Photo by Tom Ross, showing the ancient Alabama Hills in the foreground, with Kearsarge Peak, Mount Mary Austin and Mount Baxter behind. (March, 1969)
NEW OFFICERS

The 1970 Management Committee is already at work. Dick Sykes serves as president, Ron Jones vice-president, Bob Mason treasurer, Fred Hoepchner secretary, and Eric Schumacher alternate.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

In summation, Ron Jones, 1969 secretary, reports that SPS membership made the following changes during 1969: In January, 1969, there were 237 members; in December, 1969, there were 244 members. There were 99 active emblem holders at the beginning and 100 at the end of last year. The group acquired three Mascot Members during the first year of this program.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Dick Sykes, 1038 E. Fernrock, Gardena 90247; 639-6991
Bill Wickner, 27361 Sierra Hwy. #31, Saugus 91350
Thomas Jenkins, USGC Minnetonka WECH-67, P.O. Box 468, Long Beach 90801

NEWS

NEW EMBLEM HOLDER

CONGRATULATIONS to Ronald Fleming, our newest emblem holder.

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME to these six new members:
Diana Heiman, UCLA Chemistry Dept., Los Angeles 90024
George Hubbard, 1907 Bataan Rd., #4, Redondo Beach 90278
Jerry Lawrence, 1314 Monte Verde, Upland 91786
Paul Lipson, 9152 E. Olive St., Bellflower
Guy Williams, 2704 - 4th St., Santa Monica 90405
Edward Rose, 4344 Winchester Ave., #2, Los Angeles

CONGRATULATIONS

To Carl Lundquist on his recent marriage to Cynthia Stols!

A COLD ASCENT

The Jan. 2, 1970, Los Angeles Times carried the following item: "Mountaineer Paul Petzoldt led his team of climbers to the summit of 13,766-foot Grand Teton Peak in northwest Wyoming. For veteran Petzoldt, 61, it meant success after four straight failures in attempts to scale the mountain on successive New Year's Days. Climbing conditions were extremely hazardous, he reported, with high winds and a temperature of 40 below."

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Non-active climbers may retain their voting rights in the Sierra Peaks Section by furnishing a program or refreshments for monthly meetings, serving on a committee, or by submitting a suitable article or black and white cover photo (or photos) for the ECHO. This issue introduces member Walt Weyman of distant Marshall, California, who writes about climbing with a handicap. Future issues will surely bring additional news from our farther-flung members, so do send for your 1970 subscription today. This will be the final issue mailed to non-subscribers. The next issue will be the March-April issue, mailed in April.
**CHAIRMAN'S CORNER**

We are now entering the third decade of the SPS. Many peaks have been climbed by SPS'ers on all the continents of the world. Bobby Lilley just completed the last decade by climbing all the peaks on the SPS list. So, where does all this leave us, as we start the 70's? The answer, I believe, is more of the same.

Let's continue to train new tigers, to have fun together, and to support the lofty ideals of the Sierra Club. Your management committee pledges itself this year to a very simple goal: to make the mechanisms of the SPS clear, to streamline the procedures where possible, and to continue to enjoy a wide spectrum of trips of many kinds.

I ask for your support and ideas. It is appropriate to mention my new address and phone: 1038 E. Fernrock, Gardena 90247; 639-6991.

--- Dick Sykes ---

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**1970 WINTER-SPRING SCHEDULE**

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<td>Iron, Bill Hunt, Dick Sykes</td>
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Stewart-Eagle Scout, Fred Hoeptner, Bob Mason
Williamson (EMTC), Bill Feldmann, Frank McDaniel, Brendan Bausback
Norman Clyde, Wally Henry, Steve Rogero
Eighty-seven members and friends gathered at Sir Michael's Restaurant on Thursday evening, December 5, to join the fellowship and fun of this Section's annual banquet. After a steak dinner, those present heard past-president Bill Hunt recall the highlights of the 1969 climbing season. He urged that the group take a more active interest in Sierra conservation matters in the future, especially the Mineral King and Minaret Summit Road issues.

