CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

By Bill Sanders

The SPS - sponsored Red Cross first aid course started with a bang, with those present at the first meeting voting to extend the course by two meetings and to lengthen the session time by 30 minutes.

Thus, considerably more material will be presented than in the basic 10-hour course. The additional material will be largely practical work such as practice in applying splints, methods of transporting injured persons and the working out of problems of first aid.

At the November 5 meeting, the ballots and the questionnaires will be tabulated. Topics for discussion include the results of the questionnaire, the spring schedule and perhaps future first aid courses.

NORTH PALISADE-MT. SILL TRIP BOOSTS NUMBER OF EMBLEM CLIMBERS TO 44

The North Palisade-Mt. Sill outing over the Labor Day weekend yielded four new emblem members and boosted the number of such climbers to 44.

Cliff and Maurine Myers celebrated their emblems with a bottle of wine on North Pal. Al Finney also earned his badge on Pal, while Monroe Levy attained his on neighboring Mt. Sill. It was the sixth emblem peak since June for Monroe, who at one time desired only to look at the high peaks.

---COMING EVENTS---
Nov. 5: Business meeting
Nov. 14-15: Nichols Peak (6,073)
Val Le Knob (6,212)
Dec. 1: Annual banquet
Dec. 10: Business meeting

NINE NEW NAMES ADDED TO MEMBER LIST: TEEN-AGE INTEREST IN SPS ON UPSWING

By Mary Ann Widen

Membership of the SPS climbed to an all-time high of 159 during the past two months as eleven more climbers submitted applications. They include:

Jerry From, 9765 Shadow Island Dr., Sunland, who climbed his six peaks on the Burl Parkinson Memorial Anti- Litter Expedition to Mt. Whitney.

Vincent Holmes, 101 Maple St., Salinas, who also attained his requirements on the expedition.

Maureen Brubacher, 2642 W. 221st St., Long Beach, who completed her list this year with climbs of Mt. Humphreys and two lesser peaks. She is the wife of Miles Brubacher, veteran SPS climber.


Roger Schneekol, 1165 A Stanford St., Santa Monica, who climbed Whitney among others this past summer.

Lewis Twersky, P.O. Box 1043 Annex, Canoga Park, who accumulated seven peaks this summer, including Whitney, Williamson and Sill.

Robert Caparo, 924 W. Marshall Blvd., San Bernardino, whose list included Olanche Peak.

Rosalind and Kathy Underwood, 4822 Grand Ave., La Canada, who listed several peaks in the Whitney area.

Bob Hapke, 6941 McLennan Ave., Van Nuys, who gave Whitney and five Yosemite peaks in his application.

Mike Raudenbush, 17821 Rayen St., Northridge, who joined the section for the Mt. Eisen and Mt. Sill trips.

The latter three are teenagers, indicating a growing interest in the younger set in the SPS.
TIPS FOR NEWLY-WED CLIMBERS

Plans for newly-married SPSters who wish to join in on weekends:

1. Get organized.
2. Talk to wife.
3. Get re-organized.
4. Talk to wife.
5. Abandon entire idea.
6. Talk to self

—Smiling bachelor

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NORTH PALISADE

It would be difficult to find a more fitting climax to an enjoyable summer of climbing than an ascent of the SPS' most formidable emblem peak, North Palisade (14,242). This was the target on which 19 climbers set their sights during the three-day Labor Day holiday.

Led by SPS Chairman Bill Sanders and ex-Chairman Chuck Miller, this ambitious group was part of a large party of Sierraans who left South Lake at the beginning of the holiday to hike and climb in the Palisades area.

Ascending to Bishop Pass, the party contoured across the upper slopes of Dusy Basin and then entered Palisade Basin via a "no-name" pass which was directly under the impressive cliffs of Thunderbolt Peak.

Camp was established at 11,500 feet on the highest Barrett Lake, and preparations were made for early morning ascents of North Pal and Mt. Sill.

While the first fingers of daylight were appearing, the North Pal group

MT. SILL

Ten members from the main party preferring a longer and less technical climb set out for Mt. Sill (14,162) at 6:15 a.m. with Ralph Merten leading and Harry Melts and Monroe Levy assisting.

Ducks guided the group over a col and down to the headwaters of Glacier Creek. At the saddle just north of Sill, a party was met which had come up via the Palisade Glacier route.

