CHAIRMAN'S CORNER....Miles Brubacher

It has been a great honor and a pleasure for me to serve as SPS chairman for 1962. I should like to thank other officers, committee chairman, and trip leaders for a job well done in helping to fulfill the Sierra Club's and the SPS purposes, and I hope that you members of the Section will support your excellent new chairman, Ted Maier, with the same enthusiasm that you have shown for me.

1962 has been a very successful year for the SPS. There were 22 trips scheduled, and coincidentally the average participation was 22 people. Three trips in the spring were snowed out. May, June and July trips, as always drew the biggest crowds, with the record attendance for the year going to San Joaquin Pk, and Glass Mt., where 39 people showed up. The eagerness of the "Northerners" of Sacramento, spearheaded by three ex-chairmen, had something to do with this.

ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE 1963 SPS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The results of the voting for the Management Committee and the proposed amendment to the by-laws are as follows: There was a total of 101 ballots returned for the officers with the voting ranging: Bud Bingham 80, Tom Amneus 75, Barbara Lilley 73, Ted Maier 69, Dave Evans 54, Virgil Sisson 30, Ed Ostrenga 24, John Spinks 22, and Ralph Shankland 11.

The proposed amendment to the by-laws failed narrowly, 28 voting yes and 24 voting no.

Due to an oversight in the secretary's records, our two most avid climbers to date has been listed without emblem status. Upon being notified of this the records were checked and their applications were filed Sept.

"Ah, here's your guide now?"
of 1961, but not acknowledged. The emblem holders? None other than Arkel Erb and Mike McNicholas. ....George Shinno, Secretary

THE SIERRA ECHO

Published bimonthly by the Sierra Peaks Section of the Angelus Chapter of the Sierra Club. To be circulated to subscribers on even numbered months.

Subscriptions: $1.00 per year, this is the last "Echo" of 1962 and Remittance is now due for those subscribers who are not paid up for 1963. No free copies will be sent to past subscribers. Subscribe to the "Echo" is a requirement for active membership in the Sierra Peaks Section.

Remittance must be sent to the 1963 SPS Treasurer, Bud Bingham.
4357 El Frieto Rd. Altadena, Calif.

Next "Echo" deadline: This will be up to the new editor (about Jan 30)

Copy: Send all copy to the new editor: Ed Ostrenga 705-A 9th St.
Santa Monica, Calif.

Outgoing Editors and Staff: Bud Bingham, Dave Evans, Pauline Johnson, George Shinno, Myrtle Kolbig, Chuck Ballard, Beatrice Wheelock, Pat & Arvel Gentry, and Graham Stephenson.

New committee Chairman, Officers, and Leaders are responsible for "Echo" articles related to their respective responsibilities.

FROM THE OUT GOING EDITOR....

This issue of the Sierra Echo completes the 6th volume of the SPS bimonthly news and over 20 reams of paper went into the publication this year. Each subscriber received more than 110 pages of mimeographed material or the usual 6 copies per year.

My thanks to the staff who made the "Echo" possible this year. Dave Evans certainly contributed some fine articles of interest and humor. Pauline Johnson worked a good many hours on the cartoons appearing in the "Echo." Proof reading, printing, and mailing required the generously donated time of George Shinno, Lothar & Myrtle Kolbig, Marian Troop, Beatrice Wheelock, Arvil & Pat Gentry, Bep Bingham, and Graham Stephenson. Another thanks to the many reporters who supplied the major contents of our section news.

Ed Ostrenga has accepted the task of being the next Editor for the "Echo." Al Finney will act as assistant Editor. We are fortunate to have these SPS members manage the section news. An interesting "Echo" should be instore for the subscribers during the coming year. Best of luck in meeting deadlines!

Probably the greatest help the editor can have during the coming year will be access to a mimeograph machine (Preferably section owned). Printing the "Echo" was the most difficult problem to surmount during 1962. The day of borrowing and begging should end. The machine at club headquarters is really tired and it requires hours of extra time to get a fair copy run off. Then good paper is wasted too! Borrowed machines take time to learn to understand and are often difficult to obtain when needed. It has been my pleasure to serve the past year as Sierra Echo editor .....to be real honest, thank gosh the job is done! Good luck Ed Ostrenga.

SPS SPRING SCHEDULE

Mar. 3 (Sun. only) Strawberry Pk. Beginning training & intro-
duction to scrambling. Mike & Maureen Brubacher, Ted Maier.

Apr. 10 (Wed.) Meeting at Lemon Grove Clubhouse. Virgil Sisson, slides.


June 8-9 Domeland. Easy exploratory backpack. Tom & Trudie Hunt.

June 12 (Wed.) Meeting at Lemon Grove Clubhouse. Miles Brubacher, slides.


July 4-7 Triple Divide Pk. Long backpack and exploratory climb. John Wedberg.

FISH CREEK—TROY MEADOWS AREA . . . . Tom Amneus

On Saturday Oct. 20, 5 backpackers left Troy Meadows somewhat later than scheduled while the car campers in the person of Ed Ostrenga remained a Fish Creek Campground.

The trail up Fish Cr. has been replaced by a jeep road which has destroyed the scenic value of this area so it is recommended that other routes be used in the future.

Camp at Smith Meadow was reached in time for lunch after which Smith Mtn. was climbed. Since it is hard to tell which is the highest, both north and south summits were climbed.

While the daytime weather was perfect, the temperature went down to freezing shortly after dark and by dawn had lowered to 18 degrees.

Sunday a.m. Granite Knob and Jackass Pk. were climbed. After some scrambling it was found that the high point of Granite Knob is at the north end of the ridge & may be easily climbed from its east side with some use of hands.

