunday. Fee includes instruction, lodging and meals. Proof of CPR within previous 4 yrs required to enroll. Fee $250 (full refund until Apr 14). For sign-up, see instructions and application at [http://www.wildernessfirstaidcourse.org](http://www.wildernessfirstaidcourse.org)

**May 20 | Sat**  
WTC, SPS  
**M: Spanish Needle (7,841’):** Join us for a strenuous day in the Owens Peak Wilderness Area on an interesting scramble to the summit of this scenic spire in the Southern Sierra Nevada. Expect a long and hot day consisting of about 10 RT miles with 2,600’ of gain. Comfort on loose and exposed Class 3 rock is required. This WTC Outing is co-sponsored by SPS. Email Mat Kelliher with contact and carpool info, recent conditioning, and experience on Class 3 terrain for trip status and details. Ldrs: Mat Kelliher, Gary Schenk.

**May 20 | 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.

**May 20-21 | Sat-Sun**  
LTC  
**M/E-R: Rock: Sheep Pass/Indian Cove Joshua Tree Rock Checkoff and Practice:** M- and E-level rock checkoff and practice for LTC leadership candidates wishing to pursue a rating or practice skills. Also open to Advanced Mountaineering Program students wanting to solidify what they learned in the course. Practice Saturday and optionally checkoff Sunday. Restricted to active Sierra Club members with previous rock climbing experience. Climbing helmets and harnesses required. Email climbing resume to leader to apply.  
Ldr: Patrick McKusky. Asst: Dan Richter.

**Jun 3-4 | Sat-Sun**  
LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS  
**I: Navigation: Mt. Pinos Navigation Noodle:** Navigation Noodle in Los Padres National Forest for either checkout or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. Sat is for practice; Sun is for checkoff or additional practice. 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.

Jun 11 | Sun
O: Leaders Practice Hike - Malibu Creek / MASH site:
This trip is for leaders-in-training, at any rating, to learn and practice handling groups on Sierra Club trips. Topics covered will include: trip planning and communication, trailhead talk, group management, basic navigation concepts, conservation and ecology, problem solving, and safety issues. Participants will practice pace setting and other skills with a supportive peer group. Location tentative. Space limited, please contact leaders to reserve a place: Will McWhinney, Jane Simpson.

Jun 30-Jul 3 | Fri-Mon
MR: Mt Baxter (13,125’), Colosseum Mtn (12,473’), and Mt Cedric Wright (12,372’): Join us for four days in the Eastern Sierra with a backpack over Sawmill Pass on Fri to camp near Woods Lk (c. 11 mi, 7,000’ gain). Sat we plan to climb Colosseum (cl 1) and Cedric Wright (cl 1 or 3, depending on route) (c. 4 mi, 2400’ gain). On Sun we’ll climb Baxter from the north, either cl 2 or 3, depending on route (c. 6 mi, 2400’ gain). Ice axe and crampons may be needed as well as helmets. Mon pack out to cars. Participants must be Sierra Club members with appropriate class 3 rock-climbing and ice axe experience. Send climbing resume to Ldr: Tina Bowman. Co-Ldr: Gary Schenk.

Jul 15-16 | Sat-Sun
WTC, SPS
M: Moses Mtn (9331’): Join us for a trip into the Sequoia Natl Forest in the Southern Sierra near Springfield, CA. Perfect M-level WTC Experience trip for students wanting to get back out onto the rocks. Sat we'll hike in on trail about 3.0 mi with 1,000’ gain to set up camp and spend the afternoon snoozing, fishing, or just relaxing under the trees prior to settling in for a Festive evening Happy Hour alongside a babbling stream. Sun we'll set out cross country through steep and sometimes brushy terrain up a Class 2 gully system that leads us to a fun Class 3 scramble up to the summit of Moses Mtn. After enjoying the views up top we’ll head back to camp for a total of 5.0 RT mi with 2,000’ gain. Back at camp we’ll pack up and head out. Helmets and comfort on Class 3 rock required. Stream crossings required. Email Mat Kelliher with contact and carpool info, recent conditioning and experience, for trip status and details. Ldrs: Mat Kelliher, Jeremy Netka.

