CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

Following the tradition of Mary Sue, our previous Chair, I want to open my column with a quotation which I think most appropriately describes the group of climbers who make up the SPS, a unique group with a most wonderful interest.

There's a race of men (and women) that don't fit in,
A race that can't stay still;
So they break the hearts of kith and kin,
And they roam the world at will.
They range the field and they brave the flood,
And they climb the mountain's crest;
Their's is the curse of the gypsy blood,
And they don't know how to rest. --- Robert Service

Through this column I'd like to invite all of you, members and their guests, to the SPS meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at the Griffith Park Ranger Station near the Merry Go Round. The more climbers and guests who can attend the meetings the more active and stronger Section we'll have. Larry Machleder and Al Conrad have provided some excellent mountaineering programs and refreshments. You all come, ya hear!

We are fortunate to have an active and involved group of SPSers in the 1987 Management Committee. At our January meeting we identified several goals for this season. First, we want to introduce new climbers and hikers to our Section as well as lead some easier one peak weekends for some of our members so inclined through a program initiated by Membership co-Chair Don Borad and Outings Chair, Rob Roy McDonald. This will be a perhaps once monthly hike which will be identified in the schedule as "SPS Introductory Climb". Members of the Management Committee will also be going to a meeting of each of the BMTC and AMTC areas to introduce those people to SPS Mountaineering. Secondly, to alleviate the difficulty of members getting on those scheduled climbs with small Wilderness Permit quotas, Rob Roy plans to schedule more SPS hikes and climbs. He will be recruiting Leaders and Assistants to achieve this goal. Please help if you are called. Third, Safety Chair Norm Rohn will work actively in the SPS Safety program and ensure that the SPS schedules enough rock and snow praxisises.

I'd like to thank all the members of the '86 Management Committee. Mary Sue Miller, our always smiling Chair during the 30th anniversary year of the SPS; Ron Hudson, who put together a great outings program; Vieve Weldon, who kept a great set of books as Secretary; Harold McPadden, who kept a great set of books as Treasurer; Larry Machleder, who put together a good schedule of programs; Nancy Gordon, who saw the Section through another year of safe climbing; Vi Grasso, who did a great job of banquet organizing; Bill Russell who brought our attention to several Sierra conservation issues, Gerry Holleman, who kept our membership mailing labels current; Dave Dykeman, who kept us up to date on interesting issues in the Chapter Council; and last, but not least, thanks to ECHO Editor, Pat Holleman and her crew of Sharon & Al Conrad and Ella Hoselton.

LEADERS: Remember to plan and turn in your regular SPS climbs and any SPS Introductory Hikes and Climbs to Rob Roy toward the end of February. WE NEED YOUR HELP!  

Ron Jones
1987 SPS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman..........Ron Jones
Vice-Chairman
(Outings).......Rob Roy McDonald
Secretary.........Maris Valkass
Treasurer.........Vi Grasso
Programs.........Al Conrad
Council..........Mary Sue Miller
Mountain Records..Rob Roy McDonald
Conservation.....Bill T. Russell
Safety............Norm Rohn
ECHO Editor......Pat Holleman
ECHO Mailer......Carolyn West
Membership.......Don Bordad
Records..........Gerry Holleman
Banquet.........Bill Oliver

1987 SPS SPRING SCHEDULE

Mar 7-8          Rock Climbing, Joshua Tree - Jones, Valkass
Mar 21-22        Snow Climbing - Russell, Gordon

Apr 17-19        Trojan, Barnard - Mantle, Hicks
Apr 18-19        Trojan - Tidball, Patterson
Apr 19           Mt. Baldy - McFadden, Machleder
Apr 25-26        Snow practice & Checkout - Hudson, Machleder
Apr 25-26        Navigation Noodle to Owens - Russell, McRuer

