View of Mt. Humphreys from the north near Basin Mtn. - SW Peak
Story on Page 7
(Photo by Greg Gerlach).

Also in This Issue
Banquet, Ostrander Lake ski trip
Echoes from the Chair

By Jason Seieroe

Hello, fellow Range of Light enthusiasts! This is my first article here as SPS Chair, which is pretty humbling following in the paths of Tina and Jim most recently. I’ve been visiting the Sierra off and on with family since I was a kid and started peak bagging about a decade ago. I’ve still got a long way to go on the SPS list, but I still keep working at it and am making progress.

I hope many of you were able to join us for the virtual banquet in January featuring Vitaliy Musiyenko’s awe-inspiring Goliath Traverse. It’s exhausting to me just thinking about spending that much time climbing high-end terrain. We opened up the presentation to others in the climbing community and had a great turnout, exposing many to the section for the first time.

Fingers crossed, we are hopeful things will continue to get better with the pandemic and we can start hosting more SPS outings this summer. There are some additional administrative requirements, but as Tina mentioned in one of her recent articles, it’s pretty straightforward and good information to have in these times. I am really looking forward to getting back into the Sierra with old friends and making lots of new ones. If you are a rated leader and looking to host a trip but not sure about the new forms, please reach out and we’ll help walk you through it. I’m hopeful we can start filling up the SPS calendar with amazing, fun, and safe trips in the Range of Light.

2022 Election Results

Two people voted by mail and forty-four by Survey Monkey. All five nominees were, not surprisingly, elected. The ballot measure to change the language regarding elected positions from “treasurer” to “fourth officer,” who may or may not serve as treasurer, and from “alternate officer” to “fifth officer” passed forty-one to three. The officers and their positions for 2022, clockwise from top of page, are Jason Seieroe, chair; Jim Fleming, vice-chair/banquet; Paul Garry, secretary; Laura Newman, fourth officer/treasurer; and Phil A. Bates, fifth officer/outings chair.

In this issue:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair’s Column</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elections</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Committee</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member News</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banquet</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Around the Web</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Gables</td>
<td>7-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ostrander Ski Trip</td>
<td>10-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Register Report</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outings</td>
<td>13-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilderness Permits</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minutes</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Review: Missing in The Minarets</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passages: Carlton Shay</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mystery Peak Challenge</td>
<td>18-19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
John Hershman

Jon started backpacking in 1997 and went on a month-long trip to Nepal without really knowing anything. Had an incredible experience but decided to sign up for WTC to learn some skills for future trips. It really opened his eyes to the possibilities of exploring places outside of established trails as well as giving him the confidence to do it. Since taking WTC, he tries to take a few trips every year to different areas of the Sierra and climb a few peaks along the way (eighty-eight SPS peaks so far).

Morgan Goodwin

Morgan Goodwin is the Angeles Chapter Director, a staff position he's held for nearly two years. Morgan grew up in the Adirondacks of New York and completed the 46er list of peaks when he was thirteen. Also as he grew up he was competitive in Nordic combined skiing and ski touring. Before moving to Glendale, Morgan lived in Truckee, California, for seven years, where he was elected mayor and championed clean energy goals. Some of his favorite ascents have been on skis, including skiing off the summits of Mt. Dana and Red Slate peak (a scary one!). Morgan has always been drawn to mountains and will always be exploring. See page 10 for his account of skiing into Ostrander Hut.

2022 Sierra Peaks Section Management Committee

Elected
Jason Seieroe Chair jasonseieroe@gmail.com
Jim Fleming Vice-chair/banquet vicechair@sierrapeaks.org
Laura Newman Treasurer treasurer@sierrapeaks.org
Paul Garry Secretary secretary@sierrapeaks.org
Phil A. Bates Fifth officer philipabates@gmail.com

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, Ron Bartell, Bob Pickering
IT Support Greg Mason admin@sierrapeaks.org, Harry Lagenbacher admin2@sierrapeaks.org
Keeper of the List Tina Bowman
Merchandise Patty Kline patriciakline@aol.com
Mountain Records Harry Langenbacher register@langenbacher.org
Outings Phil Bates philipabates@gmail.com
Safety Chair Doug Mantle sierradoug@icloud.com
Webmaster Joe Wankum jbwankum@aol.com
Asst. Webmasters Harry Lagenbacher register@summitregister.org, Tina Bowman tina@bowmanchange.com

Regional Representatives
San Diego Joe White
Central California Daryn Dodge
Northern California Lisa Barboza
FREE First Year’s Membership or Echo Subscription

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

Congratualtions!

