We are saddened to hear of the death of fellow mountaineer, John Leonard. John was regarded as a careful, thorough climber. He fell to his death from a belay position on a private climb of Baboquivari Peak (a D.P.S. peak).

It seems that the year started with one crisis and is going out with another. At its beginning, we did not know the impact of the special user permit requirements on our organization. The net effect proved more-or-less to be negligible. Some leaders had minor headaches with forms to fill out, but that was about it. Now there is a crisis with the clubs liability insurance which seems to preclude E level rock climbing. Let us remain hopeful this obstacle resolves itself as well as did the Special User Permit situation.

This is my final Chairman’s Corner, so it’s time to offer thanks to all those who made the office easier and more enjoyable:

First of all, I offer my thanks to those who provided the outings which are the mainstay of our organization.

Then my appreciation goes to the participants without whom the outings could not be successful.

The officers faithfully performed their duties:

Maris Valkass as vice chair and outings chair did a yeomans job in getting trips submitted and compiled.

Ron Hudson served admirably as secretary, keeping notes on all meetings as well as membership, and emblem achievers.

Vieve Weldon served with extraordinary conscientiousness with the added plus of her humor in the position of section treasurer.

Mary Sue Miller provided us with an excellent variety of programs for our monthly meetings as alternate officer and programs chair.

Bill Bradley did his best to keep us safe as he minded the store as safety chair and organized training outings.

Jay Holshuh has our deep thanks for taking care of the mountain of paperwork as he performed the tasks of mountain records chair.

Pat Hollemann did a grand job at the unenviable task of compiling all the editions of the ECHO for this past year.

Ella Hoselton admirably performed the gargantuan task of getting each of us each edition of the ECHO in her position as mailer.

Bill T. Russell’s official position was conservation chair. He also served us well as a senior advisor.

Nancy Gordon was our council representative and a great source of advice as the most recent past chair.

Ruth Armentrout again gave her boundless energy to the position of banquet chair. Her efforts help this year’s to be another success.

My deepest thanks to the many others who help to keep the Sierra Peaks Section the vital organization it is.

Dave Dykeman

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VOLUME 29-7 PEAK INDEX (1985)
Corcoran Gemini Hooper Seven Gables
Electra Hale Recess Young
Foerster Hilgard Rogers
Gabb Hitchcock Senger

********************************************************************************

COVER PHOTO: Thanks to Tom Ross for this wintry picture of Banner Pk. with frozen Thousand Island Lake in the foreground.
EMERGENCY APPEAL

By now most of you know that we are prohibited from leading trips with a higher than 3rd class rating, because of lack of insurance. The restriction effectively wipes out the finest peaks on the SPS List. Furthermore, at this time, it is not even clear that the restriction stops there!

The SPS Management Committee is requesting all members and subscribers to write Michele Perrault at the address indicated (using the sample letter as a guide) and to express our concern over this development. Recommend that other alternatives be immediately investigated, such as lower dollar coverage, self insurance, combining with other outdoor groups for insurance, etc. It is important that we show our strength by all writing a letter, or tomorrow we may be hiking only in Griffith Park.

Michele Perrault
President, Sierra Club
530 Bush Street
San Francisco, CA 94108

Re: Outings restrictions resulting from new insurance

Dear Michele:

I wish to express my concern that the new policy as outlined in your memorandum of November 1 is harmful to all outings activity and may adversely affect the future of the Sierra Club.

The outings activities of the Sierra Club have long been an important part of the Club's identity. The demise or reduction of outings would reduce the membership by failure to attract new members, most of whom are initially drawn by the activities, and by loss of some current members.

In mountaineering and water activities, the restrictions will limit training of leaders, with the result that Club outings will be less well prepared to assess dangers and respond to emergencies. The restrictions will also limit training of participants, resulting in a lower overall skill level and a higher probability of accidents. Reduction of training programs will also adversely affect recruitment of new members.

We fear that the issues that led to the restrictions on mountaineering and water sports may also in the future lead to restrictions on other outings activities.

We hope that the Club will make every effort to find insurance coverage that will cover all of the Club outings.