Winning numbers for doorprizes were drawn. Bep and Bud Bingham were doubly lucky as Bep carried off a cook set from the Sports Chalet in La Canada while Bud won a $10 Gift certificate donated by Tex's Sporting Goods. In the future Wally Henry will be carrying a beta from Jonas Ski and Hike. Allen Volkman won the book The White Spider donated by West Ridge. Three items given by Kelty's of Glendale were awarded: Allen Newcomb won a windbreaker, Gloria MacArthur a summit pack, and Jay Wiley a Bluetostove. La Siesta Press donated a book won by Bernie Pettrycz, and Ed Kraus will be receiving a day of climbing instruction with the California Climbers, courtesy of Ken McNut.

Retiring officers and committee heads were thanked by Hunt and then he introduced the 1970 president, Dick Sykes. Sykes announced the new officers and committee chairmen and spoke about the climbing season ahead. He commented that he thought of the SPS as a place newcomers could learn safe climbing and as a spawning ground for expedition climbers.

John Thornton then introduced SPS member George Barnes of Menlo Park, Calif., who is currently the altitude record holder of the group. He showed his fine slides and told of the climb of Noshaq in Afghanistan (24,500') which earned him this record. Barnes flew to Los Angeles especially for the banquet and received the group's enthusiastic appreciation of his presentation.

--- Judy Hoeptner ---

ASCENTS

MT. KAWEAH, August 30 - Sep. 1, 1969 . . . . . . . . . . Al Fowler

At the appointed time, 34 people departed for an assault on Mt. Kaweah (13,802'), one of the more inaccessible emblem peaks.

The backpack in was from Mineral King via Glacier Pass and Black Rock Pass to our camp at Little Five Lakes. We stayed at the third lowest large lake (10,480') instead of the lower lake because it afforded better campsites. The trip in took its toll as three members decided to drop out, one of whom changed his mind and arrived at base camp Sunday afternoon. Three more decided to head back the next day. When we got to Little Five Lakes we were met by two people who came in early to beat the rush. One fellow came in later because of a late start, so we had 31 stalwart climbers.

We started at 6:30 a.m. and immediately dropped 800 feet to the Big Arroyo. There we joined the High Sierra Trail and proceeded to climb. The route up Mt. Kaweah was via the northwest saddle and then up the ridge. We left the H.S.T. about 1 1/8 mile beyond the fourth stream crossing as shown on the topo map, about 10,400'. By leaving there you head northeast and can reach the saddle by going up a small ridge slightly to the northwest of the saddle and then traversing southeast into the saddle. From there it is an easy climb up the ridge to the summit. Thirty people signed in between 12 and 1:30, with only one person having to turn back. Four people bagged Second Kaweah just northwest of Mt. Kaweah on the ridge, while we were waiting for everybody to make Mt. Kaweah. By 6:30 everybody had returned to camp, satisfied but tired.

The next day seven people made an unsuccessful attempt to climb Mt. Eisen on the way out. The route was not difficult, but it took more time than was available. Everybody was back at the roadside by 4 p.m. Monday for the long drive home.
TENAYA CANYON, October 11-12 ... Dick Beach

An extremely cold wind greeted the eight hardy souls who showed up Saturday morning at the east end of Tenaya Lake. We started the descent around nine a.m., with the temperature chilly enough to make down jackets comfy. Our vision of a beautiful cascade at the head of Glacier Valley was quickly dispelled, as Tenaya Creek fizzled out despite the record-breaking spring runoff. We walked past virgin stands of aspen and large junipers until a side stream from Clouds Rest entered to form a large pool and Pyweack Cascade.

After climbing 300 feet to the left, we could see that the best route into Lost Valley required a 500-foot slab descent. Ice was present and several persons asked for rope assistance. However, the descent can be made rope-free provided your vibram lug soles are new. Here we saw remnants of a crashed jet from sun reflections on Mt. Watkins--fortunately not a recent tragedy.