Bob Pickering earned his fifth Andy Smatko Explorer Award on December 1, 2021, on Indian Rock. Congrats, Bob!

Time to Renew!

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

Wear ‘em! Give ‘em!

SPS TEES

Front: NORTH PAL
Back: FULL SPS LIST
By geographic area with Mountaineer & Emblem peaks highlighted
S, M, L in Ash & Sand, XL in Sand
$20 includes shipping
Send your order to:
Patty Kline, 7409 Hermosa Ave
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
Make check payable to SPS
CST 2087766-40
2022 Sierra Peaks Section Virtual Annual Banquet

By Barbara Sholle


The talk was advertised as “A first ascent of a massive traverse link-up on the Sierra Crest, which required complex logistical planning, a cool head, the physical preparation of an ultrarunner, the lightest gear on the market, and a high threshold of pain. A true Goliath.”

Wow! This was a banquet presentation that had us at the edge of our seats. Vitaliy combined fantastic photos of the climb (all taken with his phone) and a thrilling description of his Sierra Crest odyssey. Many of us have climbed peaks on the Crest, but this blows Crest climbing away. The amount of planning and the physical and mental stress seemed overwhelming. It is hard to imagine climbing solo for eight consecutive days and ascending 10,000 feet a day, self-supported alpine style, and being the first person to do so. With Vitaliy’s commentary, we felt as if we were there experiencing everything.

We chatted with Vitaliy in Paul Garry’s breakout room before his talk and learned some background leading up to the climb. We were impressed by how personable he is as well as by his humility.

During his talk, we were amazed by his incredible display of fitness (especially because he was overweight as a child), his route-finding, navigation, mental strength, and determination. He started camping not too long ago and quickly progressed to become a world-class mountaineer with skills as a photographer as well.

This was a truly magnificent program, but there must be easier ways to lose sixteen pounds.

Virtual Banquet Programs Available on the SPS’s YouTube Channel

We’re sorry it took so long, but Paul Garry’s talk about his climb of Vincent Massif, presented at the 2021 virtual banquet, is available now here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NdHHTfsL7Aw.

And this year’s program by Vitaliy Musiyenko about his pioneering of the Goliath Traverse of a long portion of the Sierra Crest is available here: https://youtu.be/6hvS9tJ0eEI.
Editors’ note: Dave Sholle is our correspondent for this column, sharing web links that SPS members may find interesting. If you see something you think would interest other members, please send it to Dave at dsholle@verizon.net.


Winter death on Mount Whitney: https://sierrawave.net/72673-2/.


Early Yosemite climbing gear: https://www.climbing.com/people/the-climbing-gear-first-used-on-el-capitan-half-dome-and-sentinel/.


Losing Alex Lowe as your father: https://apple.news/A6og9E6hqSPOZJTHbQ7GYCA.


Mosquitoes are attracted to certain colors: https://www.adventure-journal.com/2022/02/huge-news-in-camp-comfort-mosquitoes-are-attracted-to-certain-colors/.


Mark Synnott on how to rappel safely in alpine terrain: https://www.climbing.com/skills/how-to-rappel-in-alpine/.


Outside+ and Paywalls

By Beth Epstein

We’ve all bumped into paywalls when we click a website link and anticipate reading an online article that seems interesting. The internet seems like it should be free, but I have to remind myself constantly that there are people behind those curtains trying to keep journalism alive and pay their rent. Both Dave Sholle and I finally subscribed to Outside Plus when they acquired the mapping tool Gaia GPS. There is an interesting Washington Post article about the purchase of the magazine and the bundling of perks by tech investor Robin Thurston here, miraculously legible despite a paywall: https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2021/07/02/outside-magazine-membership-plan/.

(Continued on page 18)
Four Gables (12,720’), Four Gables South (12,801’), and Basin Mountain-Southwest Peak (13,240’)
June 18-20, 2021

By Greg Gerlach

From Highway 168 (South Lake Road) I drove up Buttermilk Road (FR 7501) towards the Horton Creek Trailhead, parking at a turn-out 1.5 miles before the end of the road because the road got too rough for my Rav4. Once parked, I backpacked up the road and then the trail to Lower Horton Lake, meeting up with Kathy Rich and Daryn Dodge at the lake. Earlier in the day, Daryn climbed Mount Tom and Kathy climbed Peak 12208.