Our group did not consider the mountain an enemy; therefore, no "assaulting of the summit" was necessary. The top was reached by all participants after an enjoyable climb on the west face.

During an hour rest in the hot sunshine, Monroe Levy was congratulated for earning emblem status. The party also watched other SPS climbers posing for "hero" pictures on North Pal.

The fact that Sill was climbed by several other groups that day attests to its popularity. The return to camp was completed about 5 p.m.

ascended the southeasterly chute toward the U-Notch. By prearranged plan, the party split into two units, one of which continued to the U-Notch and then to the summit by the standard Class 4 route. The second group, consisting of 13 climbers, followed the LeConte route, which provided ample helping of thrills before ending at the summit block. In the lower portion of the route, a narrow ledge liberally sprinkled with gravel and terminating in 1,000 feet of fresh snow, was successfully--if somewhat cautiously--traversed.

The second major obstacle encountered was a small cul-de-sac with built-in refrigeration. This pitch resisted the efforts of the party for almost an hour. An elaborate arrangement of fixed ropes plus considerable grunting and groaning finally got all hands over this barrier and into a sloping bowl which provided easy access to the summit.

After lunch and an appropriate celebration for new emblem peakers Cliff and Maurine Myers and Al Finney, a leisurely descent was begun. A brief but enjoyable rapel was the highlight of the descent on the LeConte route, while the U-Notch group did more roping down over their Class 4 pitch. By 6:30 p.m. all climbers had returned safely to camp. A major point of agreement among participants was the extreme care and patience exercised by the leaders in navigating such a large group to the peak.

On the following day, the entire party packed out over Fraspeack Pass and back to South Lake by way of Bishop Pass. It should be noted that, in spite of the somewhat woodless nature of the campsite in Palisade Basin, a high degree of culinary ingenuity was achieved by certain members of the party. Certainly, it should not pass unnoticed that pizza has finally found its proper place on the backpackers' menu.
Fifteen persons backpacked to a timberline camp on the South Fork of Tuttle Creek September 19, a day after the first storm of the season had hit. A trail was followed for the first 2-3 miles, and the group passed an abandoned nudist camp (cabin was in amazingly good condition). Then a trailless but generally brush-free route was followed to camp. Road's end was left at 8:15 a.m. and the last arrivals reached camp by 2:15 p.m.

Sy Ossofsky, Graham Stephenson and Frede Jensen climbed Mt. Langley (14,042) that afternoon. The day was partly cloudy and cool, and the "Bingham roast" was welcome in the evening. Temperatures dropped below freezing early that night.

On Sunday, two of the four who attempted to climb Langley made it, and 10 ascended Mt. Corcoran (13,735), main objective of the trip. About 1,800 feet of scrambling brought the latter group to a second class chute north of the peak. This chute was made more interesting by 3-4 inches of new snow covering the rocks, but all were on top by 10:15 a.m. A clear view of the Sierra was obtained, including many snow-dusted summits. A cold wind encouraged a quick descent, and everyone reached camp by 12:30 p.m. and the cars by 3:30 p.m. Leaders were Barbara Lilley and Sy Ossofsky.

A group from Cal Tech was climbing Langley, but the results of this attempt were not determined.

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THE NEEDLES

By Jerry Keating

Exploration is among the basic purposes of the Sierra Club, and 21 persons were able to fulfill this responsibility October 10-11 by participating in the last SPS backpack of the year.

Objective of the trip was to explore an area of the Southern Sierra north of Johnsondale and west of the Kern River. An ascent of The Needles (8,228) afforded excellent views of the surrounding forests.

Under the leadership of Bud Bingham and Jerry Keating, the party assembled Saturday morning at Johnsondale and motored to a roadhead near Sand Hill Ridge. The seven-mile backpack to camp on Needle Rock Creek was slowed by hot weather, but everyone reached the site by 4 p.m. Pine, cedar and colorful oak trees enclosed the camp and provided wood for a "Bingham roast" that evening.

Eighteen persons climbed 3,000 feet Sunday morning to reach the lookout perched atop the highest needle. The group ascended a forested slope and fought through brush to a steep gully immediately east of the needle. The gully was dubbed "Tin Can Alley" since cans and clothing had been thrown there by lookout personnel. A short third-class pitch placed the group on the summit.

The panorama was exceptional, for it extended from the Whitney group on the northeast to the Piute Mountains on the south. The heavily-forested Kern Plateau was among the nearby landmarks.