Jul 22-23 | Sat-Sun
SPS, WTC
I: Mt Johnson (12,871’): Introductory trip to the scenic Treasure Lks from South Lk near Bishop. Camp after hiking 3.75 mi and climbing 2000’ on Sat. Early start on Sun to climb Mt Johnson, 1100’ gain, 1.5 mi, return to camp, pack, and return to trailhead for a total of 5.2 mi. Contact Ldr Rudy Fleck with hiking resume and conditioning information. Co-Ldr: Tina Bowman.

Jul 28-31 | Fri-Mon
WTC, SPS
MR: Mt Whitney (14,505’) and Mt Russell (14,088’): Join us for a late-July double-whammy and knock off two classic third-class Sierra routes in one long weekend. Fri, backpack to
Aug 4-6 | Fri-Sun  
WTC, SPS  
I: Emerald Pk (12,546): Join us for a strenuous adventure into the remote reaches of Kings Canyon NP. We will cover quite a bit of terrain on a section of the John Muir Trail that will culminate with stunning views from Emerald Pk. Our trip begins on Fri on the western side of the Sierra with a ferry ride across Florence Lk and then backpack on trail 11 mi, 1,200' gain to the junction of Goddard Cyn where we will camp. Sat trail and class 2 cross-country climb to Emerald Pk, 6.4 mi round trip, 4,200' gain. Sun pack out to the ferry and cars 11 mi. Send email (preferred) or SASE with climbing resume and recent experience to Ldr: Paul Garry. Asst: Anne Mullins.

Aug 10-13 | Thur-Sun  
SPS  
ER: Norman Clyde Pk (13,855’), Disappointment Pk (13,917’): Head into the south Palisades and climb one of the finest Sierra Mountainiers peaks, Norman Clyde Pk, along with another Palisade behemoth, Disappointment Pk. Thur backpack from Glacier Lodge to bivy camping above Finger Lk, 5 mi and 4000’ gain. Fri climb Norman Clyde Pk via the 4th class North/East Ridge route, 3 mi and 2600’ gain. Sat climb Disappointment Pk via its Northeast couloir, 3 mi and 2600’ gain. Sun reverse the backpack out, 5 mi. Restricted to Sierra Club members with strong rock mountaineering skills. Participants must be in excellent condition, have roped mountain climbing experience, and be comfortable on exposed class 3/4 and loose talus. Send e-mail with climbing resume and recent experience to Ldr: Neal Robbins. Co-Ldr: Jack Kieffer.

Aug 12-13 | Sat-Sun  
WTC, SPS  
I: Mt Julius Caesar (13,200’): Join us for this moderately strenuous two-day trip up into the John Muir Wilderness north of Bishop, CA, to ascend this somewhat remote peak located in the exact center of some truly spectacular country. Sat we’ll pack in on trail up Pine Crk about 5.5 mi with 3,400’ of gain and set up camp at Honeymoon Lk (10,400’). Sun we’ll set out at first light on trail to ascend Italy Pass and then go cross country up steep talus slopes to the summit of Julius Ceasar for a total of about 4.2 mi and 2,900’ of gain. After enjoying the views up top, we’ll head back down to camp, pack up, and head out. Permit severely limits group size and permit costs (about $10 per person) will be split among the group. This WTC outing is co-sponsored by SPS. Email Mat Kelliher at with contact and carpool info, recent conditioning and experience, including high-altitude experience, for trip status and details. Ldrs: Mat Kelliher, Jeremy Netka.