Sincerely yours,
IN MEMORIAM

With deep regret and great sadness, we are reporting the loss of a good friend, mountaineer, and Associate Editor of the SAGE, John Leonard. John died while descending Baboquivari Peak near Tucson, Arizona. Our hearts and prayers go to John’s wife Karen and his children.

Friends of John

The Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club has established a John Leonard Map Fund as a memorial to him. Money from this fund will be used to purchase a topographical Map Collection of the Desert, Sierras and other areas for members use. Those wishing may send a check made out to: S-C Angeles Chapter Leonard Map Fund, to the chapter office.

Address: 2410 Beverly Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90057

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

NEW MEMBERS
Gerry Dunie
831 N. Garfield Ave., #C
Alhambra, CA 91801

Martha E. Flores
2525 Mentor Ave., #11
Pasadena, CA 91106

Scot Jamison
2517 King Way
Claremont, CA 91711

REINSTATED MEMBER
Tony Mindlin
835A 7th St.
Santa Monica, CA 90403

NEW ECHO SUBSCRIBERS
Kathy Cecere
1928 Mill Rd.
South Pasadena, CA 91030

Kevin Nelson
595 N. Marengo
Pasadena, CA 91101

Roland C. Weber
456 Pinehurst Ct.
Fullerton, CA 92635

ADDRESS CHANGES (CONT)
Jay Holshuh
3015 Roxanne Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90808

John E. McDermott
17117 Strawberry Drive
Encino, CA 91436

Robert J. Meyer
1632 Camden Ave., #303
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Frank Sanborn
P.O. Box 1369
Windsor, CA 95492
(707) 838-7656

Chuck Stein
4601 N. Park Ave., #818
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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SPS PROGRAMS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

January 8 Meeting: "The Western Mono Indians of the Central Sierra" presented by Dr. Thomas Maxwell, Professor of Anthropology at California Lutheran College. Refreshments. Griffith Park Auditorium. 7:30 p.m.

February 12 Meeting: "Car Camping and Climbing in Ecuador" presented by Boris Savic, Jr. Enjoy another trip with this worldwide traveller. Refreshments. Griffith Park Auditorium. 7:30 p.m.
NOTE FOR SPS TRIP PERMITS

When we apply to the Inyo and Sierra National Forests for permits for SPS scheduled trips, we still need to mention "Sierra Peaks Section, Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club; re: special use permit blanket coverage". Note that participants pay no fees.

No permit is needed for day hikes of Whitney.

This notice is given now to alert you to changes in the wilderness permit reservation policy for the Inyo National Forest. These changes are proposed to take effect in 1986.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Currently</th>
<th>Proposed for 1986</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Beginning date to accept reservations:</td>
<td>Postmarked March 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Ending date accepting reservations:</td>
<td>None - reservations can be made anytime after March 1 for the entire quota period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Quota Season: (This is the time period when wilderness permits are limited in number)</td>
<td>Mt. Whitney R.D. - season varies by trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All other Inyo N.F. ranger districts: 6/15 - 9/15.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Wilderness Permits - when are they needed?</td>
<td>Year-round for overnite and day use.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Over 80 percent of our reservations are made before June 30, and most of the requests after that date are for trails where the quota is full. These changes should help eliminate the needless paperwork, delay, and inconvenience to the public. Our hope is that shortening of this quota period and elimination of day use permit will reduce inconveniences to our wilderness users. Since we do want to inform as many people as possible about these changes, I would appreciate your passing the information along to other wilderness users.

Sincerely,

DENNIS J. ORBUS
District Ranger
Sept. 29 - 1985

Dear Fellow Members:

This is to call the attention of the Management Committee and general membership to the fact that the month of October 1985 is the 30th anniversary of the "birth" of the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club Los Angeles Chapter. The Angeles Chapter itself is only 5 years old, so distinct from the Southern California Chapter when a small group of us Sierra "I'll-ever Streak" made our initial logbook presentation to the Chapter Executive Committee which was approved and the S.P.R. "body" was born! The concept of a new Sierra Peaks Section is distinct from the Desert Peaks and Thousand Peaks Sections and has been extremely blessed by our annual Sierra campfires (yes, we had fires in those days prior to wilderness entry permits and groveling generals etc.) during that year of 1955. As shown by its spread.

