



THE MUGELNOOS

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NOOS ABOUT THE MUGELNOOS

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SMS WINTER SCHEDULE

NOV 17 TUE Mugelnoos Meeting: Mark Goebel's slide presentation of his 1981 "Sierra High Route Ski Tour".

JAN 9 SAT: Local Ski Tour and Checkout. Mark Goebel and Cliff Cameron.

JAN 10 SUN: Local Ski Tour and Checkout. Walt Boge and Steve Wilkie.

JAN 16-17 SAT-SUN: Alpine and Nordic ski tour of Mammoth/Bishop area. Owen Maloy and Sy Ossofsky.

JAN 19 TUE: Mugelnoos Meeting: Dale Van Dalsem and his slide presentation of the ill fated East Buttress of McKinley.

JAN 23 SAT: Local Ski Tour of Blue Ridge Area. Nordic equipment recommended. Kathy Crandall. Mark Goebel.

JAN 24 SUN: Local checkout tour and 4th class ski test. R.J. Secor and Bill Feldman.

JAN 31 SUN: Bag an HPS peak on skis. Sugarloaf Mtn. Jackie Van Dalsem and Owen Maloy.

FEB 6-7 SAT-SUN: Pear Lake Hut Ski Weekend. Strenuous. Send \$3 for hut reservation and 2 sase. Kathy Crandall and Mark Goebel.

FEB 16 TUE: Mugelnoos Meeting: Award winning film - "Off the Edge" about glacier skiing in New Zealand. Host, Mark Goebel.

FEB 20-21 SAT-SUN: Local Ski Tour to Butler Peak Lookout. Steve Wilkie and Walt Boge. Experienced in overnight ski touring and demonstrate ability on a SMS one day checkout. Steve Wilkie and Walt Boge.

FEB 20-21 SAT-SUN: Ski Mountaineers Training Camp. Improve skiing techniques, knowledge of avalanches...\$18.00 reservation and 2 SASE. Mark Goebel and Kathy Crandall.

MAR 6-7 SAT-SUN: 4th annual Walter Mosauer Memorial Ski Race: Baldy Bowl. R.J. Secor and Owen Maloy.

MUGELNOOS STAFF

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 Deadline: Wed, Nov. 11

MUGELNOOS MEETING SITES

December introductory meeting for RCS Training Course will be held in the auditorium, January meeting in the Orange Room of the Department of Water and Power, 111 N. Hope St., Los Angeles at 7:30 p.m.

CALENDAR

Oct. 27: RCS Business Meeting
 Room 1071 - DWP
 Nov. 7-8: Owens Ridge Ripley/Russ
 Nov. 17 - Tues - Mark Goebel's slide presentation of his 1981 "Sierra Haute Route Ski Tour"
 Orange Room - DWP
 Nov. 27-29: Joshua Tree Mundwiler/Cole
 For Sale: Nishiki 10-Speed Bicycle-\$325.00
 23" Chromoly frame, Excellent condition...Mark Goebel 820-1962

RUTH DISPLAYS COMPASSION

Displaying her characteristic concern for others, Ruth Carter declined to appear at a recent climb to allow LeRoy Russ to reassert his original dominance of second place in the climbing stats. The aforementioned action was taken so as to avoid further impairment to an already damaged ego (Ed. note: Carter stayed an extra day at Yosemite, however.)

The climbing stats through the end of September are as follows:

1. Paul Harris - 36 climbing days
2. LeRoy Russ - 28 climbing days
3. Ruth Carter - 27 climbing days
4. John Peters - 23 climbing days
5. Richard Mundwiler, Virgil Shields - 18 climbing days
6. Mike Mulry - 17climbing days
7. John Ripley - 16 climbing days
8. Jim Sharpsteen, Larry Tidball - 15
9. Andy Fried, Greg Stevens - 14
10. Bob Havens, Ron Mastroiani, Jim McPherson, Fred Wing, Emory Yount - 13
11. Anna Hout - 12

Eleven RCS members out of 70 have not as yet attended their required four climbs.

RCS MEMBERSHIP PENDING

The Safety Committee has received applic for membership from Mike Baca, Margo Kos and Bill Krause. Anyone wishing to comm on these applicants' safety should conta Fred Wing by November 10 (2264 Roscomare LA 90024, (213) 476-4398.

