CHAIRMAN'S CORNER  by Jerry Keating

Starting June 8, the SPS will meet on the second Wednesday of each month at Lemon Grove Playground Clubhouse. It has been meeting on the first Thursday at Silver Lake Playground Clubhouse.

The move will afford a more convenient night for climbers and provide better facilities for the type of program the SPS offers. The business portion of the meetings will be kept to a minimum, and the entertainment will be planned by Maureen Brubacher, head of the Social Committee.

Since the auditorium seats more than 200 persons, members are urged to bring a guest. SPS meetings are open to anyone who is interested in mountaineering or the Sierra Club.

This year's SPS night at Clifton's Cafeteria is set for Thursday, June 30. The program will feature climbs made by the section in 1959, including No. Palisades and Mt. Humphreys. A wide variety of color slides is needed to illustrate all phases of SPS activity. Those who would like to help should contact the SPS chairman.

The death of a Sierra Club member in Yosemite March 19 was the first mountaineering fatality this year in the range. He was Irving Smith, 17, of Fresno. The youth fell nearly 800 feet while getting into position to attempt the Lost Arrow.

Plans for reconstruction and realignment of the last 5½ miles of the Onion Valley road were announced recently by the California Division of Highways. The job will be done this summer and cost approximately $800,000.

NEW MEETING PLACE

Lemon Grove Playground, location of SPS meetings starting June 8, is easily accessible from the Hollywood Freeway. Outbound motorists should take the Melrose off-ramp, while those inbounds will use the Ardmore off-ramp. Inbound on-ramp is on Melrose, while the outbound on-ramp is on Normandie.

The auditorium building is at the corner of Lemon Grove and Hobart. A parking lot adjoins the building. Meeting time is still 7:30 p.m.

SPSers ON THE MOVE  New Addresses

Robert Boyd
Star Route 16923 Hillcrest Edwards, Calif.

Lothar Kolbig
3753 El Sereno Ave. Altadena, Calif.

Tom Gunn
970 Aliso Lane, #2
Menlo Park, Calif.
SUMMER SCHEDULE OFFERS A VARIED PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES

by Frank Sanborn

June 11-12
Cherry Hill (8812'), Sirretta Pk. (9938')
Easy, joint trip with Conservation, Natural Science, and
Camping Groups. Leaders: Tom Amneus and Monroe Levy

June 18-19
Sentinel Dome (9127') Exploratory trip, moderate backpack.
Leaders: Dick Mosley, Charles Gercken

June 25-26
Alta Peak (11,211') Easy knapsack
Leaders: Izzy Lieberman, Lee Owings

July 2-3-4
Mt. Darwin (13,430'), Mt. Mendel (13,691')
Strenuous and technical three day trip.
Leaders: Lothar Kolbig, Harry Melts

July 9-10
Pyramid Pk. (9831'), Mt. Tallac (9735'), Dicks Pk. (3975')
Joint backpack with Bay & Mother Lode Chapters in Tahoe area.
Leaders: Chuck Miller, Jim Dodds

July 15-17
Rock Creek Carcamp, easy hikes
Leaders: Pat & Arvel Gentry, Lee Owings

July 30-31
Peak 12,325 Exploratory knapsack, strenuous.
Leaders: Sy Ossofsky, Frank Sanborn

Aug. 6-7
Red Slate Mtn. (13,163') Moderate backpack, class 1 peak.
Leaders: Jerry Keating, Monroe Levy

Aug. 13-14
Grass Lake Easy, beginners' knapsack.
Leaders: Roger and Virginia Gaefke

Aug. 27-28
Mt. Ritter (13,157'), Banner Pk. (12,945')
Moderate backpack, some third class on peaks.
Leaders: John Robinson, Roger Gaefke

Sept. 3-4-5
Mt. Clarence King (12,905') Long backpack and technical climb.
Leaders: Ray Van Aken, Vern Jonas