The high point of Jackass Pk. is at the south end of its ridge and may be climbed from the west by climbing to a point below the north end of the south summit, then proceeding south staying west of the steep portion, then
then proceeding south staying west of the steep portion, then going
east, and finally north to the top.
After lunch we went down the Jackass Creek Trail, where a small
spring, with a very slow but clean flow, was found at around the
8,600-foot level.
When almost back to the Fish Creek Camp we met Don Clarke, who
had joined a group of four other backpackers who had arrived too late
to join the main group.
For future trips in this area, it is suggested that camp
could be made at the 8,600-foot spring on the Jackass Creek
trail. This was the only clean water found on the trip due to
the great amount of cow dung found in the meadows. A round
trip could be made coming back via Albarnita Meadows which, ac-
cording to the four backpackers who missed the main group, had
even better autumn color than Jackass Creek.
Whenever a trip is to be
scheduled in an area where hunt-
ing is permitted, care should
be taken to see that the trip
does not come during the hunting
season. The area traversed was
full of hunters which detracted
from the enjoyment of the trip.

LAKEVIEW AND TINEMAHAA PEAKS

---Walt Wheelock

The joint trip with the
DPS to Lakeview and Tinemaha
Peaks ran into leader trouble.
First, John Robinson's wife,
then his daughter, came down
with the flu, so it was impos-
sible for him to join the trip. After meeting at Olancha at 10:00
a.m., it was found that the desert road had been the victim of a
desert flood, and the driving time was longer than anticipated to the
starting point. Walt Wheelock started out leading, but a leg injury
he had suffered slowed him down, and after an hour he backed out.
Arky Erb took over and pressed on to victory. Taking a different
route than that used by the scouting party, the group first climbed
an unnamed point 7256. At Harry Melts' suggestion, the name of Sin
Nombre Peak was given and a register was left with that name on it.
Apex Peak (7191) was next climbed, but Lakeview was bypassed due to
the fast setting sun. Both of these peaks provide excellent views of
the Southern Sierra from Olancha to past Williamson. The cars were
reached as the last light faded.
With a rather small turnout of eleven climbers, no interest
could be generated in climbing Tinemaha. Those who had climbed it
before felt that one climb was enough; those who hadn't felt that one
would be too much. (November is apparently too late in the year for this 6,000' treadmill.) So the entire group disbanded to swim in Dirty Sox or to take advantage of other local spas.

KENNEDY MTN. (11,433'), Sept. 29-30.....John Robinson

Eighteen Sierra Peakers and guests, including a large proportion of newcomers, enjoyed Indian Summer weather on the climb to the high point of the rugged Monarch Divide, separating the Middle and South Forks of the Kings River.

The group backpacked 6 miles up the scenic Lewis Creek trail to camp at Frypan Meadow Saturday. That afternoon two intrepid climbers, without obtaining the leader's permission, ascended on up to the crest in order to look down into the Gorge of Despair and the Tehilite country. Without flashlights or jackets and caught by nightfall, this twosome faced a cold night away from camp. However, a rescue party ascended 2,000 feet after dinner and brought the two back, sadder but wiser.

Sunday morning dawned clear and warm. Seventeen hikers ascended the good trail 4 miles to Kennedy Pass, then scrambled up a short distance to the summit of Kennedy Mtn. This peak is class one and there are absolutely no route difficulties so long as one stays on the right trail.

Kennedy's only real asset is the panoramic view obtained from its summit. Standing well west of the crest, the superb view encompasses the rugged rampart from the Palisades to Whitney, plus the vast but lower western slope from Silliman to Goddard. Leaders were Andy Smatko assisted by John Robinson.

ONION VALLEY CIRCLE TRIP.....Barbara Lilley

A moderate weekend trip was enjoyed on a beautiful fall weekend in late September 1962, when the old and somewhat indistinct trail was followed to Golden Trout Lake (trail can be picked up by following jeep road past rope tow, then crossing stream about 100 feet beyond), then cross country over the pass to the left of Dragon Peak (very loose on the other side) and down past three unnamed lakes to Dragon Lake.

From here Black Mountain was climbed via the south face. Starting point is a side fan which leads to a prominent chute, which is followed (on loose sand and rock) almost directly to the summit. Descending to Dragon Lake again, the regular trail was followed down to Rae Lakes and up toward Glenn Pass to a camp just below timberline. Sunday, the trail was followed on over Glenn Pass (smell from a dead mule speeding the descent) to the Charlotte Lake Trail junction where pack was left. From here Mt. Bago was climbed by contouring over to its south ridge; descent was directly down to Charlotte Lake and up the trail back to the pack, and on over Kearsarge Pass. Car was reached by mid-afternoon.

"SNOW STRUCTURE AND SKI FIELDS"

"Snow Structure and Ski Fields," by G. Seligman, has been reprinted and is available through the Mills Tower office. This book is a detailed account of snow and ice forms met with in the mountains and a study of the effects of these forms on snowcraft and avalanches. Pictures, diagrams and 539 pages. This is excellent for serious snow climbers and ski mountaineers. Cost: $13.00, including tax.
GLACIER HIGH-LIGHT TRIP.....Charlotte Parsons

The Club's Glacier National Park High-Light Trip, August 20-29, proved to be somewhat frustrating for climbers and even for trail hikers because of frequent and persistent rains. A group of about a dozen, however, made an enjoyable climb of Lone Walker Mtn. (8,580') which rises above the trip's first base camp at Upper Two Medicine Lake. One minimum class three pitch low on the mountain led to class two above, with more scrambling (and belays for some of the party) below the summit. The route was via the north ridge. Mike Loughman, RCS member now in the Bay Chapter, was climb leader. A practice rock climb had been held the previous day. Razoredge Mtn. (8,610') was later climbed by the more enthusiastic members of the "Wet Bush-whackers and Drowned Rat Society." On one of the trip's moving days, crossing Dawson Pass in a high wind proved to be a bit interesting as several hikers were blown off their feet. Triple Divide Pass had new snow, plus more wind. By mutual agreement, the trip ended a day early, because the weather at that point curtailed all activity except cooking (under big tarp canopies) and eating.

In general, the food on this trip was very good, though mostly dehydrated. It included such delicacies as freeze-dried prawns and dehydrated maraschino cherries.