Among the "niches" of the fledgling S.P.R. were Bob SHELLER, Pat MEIXNER, Leo SCOTTI, FRANK BRESCEL, BARBARA LILLEY, Bud AND Rep BINGHAM, CHUCK MILLER, Jerry AND Nancy KEATING, John Robinson, Frank FANGORN and June. It is very gratifying to note that the S.P.R. is now a "healthy-adult adult."

Sincerely yours

Frank D. FANGORN
ECHOS FROM THE PAST
Ron Jones

Five Years Ago in the SPS

The SPS Banquet was held in December 1980 at the CalTech Athenaeum with 130 members and guests present. Fred Beckey presented the slide program entitled Mountains of America. The new officers for 1981 were Bill Bradley, Ch; Pat Holleman, VCh; Jim Murphy, Secty; Bob Emerick, Treas and Mary McMannes, Alt. New Emblem holders during the last months of 1980 were Geoff Godfrey, Ralph Johnson and Nicky Beverage, # 411-413. New Section members this period included Betsy Lutz, Mike Fridell, Don Hudson, Vic Copelan, Bob Meador and Dena Ross.

Ten Years Ago

The 1975 banquet was held at Taix Restaurant with 120 attending. Pete White and Peter Pilafian presented a slide and film program of various international climbs including the filming of the movie, "Eiger Sanction". The newly elected officers were Duane McNer, Chair; Cuno Ranachau, VChair; R.J. Secor, Secty; Beverly Schultz, Treas and Mary Gygax, Alt. Cuno Ranachau became Senior Emblem holder #16 during mid-September. New Emblem holders from # 355 and beyond included Bob Emerick, Delores Holladay, Chuck Stein, Guyneth White, Bill Stauffer, Jon Inakeep, Fred Bode, Ed Lubin, Ann and Lou Cavalieris. New members included Ken Jones, Ron Bartell, Andy Fried, Gene Olsen, Randy Sheaff and Al Toerig. Jim Murphy led "the usual group" on a climb of Mt Abbot and was joined on Dade by a 12 year old unnamed girl who climbed her 75th SPS peak. Jerry Keating and Walt Whisman led 14 on an 18 mile backpack to Dennison Ridge. Mike and Suzie Wilkinson led Siretta, Taylor Dome and Cannel. Roy Ward and I led 21 to Kennedy Mtn and approaching Mtn Harrington could not find the summit during a snowstorm. Roy & Cuno led a 9 year old girl and a group of 23 to Rockhouse and Taylor Dome.

Twenty Years Ago

Tom Ross of Independence became the second SPS list finisher in 1965. Don Cubberly was Emblem holder # 101. The new SPS officers for the coming year were Dick Jali, Ch; Don Scruggs, VCh; Ken McNutt, Secty; Graham Stephenson, Treas and George Shinno, Alt. Steve Molnar led an October climb with 20 participants to Lamont Pk. John Thornton led 14 to University and Independence. Tom Ammeus and Monroe Levy led 16 to Homers Nose.

Twenty Five Years Ago

The SPS banquet was held at the Switzerland Restaurant on the 4000 block south Figaroa. For $3.10 members enjoyed a chicken dinner, dancing to live Tyrolean music and a program given by Peggy Sullivan on climbing Mt Olympus and around Olympic National Park. New officers were George Shinno, Ch; Lothar Kolbig, VCh, Jerry Keating Secty; Tom Ammeus, Treas and Bud Bingham, Alt. The outgoing Chair, Jerry Keating, stated that during 1960 the SPS had scheduled 6 "easy" trips for beginners. These produced disappointing turnouts and the SPS Management Committee has decided that "outings aimed primarily at beginners are not worth scheduling." Tom Ammeus led 7 on a litter cleanup backpack to near the Palisade Glacier when 21 sacks of smashed cans and 15 gallons of broken glass were collected.