Sept. 10-11
Big Pines Lakes, Anti-litter trip, easy 4 miles backpack.
Leaders: Ted Hafer, Tom Amneus

Sept. 17-18
Glass Mtn. (11,127'), Mt. Morrison (12,268')
Car camp with DPS; 5000' gain on Morrison
Leaders: Ralph Merten, Miles Brubacher

Sept. 24-25
Balloon Dome (6811') Exploratory, strenuous.
Leaders: Bud Bingham, Sy Ossofsky

Attention Orizaba climbers: The correct mailing address of Crisoforo Jimenez, packer for the Orizaba climb, is as follows: Sr. Crisoforo Jimenez, Ciudad Serdan, Puebla, Mexico.

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George Shinno
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Los Angeles 26, Calif.

COMING EVENTS
May 14-15: Mt. Gayley backpack
May 20-30: Whitney area backpack
June 3: Business meeting
June 11-12: Cherry Hill, Sirretta Pk.
June 15-19: Sentinel Dome backpack
June 25-26: Alta Peak backpack
June 30: SPS Night at Clifton's
July 2-3-4: Mt. Darwin & Mendel
July 6: Business meeting
A CLARIFICATION OF THE CLUB LIQUOR POLICY

by Bill Sanders

At a recent Angeles Chapter Executive Committee meeting it was decided that the following note should be put in all Angeles Chapter publications.

SUBJECT: LIQUOR

No use of alcoholic beverages is permitted at Harwood Lodge at any time. Certain publicly owned campgrounds also prohibit the use of such beverages. The violation of house rules or of statutes is grounds for censure by the Sierra Club.

In all cases, it is expected that our members will so conduct themselves that their actions will not be objectionable to others using the same facilities. Loud and boisterous actions in public campgrounds are always undesirable. If liquors are also present, then a most obvious conclusion will be drawn, placing our club in an unfavorable light. Remember, excesses of any type shows one in an unpleasing position.

******** ROAST CONTROVERSY STIRS UP MORE COMMENTS

With reference to the last paragraph in your note on the ******** Roast, may I quote the two following notes:

I & EI Conference Agenda: "The threatening over-use of the Club's Tuolumne Meadows campground —"

Ramblings Through The High Sierra, Le Conte; pp 77-78: "Soda Springs is located on the northern margin of the Tuolumne Meadow, — Hawkins and Mr. Muir had scraped up the dry leaves underneath a huge prostrate tree, set a fire and piled on fuel, and already, see! — a glorious blaze! — With a shout, we all ran for fuel, and piled on log after log, until the blaze rose twenty feet high." August 10, 1870.

I am sure that John Muir and Joseph Le Conte would have answered any criticism with exactly the same words that you used in your paragraph about "remoteness". Frankly, it amazes me to hear members, for whom I have the highest respect, using the same arguments that were outmoded before the turn of the century.

— Walt Wheeler

It was with considerable surprise that I read the letters objecting to the so called "unusually large and conspicuous fires" that have been referred to in articles on SPS trips. In the first place, it is necessary to take into account a certain amount of humorous exaggeration that is present in trip write-ups, not only of SPS trips but of other sections as well.

I would certainly agree that the size of the party will automatically determine the size of the fire. In addition, the weather factor should be a consideration—on a cold and windy night more wood is naturally consumed in order for everyone to be comfortable around the fire, while on a milder night a relatively small fire is sufficient. One could, of course, retire right after eating, but much of the enjoyment on Sierra Club trips is obtained through comradship around the campfire at night, where you have a chance to talk to your old friends and meet new ones. On fall trips, where it gets cold and dark by six, it would be pretty miserable to spend 12 or 13 hours in the sleeping bag just to keep warm.