NEW ADDRESSES

The following are new addresses for RCS

Dale Irvine
 446 Concha St
 Altadena, CA 91001
 (213) 791-3051

Larry Tidball
 1400 W. Edgehill Rd., #14
 San Bernardino, CA 92405
 (714) 882-6168

George Holland
 615C Indian Hill Blvd
 Claremont, CA 91711
 (714) 626-0619

Iain Linn
 50 Kings Rd
 Edinburgh EH15 1DX
 Scotland
 031-669-4787

Don't lose Iain's address - he is offeri floor space or even a bed to RCS'ers passing through. He suggests we schedul a four day climb on Ben Nevis in the near future.

ERRATA

Deirdre Ford writes to point out that th British mountaineer George Mallory is th source of the famous saying "Because it there", not Hillary as some misguided so so attributed it in an M-Noos past.

MORE ON GIARDIA

Ms Ford also points out that there is so controversy advocated in the recent Muge for water purification. Some authoritie feel that Halozone is more effective, so prefer tetraglycine hydroperiodide table and some feel that the dissolved Iodide crystals are potentially dangerous as th could be lethal if ingested all at one t. All agree that purification of cool wate can be handled by all methods -controvers exists over what to do with very cold wa as giardia cysts are known to survive un such conditions. Conclusion: pick your own parasite poison.

MT. RUBIDOUX WOMEN'S EXPEDITION

On September 20, six intrepid RCS women mounted a daylong assault on several bould at Mt. Rubidoux. Pushing themselves to the limits of technique and endurance, Ar Betsey, Kathy, Liz, Margo, and Ruth conqu several feet of crack and face. The

youngest member of the team, Betsey, (age 6), enjoyed her first roped climb so much (Theg rough on Half Dome Boulder - 5.1) that she climbed it twice. The next expedition is in planning stage. Call one of the members of the Gang of Six if you are interested. MK

Ed. Note: Margo fell a short distance while buldering at the picnic and dislocated her elbow. She expects to be climbing again in six to eight weeks. We will all be watching for her!)

ROCK CREEK SEQUENCE: SPY 'ER, INSPIRE, PERSPIRE, SPIRE, EXSPIRE

Four RCS members, 2 guests, and 3 students spent a pleasant and interesting three days in Rock Creek's Little Lakes Valley on August 1-3. Leaving Mosquito Flat about 9:30 am Saturday for Treasure Lakes, we were immediately stopped by a ranger and asked to show our wilderness permit. Leader Ripley was pleased that his efforts to obtain the permit had not been wasted (he had waited in line at the entrance station from 5 am until it opened at 6 am). The Little Lakes quota is 56 people per day, half (28) being reserved for "first come, first served" issuance on the day of the trip. Many were turned away that Saturday.

A leisurely hike brought us to Treasure Lakes about 1 pm. Nearly everyone relaxed through the afternoon, but Bob Somoanao and Alois Smrz ascended Mt. Dade by the class 2 route. The day was dominated by views of our primary goal, Bear Creek Spire.

Everyone was roused out of bed at 4 am in anticipation of a long climbing day (except Bob Somoanao, who had to leave that day). Alois Smrz and Margo Koss had a head start and were well up on the East Ridge when the rest of us got to the saddle between Bear Creek Spire and Peak 12866. Bob Caswell and Liz Berger also chose the East Ridge; they were far enough behind Margo and Alois to function as a separate party. Two ropes headed up the Northeast Ridge-- Assistant Leader Jim McPherson and Ruth Carter swinging leads on the first rope, and John Ripley and Becky Levine on the second. Everyone made their routes, but the long talus hop back took its toll so that the last people got back about 8:15, just ahead of darkness.

We slept in on Monday and left camp at 10 am, reaching the cars at about noon. Everyone agreed that it was a good trip and that the routes both are good. Despite what the Climber's Guide says, the NE Ridge is about class 5.5, not 3-4, if one stays on the crest. The East Ridge is about 5.5 also, again depending on how closely one follows the ridge. To begin the East Ridge, one can reach the major notch at about 12900' from the BCS-Peak 12866 saddle by crossing the NE face on a broad ledge and climbing class 3-4 to the left of a major snow chute leading to the notch. The lower parts of both routes are class 3-4, with 5 or 6 pitches of class 5 near the top.