Plastic tube tents, of course, were inadequate, but even various mountaineering-type tents let in too much water or had condensation problems. The most satisfactory tent seemed to be one of the more expensive models from one of the Colorado equipment houses (no plug intended).

Unfortunately, this trip did not cover the most spectacular part of the park. In fact, bigger and better mountains could be viewed along the Going-to-the-Sun Highway, which bisects the park!

DICK'S PEAK (9,974') AND MT. TALLAC (9,735')....Frank Sanborn

These two qualifying peaks were the objectives of a Mother Lode Chapter trip on Saturday, October 27. Leader Delmar Jansen and three other men from Sacramento were met by Frank Sanborn and seven hikers of his high school geography club from Oroville at Fallen Leaf Lake. To reach this roadhead, drive via U.S. 50 and 89 past Camp Richardson on Lake Tahoe. Turn west via Fallen Leaf Lake road past the lake and up the dirt road to Lily Lake area. A chain across the road prevented us from driving one mile farther to Glen Alpine Lodge.

We hiked to the lodge on the road, then picked up the trail into the very alpine High Sierra-like Desolation
Valley Wild Area. Our route was on a good trail, through glaciated granite and pine-aspen groves, with streams everywhere, to Dick's Pass. Gain from cars, 6,960' to 9,120'. From the pass we followed a trailless route west along a ridge to Dick's Peak. The high school hikers went in as far as Gilmore Lake, but did not climb the peaks. Clear, sunny, mild weather gave us a fine view of the Sierra from Leavitt Peak, near Sonora Pass, to Sierra Butte near Yuba Pass. The ridge from Dick's Peak is low third class for one 200-foot gain about 300 feet below the summit. We hiked over and through fresh snow up to one foot deep left by a recent storm.

After lunch atop Dick's Peak, we traversed the trailless ridge down to Dick's Pass, then east up a class one ridge to Mt. Tallac. The view of all of Lake Tahoe, immediately below, is spectacular. Return to the cars was via the trail past Lake Gilmore.

**TINKER KNOB (8,949')**

Frank Sanborn

On Sunday, September 30, 28 members of the Mother Lode Chapter and guests assembled at Donner Lake State Park for the ascent of SPS qualifier Tinker Knob. The guests included 9 members of a high school hiking club from Oroville, under Frank Sanborn's guidance. With leader Homer Ibser heading the convoy, the group drove 6 miles south on a rough dirt road, turning off U.S. 40 one mile east of Donner Lake State Park. From the head of this road, a trail was followed south through timbered country with plenty of streams to a high ridge four miles from roadhead. Leaving the trail at the point where it drops down toward the Squaw Valley area, the hikers went cross-country 1/4 mile and up the crumbling igneous plug which is Tinker Knob. All strictly class one, a good hike for beginners.

In perfect clear, warm weather, all participants enjoyed the view of Lake Tahoe and the Crystal Range to the southeast and south and the northernmost Sierra up to Mt. Lassen to the north.

**WILLOWA MOUNTAINS, OREGON**

Barbara Lilley

This mountain range, located in eastern Oregon, was visited during the week of August 5-10 by Rich Gnaizy and Barbara Lilley. They packed in, Sunday, from road's end near Willowa Lake to Ice Lake (about 8 miles) and the next day hiked up Matterhorn Peak (9,832') and Sacajawea (9,838'), highest in the range. Little snow was left on these peaks but a scree run down was enjoyed.

On Tuesday they carried packs cross-country over a pass (ice axes needed on north side) and down the scree to the Lake Basin area, then followed the trail to its cold, windy summit - some glissades enjoyed on the descent. Picking up their packs, they continued on over a ridge and down to Minam Lake, where the sun came out long enough for them to enjoy a welcome swim. The next day they climbed Glacier Mountain (9,027'), going about a mile down the river and up Pop Creek. The route of ascent was class 3 plus; an easier route of descent was found. Although not shown on the map, a small glacier, complete with bergschlund and moraine, apparently exists below the steep north face. Returning to camp, they picked up packs and hiked over Frazier and Horton Passes back to the Lakes Basin area, then over Glacier Pass to Glacier Lake (8,200'). The weather, which had been partly cloudy and unsettled the entire week, finally broke down into a heavy rain just as they were climbing the last pass, and it was a wet arrival at the lake. Fortunately the rain stopped after dark,
and Friday they climbed an unnamed 9,500-foot peak right above the lake, glissaded down, picked up packs and hiked the 12 miles to the car.

After a welcome swim in Willowa Lake, they drove to Mt. Hood and climbed it on Saturday, under cloudless skies. Six inches to a foot of new snow made the trip somewhat tedious; they were envious of the skiers who had ridden the snow-cat up!

The peaks in the Willows are seldom climbed and several impressive ones are not named, although the area is popular for knapsacking. Many people use horses and as a result few bridges exist across the big streams, making for interesting stream crossings! The area is sort of a miniature Sierra, with numerous lakes, meadows and mosquitoes; the weather is not as good, but much better than along the coast. Most of the area visited was on the Eagle Cap quadrangle.

SOME LATE FALL CLIMBING....Tom Ross

Mt. Candlelight (12,009'), October 20-21

It was an easy backpack to my campsite near the Meysan Lakes trail. Six to eight inches of new snow was found at the first lake. My route up Candlelight was the easy southeast ridge to the summit. The view from the summit was especially nice due to a new mantle of snow on the north faces of the main crest. Snow depths may have been as great as two feet.

The next morning I backpacked out to the Portal and drove up to the Symmes Creek roadhead to climb a sharp peak which appears most impressive. It is Peak 9,275 and is located above the Shephard Pass trail midway between Shepard and Symmes Creeks. The southeast ridge was climbed most of the way second class; with some care I managed a short third-class pitch near the summit. Mt. Williamson certainly looms up towards the southwest. Peak 9,275 might make a pleasant climb for the SPS in the spring.