The next morning, our group followed the use trail and then a ducked route up towards Upper Horton Lake, bypassing the lake on its north side. Next, we continued up the drainage to a cirque with a headwall, then ascended Four Gables via its class 3 East Ridge Route. From the upper cirque, the route goes north up an obvious chute with one section of low class 3, then traverses west to another chute across class 1-2 terrain, then climbs northwest up a class 3 chute (maybe even class 3 + in some sections of the chute) about 350 vertical feet to the summit. After searching for and not finding a summit register, Daryn headed off to
climb Peak 12808, and Kathy and I headed south and climbed Four Gables South via its class 2 north ridge. Four Gables South is the actual high point of Four Gables, although the lower summit is the SPS listed peak; also, according to an entry in the register, the Four Gables SPS summit register placed by Greg Vernon in 2006 was relocated to this summit back in 2013. After signing the register, Kathy and I headed south from the summit and then made our way across mostly sandy terrain to the southwest side of Basin Mountain-Southwest Peak, which is one of California’s 13,000’ high peaks with 480’ prominence. From there, we climbed up to the peak’s southwest ridge where, 0.2 miles from the top, the class 3 climbing starts. With Kathy leading, we traversed over to the summit, staying mostly on the north side of the peak’s southwest ridge. We did not find a summit register, so we took a few photos.

Right: View of Basin Mtn - SW Peak from its SW ridge (Photo by Greg Gerlach).

Dare to Lead! Virtual Leadership Training Seminars Set
Spring Seminar: Sunday, April 3

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 five-hour class offered virtually via Zoom in 2022.

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, if you choose, then pursuing more advanced ratings. National Sierra Club has just shared newly revised Outings Leadership Training (“OLT”), including the latest training on Sierra Club values, commitments, equity values, and more. Angeles will facilitate and/or incorporate these trainings into our own, refining our seminar throughout 2022. We will also have a Safety Management Plan exercise.

and then headed down the mountain towards camp, meeting up with Daryn in the valley located north of Peak 12876 after he successfully climbed Peak 12808. It was slow going down to Upper Horton Lake, then we made good time following the ducked route and then the use trail down to Lower Horton Lake.

On day three, we left camp early and were back at the vehicles about 9:00 a.m.

Trip stats: 19.6 miles and 6,590’ of elevation gain.
Looking for a winter ski-camping destination on the west side of the Sierra, my long-time ski partner Nick Lee and I decided on the Ostrander Hut area above Badger Pass in Yosemite. While the hut is still closed, we thought that the hut was there because it was a good winter destination, so why not check it out?

My hasty map reading when initially picking the destination led me to believe it was a six-mile, 1,000’ trip in. When we checked it a few days before departure and saw it was actually ten miles and closer to 2,000’, we sort of gulped, did a gut-check, but decided to go for it.

We met at Upper Pines late on Thursday night, Nick coming from Oakland, and I from LA. We were up to Badger Pass for our permit Friday morning, and skinning by 10:30 am. As the sun set around 6 pm, we were just pulling into our campsite, exhausted. But not too tired to pick just any-old campsite. Instead of heading for the closed hut, I led us over the low ridge to the northeast and found a knoll that looked down on Glacier Point, Half Dome, Clouds Rest, and over at the Clark Range. We could even see Cathedral and the Sawtooth range from camp!

The excitement of being on such an adventure somehow powered me through digging a small snow cave, poorly placed as I was digging around rocks and trees. Nick decided the tent he’d brought as a backup would be preferable for him, and we both slept well in our separate accommodations. What luxury!

Saturday and Sunday consisted of relatively mellow ski tours up Horse Ridge, which faces the hut. We encountered two other parties of skiers, plus the mysterious
elf-like hut keeper out for a slow ski. He wasn't very talkative, and I still have no idea where he had slept, as the hut had not been entered. Horse Ridge had pockets of excellent skiing, interspersed with plenty of windswept crust. We heartily enjoyed the great turns we found and spent long, silent breaths just taking in the incredible panoramic views of this glorious national park.