The consensus was that the RCS should schedule a couple of 3 day High Sierra climbs each summer on non-holiday weekends. Friday through Sunday is probably better than Saturday through Monday because wilderness permits can be obtained more easily for Friday entries. JR

SKI MOUNTAINEERS' POTLUCK AND HIKE

9:30 am: Ten intrepid mountaineers convened at Kathy Crandall's for the PrePotLuck Conditioning Hike up Mt. Lowe: Ed unge, Walt Boge, Jackie Van Dalsam, June Lane, Ralph Johnson, R. J. Secor, Mike Leyland, Dan Kibler, Meg Taylor, and Art Blauvelt. Fire hazard conditions kept us off Mt. Lowe so we all took off for Strawberry Peak.

Immediate dissension in the SMS ranks ensued. A compromise was reached however, and half the group climbed Strawberry via Red Box trail while the more hearty half did the Southwest direct face. Met Doug Mantle on tope and we all decided to continue on to Josephine. Weather good. Sky blue.

Back at Kathy Crandall's: Dale Van Dalsoam arrived early for the pot luck and was put to work in the kitchen. John Wedberg popped in to make a pitch for the San Antonio hut work force. Andy Fried arrived with a pumpkin filled with shrimp and mushroom delicacy. Others joining the abundant supply of pot luck dishes were Owen Maloy, Mary Omberg, Jean Francois Haas, Mark Richards, Steve Wilkie, and Paul Harris.

We succeeded in filling the Spring schedule and we'll have the announcements in the next Mugelnoos. Looks like an exciting ski season ahead. November 9th is the deadline for the March, April, May, and June scheduling of ski events. Send your trip writeups to Jackie Van Dalsam.

Thanks to Kathy Crandall for supplying a warm and congenial setting. JVD

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS - SAT - MON. 9/5 to 9/7 81

It was a typical Labor Day Weekend outing of the RCS at Tuolumne - which is to say that it was an extraordinary gathering of diverse people coming together to share their love for Sierra mountains and rock and for their favorite manner of enjoying them, and at the same time to exchange thoughts about experiences not necessarily involving mountains or climbing. This is car camping and thus attracts many whole families, and the presence of children with their parents tends to humanize and tone down the sometimes macho atmosphere of some of our outings, which isn't necessarily an improvement, but is a pleasant change once a year. There was still plenty of room for climbing talk.

For some statistics: The sign-in sheets indicate about 60 people present at and after supper on Sat and Sun evenings, but the sense was of maybe 80 both evenings. As for climbing activity, there were 26 climbers on Lembert, 18 on Stately Pleasure Dome, 7 on Cathedral Peak, 5 each on Fairview, Pywiak, Matthis crest and Mariolumne, 4 on Low Profile Dome, and 2 each on Pennyroyal Arches, Lamb Dome, Dog Dome and on the Dana Glacier. The most popular routes - by number of climbers - were SE Buttress of Cathedral Peak (7), Hermaphrodite Flake (6), Beginner's Route (6), Water Cracks (6), Great Pumpkin (5), Hobbit Book (5), Northwest Books (5), Second Choice (4), Great White Book (4), Far West Country (4), and the Dike (3). Not to minimize such hard climbs as the Great Pumpkin, the Dike, Far West Country, SE Buttress and the Dana Glacier, this reporter who, with 2 others, closely approached the real Matthis Crest (but without adequate equipment), is in some awe of the traverse done by Ron Mastrianni and Bob Somoano. Much of it (some 1/4 mile) is a knife edge dropping off at 85° on the south. It took them 6 hours, which works out to 100 feet per half hour, which is like the time needed on a hard vertical wall climb.

There was one mishap - not bad statistically, considering the extent of activity, but distressing for the person involved. Sheila Szymanski was climbing the Hobbit Book with Bob Caswell Sunday morning and, leading the second pitch, clipped into a chock in a crack about 15 feet above the flake and entered a difficult chimney 18 feet higher. She tried to move onto knobby handholds, but lacking footholds slipped and fell onto the top of the flake, just short of being caught on Bob's belay. She suffered fractures of her left ankle, a cracked left elbow and a chipped right ankle bone. She still managed to tie in and belay Bob up. He set up a rappel to his last belay stance, where they met some other climbers, with whose rope they rappelled to the big ledge at the start of the climb proper and further to the ground. There other climbers and Bob helped Sheila to her car. She was OK that night and even drove home. She was put in a cast and arm sling.