As far as conserving wood for others is concerned, again the size of the party would be a determining factor. These large fires are not made by gathering up every piece of small wood that is available and burning it, but rather by bringing over one or two big logs that can only be carried by

(Continued)
several people and which would never be burned otherwise, but maybe in 50 years would be decayed and rotten, and there are always plenty of these around to take the place of those one or two logs that are burned every five years in a campfire. In this way plenty of smaller wood is left to be available to other, smaller, parties which may visit the area. The trip on which the fire was seen from Owens Valley was to an area so inaccessible (trailless) that it was probably not visited more than once every ten years, and it was an extremely windy night.

In order to conserve wood at campfires on car camping trips, where generally wood is far more scarce due to more frequent use of the area, the following suggestion is offered in all seriousness and in hopes that people will consider it as a solution. If everyone who is coming on the trip and who has room in his car would stop and pick up an old tire lying along the road (and there are plenty of them), they would not only help clean up the highways but would provide excellent fuel for a campfire. Contrary to belief, burning tires do not give off an unpleasant odor unless one is actually in the smoke. In addition, they give off a tremendous amount of heat, they destroy no "natural" fuel for they can burn by themselves, and after they are burned nothing is left but some wire which is easily carried home with the rest of the trash. Of course, for actual cooking purposes wood is still recommended, but for evening campfires, tires have proved excellent in places where open campfires are made, although their use in crowded campgrounds should probably be limited.

Barbara Lilley

REVISED CLASSIFICATION OF SPS QUALIFYING PEAKS
by John Robinson

Three years ago Graham Stephenson classified according to climbing difficulty our qualifying peaks. About 15 peaks have been added to our list since then, so the revised breakdown follows:

4th class:  5
3rd class:  37
2nd class: 110
1st class:  55
unlisted:  20

4th class peaks listed south to north:
Thunderbolt Pk. (14,040')
Mt. Humphreys (13,986')
Clyde Minaret (12,281')
Mt. Starr King (9,081')
Cathedral Pk. (10,933')

It should be noted that these classifications are mostly according to the Climbers' Guide, hence are open to considerable controversy. The 20 unlisted peaks are in the Northern Sierra. Anyone climbing these northern peaks is urged to submit a report to the mountaineering committee.

STATISTICAL SURVEY OF TURNOUTS ON SPS SCHEDULED TRIPS (1956-59)
by JWR

The following survey reveals that while the total number of participants on SPS scheduled trips has grown, this is only because of more scheduled trips. The average-per-trip turnout has gone steadily down since our peak year of 1957. It is expected that the varied schedule for 1960 prepared by our capable schedule committee will reverse this downward trend.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Trips</th>
<th>Total turnout</th>
<th>Average per Trip</th>
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<td>18</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1771</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Turnout (month)

46 - Owens (Nov.)
61 - Olancha (May)
37 - Matterhorn (June)
Dade (Aug.)
Brewer (Sept.)
41 - Olancha (May)
Winchell (June)
NEW MEMBER: Virgil D. Sisson, a club member of long standing, has recently joined the SPS. His application lists 50 SPS qualifying peaks including nine emblem peaks. He resides at 2382 Kenilworth Ave., L.A. No. 16056.

SCHEDULED TRIPS

MORRO ROCK AND CONE PEAK, April 2-3, 1960 by Miles Brubacher

Warm, sunny weather was enjoyed by the small group who participated in the Morro Rock and Highway 1 trip April 2-3. The rock was climbed by all in thirty minutes on Saturday morning, and an hour was spent on top enjoying the view of the harbor, town, and ocean. The remainder of the day was spent exploring the highway north, which is especially attractive in the spring, with wild flowers sprinkling the green hills. Spectacular ocean vistas are offered as the road contours the high cliffs and ravines of the Los Padres National Forest. We drove to the peaceful, wooded Nacimiento Campground due east of Lucia on the crest of the Santa Lucia Range via a good dirt road.