May 2-3          Agassiz, Goode - Jones, Valkass
May 9-10         Perkins, Colosseum - Hudson, Oliver
May 9-10         Williamson - McFadden, Breakwell
May 16-17        LeConte - McFadden, Kabler
May 16-17        Owens, Jenkins - Dunie, Jamison
May 16-17        Basin - Mantle, Danta
May 23-25        Abbot - Pearsons, Mohn
May 23-25        Thunderbolt, Winchell - Toby, McFadden
May 23-25        Morrison, Baldwin - Dykeman, Borad
May 30-31        Black, Diamond - Tidball, Jamison

Jun 12-14        Gardiner, Cotter - Oliver, Hudson
Jun 13-14        Dragon - McFadden, Breakwell
Jun 20-22        N. Palisade, Thunderbolt, Winchell - Dykeman, Gordon

Jul 2-5          Florence, Electra, Foerster - Toby, Borad--
Jul 3-6          Disappointment, Thumb, Clyde - Van Dalsem, Hartunian

TRIP ANNOUNCEMENT

Limited space available. Leaders: Ron Jones, Maris Valkass.

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ECHO RENEWAL REMINDER

The deadline for renewing your ECHO subscription is March 31. If you
ever renewed, send a check for $6 along with the renewal form from
the Sep-Oct '86 ECHO to the Treasurer: Vi Grasso, 1173-1/2 Amherst,
Los Angeles, CA 90049.

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PHOTO CREDIT: Tom Ross took this picture of his favorite Sierra peak,
showing the glacier and north face of Mt. Darwin. Thanks again, Tom.
SUMMER SCHEDULE

Rob Roy McDonald, Outings Chairman

The deadline for trip write-ups for the July-October climbing season is February 20 to me. Letters have been mailed to SPS Leaders outlining the objectives for this summer. Briefly, the Management Committee is encouraging I, M, and E rated leaders to plan trips. It is hoped that there will be a variety of trips offered: challenging trips, easy trips, fun trips, climbs of new peaks, and climbs of familiar peaks by new routes. Trips attractive to new participants will be designated in the schedule as SPS Intro Trips.

The bylaws of our Section state: "— to aid in the maintenance of good trails and clean campsites." Is there someone in the Section who would be interested in organizing such a trip? I'm sure that many of you can think of a trail in need of repair. Perhaps the trip could be billed as a trail maintenance and gourmet cuisine weekend.

You may attract more participants if you plan climbs of peaks which have not enjoyed much activity in recent years. Please refer to pages 37—39 of the Anniversary Echo.

If you would like to lead a trip but can't find an assistant leader or if you are an assistant leader looking for a leader, please phone me before February 15 and I will attempt to get you together.

Please include the distance and the elevation gain in your write-up so that the difficulty of the trip is easier to estimate.

EDITOR'S NOTE: For people planning to use the Mt. Whitney Trail this year, see the next page for important changes in permit reservations!

THE DESERT PROTECTION ACT NEEDS HELP NOW!!!

In February 1986, Senator Alan Cranston introduced S. 2061, the California Desert Protection Act. This bill would establish Mojave, Joshua Tree, and Death Valley national parks and provide wilderness protection for 4.5 million acres of land currently threatened by development, mining, overgrazing, and destruction by irresponsible off-road vehicle use. Introduction of the Senate bill is a crucial step in our effort to gain permanent protection for the California Desert.

Senator Cranston will reintroduce the California Desert Protection Act in a few weeks. We must now convince Senator Pete Wilson to join Senator Cranston in sponsoring this historic legislation. Senator Wilson has not yet taken a position for or against the California Desert Protection Act. Recently, California conservation leaders took Senator Wilson on a tour of some of the desert's most spectacular areas. In addition to introducing him to the beauty of these areas, we explained to Senator Wilson that protecting the California Desert was the top conservation and political priority of California's environmental community. It is very possible that Senator Wilson can be convinced to support the Desert bill. You, as a conservation leader, can help to influence his decision by contacting him and urging his sponsorship of the California Desert Protection Act.

Please write or call Senator Wilson today and ask him to join with Senator Cranston in sponsoring the California Desert Protection Act, which will be introduced soon after Congress begins. Even a handful of thoughtful letters from Californians urging support for the bill at this critical time may be enough to make a difference in Senator Wilson's decision. We are counting on your letter as one of those.