A gully to the west of the peak was used for the descent, and the party reached the cars about 4 p.m. after cooling off at Peppermint Creek.

The Needles can be reached by a short trail coming from the west, but this approach deprives one of seeing the south buttresses. Several rock climbers in the party tested the faces and found the rock to be excellent.

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TENTATIVE SPRING SCHEDULE

By George Shinno

Following is the tentative spring climbing schedule: April 2-3, Morro Rock (coast); April 9-10, Siretta Peak; April 16-17, Scootie Mtn.-Sorrell Peak; April 23-24, Taylor Dome; April 30-May 1, Colosseum Mtn.; May 14-15, Mt. Gayley-Temple Crag; May 28-30, Mts. Mallory-LeConte and Irvine.
NONSCHEDULED TRIPS

ALASKA EXPEDITION OF 1959

By Barbara Lilley

An expedition comprised largely of Sierra Peakers made two first ascents this summer while climbing in the St. Elias Mountains. Meeting in Cordova, Alaska, on August 4 were Bud Bingham, Jon Shinno, George Wellerstein and Barbara Lilley of the SPS, Sy Ossofsky of Los Angeles, Ray D’Archy and Fred Martin of the San Francisco Bay area, and Bill Davis of Colorado.

From Cordova the party flew by commercial plane to the Anderson Glacier in the St. Elias Mountains of Canada. All arrived at base camp by Saturday, August 8, the last person being landed after dark.

The next two days were spent in packing to a high camp at 13,000 feet. From the high camp ascents were made of Mt. Slognard on August 11 and Mt. McCauley on August 12. Both were first ascents and apparently were the highest unclimbed peaks in North America. Exact elevations are being calculated, but Slognard rises approximately 15,400 feet and McCauley 15,300 feet.

High camp then was moved on a long traverse to an elevation of 13,000 feet, and the second ascent of Mt. Wood (15,800) was accomplished via a new route. Strong winds hindered the climbers.

After climbing Mt. Wood, the group returned to base camp. Unfortunately, a series of storms prevented further ascents, so on August 21th the base camp was abandoned, and the group began the 30-mile trip down the Anderson Glacier. In spite of crevasse fields, glacial moraines, deep mud and a 2½-day rainstorm, the climbers reached their pick-up point, a gravel bar at the snout of the glacier, at the end of the fifth day. The following day all were flown out to May Creek, where commercial airlines returned them to Cordova and Seattle.

NORTHWEST TREK

By Charlotte Persons

Dome Peak (8,860), the highest mountain between Glacier Peak and Cascade Pass in the northern Cascades, was the main objective of a nine-day Mazama climbing trip which the writer attended in August.

Although pack horses were hired to carry in the first 30 pounds of each person's gear, the Forest Service had been unable to clear more than the first five miles of the seldom-used trail. Some of us relayed our loads in two installments over the roughest part of the remaining seven miles, which involved scrambling over large fallen logs and heating through dense forest. "Side-hill gouging" down steep, slippery heather slopes (with an ice ax in traverse position to stop any would-be glissades) was a new game for an SPSer, although no particular fun with a full pack of about 43 pounds. Many of the Mazamas go in for tremendous packs and seem to consider anything less than 50 pounds as very light.

After being stormed off Spire Point (8,220) the day after reaching camp, we spent most of the following day in the sack because of continued bad weather. We later made a very enjoyable climb of glacier-clad Dome Peak. The short rock pitch at the summit was exposed third class, so a hand-line was used.

The beginning of a second attempt upon Spire Point nearly ended in disaster when a rock dislodged and brought others down with it. The leader fell but was fortunate to escape with a sprained ankle, a bad bumm on the head and bruises. The climb was abandoned, and the leader was able to make it to camp by using two ice axes. He was air-lifted to civilization by a helicopter. Although Spire eventually was climbed, several of us who wanted to see more of the Cascades made a long one-day hike instead.

(continued next page)
After the end of this trip, I went to Vancouver Island with Barbara Wall, one of the Mazamas. We later made a two-day backpack loop trip into the Olympics, starting and ending near Sol Duc Hot Springs. The only "peak" climbed was Bogachiel Peak (5,474), which was reached by trail and had a lookout on top. There were magnificent views, however, across Mt. Olympus and down into a large valley. One night was spent in a Park Service shelter. This facility, one of the more luxurious, had five double-deck wooden bunks and a covered outdoor fireplace. It is recommended, however, that a Primus be carried as the wood is usually too wet to burn.