Lost Valley is a hidden paradise, literally isolated from all sides by the walls of Mt. Watkins to the north, Clouds Rest to the south, Pyweack to the west and Tenaya Gorge east into Yosemite Valley. The valley floor is covered with giant stands of white fir, the largest I’ve ever seen. Many small aspen groves grow between, with heavy brush and multitudes of flowers. We especially noticed the absence of people.

After a quick lunch and swim, we proceeded into the real marrow of our trip. This gorge is what keeps hordes of tourists coming up Tenaya Canyon into the high country. Below Lost Valley, a series of giant chockstones and terraces in a narrow steep-sided gorge were encountered. After finding two pitons in place, we decided to make our way straight down the gorge even though we were greeted with a 60-foot free rappel. We lowered our packs on a separate line and worked our way down, grateful for the advantage of being supplied with morning water. You are tantalised by not being able to get down to the bottom of the gorge for water most of the time.

Another obstacle was a large pool with an overhanging rock. We waded it, carrying our packs in our hands. It is possible only late in the season with low water level. Then we made reasonably good time jumping from boulder to boulder and weaving through an intricate maze of debris, big boulders and beautiful pools. Around six o’clock Saturday we reached the edge of one of the larger chockstone terraces, with two house-sized chocks forcing another long rappel. Though some of the group had to finish their rappel by dark, we had the foresight to throw some firewood down and had a big campfire.

The next morning the warming sun was slow in reaching our deep recess in the narrows. Looking back up, we felt as if the earth had swallowed us up. With one more rappel and the donating of a piton, we quickly descended with our packs and were treated to a beautiful and unique view of Yosemite Valley. Though we thought that we were flush with the valley floor, it was still four miles through dense forest and brush before we reached Mirror Lake.

Bill Rausch lost all his friends when he announced he had forgotten his car keys. His car was the only one in the valley to shuttle the other drivers back. As a result, some thumbed it back to Tenaya and others took a nap.

Leaders of future trips should bring two 150-foot ropes, four slings and three or four throwaway pins. Later in the year this trip could be done in one day by a small group. Don’t neglect to bring a camera! References: Climber’s Guide to the High Sierra, Yosemite Valley; and the Sierra Club Bulletin, February 1940.

* * *

The average American now has approximately 12 p.p.m. DDT in his body, which is a fine thing -- if you swallow a lot of bugs.
EMIGRANT BASIN WILD AREA

A portion of the historic Emigrant Basin Wild Area was visited by the writer and a friend during a five-day backpack in mid-August. This region is reached via the Sonora Pass Road (State Highway 108), turning off at Pinecrest, west of Sonora Pass, and continuing on to the loop road at Dodge Ridge Ski Area. From the latter a very rough, steep and rutty dirt road takes one to the trailhead at Gianelli Cabin (8,500'). This road is unsigned and a little hard to find. Fortunately, the trip was made in a VW, as a long, low-slung car would probably meet with considerable difficulty. (The other cars at the roadhead were also VW's, four-wheel drives, or pickup trucks.)

The territory visited was gentle, rather rolling country, with meadows, lakes, streams and ridges. At times one passed through almost hip-high fields of blue-purple lupine, and in one shadier area there were beautiful red-orange lilies, somewhat resembling tiger lilies. This area is not ruggedly spectacular, like many areas farther south in the Sierra, nor is this a prime climbing area. The trip participants did find the fishing reasonably good, however, and on a layover day, they visited a high basin east of Long Lake, with a meadow and meandering streams, where there were no signs of human life—only assorted animal tracks in the sand. Campsites included Whitesides Meadow, Toejam Lake, and Long Lake. This last and highest camp was only approximately 9,000 feet in elevation. The lake is a large and beautiful one, with numerous rock islands. Deer Lake is also beautiful but was overrun with Boy Scouts and fishermen. Topo map for this trip is the Pinecrest Quadrangle, and an excellent guidebook is Sierra North by Karl Schwenke and Thomas Winnett.