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SPS PROGRAMS FOR MARCH AND APRIL

March 11 Meeting: "OUT OF AFRICA": MARY GYGAX will show us how to climb Mt. Kenya and Mt. Kilimanjaro, the highest peak on the African continent, with slides of her trip last summer. Joint Sierra Peaks/Mugelnoos meeting. Refreshments. Griffith Park Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

April 8 Meeting: "RANDONNEE SKIING AND CLIMBING IN THE SIERRA": ALOIS SMRZ and MIGUEL CARMONA present a program of skiing and ice and rock climbing from their trips in the Sierra. Joint Sierra Peaks/Mugelnoos meeting. Refreshments. Griffith Park Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

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ANNIVERSARY ECHO

Extra copies of THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY ECHO are available! Send $4.50 per copy to the Echo Mailer: Carolyn West, 5000 Centinela Ave., #302, Los Angeles, CA 90048. Copies may also be obtained at an SPS meeting for $3.00 since mailing for this issue is a significant part of the cost.

TRIP WRITE-UPS

Because of the ANNIVERSARY ECHO and the Peaks List, the ECHO is regrettfully behind on publishing trip write-ups. To those of you who have submitted write-ups, do not despair for they will be in print as soon as possible.
Mt. Whitney Trail Reservations
Mt. Whitney Ranger District
INO National Forest

HOW TO MAKE ADVANCE RESERVATIONS FOR THE MT. WHITNEY TRAIL

The U.S. Forest Service is no longer able to provide a reservation service for wilderness permits for the Mt. Whitney Trail. Effective in 1987, the Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association (ESIA), a non-profit organization, will be handling the reservations for the Mt. Whitney Trail. A $5.00 per person non-refundable reservation fee will be in effect in 1987 for confirmed reservations on the Mt. Whitney Trail. This fee has become necessary in order to offset the additional costs involved with providing this special service for the public. The trailhead quota period in 1987 is May 22 through September 30th. Advance reservation applications will only be accepted by written request with postcard dates March 1 through May 31. Since March 1 is a Sunday, applications postmarked March 2 will be processed with the March 1 date. Checks or money orders should be made payable to ESIA, and sent along with the application to: Wilderness Reservation, P.O. Box 8, Lone Pine, CA. 93545. Please do not send cash. Bad checks will cause permit cancellation. If a reservation cannot be confirmed, your reservation fee will be returned. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for processing. Reservations for all other quota trails will be accepted in this same format, but no fee will be charged. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

APPLICATION FOR WILDERNESS PERMIT

MT. WHITNEY RANGER DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 8
LONE PINE, CA. 93545

NAME: ____________________________
ADDRESS: _______________________
CITY: _________________________
ENTRY TRAIL: ____________________
1ST CHOICE STARTING DATE: ______
2ND CHOICE STARTING DATE: ______
3RD CHOICE STARTING DATE: ______
4TH CHOICE STARTING DATE: ______
5TH CHOICE STARTING DATE: ______
STATE: ______ ZIP: ______
EXIT TRAIL: _____________________
1ST CHOICE ENDING DATE: ______
2ND CHOICE ENDING DATE: ______
3RD CHOICE ENDING DATE: ______
4TH CHOICE ENDING DATE: ______
5TH CHOICE ENDING DATE: ______

WHITE MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT TRAILS, QUOTAS AND ISSUING STATIONS

Approximately half of the daily trailhead quota is reservable by mail application with the remainder available on a first-come first-serve basis on the day of the hike. Maximum group sizes apply to both reserved and day of hike permits. Groups that have reserved the maximum allowable may not apply for additional spaces on the day of the hike.