We later drove to one of the rain-forest areas and spent an afternoon exploring.

The Mazamas are a very interesting and friendly group, and their trips can definitely be recommended.

CARDINAL PEAK

By Bill Sanders

An enjoyable route on Cardinal Peak (13,888) is the seldom-used east ridge. The route starts at the end of the road at Red Creek. After crossing the creek, the route continues straight up the ridge over first and second class until the summit is reached 6,800 feet later.

The route goes fast and can be completed in one day. There may be no water along the route in dry periods. The novel feature of this approach is that a continuous view of the Owens Valley is available.

BALLOT COUNTING FEATURE OF NOVEMBER MEETING

By Jerry Keating

Counting of election ballots will highlight the November 5 meeting of the APS in the Silver Lake Clubhouse, according to Chairman Bill Sanders. At stake in the election are five offices and two proposed amendments to the By-Laws. Nominated for the five-member committee that manages the section were Maureen and Miles Brubacher, Mary Ann Wide, Jerry Keating, Lothar Kolbig, Frank Sanborn, Bill Sanders, George Shimno and Beatrice Wheelock. One amendment would provide that all amendments be presented to the membership by a mail ballot. The other would require members to subscribe to The Echo to retain active status.

The annual banquet will be held Tuesday night, December 1, in the Silver Saddle Inn at Downey. Co-chairmen Cliff and Maurine Myers ask that requests for reservations be mailed to them at 2108 Snaulding Street, Long Beach 4, by November 27. The price is $3. The program includes a motion picture of climbing in the Canadian Rockies. Lothar Kolbig will narrate.

SIDE-LIGHTS OF THE SUMMER SEASON

The "Bingham roast" on Mt. Bradley that alarmed Independence residents ... The greasy sausage on North Palisade that left its mark on Fred Jen- sen's sleeping bag...Maurine Myers climbing Mt. Williamson in oxfords because she brought two left boots...Paul Cooley camping on Lamarck Col without a sleeping bag because he forgot it...John Robinson winding up married after 70,000 feet of climbing in the Northwest...Nancy Keating accidentally breaking a wine bottle on Matterhorn Peak after carrying it 23 miles to celebrate her emblem...The variety of imported beverages and foods taken on The Needles by Sy Ososky, Bud Bingham and Charlotte Parsofs... MEXICO CLIMBS PLANNED

George Modjeska is organizing a party to climb major Mexico peaks during the Christmas vacation. Experienced climbers can contact him at 19348 Olivos Drive, Tarzana, or Dickens 2-1209.
Rich Grady, Peter Hunt and Bill Sanders spent 12 days in the Tetons this summer during the last week in July and the first week in August. After establishing ourselves at Jenny Lake campground, we signed up with the ranger for the climb of Mt. Moran. About a half-day was required for the backpack to a hillside base camp. It was here that we discovered Rich's ability to cook up a potent one-dish meal. A pound and a half of hamburger was browned. Then a small can of tomato paste and a large can of navy beans were added. Salt and a generous portion of chili powder followed. Just before serving, two very large, diced onions completed the concoction. All in all, it was a warming dish.

Despite the success of this meal, Rich declined to act as cook for the rest of the trip.

The next morning, we found that our "Grade 3" route included steep snow and two Class 5 rock pitches on the way to the summit.

After this climb we signed up at Jenny Lake for the Grand, Owens and Teewinot. The east ridge of the Grand proved to be our most strenuous and most rewarding day. The climb involved 4,000 feet of Class 3 or better. About 13 pitches required rope work, and many of these were Class 5. We were on top at 6 p.m. after 13 hours of climbing. Our descent included the spectacular Owens rappel—120 feet long with half of it on an overhang. We reached camp at 11:30 p.m.

Our third and last assault on the Tetons included Middle and South Teton and the east ridge of Mez Perce. The last mentioned ridge is truly an awesome sight from the valley. It seems very steep with two deep notches cutting through it. We found, however, that only three moderate rope pitches were involved. Three rappels were required in the ascent as well.

All our routes were Class 3 or better. We concluded that the Teton classification system conceals many surprises as to difficulty of route.

Our objective on this trip was not peak bagging, but we just happened to climb the six highest peaks in the range and one other.

THE END