OCTOBER 16, 1985 marked the 30th Birthday of the SPS. Its first outing, a climb of Deer Mtn over Hauwee Pass was led on May 5-6, 1956 by the "founding father" of the SPS, Frank Sanborn, assisted by John Robinson. Norm Rohn and I are leading a repeat of that hike, one of the Angeles Chapter’s 75th birthday Diamond Jubilee celebrations on April 19-20, 1986. Frank and John are invited to the repeat. ---RON
Ten of us met on a fine Saturday morning at the intersection of Horseshoe Meadow Road and Granite View Drive - then we drove up the latter, a good road suitable for all vehicles, to a small parking area at about 6400 feet, just south of Tuttle Creek. The road continues on, but deteriorates rapidly. Beyond the road is a good trail leading to a stone building which overlooks the entrance to Tuttle Creek Canyon. The trail and building are shown on the new 7.5 minute Mt. Langley quad. From the building we followed an old and rather vague trail on the north side of the creek to about 9000 feet, where it disappeared. There is quite a lot of brush in this whole area. We then climbed on to camp at a snow-free bench with trees at about 11000 feet.

On Sunday morning we set out to find the elusive Mt. Corcoran, armed with the aforementioned Mt. Langley quad and a sketch and writeup by Ron Jones (from the March-April 1983 Echo). We made good progress on firm snow ramps, not needing crampons, and had no difficulty in finding the right chute and the right peak. We encountered only minor 3rd class on the way to the summit. Our descent was hindered slightly by soft snow, but otherwise went well, and we reached the cars by 5 PM.

The members of our strong and genial group were: Bob Ferguson, Vic Henney, Sue Wyman, Lisa Freundlich, Charmaine Ledesma, Bruce Gubersky, Wilson Harvey, Igor Mamedalin - and the leaders.

- HM

ROGERS, ELECTRA (AND FOERSTER) JUL 4-7, 1985 DAVE DYKEMAN/GEORGE TOBY

After the long drive to Tuolumne Meadows and a short night's sleep, we woke to a gloomy dawn. As the cob webs cleared, we realized that the gloom was from smoke clouds, not rain clouds. From here, things got no better. The line at the permit kiosk was long and slow. After wasting quite a bit of time waiting, we heard a rumor that our trail was closed. Sure enough, it was. We beat a hasty path to the USFS station at Lee Vining where the last permits were issued to two groups of six each, for twelve of us to enter via Rush Creek.

This substantial change in plans was not without cost. We were no longer to be in position to make two relatively easy day hikes for the three peaks. Instead, after hiking to base camp, we headed out to bag Foerster on Friday. After getting near Electra, we realized Foerster was too far away to bag that day. We went for Electra first. Then our picture of what Rogers looked like prompted us to go over its top on the way back to camp. This lead us into a little tougher return than we anticipated. We decided not to even try for Foerster, opting for a day-early return home. Foerster still hangs there for would-be list finishers.

Dave D.
Three strong followers joined the leaders for this fun hike into the Selden Pass area in somewhat mixed weather. The 0830 boat across Florence Lake allowed us to reach the W fence of the Muir Trail Ranch (old Diamond D) early. Finding the start of the old Selden Pass trail there is a little tricky. It starts about ½ mi. farther along and proceeds NE up a dry drainage until near the stream draining the Sally Keyes Lakes. From there on it's steep and switchbacky, but direct, joining the Muir Trail in a meadow just W of the lowest of the lakes. We selected a fine campsite W of the trail on a flat overlooking the upper lake and loafed the afternoon away.

On day two, while R.J. Secor made the long trek to Recess, Don Weiss, Larry Hoak and the leaders went E from Selden Pass, S of Three Island Lake and on to Gemini. The summit was reached just as a wild electrical storm arrived. Things buzzed, hair stood up and we departed on the run without even looking for the register. Proceeding down the talus in the thunder and rain we passed the saddle between Gemini and Seven Cables and traversed NW along 7C's S face. When we had nearly reached the summit up a 3rd class chute, the wet black lichen on downward-sloping ledges finally became too much for us and we retreated, arriving back at camp at and after dark.