A RESEULTAL CONCERNING MT CORCORAN

Andy Smatko

The Corcoran Mtn. ghost has again been raised by Barbara Lilley. In a recent issue of the ECHO, the claim was made that the ascent of Mt. Corcoran's true summit (a first), by Jerry Keating, Frank Yates, Alice Lewis and myself was not a climb of that mountain. I think it is high time that the true Mt. Corcoran, the summit we four climbed, is unquestionably identified. According to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, Decision List #6801, Mt. Corcoran is identified thusly: Pk., sl 13,760 feet, northermost of four peaks, 1.2 miles NW of Mt. Langley and 3.6 mi SE of Mt. Whitney, Inyo and Tulare Counties, 36°32' 20'' N, 118°14'59'' W. Note that the elevation is given as 13,760'.

Close inspection, with a magnifying glass, if needed, will show four major pinnacles from the saddle northwest of Mt. Langley. The first pinnacle is 13,520'; the second pinnacle north of this is 13,600' (this is the one the SPS has climbed as Mt. Corcoran); the next pinnacle north of this is also 13,600'; the fourth pinnacle, elevation 13,760', just as the above-mentioned Board has stated, is THE MT. CORCORAN. The summit is actually a twin summit with its two high points about 100' apart, with the southern one slightly higher. Immediately to the northwest of this twin summit (the one we four climbed), is a deep notch and then immediately north of this notch and continuing on to the summit of Mt. LeConte is the south ridge of Mt. LeConte. On this south ridge lies a prominent pinnacle, elevation 13,840' (note this elevation too), which we saw on our ascent and which we deemed was actually a part of Mt. LeConte. There are a few smaller spicules and knobs on this same ridge, some higher and some lower before the summit of Mt. LeConte is reached. I believe Barbara climbed this pinnacle, elevation 13,840', a fine accomplishment indeed. There are no other pinnacles of importance between 13,760' (the Mt. Corcoran) and Mt. LeConte's summit.
I have in my slide collection a picture of the Corcoran pinnacles, from the first one on to the summit of Mt. LeConte. It clearly shows what I have described above. I shall have an enlargement made, and I hope to see this picture on the cover of a future ECHO. (Yes, indeed you will, Andy—ed.) It is a striking view and was taken from Pk. 12,960', lying 0.9 miles northeast of Mt. LeConte.

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FIRST WINTER ASCENT OF BLACK KAWEAH

Lowell Smith, Loma Prieta Chapter

Two Loma Prieta Chapter members and one former member completed the first winter ascent of Black Kaweah (13,765') during the New Year's weekend. The route to the mountain began at Hospital Rock (2,800') in Sequoia National Park, proceeded up the Kaweah River middle fork 18 miles by trail to Granite Creek, then cross country up the drainage basin of Granite Creek, thence directly over the crest of the Great Western Divide and then down into the Big Arroyo. From there the route approached the southwest face of the mountain, directly under which a high camp (12,200') was placed.

The remaining 1,600 feet to the summit were gained generally following the summer southwest face route described in the Climber's Guide. This route follows up a deeply carved couloir. The lower and middle portions of the couloir were found to be covered with shallow loose snow crossed by bands of ice-encrusted rock. The snow in the upper portion of the couloir was judged to be too loose and unconsolidated for safe climbing. This section was by-passed by traversing left off towards the rock ridges and towers of the northwest ridge. Here an enjoyable mixed rock and snow route was found which culminated in the final ramp leading to the finely sculptured summit.

On the summit day, January 4, 1970, the main ridges and towers were highlighted by their wind-driven snow banners streaming into a deep blue sky. Much of the time the entire climbing route appeared to be covered by a wind-borne powder snow waterfall. The summit temperature was estimated to be around 0° F. with wind gusts of 50 knots.