| TRAIL NAME | RESERVED | FIRST-COME | MAXIMUM | WHERE TO APPLY | CAMPFIRE
|------------|----------|------------|---------|---------------|-----------------
| McGee Creek | 16       | .6         | 15-25#  | Rock Creek    | no              |
| Hilton Lakes | 13      | 13         | 10      | Rock Creek    | no              |
| Mono Pass | 13       | .2         | 10      | Rock Creek    | yes             |
| Little Lakes Vly | 20 | 20       | 15      | Rock Creek    | yes             |
| Hilton Creek | none    | none       | none    | Rock Creek    | no              |
| Tamarack Lakes | none | none       | none    | Rock Creek    | no              |
| Pine Creek | 18       | 18         | 13      | White Mtn/RC   | no              |
| Gable Lakes | none    | none       | none    | White Mtn/Rock Cr. | no |
| horizon Lakes | none | none       | none    | White Mtn      | no              |
| Plute Pass | 18       | 18         | 13      | White Mtn      | yes             |
| Lamarck Lakes | 10      | 10         | 8       | White Mtn      | yes             |
| Sabrina Basin | 16      | 16         | 11      | White Mtn      | yes             |
| Tyee/George | none    | none       | none    | White Mtn      | no              |
| Treasure Lakes | 8      | 8          | 6       | White Mtn      | no              |
| Bishop Pass | 18       | 16         | 13      | White Mtn      | yes             |
| Big Pine, No Fk | 13    | 13         | 13      | Big Pine       | no              |
| Big Pine, So Fk | 6      | 6          | 6       | Big Pine       | no              |
| Baker Creek | none    | none       | 25      | Big Pine/White Mtn | no |
| Birch Lake (4x) | none | none       | 25      | White Mtn/Whitey | no |
| Red Lake (4x) | none    | none       | 25      | White Mtn/Whitney | no |

LEGEND
- Rock Creek........Rock Creek Entrance Station
- White Mtn........White Mountain Ranger Station
- Big Pine...........Upper Sage Flat Campground, Big Pine Canyon
- Whitney...........Mt. Whitney Ranger Station, Lone Pine
- Campfires........Campfire restrictions in effect and enforced. Use gas stoves for all cooking. Firewood is scarce in all areas.
- (4x)..............Off-road vehicles recommended
- (2x)..............Large group of 15 to 25 people allowed every other day
- #.................Quotas in effect for 4th of July and Labor Day holidays. Apply for all permits on a first-come first-serve basis. Maximum group size is 25 during non-quota periods.
1986 Membership Report

During the past year, 21 new members joined the SPS, bringing the total membership count to 335. Of this total, 232 members have "active" status, indicating they participated in at least one Section activity during the year preceding their membership renewal. Also during the past year, seven SPS members became emblem holders; one became a senior-emblem holder, and one attained list-finisher status. As a result, the total tally through the years amounts to 473 emblem holders, 94 senior-emblem holders, and 28 list finishers. The breakdown of Echo mailings as of January, 1987, was as follows:

Members
Active 212
Inactive 4
Total 216

Echo Subscribers (nonmembers) 31
Gratis Echo Mailings 18
Total Echo Mailings 49

SPPS PEAKS LIST

This issue contains the 14th Edition of the SPS list of 246 peaks, revised in Oct 1986 by Bill T. Russell. This edition lists many new maps and changes elevations accordingly. 91 of the peaks are now on 7–1/2 min, 1:24,000 maps with elevation and contour intervals in meters. 80 of the peaks are on 7–1/2 min, 1:24,000 maps with elevations and contour intervals in feet and 75 peaks remain on 15 min, 1:62,500 maps.

Rob Roy McDonald
SPS Banquet Meeting
December 10, 1986

The SPS held its 30th annual holiday season banquet at the Sportsmen’s Lodge in Studio City on Wednesday evening, December 10, 1986. The 122 members and guests in attendance dined on coq au vin after socializing over drinks and admiring Jerry Keating’s historical display. Once again, Norm Rohn’s sprigs of mistletoe tied with red ribbons provided a festive touch at each table setting.

After dinner, the banquet meeting was called to order by the SPS Chair, Mary Sue Miller. Mary Sue summarized the accomplishments of the SPS during the past year. They included the sponsorship of over 55 climbs and training exercises despite insurance-caused restrictions, the revision of the Peaks List, the publication of the special 30th anniversary commemorative issue of The Echo, and the revision of our Membership Information sheet. Mary Sue noted that the biggest problem faced by the Section, the insurance situation, had fortunately been resolved. She also mentioned the decision by the SPS to conduct meetings jointly with the Ski Mountaineers, beginning in January, 1987. The fact that attendance at SPS meetings had improved was also pointed out. Mary Sue then thanked the members and the outgoing management committee for their help during the past year. Special thanks were directed to Vi Grasso for organizing the evening. The excellent food and service provided by the Sportsmen’s Lodge were appreciated by all.