Aug 18-20 | Fri-Sun  
WTC, SPS  
MR: Deerhorn Mtn (13,265’) and West Vidette (12,533’): Join us for an adventure to these rarely climbed peaks near the John Muir Trail. Fri, backpack from Onion Valley to camp (9 mi, 3,900’ gain). Sat, climb Deerhorn via the NE Buttress (2.5 mi, 2,600’ gain). We’ll attempt West Vidette via the East Face (1 mi, 1700’ gain) on the way back to camp, if time allows. If not, we’ll tackle it Sun morning before packing up and heading out to the trailhead. Total stats for trip: 25 mi and 10,700’. Must be comfortable on exposed third-class rock and have previous experience at altitude. Trip restricted to Sierra Club members—helmet and harness required. Permit limits group size. Send email with experience and conditioning to Ldr: Regge Bulman. Co-Ldr: Monica Suua.

Aug 23-27 | Wed-Sun  
SPS  
MR: Lion Rock (12,320+), Mt Stewart (12,205’), Eagle Scout Pk (12,000’), Mt Lippincott (12,265’), Triple Divide Pk (12,634’), Lawson Pk (13,140’) and Queen Kaweah (13,382’): Join us as we head out from Mineral King, over Glacier and Black Rock passes, and up the Big Grande to reach the remote Nine Lakes Basin in the very heart of the Great Western Divide. From our basecamp there we’ll climb everything in sight and a few peaks that aren’t. Wed we’ll backpack from Mineral King to Lk 10,440’ in Nine Lakes Basin, 14 mi and 6500’ gain of mixed trail and cross-country. On Thur we’ll climb Lion Rock and Triple Divide Pk, 7 mi and 4200’ gain, all XC. On Fri we’ll climb Lippincott and Eagle Scout, 10 mi and 5000’, all XC. On Sat we’ll climb Stewart, Lawson, and Queen Kaweah, 8 mi and 5200’ gain, all XC. Sunday we’ll reverse our backpack out, 14 mi and 3800’ gain on mixed trail and XC. Totals for the trip: 53 mi and 25K’ gain. Participants must be in excellent condition and be comfortable on exposed 3rd class and loose talus. Send e-mail or SASE with climbing resume and recent experience to Ldr: Neal Robbins. Co-Ldr: Jack Kieffer.

Aug 26-27 | Sat-Sun  
WTC, Sierra Peaks  
MR: Mount Emerson (13,204’): Join us for this moderately strenuous two-day trip up into the John Muir Wilderness north of Bishop, CA, to ascend this high and isolated peak near Plute Pass. Sat we’ll set off at a relaxed pace and head up
Piute trail for about 3.0 mi with 1,500' gain and set up camp at Loch Leven. Sun we’ll set out early and make our way up the classic Class 3 “South Slope” route to the summit for a total of 1.4 mi and 3,500’ gain. After enjoying the views up top, we’ll head back down to camp, pack up and head out. Permit severely limits group size and permit costs (about $10 per person) will be split among the group. This is a Restricted Mountaineering outing; participants must be current Sierra Club members and submit a Sierra Club Medical Form to join us. Absolute comfort on talus and exposed Class 3 terrain required. Helmet, harness, belay device, and experience with their use is required. Email Mat Kelliher with contact and carpool info, recent conditioning and experience, including high-altitude experience, for trip status and details. Ldrs: Mat Kelliher, Beth Epstein.

Outings

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

**INOY NATIONAL FOREST**
Web site: www.fs.fed.us/inyo
Pick up permit closest to departure trailhead.

- Eastern Sierra InterAgency Visitor Center, Lone Pine, CA (760) 876-6200
- White Mountain Ranger Station, Bishop, CA 93514 (760) 873-2500
- Mammoth Lakes Visitor Center, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 (760) 924-5500
- Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center, Lee Vining, CA 93541 (760) 647-304

**KERN PLATEAU**
Web site: www.fs.fed.us/sequoia
Cannell Meadow Ranger District
105 Whitney Road
P.O. Box 9
Kernville, CA 93538
Phone: 760/376-3795
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/seki
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
75003 Road 225
North Fork, CA 93643
Phone: (559) 887-2218

Ansel Adams Wilderness–South John Muir, Kaiser and Dinkey Lakes Wildernesses
Pineridge/Kings River Ranger District
29688 Auberry Road
Prather, CA 93651
Phone: (559) 855-5355
group. Email Mat Kelliher with contact and carpool info, recent conditioning and experience, including high-altitude experience, for trip status and details. Ldrs: Mat Kelliher, Jimmy Quan.