Charybdis (13,091') and Mt. Spencer (12,4 (12,440'), October 20-26

From the North Lake roadhead shortly after 7 a.m., I backpacked to 13,000-foot Lamarck Col. Mt. Darwin and Mt. Mendel had lots of bare ice showing on their glaciers, a new sifting of snow adding to the beauty. Below there was evidence that the Darwin Lakes were starting to freeze. Later at Sapphire Lake a good many Golden Trout were seen in the water. By 6:55 p.m., in a very tired condition, I reached the Muir Hut at the pass. It was 24 degrees outside the hut, 34 degrees in the hut. Protection from the wind made this 10-degree difference.

The next morning I went over Black Giant Pass and climbed the northeast ridge and couloir of Charybdis. It was class 2
with some good class 3 near the summit. This peak lies above the Ionian Basin and is seldom climbed or seen. The view made the climb worthwhile. I descended and climbed Peak 12,800-plus above Black Giant Pass and then returned to Muir Hut for the night.

The next morning was spent on a downhill backpack to Sapphire Lake, where a good class 2 and 3 climb of Mt. Spencer was made. This peak should be on the SPS list as it offers a terrific view of most of the Evolution country. A good many lakes, canyons, and peaks can be seen from this vantage point. The register is the regular S.C. box. My route to the summit of Spencer was the southwest face. By day's end I was back at the North Lake roadhead, 7:35 p.m.

**Chocolate Peak (11,658') and Peak 12,916, November 14-15**

From the South Lake roadhead I backpacked two miles to Long Lake (mostly frozen over). From here an ascent was made via the west ridge of Chocolate Peak. It was cloudy and windy. Early the next morning the temperature was 12 degrees. With an early start, I made my way to Bishop Pass and then climbed the east ridge of Peak 12,916. A sweeping view of the Palisades can be had from the summit. A cairn was found, but no register.

**Peak 12,981, November 7-8**

Leaving the Big Pine roadhead, I backpacked to a campsite at Third Lake. Early the next morning, Peak 12,981 was climbed by the east face and ridge above Sam Mack Lake, class 2 and some "hairy" class 3. The view was grand; not only the Palisade Glacier was seen, views of Sill, Gayley, North Pal and Thunderbolt were had. My descent was by a different route, down the north ridge and couloir (class 3 near the top but mostly class 2). This route was found to be very loose in places and one must be careful. It was very cold and windy, with some high clouds. This peak is sheer on all sides, with no real easy route to the top. There are many deviations on the route to the top and many pinnacles to be climbed over or around.

**TWO SELDOM-CLIMBED PEAKS IN THE SIERRA...Tom Ross**

On June 15-17, Phil Clayton, Andy Smatko and I left Mineral King in threatening weather, and on the way over Farewell Gap climbed Vandever Mtn. up the class one east slope. After dropping, along good trail, 1,800 feet, we ascended to a saddle, dropped a couple of hundred feet, and thence over another saddle and down to a campsite on upper Rifle Creek. Plenty of wood and water. Distance, 15 miles.

Expecting an easy day Saturday, we started at 6:30 a.m., ascended to a pass at 10,365 feet, then shortly over Coyote Pass, dropped 1,000 feet, and thence up 1,400 feet to a pass west of West Coyote Peak, around 10,500 feet. Endless traversing over snow hummocks and two saddles finally brought us to the summit of Angora Mtn., 10,237 feet. On returning to the pass west of Coyote Peaks, we climbed up the west ridge of Coyote Peak (class 2), 10,919 feet. The east Coyote Peak is higher than the west. It was now 6:30 p.m., and we estimated we had logged around 18 miles and 6,800 feet all told. Angora is class one from any side. East Coyote Peak can be climbed directly from Coyote Lakes, or from the saddle between the two Coyote Peaks, or from the north or east. It is class 2 from any direction. There are bears in this area, so packs should be strung up in the trees. Water is available, year around.
SOUTH GUARD (13,244').....Tom Ross

On the weekend of July 27-28, Andy Smatko and I climbed over Kearsarge Pass, dropped to Vidette Meadows and thence up Vidette Creek, over Deerhorn Saddle, and down another mile toward East Lake to a select campsite. This was a strenuous climb with full pack - 14 miles; 5,400-foot gain.

Next day, we dropped 1,500 feet along the trail to Lake Reflection and traversed along the north shore of the lake, and followed the inlet stream up to the lakes below Longley Pass. The pass still had 15 feet of snow and was dangerously corniced. A rock route leads upward to the right and the climb of South Guard is easy class 2 up the south slope. From any other direction (east, west or north) it would involve fourth-class climbing. On return to our camp we packed back over Deerhorn Saddle to the largest lake in Vidette Basin. Today's jaunt also was a long 13 miles and an estimated 5,500-foot gain. Sunday, out to the car.

Ample wood and water available. The reason we took this route to South Guard, rather than by East Lake, is that Bubbs Creek had water from four to five feet in depth and was impassable for a crossing. Three days should be taken for this climb.

MORE ROUTE INFORMATION ON NORTHERN SIERRA PEAKS......Andy Smatko

I had the opportunity recently to visit the peaks in the northern Sierra and follow Chuck Miller's guide. His is a most thorough write-up. However, there is additional information on three of the peaks which should be included in the guide, and new information on three more which we climbed and one other which we did not climb.

I feel the information I have to offer regarding these peaks should be valuable for those planning the climbs in the future.

Mt. Elwell: In addition to the trails mentioned in Chuck's guide, there is a trail (not shown on the topo map of Sierra City) leaving the Lake Center campground going northwest, crossing the outlet of Grass Lake, and ending at the small lake just northeast of Long Lake. From here it is easy cross-country directly up the peak. Also, I think 1-1/2 hours round trip is much too short a time, as it took Frede Jensen, Tom Ross and myself 1 hour, 35 minutes, to reach the summit, and almost an hour to return. Gain, 1,500 feet.
Sierra Buttes: A fourth route leaves the road just below Upper Sardine Lake, goes west along the trail (shown on topo map) to junction of the trail running northeast-southwest to the mine, and then directly up (northwest) to the saddle southwest of point 7,167'. Here a trail goes down about 200 feet to join a mine road (shown as a trail on the topo map), leading to Tamarack Lakes. This trail continues on up an easy ridge to the summit... This is a fast, easy route. The road to Upper Sardine Lake is readily passable to passenger cars (maybe it was improved since Chuck's write-up).