Mary Sue introduced the new Chair, Ron Jones, who in turn introduced the members of next year’s management committee. They will hold the following positions:

**Officers**
- Ron Jones, Chair
- Rob Roy McDonald, Vice Chair (Outings)
- Maris Valkas, Secretary
- Vi Grasso, Treasurer
- Al Conrad, Alternate Officer (Programs)

**Committee Chairpersons**
- Mary Sue Miller, Council Representative
- Bill T. Russell, Conservation
- Gerry Holleman, Membership Records
- Bill Oliver, Banquet
- Rob Roy McDonald, Membership Records
- Don Borad, Membership Retention and Recruitment
- Carolyn West, Echo Mailer
- Norm Rohn, Safety & Training

Bob Kanne, the Chapter Conservation Chair, announced several workshops at which the Sierra and Inyo National Forest Plans would be discussed and urged SPS members to submit their comments to the Forest Service.

After many years of anonymity, the true identity of the mysterious creator of Harvey Mudfoot was revealed as — Betty Desert! Betty appeared in person to entertain us with amusing anecdotes about Harvey, his family background, his temperament, and his unusual habits. She then thanked Ron Jones for keeping the legend of Harvey alive and well.

Doug Mantle, assisted by Mary McManns, served ably as the M.C. for the door-prize drawing. The generous donors, the donated items, and the lucky winners were as follows:

| A-16  | Adrienne Knute Press  | bomber hat | Jim Murphy
| Bolt of California | briefcase | book | Gerry Holleman
|       | fanny pack | briefcase | Mike Smetka
|       | tote bag | tote bag | Suzanne Swedo
|       | fanny pack | fanny pack | Dale Van Dalsen
| Mountain High | daypack | Delores Holladay
|       | fanny pack | fanny pack | Henry Heusinkveld
|       | pack | pack | Jon Lutz
| Sports Chalet | daypack | Duane McKuen
|       | soft pack | soft pack | Adrienne Knute
| Tex’s | flashlight | Elvor Nilsson
| Westridge | $25 gift cert. | John Hellman
| Anonymous Donor | mess kit | Eric Schumacher
|       | $25 gift cert. | Sherry Harsh
|       | | Elinda Gonzalez
|       | | John McCully
|       | | Jerry Dunle

We were particularly pleased that donors Limp’s and Campauses once again attended our banquet.

After the door prizes were awarded, the meeting was turned back to Mary Sue, who asked past SPS chairs, list finishers, senior emblem holders, and emblem holders to stand and be recognized. She thanked them on behalf of all SPS members for their active support of the Section through the years. Mary Sue then bestowed names of gods and heroes in Greek mythology on a number of members, ensuring them a lasting place in the stories passed down to future generations of SPS members.

SPS t-shirts were awarded to Pat Holleman for her fine job as publisher of the special anniversary issue of The Echo, to Jerry Keating for his work on the historical exhibit, and to Burt Falk for generously donating his time as guest speaker that evening.

Burt Falk then showed slides taken in October, 1983, on a circuit of the Annapurna Massif and a climb of Fluted Peak in Nepal.

The meeting was adjourned sometime late.

Respectfully submitted,

Vive Weldon
Vive Weldon, Secretary
Sierra Peaks Section
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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.

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INQUIRIES ABOUT NOT RECEIVING THE ECHO: Direct to Mailer, Carolyn West, 5000 Centinela Ave., #302, Los Angeles, CA 90066. Extra copies of THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY ECHO are available by sending $4.50 per copy to the Mailer.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are $6.00 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 pin ($10.00), and patches ($2.00) are available from the Treasurer, Vi Grasso, 1173-1/2 Amherst, Los Angeles, CA 90049.