Sep 15-17 | Sat-Sun SPS
I: Mt Langley (14,042’), Cirque Pk (12,900’): Join us for an end-of-summer SPS intro trip to an easy 14er and another pk with a fine view. Fri we’ll take the Cottonwood Lks trail from

SPS Management Committee Meeting, Monday, December 12, 2016, 7:00 p.m

1. Call to order: Tina Bowman, Jim Fleming, Alexander Smirnoff, Paul Garry, Harry Langenbacher in Attendance
2. Standard business and reports
   a. Approval of minutes
   b. Chair
   c. Vice Chair
      i. Banquet—Mary MacMannes to be photographer at Banquet.
   d. Outings—No report
   e. Treasurer’s report—$8,851.77 balance
   g. Outreach—No report
   h. Archivist—No report
      i. Echo
         i. February 22nd deadline for next issue. Need minutes for next Echo.
         ii. Move to digital/blog format? Sixty-four Echoes sent by mail currently. No change for now.
         iii. Really old issues need to be scanned and downloaded to the website (Bob Ayers to send 1970s-80s issues)—any progress? No news
   k. IT—No report
   l. Website—Harry has repaired dead links to trip reports on new website. The trip reports reside on Harry’s service.
      i. Harry Langenbacher will be a back-up person to Joe Wankum as webmaster
      ii. New site can be viewed at http://sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks; it’s not ready to go live yet.

iii. Shall we pay $120/year for two more years for the old website? It was decided to renew Go Daddy registration for sierrapeaks.org website for one year.

m. Conservation—Sharon Moore didn’t outright reject being conservation chair but hasn’t taken it on. No change.

n. Safety Chair—No Report

3. Old Business
   a. Smatko Peak—No news
   b. SPS Safety Policy—approved by the Safety Committee and will eventually be posted on the website. No update.
   c. SPS welcome/conditioning hike (local)—Meet Up? Potential spring hike to Smatko Peak in May or June.
   d. Submission for a chapter outtings service award made; Gary Schenk nominated for Chapter Service Award.

4. New business
   a. Electronic voting for members with email (all but six or so)—separate email groups now created for SPS members only and SPS members and subscribers. Use Survey Monkey? Do we want candidate statements? Kathy will set up if we approve electronic voting.
      Because we have over one hundred members who could vote electronically (180), the ballot isn’t free. We could pay $228 a year (possibly share with the DPS?) but we could also pay $26/month for two months for the period of the election. It was decided to add two survey questions to the electronic ballot and use Survey Monkey for the electronic ballot. No candidate’s statements to be included. Paper ballot to be sent only to those with no email address on file.
   b. Shall Tina sent the banquet flyer and renewal form electronically, mailing only to those without email addresses? Yes.
   c. Donate to chapter? The consensus was to donate $200.00 to the Chapter.
   d. Next meeting date: February 6th at Alexander’s House, 7:00 p.m.

ii. Move to digital/blog format? Sixty-four minutes for next deadline for next issue. Need
OUTINGS

the Horseshoe Mdwds Rd out of Lone Pine in the eastern Sierra c. 6 mi, 1200’ gain to our camp at Long Lk. After setting up camp, if time and energy allow, we’ll go x-c to the South Fk Lks and then on trail to Cirque Lk, then x-c to the summit of Cirque Pk (c. 3 mi, 2000’ gain). We’ll then either retrace our steps or circle to New Army Pass and back to camp (c. 3 mi). Sat we’ll take trail to New Army Pass and then go x-c to the summit of Langley, the 9th highest mtn in California (c 4.5 mi, 3200’ gain). We’ll have c. 400’ gain to return to the pass. Sun summit of Langley, the 9th highest mtn in California (c 4.5 mi, 9 mi,
Sat we’ll take trail to New Army Pass and then go x-c to the steps or circle to New Army Pass and back to camp (c. 3 mi).