Sunday morning we drove seven miles north on a fair dirt road to the Cone Peak trail. A steep, two mile hike brought us to the top of Cone Peak where there is a lookout and a magnificent view. The peak is 5155 feet above and only four miles away from the ocean which spreads in a tremendous 180 degree sweep below. To the south and east the lesser coast ranges and valleys are completely dominated by Cone Peak. The remainder of the day was devoted to the drive home. Some of the group took the inland route through Jolon and Bradley, which they said was equally scenic.

SCODIE MTN., SORRELL AND PIUTE PKS., April 16-17 by Jerry Keating

Newcomers predominated April 16-17 as 16 persons participated in the SPS first Sierra trip of the year. Locale of the outing was the extreme Southern Sierra, and 10 members of the party climbed with the SPS for the first time.

Eight of the 12 persons who tried Scodie Mountain (7290') Saturday reached its summit in approximately three hours. The party started at Walker Pass and ascended slopes dotted with pinyon.

Camp was established that evening in a beautiful part of Kelso Valley. The site was near the base of Geringer Grade and offered grassy sleeping areas surrounded by trees and small rock piles. A variety of wildflowers completed the park-like picture.

After a mild night, the party left for Sorrell Peak (7702') from near a sawmill at the top of the grade. The route took the group through a pine forest and up easy slopes. 15 persons, including a 3-year-old girl, stood on the peak after 1½ hours.

The dirt road leading to Liebel Peak (8014') was covered with snow in places, and plans to climb it had to be abandoned. However, the 8000-foot roadhead for Piute Peak (8432') was clear, and all nine who tried for it reached the top in 15 minutes. The pine forest surrounding the peak probably is the finest south of Walker Pass.

Breakdown of Bill and Betty Crookston's camper truck on a steep grade marred the trip. The vehicle had to be left while the Crookstons were driven to a garage for help. Although the Piute Mountains offer good grounds for car exploring, they have no repair facilities for motorists. Help is a long way away.

Leaders were Jerry Keating and Ted Maier with an assist from Graham Stephenson.
TAYLOR DOME TRIP SNOWED OUT

by John Robinson

A faulty trail sign, an angry farmer, and a raging snow storm combined to discourage the 20-odd climbers who showed up Saturday morning, April 24, for the Taylor Dome backpack.

The Fay Creek trailhead is located on private land right next to a barn. Several carloads drove in around midnight Friday, provoking a surprised and suspicious farmer into "hell and damnation." After threatening to call the sherriff, the farmer persuaded the climbers to camp down in the valley that night. These early arrivals also noted a forest service sign incorrectly saying that Taylor Meadow was 15 backpacking miles away. They were about ready to give up then, but the leader assured them it was more like 9 miles.

Early Saturday morning it began to snow, and by 8 o'clock a real blizzard was blowing at the trailhead. The leader somewhat nervously knocked on the farmer's door and explained our purpose in being there. He relented, but warned that he didn't like strangers "wandering around his barn" at midnight. Future Taylor Domers are urged not to approach the trailhead until daylight. All this was in vain, however, as the storm got worse instead of letting up. At 8:45 we gave up and drove home.

MT. PERKINS (12,591'), April 30-May 1

by John Robinson

16 rugged Sierra Peakers enjoyed one of the best snow climbs ever scheduled by the SPS. The weather was perfect all weekend and the scenery was "Himalayan" in splendor.

Saturday's backpack up Armstrong Canyon from a roadhead above the Division Creek Powerhouse proved to be more moderate than expected. Leader Graham Stephenson set a brisk pace that brought everyone to camp at 10,200 feet by 2:30. Most of the group spent the afternoon loafing or melting snow into water. Armstrong Canyon had no water - not even a trickle - but plenty of snow. Four climbers had enough energy left to go scouting. Freddie Jensen and Mike Raudenbush explored a couloir and ridge leading to Colosseum Mtn., while Carl Helter and another chap from China Lake's "Occasional Peaks Gang" scouted a good route up Perkins.