This successful party of three climbers figuratively stood on the shoulders of other Loma Prieta Chapter members in attaining their summit. A first attempt to find a viable winter route to Black Kaweah and to climb its western ridge was made over the 1968-69 New Year's week. This party composed of Eric Adelberger, George Barnes, Bill Ross, Carl Smith, Dana Smith, Lowell Smith and Margaret Young was stopped in the Tablelands by a storm and deep snows ten miles from their objective. A reconnaissance party consisting of George Barnes, Eric Hertsgberg, Bill Rausch, Jagger Smith, Lowell Smith, Louise Wilson, Margaret Young and Oceai Young demonstrated in early December, 1969, the practicality of the Kaweah River - Granite Creek approach. In addition, the reconnaissance party carried in a cache of food and gas as far as the Great Western Divide. This cache, after it was moved over the Divide, provided the emergency rations necessary if the summit team were caught on the eastern side of the Divide by a six-day Sierra storm. The summit team of Eric Adelberger, Paul Emerson and Lowell Smith express their gratitude to these many friends who helped find and prepare the route.

The one discordant experience of the entire trip was to contrast our iridescently white surroundings with the persistent smog mass which covered the San Joaquin Valley and presumably the coastal areas beyond. (One couldn't see that far.) This ever-present, evil-appearing brownish apparition extended to at least 12,000 feet altitude. Underneath lived the people of the Great Golden State of California.

"TO ONE WHO HAS BEEN LONG IN CITY PENT,
'TIS VERY SWEET TO LOOK INTO THE FAIR AND OPEN FACE OF HEAVEN, . . ."

-- John Keats
ARE WE POLLUTING THE SIERRAS?

The following item appeared in the December SUMMIT magazine. A Forest Service recreation research project published under the title "Wilderness Users in the Pacific Northwest—Their Characteristics, Values and Management Preferences" revealed some findings that would indicate a threat to our wild areas.

"One-half of the persons studied felt they should be free to cut brush, limbs, or wood in the back country. Almost half felt that it was all right to wash in streams or lakes and most users felt noncombustible trash should be buried."

I think Sierra Clubbers do far better than this when it comes to burning only dead wood and the carrying out of non-burnable garbage. However, I don’t think we are as aware of the fact that we should not wash directly in streams or lakes. We should dip our wash water out, then throw it on the ground when we are through, rather than into the stream. In an area as populated in the summer as the Sierra, this becomes necessary or else campers below may be drinking your dishwater before the stream has run far enough to purify it.

— Ann Hunt —

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MORE GARBAGE THAN EVER

About 350 million tons of residential and industrial garbage will be hauled away by 337,000 garbage men in the U.S. this year. And the average American accounts for 5.3 pounds of household trash every day. This enormous problem of disposal has led some cities to programs which a few decades ago would have been fantastic — San Francisco decided to ship 1,300 tons of garbage daily by rail to a dumping area 375 miles away in Lassen County.

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The cleanup of litter in the national parks cost taxpayers more than $1,750,000 last year.

***

More wildlife is killed by cars than by hunters; 365 million animals died on U.S. highways in 1968, says AAA.

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For 90 cents you can telegraph a 15-word message on a conservation issue to the President, your governor, Congressman, or state legislator.

"The sun, moon, and stars would have disappeared long ago if they had happened to be within reach of predatory human hands."

— Havelock Ellis —

NATURE'S BALANCE REALLY UPSET

This actually happened in a village in Borneo. DDT was used in a mosquito control program. Soon roofs of natives' huts caved in as they were being eaten by caterpillars which had not absorbed much DDT, but whose predators, the wasps, had been killed by it. The DDT was then brought indoors to kill houseflies. This it did, but it also infected little lizards that ate the flies. Cats which ate the lizards died in such numbers that rats began to invade the village, bringing threat of plague. So cats had to flown into the area to restore the balance DDT destroyed.
With air fare as low as $35 one way plus $5 for each island visited, a trip to the state of Hawaii is quite worthwhile for anyone who enjoys non-technical hiking and ocean swimming (especially body surfing). The Islands do get winter storms, so best weather with the least crowd would be May 1 through mid-June, and mid-September through mid-October. The latter interferes least with climbing/skiing season, and ocean temperature is at its warmest—80°. A two-week stay is recommended. By taking a dufflebag with warm-weather camping gear, including a tent (there are mosquitoes, and some campgrounds require a tent), the only additional expense need be car rental. (Three people can share a Datsun for about ten dollars a day plus gas.) There are state and county parks on all islands for camping, plus two national parks—all free, although most require obtaining a camping permit in advance. For evening entertainment, the price of a glass or two of Hawaiian beer entitles one to watch the Hawaiian show at a nearby hotel.