SPS Management Committee Meeting, Monday, February 6, 2017, 7:00 p.m.
at the Home of ALEXANDER SMIRNOFF

1. Call to order: Tina Bowman, Jim Fleming, Alexander Smirnoff, Paul Garry, Harry Langenbacher, Dan Richter in attendance.

2. Standard business and reports
   a. Approval of minutes—No minutes
   b. Chair —No Report
   c. Vice Chair—banquet recap. Sixty-one attendees at banquet. We owe an honorarium to Bob Cates for presentation.
   d. Outings—Four outings in MOC process.
   e. Treasurer’s report—Balance is $9,224 with a decline in $400.00 from 2015. Greg Mason is owed $98.00 for website registration.
   f. Emblem Committee Report—No Report
   g. Outreach—Committee agreed to offer a free one-year subscription to all WTC graduates after WTC class finishes in April.
   h. Archivist—Dan has some additional documents for delivery to UCLA archives. We need an index of the materials.
   i. Echo
      i. February 22nd deadline for next issue.
      ii. Move to digital/blog format?—There was discussion but no decision.
      iii. Really old issues need to be scanned and downloaded to the website.
   j. Mountain Records—No news. Harry will consolidate register websites.
   k. IT —No Report
   l. Website
      i. New site is live now.
      ii. Send new member names, emblem holders to Joe for posting.
   m. Conservation—Sharon Moore will likely accept position of Conservation chair.
   n. Safety Chair—No Report

3. Old Business
   a. Smatko Peak—CA Board of Geographic Names has approved name. Meeting pending in February for final approval.
   c. SPS welcome/conditioning hike (local)—Meet Up?
   No discussion

4. New business
   a. Ballot survey answers—Answers to be summarized in Echo.
   b. Should we offer new members the option of the printed Echo and do so retroactively for newer members who didn't have the option? (This suggestion comes from Barbara Lilley.) Discussion with no resolution to issue.
   c. New outreach chair? Tina to ask Neal Robbins and/or Lisa Miyake.
   d. Revive the Mountaineers List? Consensus was not to revive the use of the list. The list is not on the SPS webpage anymore.
   e. Next meeting date—April 10, 2017.
for more information. Send contact information (including mailing address) and your qualifications to the leader as soon as possible.

**Call for Outings!**

*By Gary Schenk, Outings Chair*

Leaders, looking for an idea for a trip? The results of the Outings Survey are in, and the people have spoken. What do they want? One popular answer was “invent a time machine.” We can’t help there, but here are some suggestions we can consider:

- Day hikes. No need for a permit for these; that’s a plus.
- Intro hikes. It’s hard to get on trips, and we need to reach out to beginners.
- Easy backpacks. A slower pace perhaps. Not everyone wants a death march! No, really.
- Save a spot on the trip for a rookie.
- Resume the “Old Timer” trips.
- Car camps.
- More “M” and “E” trips.
- Lead more trips!

So there you have it. Now’s the time to start planning. In your scheduling please allow extra lead time for restricted trips to be approved. Provisional leaders, have your trips approved by the Provisional Lead Committee prior to submitting them to SPS.