Mt. Lola: Regarding the second approach, there is a sign for a road leading to White Rock Creek. However, one can proceed only about 100 yards before large rocks make it a jeep road. Hike along the road to Bear Valley and up (south) to a spring just to the right of the road (a pipe spring). A little farther up, proceed cross-country southeast to a low saddle, where a trail (not shown on the topo map) goes on up to the saddle between points 8,450' and 8,361'. This trail continues down to join the White Rock Road, along which continue on up to the peak. Total gain (including return same route) is 2,000 feet.

Castle Peak: The freeway construction (which may last another two years) interrupts the road shown going up Upper Castle Creek. It is not possible to cross the freeway and gain access to the road going up Castle Creek - unless one is fortunate and a foreman directs one properly. The actual climb of the highest gendarme goes up the southeast face ....a nice class 3 climb.

Granite Chief: Whether or not it will continue to be permitted, a road allows one to drive to about 500 feet below Watson Monument. From here the trail goes toward Granite Chief and on to Tinker Knob.

Tinker Knob: From the summit of Tinker Knob a road could be seen high up on the south side of the canyon of Pole Creek. It looked like a good road, but where it takes off from we could not determine. This would be a good approach for Tinker Knob. The traverse from Granite Chief to Tinker Knob is a long one, and it could be avoided if one could climb the two peaks from the separate roadheads mentioned above.

Freel Peak: Between Tahoe Valley and Al Tahoe, going northeast on Route U.S. 50, turn right at Carson Ave. Immediately then, angle left onto O'Valley Ave. Go 0.7 miles to Martin Ave. Turn right on Black Bart Ave. Continue on Black Bart Ave. to Pioneer Trail Ave., which turns left. However, turn right over the bridge at the end of the reservoir. Then 0.4 miles further on is a sign on the left side of the road indicating High Meadows and Star Lake. Turn left here, of course. Keep going on the best road when a junction comes up. It is obvious. It was not possible to drive all the way to Star Lake.

ROUTE INFORMATION THAT IS NEW FOR THE NORTHERN GUIDE:...Andy Smatko

Mt. Rose (10,800'): Map, Mt. Rose USGS (15 min.) 1950. The 1950 topo map (apparently the latest available) does not show the new major highway and the trail to Mt. Rose. From a point near a meadow, about 1.5 miles on the Reno side of the Mt. Rose Highway...
summit, drop down toward (NE) the peak and you will intersect a dirt road with telegraph poles. Go left and you will see the trail on the other side of Galena Creek. Cross the creek at a suitable place and continue on up the canyon until a sandy-rocky gully is reached. It could be called a shallow canyon. Go all the way up this canyon (easy going on good blocks) and on to the summit. This route is considerably shorter and more direct than continuing on the trail. A very fast descent can be made by going east from the summit along a trail (not shown on the map) and then down a tremendous sandy scree run east of the rock canyon of ascent. Gain, about 3,000 feet. Distance: round trip 6 miles.

Highland Peak (10,955'): Map, Markleeville USGS (15 min.), Class 2. From U.S. 395, go west on State 89 over Monitor Pass, then on State 4 to points for Routes 1 and 2. Route 1: About 1/3 mile uphill from Silver Creek campground, a trail goes on up Noble Creek southward. Ascend the spur or ridge leading to the peak just south of Highland Peak, and then on up Highland Peak. Gain: 4,150 feet. Distance: round trip 12 miles. Route 2: From Ebbett's Pass, gradually contour eastward, dropping into a meadow. Go up about 100 feet over the ridge toward your right and continue contouring and dropping toward the east into Noble Creek. The total drop is 750 feet. Ascend peak as via route 1. Total gain on route 2 (including return) approximately 3,780 feet. Distance: 7-1/2 miles.

Disaster Peak (10,047'): Class 1 and 2. From U.S. 395 turn west on State 108 over Sonora Pass. Three miles west of Dardanelles, turn right onto a good paved road signed as Clark Fork Recreation Area. Go almost to the end of the road. On the left (north) side of the road is a sign "Disaster Creek Trail." Proceed about 1-1/4 miles to a moderately good-sized creek on the right. Work up this creek all the way to its source and continue on up the ridge to the rocky summit. This stream is NOT shown on the topo map and it is the best route. Gain: 3,600 feet. Total distance: 7.0 miles.

Stanislaus Peak (11,220'): Map, Sonora Pass (15 min.) 1956. Class 1 and 2. The driving approach is the same as Disaster Peak, except proceed 0.9 miles on west side of pass and turn right onto a dirt road. How far up one can proceed on this road, I do not know, but one can hike along the road. As soon as practicable, contour over easy terrain to the saddle southeast of the peak and on up to the summit. Gain: 1,800 feet. Distance: estimated 8 or 9 miles round trip.
TULARE CO. BUSINESSMEN SHOWING INTEREST IN TRANS-SIERRA HIWAY

Tulare county business people are getting on the bandwagon to push for a trans-Sierra highway through Olancha pass. Plans for many get-togethers to present a united front with members of the various Chambers of Commerce are being formulated. It is the belief of Southern Inyo's committee that like interest can be generated by Inyo county officials to keep the ball rolling.

Following is a copy of a letter received by the Southern Inyo group from Lindsey, which was also sent to the Porterville Chamber, indicating that interest in this matter is not confined to limited areas:

November 28, 1962
Lindsay, California

Dear Sirs:

Recently you held a joint meeting with representatives of Lone Pine in Inyo County pertaining to closing the link of State H.W. 190 now terminated at Quaking Aspen with the State Highway over the mountains in Inyo County at Olancha.