Sunday afternoon, as we skied back to camp, I was struck with the challenge of building an igloo. Having never attempted it, I started from first principles, traced a perfect circle using two ski poles, and started cutting blocks. I quickly learned that this is all about your ability to efficiently cut very even blocks. After I used up all the snow inside the igloo, Nick graciously jumped into quarry snow and provide amazing blocks. We nearly completed it, but the last few rows were beyond our abilities and our energy levels. Rather than risk a total collapse, I left a big skylight and was grateful for my zero-degree bag to sleep a magical night watching the moon “spotlight” across the wall.

Skiing out was difficult. We were advised by the ranger that the Merced Crest trail had been broken in, and offered an amazing six-mile downhill ski, followed by a few miles of steady uphill back to Badger Pass. Unfortunately, the few tracks were difficult to find, and the route was through traversing, rolling terrain that required putting skins on and off multiple times. It was far more work than we anticipated, and we eventually opted out, instead breaking trail along a hiking route for a few miles to get back to the Glacier Point road, and back to our cars late in the afternoon.

A successful trip, very much an adventure. The blisters and sore muscles fade, and the photos get more impressive as time goes on. We hope you enjoy, and we can’t wait to get back to Ostrander when it’s open and we can ski with lighter packs!
Here are the peaks on the SPS list in need of register books, containers, or both.

For a more detailed description of these needs, see [http://summitregister.org/](http://summitregister.org/) or contact Harry at register@Langenbacher.org for updates. Be aware that summits needing containers may also need books because the books there were in temporary containers. Some of the last reports I got on these peaks are quite old, so temporary storage might not have lasted.

Please send me updates on any peaks you climb so I can add them or remove them from this list. And PLEASE always carry a spare PENCIL and don’t leave pens since ink washes away. A whole pencil weighs only four grams!

*(Photo taken by Vitaly Musiyenko during his solo Goliath Traverse.)*

### SPS Register Needs

*By Harry Langenbacher, Mountain Records Chair*

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<td>Whorl</td>
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Outings

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

Please note: Outings are being led again! Although things might change by the end of May, currently the Sierra Club requires all participants on an outing more than an hour from help to complete a medical form, and leaders for such outings must complete a safety management plan. Both are fairly simple forms, which are available at the LTC web site here: https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/leadership-outings/forms-resources.

From the Outings Chair

By Phil Bates

Hello, SPSers!

Hooray for 2022! One thing we can all be happy about is the spring and summer climbing season is nearing. I hope you most dedicated and motivated SPSers are well into getting your trailhead permits and climbing partners arranged. I’ve already noticed that the trail quota is thin for most areas. On another note, the projected and current winter snowfalls are pointing to a lower-than-normal snow depth, which could lead to an earlier start to backcountry activities. That being said, long-range forecasts do point to more weather in March, so late snows could impact early season climbs, regardless of the total depth. For those of us that love backcountry skiing, we’ll take what we can get! Nevertheless, leaders please do submit your trips into Campfire, so we can get them set up as soon as possible. Please let me know if you need support! It would be great if many of you can post your experiences to our SPS Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/groups/366711653441263/) so we can be more informed and enjoy your adventures.

Cheers,
Phil

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

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

Apr 3 | Sun
LTC Seminar No. 2: Spring 2022: The five-hour (Virtual, via Zoom) event covers all the essential topics from Sierra Club values, conservation, and safety to best leadership practices, group management, steps to leadership, and a first aid overview, followed by our legendary scenarios discussed in small breakout groups and a final review. You’ll want to apply at least two weeks in advance to guarantee your spot as space will be limited. Later applications may be accepted on a space-available basis but are not guaranteed, so register early. Come learn all about the best leadership practices of our outings program. Note: National Sierra Club has just shared newly revised Outings Leadership Training (“OLT”) including the latest training on Sierra Club values, commitments, equity values, and more. Angeles will facilitate and/or incorporate these trainings into our own, refining our seminar throughout.
**OUTINGS**

**Leaders in this issue’s schedule:**

Richard Boardman  r.boardman@yahoo.com, 310-374-4371
Tina Bowman  tina@bowmanchange.com, (562) 438-3809
Diane Dunbar  dianedunbar@charter.net, (818) 248-0455
Robert Myers  rmmyers@ix.netcom.com
Jeremy Netka  jnetka@gmail.com
Ann Pedreschi Shields  apedreschi@sbcglobal.net
Gary Schenk  gary@hbfun.org, (626) 244-4616

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2022. Email LTPSeminarRegistrar@gmail.com for information from registrar, Pamela Sivula. Also see: [https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000002GDQEA4&mapLinkHref](https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000002GDQEA4&mapLinkHref).