On day three we decided to try again for 7C. The storm had abated but we approached from Sandpiper Lake, having passed around the W and N sides of Marie Lake. The climb from Sandpiper to the broad slopes NW of 7C is brushy and steep but penetrable. Soon the climb became more fun as we encountered a bit of 3rd class working up the N ridge. The summit visit was pleasant but brief. Departing by the W ridge, we found that the entire climb could have been 2nd class. A convenient snow field helped the descent. On arriving back at the Muir Trail beside Marie Lake we met R.J. but found it too late to try for Hooper. Back to camp we went to enjoy some lovely trout new friends camping at Marie Lake had given to R.J. Then we all had to pitch in to help remove a fish-hook from the lip of a fellow camper's dog. The coyotes serenaded us that night.

Larry found it necessary to leave for home early on the morning of day four. The remaining party took off for Selden Pass again, then hiking W over slabs and snowfields, gained the flat saddle SE of Hooper. Dropping slightly and contouring NW we soon found an easy route to the summit area. The block looks formidable but Dave quickly found a reasonable route around the left side and up over the back. He belayed R.J. up the face crack. Norm and Don followed Dave and all down-climbed on belay. The rope was comforting. By noon we were on our way back to Selden Pass and on to Senger. The route is easy via the sandy second notch W of the peak but we unknowingly made it considerably more difficult by climbing over the peaklet between the first and second notches. It was time-consuming 3rd class, but fun. As we crossed the large flat summit of Senger, thunder rolled in the bowl to the S and showers began. Our stay was very short and we hurried on down the sandy slopes directly to Sally Keyes Lakes.

On the morning of day five Dave headed down the Muir Trail for Emerald and Henry, R.J. went for the 1300 Florence ferry and Don and Norm eased down the Senger Creek cutoff trail to Blaney Mdw. There, at the E fence line of the Muir Trail Ranch, we went down to the South Fork of the San Joaquin River where there are many fine campsites. Wading the river we soon found the Blaney Hot Springs in a meadow a few hundred yards S of the river and along the private property fence line. The soak was just great. We even found the small warm lake which the ranch's dudes so prize for swimming. Five or so deer, including two fine bucks, watched our activities from the meadow. Our detour put us on schedule for the
1520 ferry but before we reachee Florence Lake another storm had arrived. The boat doesn't run during electrical storms and the operators ground their telephone so the waiting passengers don't know what to expect, if anything. Fortunately, the weather eased off again so a boat came about 1730 and we were saved a long wet hike around the lake. The trip was a good one and we made our peaks, but not quite the way we had planned.

Norm Rohn, Nathan Wong and Ron Jones carpooled to the Pine Ck roadhead and picked up Joy Faggart in Big Pine where she had been left after a climb on Mt Sill the day before. Monday morning the skies were overcast and we had a lot of cold wind, showers and even a flurry of sleet on our hike over Italy Pass. Nathan and Joy needed Mt Julius Caesar and made that detour. We made a late afternoon camp at the outlet of Lake Italy.

The next day dawned clear and dry and after warming up we started for Mt Gabb (13,711'), climbing it by the obvious route up the south side. We then descended to about 12,000' and traversed west across a series of cl 2 benches and ledges to climb Mt Hilgard (13,361') via the easy route just south of the east ridge. Our descent of this peak was down the fun snow and scree chutes of the SE face and directly to our camp.

The third day we hiked down the heavily glaciated Hilgard Branch of Bear Ck trying to follow the trail shown on the Mt Abbott 15' topo. Several places we lost any semblence of a "track" and scrambled on high cl 2 rocks. We waded across the stream to the north side near the point shown on the topo and descended to 9,600', just below the outlet stream from Hilgard Lake. Here we climbed northerly to point 11,388 and assessed the options open to us of 1) losing more than 400 ft to the upper end of the valley heading up from near Kip Camp (a good route from a western approach) and reclimbing nearly 800 ft of scree to the saddle between Recess Pk and Pk 12,692 OR 2) staying on the cl 2-3 ridge leading from 11,338 to Pk 12,692. We chose the latter and we were on top of Recess Pk (12,836') by 3 o'clock.