This is a worthy project and should be pushed on to final conclusion. The people of Inyo and Mono counties are an important part of California and have been neglected far too long for a much shorter outlet to the San Joaquin Valley and coast.

In unity there is strength; we all should unite areas surrounding Porterville which includes Terra Bella, Ducor, Strathmore, Lindsay, Springville and Tulare and hold another meeting with the Lone Pine and other interested east side localities.

Ask these communities to attend such a meeting, set the first meeting at Porterville, then at that meeting determine where the next meeting should be held, but keep the proposition alive with plenty of publicity. There are 25 or 30 mountain homes at Camp Nelson that are owned by Bakersfield people; it may be a tie-in with Bakersfield aid.

Businesses that should be interested are the restaurants, hotels, motels, service stations and auto supplies, insofar as they receive the first benefits from the traveling public.

Porterville would be the diverting point from the entire south incoming travel, and the diverting point from the north would be Strathmore coming from Visalia, Exeter, Tulare routes to Lindsay and to Strathmore.

The Swiss Alps of America are east of us. We should unite in one common effort for the good of all. The Highway Department will talk years' delay and each time another project is undertaken it postpones some other project.

Monday night after our city planning meeting, I invited myself to the Lindsay Chamber of Commerce directors meeting and requested that I be permitted to present a matter vital to all of us, so I brought this matter up and suggested they join with Porterville, if Porterville so desires.

Yours sincerely,

A. A. Tienken

The above article from the Inyo Register for Thursday, December 6th, indicates the progress made by the Southern Inyo group and their
counterparts on the west toward realizing their common goal of splitting the Range of Light wide open by hacking out a highspeed highway from making Aspen to Olancha. This, of course, has been tried before and has always met with defeat, but will it this time? Will your children and grandchildren drive blissfully through Olancha in years to come with nothing east to the crest and beyond but wilderness, or will it be the other way around. You can't scrape up the blacktop and put back the rocks and trees once they are gone. There is only One who can create wilderness and He did a mighty fine job. However, there are many who can destroy it, and will if given the slightest opportunity. As a group or as individuals, we could have no higher calling than to stop this greedy threat and pass on to posterity a pure and unbroken piece of wilderness from Tioga on the north to Walker on the south. This, then, is our heritage, saved for us by others who took the abuses and selfish accusations of another time as we must be prepared to take them now.

Dave Evans

More about this threat next issue.

S.P.S. BANQUET 1962......Dave Evans

Hardly recognizable in their city garb, eighty S.P.S.ers and guests enjoyed an excellent steak dinner at Rudi's Italian restaurant to officially bring to a close the section's activities for 1962. After dinner the new executive committee for 1963 was presented to the membership by Ted Maier, the incoming chairman, made a short address to the group. Following this, we were honored by the appearance of a noted author, lecturer, and photographer in the person of Leigh Ortenberger, who showed his slides of climbing and scientific research in the high Himalayas, with the Hillary expedition of 1961. All participants made the summit on this memorable evening, and we were back at our cars by ten p.m. with stomachs filled and a priceless bit of perspective regained.

FROM THE EDITOR: The balance of the Sierra Echo" is devoted to write-ups and letters I received related to my column "The Uneasy Chair published in the past Sept.-Oct. issue. It is my hope that these discussions will lead to an even better SPS and "Echo" in the future.

COMMENT FROM THE SIERRA PEAKS CHAIRMAN: With all due respect to our editor, I feel that some of the points raised in his "The Uneasy Chair" in the last issue need some rebuttal. It seems to me that the peaks list serves to introduce newcomers to the quality and quantity of mountains in the Sierra Nevada in the Sierra. There are, perhaps, in the SPS a few "Peak Baggers" who care little about group trips, but to say that they control the section and the type of activities scheduled seems to me to be a strange opinion. I seem to recall, when the section was first formed, that Bud Bingham was quite a "peak bagger". In fact he may have introduced that term to general usage.

I have had the opinion expressed by responsible S.C. members that the Angeles Chap. has too many trips; that the best conservationists don't go on trips. I doubt if there are any good conservationist who never went on trips. It would seem difficult for a person to become
a conservationist by looking at photographs. The hikers and climbers of today are the conservationists of tomorrow. The 3 purposes of the S.C. are to explore, to enjoy, and to protect, and they occur in a natural sequence. The depth of the membership would suffer if one or more of these purposes were neglected. We are a rapidly expanding organization. Club membership has passed 20,000. We need more trips and more varied trips... not less.

Comment FROM JOHN ROBINSON: Recently the SPS emblem and qualifying peaks system has come under criticism. It is my feeling that this criticism, for the most part, is unwarranted and misdirected.

Let's consider our emblem peaks first; the climbing of which are probably the most popular activities engaged in by the SPS. All of our emblem peaks, representing the dominating summits in each major area of the Sierra, are worthwhile and enjoyable climbs. Reflecting over past Sierra adventures, how many of us cherish fond memories of the group climb of Humphreys in spite of threatening weather the night before, or crossing deep sun cups on the Lyell glacier, or the close comradeship but tired and aching muscles after the Long Kaweah climb? These scheduled and well-led emblem trips represent to me the best the SPS has to offer.

The desire to climb emblem peaks has not only made better mountaineers out of many of us (consider the Hunts), but has resulted in getting many Sierrans into many different parts of the Sierra. Spread throughout the higher parts of the Range of Light, they encourage visits into multiple areas. I can well recall my first season of Sierra Climbing... not once did we venture from the Whitney or Sequoia west side areas.

Perhaps earning the emblem is a game. So what? What sporting activity engaged in by man is not, in some respects, a game? Climbing emblem peaks, or any peaks, can be a very enjoyable and rewarding game, especially so with a congenial group and at a reasonable pace, as are most SPS emblem trips nowadays.