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Apr 9-10 | Sat-Sun  LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS
**I: Navigation: Mission Creek Preserve Navigation Noodle:**
Navigation noodle at Mission Creek preserve to satisfy the basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. Saturday for practice, skills refresher, altimeter, homework, campfire. Sunday checkoff or additional practice. Medical form required from all participants. Send email with contact info (mailing address, phone numbers), navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant: Ann Shields. (This is a backcountry outing; a medical form will be required.)

Note: Early (at least two weeks prior to the event) sign-up for all navigation checkoffs and practices is recommended. These outings require substantial pre-outing preparation work, including completion of both a comprehensive written exam and a route planning assignment that will be mailed to you prior to the checkoff. See Chapter 6 of the Leaders Reference Book for more information.

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May 7 | Sat  LTC
**I: Beginning Navigation Clinic: Vasquez Rocks:** 3 mi, <200 feet gain Moderate pace. Spend the day practicing map and compass in this beautiful park, known for its striking rock formations. We teach at all levels. Not a checkoff but will help you pass. To apply, send a self-addressed business-sized envelope with 2 Forever stamps on it to: Diane Dunbar, 2351 Chapman Rd, La Crescenta, CA 91214. Include name, phones and a check for $20, returned at trailhead. Leaders: Diane Dunbar, Richard Boardman.

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May 14-15 | Sat-Sun  LTC
**C: Wilderness First Aid Course in Fullerton:** Find course information and application at [https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000002FLbOAAW&mapLinkHref=](https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000002FLbOAAW&mapLinkHref=) and [www.wildernessfirstaidcourse.org](http://www.wildernessfirstaidcourse.org).

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Jun 3-5 | Fri-Sun  SPS
**I: Olancha Pk (12,123’):** An SPS intro trip geared towards newcomers. We’ll cross Olancha Pass to climb this emblem peak at a moderate pace. Totals for the three-day trip will be 25 miles roundtrip with 4900’ of gain. Sierra Club Medical

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

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

---

**Two Yosemite Notices**

As you may have read on the SPS web site’s home page, Yosemite’s road construction projects for 2022 may affect your travel in the park. Here are the basics from the web site: 

1. Glacier Point Road closed during 2022.
2. Wawona Road will experience delays due to lane closures.
3. Tioga Pass will have delays (up to 60 minutes at night and 30 minutes daytime, from 11 pm Sunday thru 4:30 pm Friday) at a number of locations between Olmstead Point and Tioga Pass. For more up-to-date info and changes, check the Yosemite web site at [https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/roadwork.htm](https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/roadwork.htm). 

Also, beginning May 20th through September 30th this year, with a few exceptions, you’ll need a reservation to enter the park between 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. seven days a week. No reservation required to enter before 6 a.m. or after 4 p.m. You can find more information here: [https://yosemite.org/2022-yosemite-reservations/](https://yosemite.org/2022-yosemite-reservations/).
Wilderness Permit Info

Most wilderness permit reservations are now made through [recreation.gov](http://recreation.gov). For day use permits for Desolation Wilderness, get a free permit from a local Forest Service office (this requirement was waived in 2021 due to COVID and may also be waived in 2022).

**INYO NATIONAL FOREST**

All wilderness permits are reserved through [recreation.gov](http://recreation.gov). Follow instructions regarding permit pick up.

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

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

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

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

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

Wilderness permits are required only for overnight stays in the Golden Trout Wilderness. For trips departing from a Sierra National Forest trailhead, permits are free via email using the application you’ll find at [https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sequoia/passes-permits/recreation/?cid=fsbdev7_018115](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sequoia/passes-permits/recreation/?cid=fsbdev7_018115). For entry into the Golden Trout Wilderness from Inyo NF or Sequoia/Kings Canyon NPS, make your reservation through [recreation.gov](http://recreation.gov).