If you have any questions please don’t hesitate to contact me at gary@hbfun.org

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Sep 22-24 | Fri-Sun | SPS
MR: Tehipite Dome (7,708’), Spanish Mtn (10,051’): Join us on a three-day foray into a remote area of the western Sierra to climb Tehipite Dome, the tallest granite dome in the entire Sierra. Tehipite Dome, an SPS Mountaineers Peak, has even more vertical relief than its well known little sister, Half Dome. Our plan on Fri is to climb Spanish Mtn (4 mi, 1700’ gain) while in-route to camp east of Crown Valley (10 mi, 2300’ gain). Sat we’ll head out early and climb Tehipite Dome via its 3rd class north ridge (11 mi, 3200’ gain). On Sun we’ll reverse our backpack in (10 mi, 1300’ gain). Participants must be in excellent condition and be comfortable on exposed 3rd class rock. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Send e-mail with climbing resume and recent experience to Ldr: Phil Bates.

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**OUTINGS**

Sep 23-24 | Sat-Sun | WTC, SPS
I: Sawtooth Pk (N) (12,343’): Join us for an early autumn weekend in the Sequoia NP out of Mineral King to ascend this amazingly scenic peak with outstanding views in all directions. Sat morning we’ll pack in on trail at a relaxed pace and set up camp at Lower Monarch Lk for a day’s total of 3.4 mi with 2,800’ gain. Sat night we’ll celebrate with a Festive Happy Hour under nearly moonless, starry night skies. Sun we’ll set out at first light on trail and later cross country to the summit of Sawtooth Pk for a total of 2.2 mi with 2,400’ gain. After savoring the views up top, we’ll return to camp, pack up, and head out. Permit limits group size and permit costs (about $10 per person) will be split among the group. Email Mat Kelliher with contact and carpool info, recent conditioning and experience, including high-altitude experience, for trip status and details. Ldrs: Mat Kelliher, Sridhar Gullapalli.

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Oct 27-29 | Fri-Sun | LTC
C: Wilderness First Aid Course at Harwood Lodge: The course runs from 7:15 am Friday to 5:30 pm Sunday. Fee includes instruction, lodging and meals. Proof of CPR within previous 4 yrs required to enroll. Fee $250 (full refund until 9/22). For sign-up, see instructions and application at [www.wildernessfirstaidcourse.org](http://www.wildernessfirstaidcourse.org)

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Nov 11-12 | Sat-Sun | LTC
M/E-R: Rock: Sheep Pass/Indian Cove Joshua Tree Rock Checkoff and Practice: M- and E-level rock checkoff and practice for LTC leadership candidates wishing to pursue a rating or practice skills. Also open to Advanced Mountaineering Program students wanting to solidify what they learned in the course. Practice Saturday and optionally checkoff Sunday. Restricted to active Sierra Club members with previous rock climbing experience. Climbing helmets and harnesses required. Email climbing resume to leader to apply. Ldr: Patrick McKusky. Asst: Dan Richter.

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Nov 18 | 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.

Nov 18-19 | 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) level navigation requirements. 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 10 | Sun 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 qualification to the leader as soon as possible.

SPS Income Statement 02-15-2017

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**OVERALL TOTAL**

|                  | (48)     | 962      | 975      | 495      | 210      | 130      | 65       | 20       | 193        | (336)      | 2          | (2,332)    |
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.

The Sierra Echo

is a quarterly publication of the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club’s Angeles Chapter. For more information, see the back of this newsletter. All questions, copy, and photo submissions should be directed to Tina Bowman, Editor, The Sierra Echo, preferably via email at tina@bowmanchange.org. Refer to the SPS Roster for mailing address. The Echo will also be available as a PDF download at the SPS website and via a link sent to all SPS members opting for this method.

Mystery Peak Challenge Answer

This has been the most popular Mystery Peak puzzle yet. Though we aren’t certain, Bart O’Brien, who owns the print of a Chiura Obata painting and submitted last issue’s Mystery Peak puzzle, and we believe it is of North Palisade with Mt. Sill to the left. Paul Garry was the first to answer the puzzle, saying North Pal and Sill. Arturo Crespo gave it a try also with Whitney and Muir, but we’ve learned that Obata never visited the Whitney area. Then Mary McMannes weighed in with Split, and then Mark Goebel with North Pal and Sill. Another possibility is Banner and Ritter. We’re leaning toward North Pal and Sill with the U-Notch Couloir and snowfield on the upper part of North Pal as the most distinctive landmarks. The ridge off to the right is high with couloirs, also fitting with the Palisades area. Maybe painted from Sam Mack Lake? What do you think?
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!