For information on state parks, write to Dept. of Natural Resources, Div. of State Parks, Honolulu, Hawaii 96809. For information on county parks, write to the County Parks Dept. of each county seat (Oahu--Honolulu; Island of Hawaii--Hilo; Maui--Lihue; Maui, Lanai and Molokai--Wailuku). The Auto Club of Southern California publishes a handy booklet on the Islands; road maps and information on current events and points of interest can be obtained at car rental agencies and tourist bureaus located at each island's airport.

I flew to the Islands in October, 1969, and the following information is presented on the four islands visited in the hope it may be of help to others who might be interested.

Island of Hawaii

Hiking: Mauna Kea, highest peak (13,784'). Regular car can be driven to 9,200 feet (and it is a gold night to camp there with beach-camping equipment). A six-mile jeep road goes to summit crater rim where observatory is located, so it might be possible to hitch a ride with one of the astronomers in the afternoon and then walk down. Register is located across crater from observatory. A hiking permit is necessary; write to Dept. of Land and Natural Resources, Div. of State Parks, P.O. Box 936, Hilo, Hawaii.

Mauna Loa (13,680') (active volcano). Via the road in Volcanos National Park, it is a two-day hike, spending the night in a furnished cabin. However, there is a U.S. weather bureau station located at 11,000 feet on another road and it might be possible to make the climb from there in one day; if so, contact Div. of State Parks to see if hiking permit is necessary.

Maui (8,251') (dormant volcano). Jeep trail close to summit; obtain permission for hike from Huelhu Ranch and Bishop Estate.

Swimming: Best swimming beach on this island is Hapuna Beach (also called A.W. Carter State Park). White sand, camping and occasional waves for body surfing.

Sightseeing: Recommend flying in and out of Hilo; this permits driving around the island. South from Hilo are Kalapana Black Sand Beach and Chain of Craters road to Volcanos National Park. (If the road is closed by lava, some backtracking is necessary.) Moderately-priced meals at Volcanos House; with luck, an eruption will be in progress. Continue south around island to Kona Coast and to Waimea with side trip to Hapuna Beach, then continue to Hilo.

Island of Maui

Hiking: Haleakala Crater (in national park). Ten-mile round trip via Halemauu Trail into crater to see Silverswords; if car shuttle can be arranged, hike down "sliding Sands" trail and return via Halemauu. The necessary hiking permit can be obtained at park headquarters. For brochure, write to: Haleakala National Park, P.O. Box 436, Kahului, Maui, Hawaii 96732.

Swimming: Beaches found on all coast roads. Best body surfing found on Highway 30 north of Honokohau at a small cove 50 feet below the highway.

Sightseeing: At present all roads on Maui require backtracking. The road to Hana is such that it is recommended the return trip be made the next day.
Island of Kauai:

Hiking: From end of road on north side of island, Kalalau Trail runs 12 miles along Na Pali coast. To hike to end requires backpacking, but shorter hikes to beaches along the way could be made in one day. Topo map recommended. Kokee State Park. Trails to high point of island, into jungle and swamps and also into Waimea Canyon. Topo map recommended; write to Park Headquarters, Kokee State Park, Kauai, Hawaii, for further information.

Swimming: Best body surfing found at beautiful Hanalei Bay near the Hanalei Pavilion where a county park is located (obtain permit to camp). Wild surf found at a cove 100 yards east of Poipu Beach; Poipu Beach has calm water. For a dip in fresh water, visit Waipaehe Falls natural slide.