I think they were climbing safely, protecting adequately, but Sheila lucked out by hitting the flake instead of just being caught harmlessly on Bob's belay. They lucked in with the other climber's rope. It appears to me that they showed excellent judgment and skill in getting down after the accident. Hope Sheila mends soon.

FW

TAHQUITZ TRIP 8&9 AUGUST 1981

As this trip was to be the first real climbing for the Assistant Leader in some time, I was relieved that LeRoy Russ was the leader. I called LeRoy to find out his leading activities during this period would be confined to the European arena - ah well, c'est la vie! With plenty of blue sky and temperatures in the low 80's, Saturday was a beautiful day. Guests outnumbered members by 15 to 8. Fortunately, only two required rope leaders. Routes of difficulty between the Maiden and the Open Book were climbed with each party finishing well before dark.

Sunday's weather mirrored that of Saturday. The guests and members were evenly matched at 7 each. Guests John Orange and Alois Smrz started the Un-eventful, found a diagonal crack leading to the left a few pitches off the ground, and finished on the larks. They report good climbing and protection, including resident pins on this variation. All climbs were finished by 5 am.

By some coincidence the overall climbing activity at Tahquitz was low - less than 30 climbers, on both days. My thanks to Greg Stevens who filled in as assistant on both days.

TR

WHITNEY, RUSSELL, THOR

Eschewing the Traditional Alpine Start, Crandall and Harris were not to be found among the cast of thousands struggling up the Whitney Trail until 11:30 am August 8. This early start, combined with long chats with rangers, enabled us to pull into camp above the unnamed lake below Thor Peak by 5 pm. The next day we ambled down to Thor and contemplated several possibilities before crossing the lake at its outlet and then angling up and right to an interesting looking gully which led to a pinnacle just west of the peak. Some 3rd-4th class scrambling led to two low 5th class pitches and onto the ridge. We ran the rope out along the ridge for three leads before reaching the summit. Although there were only three short spots which required a rope, they were definitely intimidating enough to make the rope quite welcome. It was roughly three hours to the summit and a most enjoyable climb - and register. Descent was via an obvious Northeast Ridge and many footprints, trending left at the hard parts.

We then packed up and headed up to East Face Lake and the welcome companionship of Jim Erb and Theresa Rutherford - as well as some 25 other climbers. In the days that we spent there, each day saw some 3 parties on the East Face, two or three on the Buttress, one on Keeler Needle, and one or two on technical routes on Russell! Climbers packing out were replaced by new arrivals and the impact on this desolate area has been great. I would urge anyone planning a Whitney trip to bring a plastic bag to pack out some trash - and a trowel. Only a concerted effort will keep this from turning into a trash heap!

While Erb and Rutherford took their turn on the face, we got a 6:30 start for Russell and its southeast arête. There is definitely a sense of adventure in starting out to do a grade II, 5.7 on a 14,000' peak with only Roper as your guide (attain the ridge and follow it to the summit). Perhaps that explains why we carried E B's, sneakers mountain boots, and bivouac gear. Two hours of trudging through sand and scree landed us at the base of some slabs below a prominent notch in the obvious arête. A hard 5.7 pitch put us onto the ridge, which we immediately left for a traverse right, and then back up onto it again. After that the route pretty much follows the ridge. At one point, forward progress is completely blocked by a blank wall and it is necessary to rappel off on the left side of the ridge (west side). Then it's back onto the ridge and up to the east summit. A third class traverse brings you to the west summit (3 feet taller) and a great register. It took a total of seven roped pitches for this climb - and is definitely one for people to consider when the Whitney routes are jammed up. It's a long day - back to camp at 7pm - but a very enjoyable climb.

Back at camp were Margo Koss and Jim Sharpsteen, getting the word on the East Face from Erb and Rutherford. Off at the crack of dawn the next day to follow Koss and Sharpsteen and another party of two up the East Face (a busy place). The concensus among our groups was that the toughest pitch was the Tower Traverse - also that there was a lot more than one class 5 pitch on the route. Out the next day - a a wonderful way to spend five days!



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WHITNEY, RUSSELL, THOR

DON PIES
4619 W 130TH ST
HAWTHORNE CA 90250

Back at camp were Harry Koss and Jim Sharpe, getting the word on the
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