Hal Browder sent this photo taken from North Dome in Yosemite. Can you identify the peaks left to right in this gorgeous picture? Send your answer to Tina Bowman at tina@bowmanchange.com.

The Angeles Chapter office has a new address, not far from the previous one!
Sierra Club Angeles Chapter
3250 Wilshire Blvd. #1106
Los Angeles, CA 90010
Phone: 213-387-4287
Main email address: info@angeles.sierraclub.org

Don’t let your Sierra Echo subscription expire! The annual $10 subscription is due each year by January 1st and delinquent after March 31st.

For more information, see the back cover of this issue. Please make out checks to the Sierra Peaks Section and mail to the treasurer:
SPS Treasurer
1701 Paloma St.
Pasadena, CA 91104

Check out the SPS website if you have not visited in a while—the puzzle also appears there! http://www.sierraclub.org
SPS founding member Roger Gaefcke passed away unexpectedly in January while alone in his Playa del Rey home. An engineer, Roger was part of a band of Sierra devotees recruited by Frank Sanborn to become the core of the new section in the Angeles Chapter. The SPS wasn’t formally organized until October 1955, but Roger already was climbing with Sanborn, the to-become founding chair. The two plus to-become founding member Bob Sheller were on an a Chapter-scheduled Olancha climb in May 1955, for example, and Roger assisted Sanborn in leading a Chapter-scheduled trip to North Guard in July 1955. In August 1955, Roger was with Sanborn and seven others on an independent backpack over Bishop Pass southward to a planned exit at Sawmill Pass. Other to-become founders on the trip were Chuck Miller, Ted Maier, and Pat Meixner (Gentry). They climbed Mt. Sill on the way, but Roger two days later became seriously ill near Bench Lake and was packed out a day later over Taboose Pass on a mule. That ended an otherwise successful trip, and Roger recovered from his episode.

When the SPS began operations, Miles Brubacher, Owen Blackburn, and Roger constituted the Mountaineering Committee, and the Section was off to an exciting start. Later, it was Roger who suggested the SPS newsletter be named The Echo. He wasn’t as
Roger Gaefcke, continued

much of a peak bagger as some others, but he never lost his love of the Sierra. In 1992, he joined the Canyon Explorers Club and became an active participant in that organization’s westside bike rides. He biked regularly until an eye problem forced him to avoid bright sunlight. But he still was able to join CEC bikers for lunch that ended their rides, and his last lunch was on January 6.

In other recent times, Roger attended the SPS’s 50th anniversary banquet in October 2005 and, while in his 80s, reconnected with fellow old timers on SPS scheduled trips to the Sierra in September 2010 and 2011. His loss is deeply felt by the many persons with whom he associated during his lifetime.

We were so sorry to learn that member Delores Holladay died on February 27th and climbing legend Royal Robbins on March 14th. We’ll have articles about them in the next issue of the Echo.

Francesca Marcus

Though she wasn’t an SPS member, many of you knew and hiked with Francesca Marcus, who lost a hard-fought battle with cancer on January 25th. A celebration of her life will be held on April 8th, her birthday, including a private hike up Echo Mountain in the San Gabriels, followed by a public memorial at Los Angeles Arboretum West Bauer Lawn from 4-7 p.m. Contributions may be made in her honor to the Sierra Club, Habitat for Humanity, or Green House of LA Children’s Hospital.
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.

The Sierra Echo is the property of the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter. All rights reserved. The Sierra Peaks Section maintains a website at www.sierraclub.org/sps

Subscriptions $10 per year, due by January 1, delinquent after March 31. Subscribing to the Echo is a requirement for 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. Contributions or gifts to the Sierra Club or SPS are not tax deductible.

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.