Sightseeing: Drive recommended to end of road on north and south sides of island, detouring to see the "Spouting Horn" near Poipu Beach. Good Japanese restaurant in Luhue shopping center called Judy's. -- Barbara Lilley --

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MANY MOUNTAINS TO CLIMB:

INTRODUCING SPS'ER WALT WETYMAN

We joined the Sierra Club in the late 1950's. In 1961 we went into northern Yosemite, and along with others in the party I climbed the Matterhorn, my first peak. Then came two more years when we were the leaders of family burro trips. Finally tiring of the critters, we turned to backpacking where we moved into leading leisure knapsack trips for the club Outings Committee Knapsack Section. In 1967, after leading a trip which included a climb of Mt. Lyell, I spent a week at Sam Mack Meadow taking the climbing course from Mountaineering Guide Service, where I participated in climbs of North Palisade and Whinell. It was during the course of these two weeks that I became aware of slight muscular rigidity, particularly in the right arm and leg. This symptom became increasingly apparent as the year wore on.

Walking became a chore. I felt as though I was continually having to push my way through a vast dense space that resisted my passage. Oddly enough I could put my boots on and hike fairly well over uneven terrain.

In March, 1968, my physician sent me to a neurologist who took less than two minutes to deliver his diagnosis -- Parkinson's disease, the second most common neurological disorder.

During this period I had literally inherited the leadership of the Outing Committee Hawaii outings. I led two of these in 1968, plus a leisure knapsack trip in Kings-SEQUOIA, over Kearsarge, then to Vidette, then to East Lake.

The year's end found my having turned over the leadership of the Hawaii trips to fellow SPS'ers Jim and Ennise Dodds. I had passed on any knapsack trips. I still walked as much as possible, at least two miles a day. Much of the time I had to force myself to walk, but I'm convinced it was beneficial.

On April 14, 1969, I entered Stanford University Hospital where tests were run and administration of L-Dopa began the second day. After the third day in the hospital I started walking around the Stanford campus, up to six miles a day. No ache in the feet, legs, any place. My thinking cleared; I found I could talk understandably, and my right hand was again mobile.

I'm scheduled to lead a leisure knapsack trip this coming summer which will include climbing several peaks. I am going to work on the emblem again, but now, of course, I've a few more qualifiers to go for the fifteen additional. Incidentally, I voted for the by-law change. I don't go as fast as many of you whom I read about in the ECHO, but I enjoy the mountains as much as you do, and I am truly thankful that I am fortunate enough to be back on the Sierra trails again.

-- Walt Weyman, Marshall, California --
The Third Annual SPS Banquet was held December 1, 1959, at the Silver Saddle Inn in Downey. Jerry Keating was introduced as incoming Section Chairman and Bill Sanders was presented with a Past President guard for his emblem. Lothar Kolbig provided the program for the evening, showing movies of climbing in the Canadian Rockies with the Canadian Alpine Club. Section membership was at an all-time high of 159 persons.

John Robinson led the last scheduled climb for 1959 on November 14-15. Nichols Peak was ascended by 17 persons on Saturday while Pilot Knob was climbed by 20 persons on Sunday. Pilot Knob was not then on the SPS qualifying list, but its inclusion to the list was suggested.

As a part of the 1959 Section elections, a survey of members' interest was also conducted and some of the results of this survey follow: 72% of the membership preferred trips of moderate difficulty, 21% preferred strenuous trips, 7% easy trips; 51% preferred non-technical trips, 90% thought the Section should schedule more exploratory trips, 70% wanted more beginners' trips, and the Section was evenly divided on whether any Sierra car camps should be scheduled. The most popular areas for scheduled Section trips included the west side of the Sierra (Kaweah, Tehapite Valley, Kings Canyon) 21%; Matterhorn Peak and north 19%; McGee Creek area 14%, the Kern Plateau 12%, the Minarets 11%, Evolution Valley area 10%, all others 13%. Perhaps a survey of this sort would prove informative and also provide some guidance for future SPS activities during the 1970 season.

--Ron Jones--

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