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](http://www.nps.gov/yose)

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

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

**SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NP**

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

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

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

**SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST (WESTSIDE) ENTRY**
Web site: [https://www.fs.usda.gov/sierra](https://www.fs.usda.gov/sierra)

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

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


You can visit the SPS website for an up-to-date listing at [http://www.sierraclub.org/sp](http://www.sierraclub.org/sp)
SPS Management Committee Meeting Minutes 
Monday, December 6, 2021 
7:00 pm via Zoom

1. Call to order at 7:03 pm. Present were Tina Bowman, chair; Jim Fleming, secretary; Paul Garry, vice-chair; Jason Seieree, outreach; Philip Bates, outings.

2. Standard business and reports.
   a. Approval of minutes (October 2021)—approved via e-mail.
   b. Chair (various—see items below).
   c. Vice Chair—discussion of the banquet—virtual. 
      Paul has contacted the speaker (Vitaliy Musiyenko), who has agreed to do a presentation. A flyer with a Zoom link will be made—Tom Bowman will do the setup with breakout rooms. Paul to work on the schedule for the event. An award nomination from Jeff Solomon of Ron Jones (for lifetime achievement) was discussed, and Tina will ask Jeff to provide backup information to justify the award. May reconsider giving it to Ron at the next banquet (in-person).
   d. Outings
      i. Update on the medical form for “backcountry” non-restricted outings—no discussion.
      ii. Create Safety Management Plan templates for various areas of the Sierra that leaders can use—no discussion.
      iii. Discussion of how we can regrow the SPS outings program. We must make an effort to leverage ourselves to get a wider cross-section of new, younger climbers to join the section (start at the banquet). Identify what attracts the younger climbers. Perhaps the draw of our speaker to get young, fresh climbers (and others) would bring folks in! Committee to consider ideas.
   e. Treasurer’s report—not available at meeting.
   g. Outreach—Jason has contacted John Hooper to do a presentation on completing the Andy Smatko Explorer Emblem.
   h. Archives—no report.
   i. Echo—deadline for next issue is February 22nd.
   j. Mountain Records—no report.
   k. IT—no report.
   l. Website
      i. Banquet videos to post to the SPS’s You Tube account and link to website—still in work.
      ii. Scrubbing old Echoes for the website of copyrighted material—still in work.
   m. Conservation—no report.
   n. Safety Chair—no report.

3. Old business—none.
   a. Election—Tina will prepare a Survey Monkey ballot account for about one month (about $100). It will be sent out on December 22nd and be due January 21st. It will have Bylaw changes. Neal Robbins declined the nomination to run for the SPS Management Committee.

4. New Business
   a. Next meeting date, February 7th, 2022, via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned by the chair at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted, 
Jim S. Fleming, SPS Secretary
Missing in the Minarets: The Search for Walter A. Starr, Jr.

By William Alsup

A Brief Book Review by Jerry Keating

[This book was first published in 2001 by the Yosemite Association but is now available in paperback—The editors.]

The descriptions of Walter Starr’s death on Michael Minaret in 1933 are the most detailed I’ve ever seen, and the book’s huge quantity of photos is remarkable. The author is a U.S. judge appointed by President Clinton. Among the detailed items are Francis Farquhar’s flight on a biplane (borrowed from Standard Oil Co.) to make a two-day aerial search above the Minarets and take photos that are in the book. Starr’s body, of course, was discovered by Norman Clyde after the active part of the search had ended. But the process involved such individuals as Jules Eichorn and Glen Dawson. And names such as those of Ansel Adams and Steve Roper appear from time to time. And SPSer Bill Oliver is mentioned both in the book’s main text and several times in the endnotes. My previous knowledge of the incident was mainly from Sierra Club publications and the Tribute series Bill Oliver created for the Sierra Echo (especially September-October 2007), but this book excels in providing more detail and background on the people as well as climbing areas.

With the COVID pandemic dragging on, I worry about SPS newcomers not having ready access to prime information explaining the Sierra Club’s early days, and I am especially thankful Bill Oliver’s series is easily located if one is familiar with the SPS website. But his series draws on just primary source material that now is difficult to find. Having the 1953 and 1967 editions of Starr’s Guide to the John Muir Trail and the High Sierra Region, plus the second printing (1956) of A Climber’s Guide to the High Sierra (1954), I guess I’m spoiled by admiring the work that went into their (Continued on page 19)

Carlton Shay

1924-2022

By Tina Bowman

Although primarily know as an HPSer—the first to climb all of the peaks on the Hundred Peaks Section list ten times—Carleton Shay was also a long-time member of the Sierra Peaks Section, joining in 1961 (thanks to Jerry Keating for that member information) and maintaining his membership through 2018. You can read the obituary about Carleton from The Los Angeles Times here: https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/latimes/name/carleton-shay-obituary?id=33475440. He was also one of the Angeles Chapter members featured in “Great Leaders” on the chapter’s website here: https://angeles.sierraclub.org/about/chapter_history/great_leaders/leaders_s_z.