Sunday morning 14 of the group climbed Mt. Perkins via a steep colouir northeast of the peak and the north ridge of the peak itself. It was practically all done on snow, except for the easy third class summit ridge. The top was reached by 10:30 and the view was marvelous in all directions. The skyline to the southwest was dominated by the spectacular bulk of Clarence King, and everyone who saw it is looking forward to the Labor Day trip in to conquer this monolith.

The group had planned to climb Colosseum also, but one look at the jagged time-consuming ridge between the two peaks discouraged all but Carl Helter. Carl relented when he could find no one to go with him. This would be a good peak to schedule next year.

The trip down to camp and on to the cars was speedy, and we were driving home by three. Traffic was heavy as fishing season opened this weekend. In the future it might be better if the SPS did not schedule trips the first weekend of May so as not to conflict with Lake Crowley's annual visitors.

John Robinson took over for the temporarily disabled Bud Bingham as assistant leader.
RESCUE PRACTICE: MARCH 26  by Tom Amineus

On Saturday, March 26, a small group carrying a Stokes litter, ice axes, etc., hiked up Icehouse Canyon to the first deep, steep snow for a practice session. While Carolyn and three of her neighbors' children amused themselves at the bottom of the slope, Ron Smith, Chuck Ballard, and the writer under the capable coleadership of George Shinno and Bill Sanders practiced lowering "Oscar" (a convenient log) down the slopes. Since the critical item in the operation was the ice axe belay, Sunday was spent in practicing belaying. It was found that packing the snow around the shaft is a major factor in having a successful belay. Thanks are due Lothar Kolbig and those on the Mountaineering Training Course who volunteered to carry the litter down for us as they came back from their snow and ice practice near Kelly's Kamp.

NONSCHEDULED TRIPS

EARLY SPRING SNOW CLIMB OF UNIVERSITY PEAK (13,531')  by Tom Ross

Early Tuesday morning I left the Onion Valley Ski Hut on skis and toured Robinson Lake and climbed to the top of Robinson Ridge at 11,200'. From there I left my skis and climbed to University Pass (12,700') on crampons. From there I went on to the summit of University Peak. It was March 22nd and this was the earliest in the year the peak has been climbed. Views were terrific of the snow clad back country and peaks in full winter dress. Then I cramponed back down to my skis in a 45-50 degree couloir and skied back to Onion Valley.

One week later (March 29) I put on my skis again and started up into Robinson Basin to check my snow markers. Since Independence Peak (11,773') was so close I decided to climb it. I ascended a couloir to the third class ridge and on to the summit. It was windy but not cold, and good views were obtained of the surrounding snow clad peaks.

MTS. SILLMAN (11,180') AND MAGGIE (10,000')  April 9-10  by John Robinson

Freda Jensen, Mike Raudenbush, and I decided to test our footing on some Sierra snow peaks the weekend of April 9-10.

Leaving the Lodgepole campground at 7 am Saturday, we were soon tramping on hard snow enroute to Mt. Silliman. The day was clear and the scenery beautiful as we climbed past frozen Silliman Lake on the most direct route to the summit. We reached the top at 11:30 and a panorama befitting the Alps. With good weather, April High Sierra trips are hard to beat. We experienced some soft snow on the descent and were back to the cars by three.

Sunday we climbed Mt. Maggie the hard way. We were thwarted before reaching Shake Camp by a redwood across the road, so we started from there. After hiking the mile and a half into Shake Camp we descended 1200' into the Tule River Gorge and followed an old trail that zigzagged most of the 4500' up to Maggie. We had planned to do North Maggie also but time and energy were against us. This trip should be a backpack. Retracing our course back across the Tule we reached the cars tired and hungry after 11 1/2 hours on the hoof.

We planned to do Moses Mtn. the next day but bad weather interfered. From Maggie Moses looks imposing. Some trouble might be experienced reaching the highest of its several summits.