We returned to camp by reclimbing Pk 12,692, descending its easy SE scree slopes to the valley below and following the east side of its stream (a few cl 3 moves) to Bear Ck. This would be a recommended route to climb Recess Pk! Following east up the Hilgard Branch we found at about 10,500 ft a well ducked cl 1 use trail on the north side of the creek (or crick as Norm kept calling it) across the stream from the less desireable "trail" shown on the topo. This avoids the stream crossing and leads directly to the outlet of Lake Italy. We arrived back at camp late and for the third day in a row I didn't have enough time to fish Lake Italy.

The next day we returned to our cars over Italy Pass and found the 4WD road/trail around Union Carbide's Brownstown mine to be freshly torn up by a bulldozer making a comfortable descent impossible. Congratulations to Joy for her 6th SPS peak and thanks to Norm for a great lead in his closing in on THE list. --RON
This trip was scheduled by the Mt. Baldy group as an M-leader qualifying trip for Ed Ross, but Ed got spectacular at Stoney Point a few months ago, peeled off a boulder and will be on crutches for months. It was too good an outing to miss and, since we found no customers, I talked our son Casey, recently back from his sixth working tour in Antarctica, into coming with me.

A permit was available for the Northfork of Lone Pine Creek so we took it, had a fine supper at Curt Herring’s excellent BBQ house in Lone Pine, drove to the Portal for an acclimating sleep and started hiking early in the morning. The big rock jumble near the lower end of the North Fork is a pain. The Ebersbacher ledges help avoid much of the willows and otherwise the route goes well to Iceberg Lake. We scrambled from there to the 2nd class col between Whitney and Russell and from there down the alternately rocky and snowy valley past the Arctic Lakes. Made a camp near the lowest lake several hundred yards above the Muir Trail and enjoyed a happy hour in a cozy tent while the elements put on a noisy and spectacular show outside. Soon we had three inches of fresh snow and hail covering our whole valley.

In the morning I went up a loose chute just west of our tiny lake, crossing a saddle immediately north of peak 12722. Mt. Hale is a pleasant stroll from there and affords great views of the infrequently-visited Wallace and Wales Lakes as well as Mts. Russell and Whitney. From there Mt. Young is an easy boulder slog. I was back at camp before noon and we moved our headquarters over to the bouldery flats at 12000’ between the Muir Trail and the Hitchcock Lakes. The weather threatened a repeat performance so I saved Mt. Hitchcock for morning and we redid our happy hour routine.

Dropping down a few hundred feet and passing between the two Hitchcock Lakes, I went south up the broad and very loose slope to the low point on the ridge, taking advantage of the snow fields where available. It’s an easy scramble from there around to the west and up the rocky slope. I was on the summit in less than two hours. Meanwhile Casey had packed up and headed for Trail Crest. He was already on the way down from the summit of Mt. Whitney when he saw me pick up my pack at our campsite and start up the switchbacks. The trail is pretty bad in places where nothing has been done yet to repair the winter damage.

Then down those 5119 toe-bruising feet of Whitney Trail we went, having had a fine outing and walking completely around the Mt. Whitney mass. Casey climbed Mt. Whitney for the first time and I had fun on three good SPS peaks.
The Sierra ECHO is published seven times a year by the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club.

COPY: Send to Editor, Pat Holleman, 1638 6th St., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. ECHO deadlines are the 20th of the odd numbered months and June. Priority is given to TYPED, SINGLE SPACED copy.

ADDRESS CHANGES TO: Secretary, Vieve Weldon, 12203-47 Santa Gertrudes Ave., La Mirada, CA 90638. Third class mail is not forwarded.

INQUIRIES ABOUT NOT RECEIVING THE ECHO: Direct to Mailer, Ella Hoselton, 5831 W. 76th St., Los Angeles, CA 90045.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are $4.00 per year due by March 31. Subscribing to the ECHO is a requirement for active membership in the SPS. Send new subscriptions to the Secretary (address above) and include your Sierra Club membership number. Send renewals to the Treasurer (address below). New applications received after October 1 are credited through the next year.

FAMILY SUBSCRIPTIONS: Only one ECHO subscription is necessary for members of a family residing at one address.

AWARDS: Emblem pins ($7.50), list finisher pins ($10.00), and patches ($2.00) are available from the Treasurer, Harold McFadden, 2237-1/4 S. Bentley Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90064.