The SPS designated emblem peaks are rapidly gaining fame outside the SPS. I talked to one fellow this summer who had hardly heard of the S.C., but climbed Ritter because he heard it was an "emblem peak." He said it was a rewarding experience.

Some 60 Sierra Peakers have earned their emblem in the last 5 or 6 years, and I'd venture to say that the overwhelming majority of them consider it a rewarding and long to be remembered experience. Don't tear down the system simply because a hand full of energy-plus Sierra Peakers play the "game" a little faster than some of us would like to see it played.

Our list of qualifying peaks is more than just a role call of mountains to climb to join the section. It represents a carefully prepared, ever-changing honor roll of worthy peaks, interesting and enjoyable to climb, that covers the whole Range of Light. By recommending good climbs throughout the Sierra, the list serves beginners and old-timers alike.

It must be kept in mind that the SPS exerts no pressure on anyone to climb any mountain - this desire must come from within the climber. If some members derive enjoyment from climbing as many as possible, that is their prerogative. I'm certain they would be climbing peaks whether or not a list existed. There certainly was no qualifying list when Norman Clyde made his many ascents.

It is my feeling that SPS trips today are better than ever - Certainly the pace is more moderate than it was 5 or 6 years ago, when the section was largely made up of about two-score "eager beavers!" More beginners are showing up and enjoying our trips. 14 of the 18 on the recent Kennedy Mtn. trip were newcomers, and all but one made
the summit at a very moderately paced clip. There are exceptions of course (last year's Colosseum-Baxter trip), but these death marches which occur once or twice a season are clearly advertised as such.

From what I've observed, the few problems that do appear on SPS trips come not from peak-baggers, but from certain beginners who are hesitant to follow the leader's instructions. Most peak baggers, but from certain beginners who are hesitant to follow the leader's instructions. Most peak baggers on scheduled trips stay with the group to base camp, and confine their extra-curricular activities to climbing an extra peak or two Saturday afternoon. A small minority of newcomers, however, have left the group without informing the leader, causing no end to complications. This problem should be ironed out before next season.

CLIMBING MORE? BUT ENJOYING IT LESS? DON'T BE AVERAGE. TRY PEAK BAGGING! —Frede Jensen. What causes the disquieting effect of the Chairman's article (The Uneasy Chair) is not so much his change in attitude toward peak-bagging as the rather ungentlemanly treatment his former friends receive from a man who repeatedly makes a plea for the value of comrade ship.

The S.C. seems to me to stress the conservation issue at the expense of mountaineering activities. The SPS was founded to meet the particular needs of the more active segment of the club by offering weekend trips into the heart of the Sierra country. This is in itself a most valuable contribution to the Club's conservation policy, but were we to follow the Chairman's line of thought, we would have to turn the SPS into a conservation group soon to be absorbed by the main club because of a complete identity of aims with nothing to single out the SPS sufficiently to warrant its existence.

It is, indeed, an uneasy chair the SPS editor has chosen to rest on while watching the clash of the two antagonizing factions of our section, a clash that he has the dubious honour of having provoked. But does the SPS really harbour two opposing clans? A rather comforting answer to this question may be found, if we stop for a moment to investigate our motivation for peak climbing. The difference between peak-bagging and average SPSers then appears to be one in degree only, not in essence. Those who have the desire, the energy, the will power and the time are peak-baggers; those who lack any of those ingredients are moderately active climbers, but still peak-baggers at heart - apart from a few cases of "sour grapes". If the Chairman disagrees with me on this point, I challenge him to lead a climb of Williamson or Darwin and then try to determine his average SPSers to turn back 15 or 20 minutes below the summit or prevent them from signing the register. I would also like to suggest that the Chairman compare the turn-out on climbs of Ritter or Bear Creek Spire with the number of people that show up for "Indian Rock" or Balloon Dome. Could it be that even average SPSers consider certain peaks to be choice collector's items? If this is so, I have proved the great value of a peak list. And it is only after having thus made my position clear that I can agree this much with the Chairman that some members carry their discussions of emblem status of peaks a little bit too far. Needless to add, though, that the disagreement arising from adding or deleting peaks are yet proof of a vital interest in the SPS list rather than a proof to the contrary. My conclusion is, therefore, that we must have a list, but let us avoid futile discussions by adopting a conservative policy regarding this list. In order to satisfy less juvenile members, we could even make the list available upon request only. Average SPSers could then with a clear conscience continue to climb for fun, and peak-baggers continue to look upon climbing as a way of life.

Why the sudden admiration for technical climbing? Is a rock-
climber necessarily more interested in conservation issues than his peak bagging friends? Does a rock-climber enjoy more beautiful scenery or explore more wilderness areas than the roaming tigers of the SPS? The Chairman seems to me to be a lone wolf who in desperation looks to other sections (conservationists, rock-climbers, songsters) for the understanding he needs.

I'm convinced that no SPSer (average or not!) can agree with the Chairman when he points out that peak-baggers are misers who hunt in packs and whose only reason for staying together is "the needed economy of traveling." This is stooping too low, and I can only hope that we shall never again in the SPS come across such a vitriolic attack.

May I finally point out that the person who to me represents all the positive qualities the Chairman is aiming for: companionship, good leadership on trips, knowledge and love of the Sierra, is no other than a highly esteemed founder of the SPS section, by profession, a school teacher and a peak bagger par excellence.

If it was the Chairman's intention to secure Echo material for meager winter months, I shall consider his article most successful, but beyond that, his achievement seems to me to be a discouragingly negative one. P.S. If my memory serves me correctly, the Chairman himself has in the past, quite the reputation of being a peak-bagger, and a hiker with endurance second to none.

Editors Comment: Fred you would do well to find out who the Chairman was this past year! No Frede I'm not a Songster nor will I even be one. Balloon Dome was called off since I had a broken leg; it was disappoint-ing that some of my peak bagging friends did not rally to help me out of this scrape. Your statement former friends worries me, I hope they still are! Indian Rock had a good turn out since the weather was very bad and the peak was not on a list. If we do not work on conservation issues in conjunction with SPS outings there will be very little wild country left for the future. Look what happened to the European Alps!