Carlton Shay during HPS/DPS trip to Rosa Point, January 11, 1975 (Photo by Jerry Keating, Jerry Keating Collection, Angeles Chapter History Archives, Angeles Chapter History Committee).
Ron Bartell dove right in and answered correctly the day the *Echo* came out (again): Whaleback (not a fluke!). Next to answer correctly was Mark Goebel, followed by Lance Dixon. Way to go, Guys! (Actually, the photo was taken by Tina Bowman after an ascent of Whaleback, not on the way to the peak, in a loop that brought her back down to Cloud Canyon.)

### Treasurer's Statement Year to Date (1/1/2022 – 2/28/2022)

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**Net Total:** $72.87

### Outside+ and Paywalls

*Continued from page 6*

Although I had been willing to surrender my print version of *Outside*, the online presence was of continuing interest to me and was becoming inaccessible once their reorganization took place, so I took a look. The new subscription service—Outside+ “The Adventure Bundle”—includes two print magazines (from a stable which includes *Backpacker*, *Climbing*, and digital access to all of them), numerous movies and the *Outside* TV channel for streaming, classes, two Velo Press books a year, and a $50 discount in their gear shop. But most important, it included GaiaGPS just at the moment when I was being forced to abandon my free subscription in order to use maps offline. The annual Outside+ fee is $99. The upgraded Gaia subscription was $40 and one magazine was $25 more or less. I had given up *Backpacker*, *Climbing*, and *Trail Runner*, so if regaining access to those mattered, it was a worthwhile for me, if not a “deal.” The costs will surely creep up as time goes on, but at least the magazines aren’t piling up.
**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!

Ron Bartell sent in this photo taken on an SPS peak. The rappeller is Jack Grams, onlooker Cuno Ranschau. Which peak is it?

Send your answer to Tina Bowman at tina@bowmanchange.com.

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**BOOKS**

*(Continued from page 17)* publication. Oh, yes, I did note that the *Climber’s Guide* editor, Hervey Voge, thanked Ansel Adams, Glen Dawson, Jules Eichorn, Norman Clyde, Chester Versteeg and many others for their work on *Climber’s Guide.*

If newer *Sierra Echo* readers don't have convenient access to this book, take advantage of the SPS website. Under About Us, click on Section History and then choose Part III of Bill Oliver’s Tribute Series. *Sierra Echo* pp. 3-7 will give you a glimpse of what’s in Alsup’s remarkable book.

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**REGARDING DISTRIBUTION OF THE ECHO**

Please contact this email address newsletter@sierrapeaks.org for any problems with distribution of hardcopy or email versions.

**We Need Your Stories!**

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

Thanks!
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, or through regular U.S. mail (electronic format is preferable). Photos may be submitted as electronic files (jpeg, tiff, or Photoshop in a resolution high enough for print media) or submitted as prints or slides. If submissions are to be returned to you, please include a return envelope with sufficient postage. All submissions should be sent to Tina Bowman or emailed to tina@bowmanchange.com.

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, which includes the $10 subscription and a $15 donation to the SPS operating fund. Thank you for your support of the SPS. For new subscriptions and renewals or to apply for membership, fill out the subscription and renewal form or new member form that can be found on the SPS website under “Membership Requirements” at the bottom of the page: https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/new-members#. Mail the form and your check to the SPS Treasurer, 11755 Entrada Ave., Porter Ranch, CA 91326; make sure to include your Sierra Club number if you are applying for membership. To subscribe or renew on-line, please email the form to the treasurer (treasurer@sierrapeaks.org). Then pay via PayPal for renewals using the email address treasurer@sierrapeaks.org.

Note that first-year memberships or subscriptions are free. New applications received after October 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 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 downloaded from the website here: http://sierraclub.org/angeles/sierra-peaks/sps-peaks-list.

Missing Issues Inquiries 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 7409 Hermosa Ave, Yucca Valley CA 92284, and include emblem pins ($20) and SPS section patches ($5). Make checks payable to SPS. All prices include sales tax.