LETTER FROM Virgil Sisson: As an almost retired peak bagger, I can appreciate the views of both the SPS peak bagger and the SPS member who is not interested in climbing.

We now have both types of members in the SPS and I would like to see the section so continue. The SPS is growing in membership and should attract those ranging from the energetic peak bagger to those who have even retired from climbing and enjoy reliving their adventures in the Sierra through reading about the trips and climbs of fellow members.

For various reasons, every person who has qualified for membership, including the emblem member and the most ardent peak bagger, is certain to become less active in climbing and even hiking as time passes. Both enjoy the SPS and its activities and like to consider themselves as active or participating members.

Having in mind this range in desires and abilities of our membership, it would seem advisable that trips scheduled can well include the difficult to the very moderate. The number of each can be geared in accordance with the anticipated wishes of the existing membership. When there are many eager beaver peak baggers, as there will be from time to time, particularly with young new members who are very de-sirous of climbing qualifying peaks, the emphasis can be on such climbs. However, as the SPS gets older (It is very young yet), unless restrictions are imposed eliminating has been from active membership, there will probably be a worthwhile portion of the membership interested in the more moderate trips and some can be included.

In summary, I believe the SPS, which has in a relatively short time become an excellent Section of the S.C., should have a place for all of its members and a wide range of activities. With such a policy
membership will continue to increase and the Section will become a real asset to the Club itself.

LETTER FROM Henry Mandolf: I have read your dissertation in the "Echo" against peak baggers; it appears you condemn them as much as were, a century ago, carpet baggers. How times have changed!

Perhaps the situation can be looked at in a different light. The Section has had a most remarkable growth, and without minimizing the merits of good management, I am certain that in the beginning this growth was much enhanced by the aim set, that so many and such and such peaks had to be climbed. What good then, is not necessarily bad today. Like any organization, business, military or even recreational, when it grows, it requires a different structure and such changes may have to be repeated, to suit the changing size, times, tendencies. If this is not done, it becomes overgrown and inefficient, which is quite different than healthy growth. The case may be at hand here.

I am your #8 embolmer; I kept on, and "bagged" some 20 or more peaks a year, many in other areas, but some 2/3 in the Sierra. If I were in L.A. I certainly would have enjoyed your group's companionship. By now I could brag of "six Abbots" or "four Thumbs" or "five Splits." Most probably I would sit home! Thus, the situation that exists has good reason for existing and is actually a very healthy condition.

Good leadership in business and everywhere attempts to foresee problems, or at least recognizes them, when they show up, or certainly tries to harness them for the best of the organization when they are here; but leadership must show the way. How right you were when you headed your article "The Uneasy Chair!" We all know too well how thankless a job it is.

You perhaps can have two trips per weekend, one for members less than 3 years with the Section, the other to more distant or seldom climbed peaks or over more challenging routes. Many, with proper inducement, may want to extend their rock climbing to at least 4th class.

By having appointed leaders for the advanced group, irresponsible acts, such as abandoning of members, would not occur.

Such a reorganization may not be easy and will not succeed on first attempt. But to condemn the idea of climbers striving for more peaks, looks to me like cutting good toes off because of healthily growing nails.

Nothing I have said condemns abuses such as mentioned in the "Echo," about leaving people behind or not helping those in need. I can only condemn that...but who has taught them what to do or not to do? A course in the rudiments of good, club accepted mountaineering practices can do wonders, even to veterans of many ascents; continued seminars, 4 or 6 a year on various advanced subjects, like your ice axe practice, can deep the ideas and ideals alive.

I am certain the SPS will overcome this crisis and emerge with a stronger and better Section, capable of bagging many more peaks and without envy.

EDITOR'S NOTE: I'm not surprised that my column aroused some members enough to write letters to me on the subject matter in "The Uneasy Chair." These controversial subjects should be discussed. Unfortunately some intent and meaning appearing in the column has been misinterpreted, some points avoided, and whether this is intentional or not is of no consequence. Those who object to my opinions may be fighting for the continuation of their own interests. My concern is the general interest of all SPS members. With proper planning the SPS and the "Echo" can even be better yet!

Since the SPS has expanded it's membership it will take wise decisions and directions to meet the demands of the present and future.
How can we continue to keep old timers as active as possible, yet make our schedules attractive for the currently active, and most important to give the newcomers the most consideration. Each member has a right to pursue his interest in the Sierra with the section, unless his purposes conflict with club policies or cause disruption within our group.

The SPS has been rendering limited service to its members and the club, not only on conservation issues, but also in the scheduling range. Why? Leadership and direction is towards peaks without considering the interests of each member.

The fact that I enjoy seeing the more inaccessible areas of the Sierra and will devote long hours doing the same, does not mean that others should or will conform. Since our membership has a wide range of interests in the Sierra, I would like to see that they have the opportunity to enjoy it with the SPS.

Following are some suggestions for the membership to kick around:
(1) Support conservation issues more realistically. (2) Avoid building personalities thru the use of the "Echo." Emphasis on the place rather than people. (3) Print non-club activities in the "Echo" only when they are of a constructive value and on an impersonal basis. (4) Amend our by-laws so that membership is gained by climbing with the group. (5) Amend our by-laws so that membership is gained by climbing in different areas of the Sierra. (6) A definite program to help newcomers & beginners on scheduled trips. (7) Set up standards that members must meet before participation on our serious trips (related to rock climbing, ice & snow, and strenuous trips). (8) A broader range of trips to support all interests. (9) Determine the various type trips we need to schedule (Strenuous peaks, easy peaks, backpacking without climbing peaks, car camps with hikes or peaks, training trips, etc.). Follow this outline when making up the schedule. (10) Discourage climbing competition as it is not a competitive sport.

Merry Christmas
Happy New Year

THE END