

# THE MOUNTAIN DOGS

No. 604 -- April 19, 1983. A 6 page issue.

A newsheet published by and for the Ski Mountaineers and Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter since 1938. Send subscriptions & address changes to Dove Menkes, 2530 Coventry Circle, Fullerton 92633. \$5 per year due in October.

## A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

This year our RCS climbing schedule is more extensive than in recent years. Also we have more people approved to climb with us than ever before (over 30 members and 130 proficiency card holders). To reduce the occurrence of hassles and problems on future outings it is appropriate to restate for leaders and trip participants what the requirements are for RCS trips. Any trip participant who willfully violates the following will be reviewed by the Safety Committee to determine whether that person will be allowed to continue to climb with the RCS.

1. All participants must sign the "attendance sheet" each day of the climb, writing full address, phone number, and emergency phone number. On backcountry trips, participants must either sign the sheet at the trailhead and stay with the RCS group or proceed independently to base camp and sign in there. Anyone leaving early should write a note on the attendance sheet, saying that he/she is leaving, giving date, time, and signature.
2. Only RCS members, their guests, and current proficiency card holders are allowed on RCS trips. All others must be referred to the Safety Committee Chairperson for approval. In all cases, the leader of the trip has final say on who climbs and who climbs with whom on what.
3. Only RCS members are allowed guests. Guests are the responsibility of the members who bring them.
4. All climbing teams must sign out for each of their climbs on the "route sheet" and must sign back in immediately after those climbs.
5. Trip leaders must arrange rope leaders for current year's students. Without specific approval of the trip leader, new proficiency card holders from the current year's student class may not be rope leaders.
6. Solo climbing is allowed on RCS trips.
7. All climbing parties must return by the time designated by the trip leader or not sign out with the RCS at all.
8. If appropriate, it is recommended that a Qualified Leader remain at the base camp or base of operations (Lunch Rock, Weeping Wall, etc.) for emergencies and to safeguard equipment and supplies. Trip leaders are to reserve enough energy at day's end to direct search and rescue operations if necessary.
9. First aid kit should be kept in advertised place. The leader is responsible for making sure it is retrieved.
10. A leader who cancels a trip at the roadhead should post signs indicating that the trip was cancelled. A cancelled trip cannot be converted in mass to a private trip.
11. Minors (under 18) must have an authorization and consent form to climb with the section.
12. Search and rescue costs are the responsibility of the victim(s).
13. All members of the group under emergency conditions such as an accident or rescue will make themselves available to the leader as long as required to complete the operation. -- Virgil Shields

## SKI MOUNTAINEERS ELECTION RESULTS

Out of 101 eligible members, the election committee found 31 ballots were valid & counted. The Central Committee for 1983-84 will be:

Kathy Crandall  
Andy Fræed

Mark Goebel  
Paul Harris

Mike Layland  
Jackie van Dalsem

A special thanks to all the nominees for their interest in the Ski Mountaineers & for agreeing to serve on the Central Committee.

-- John & Phyllis Hodgeman

MUGELNOOS STAFF

EDITOR for April....Virgil Shields  
 MUGELGRAPHER.....Maureen Powers  
 MUGELMAILER.....Dove Menkes  
 REPORTERS: Lloyd Dalsem, Tony Bird,  
 Underground Grammarian, Norman  
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 213 258-1546

EXT ISSUE: May 17, 1983  
 DEADLINE: Wednesday, May 11

MUGELNOOS MEETINGS: Third Tues. of  
 each month, 7:30pm, Dept. of Water  
 & Power Cafeteria (Orange Room) or  
 Auditorium, 111 W. Hope, downtown  
 LA. Parking free. Program, conver-  
 sation-- Climbers, skiers, & guests  
 all welcome!

C A L E N D A RSki Mountaineers Section

May 7-8 - Cleaver Pk, Bridgeport;  
 Vandershaf.  
 May 14-15 - Lamark Col/Robinson Lks;  
 Jackie Van Dalsem.  
 May 21-22 - Thompson Ridge; Maloy.  
 May 28-30 - Tioga Pass; Goebel  
 Jun 4-5 - Rock Creek; Goebel.

Rock Climbing Section

Apr 23 - Big Rock(O/T); Lees & Yount  
 Apr 30-May 1 - Tahquitz(O/T); Koss, ~~Goebel~~  
 May 7 - Safety Test(O/T); Safety Com.  
 May 14/15 - Tahquitz(O/T); Tidball.  
 May 21-22 - The Needles(O/T); Fried.  
 May 17 - Mugelnoos meeting;  
 "Wings of Steel" (Maybe?)

SMS Membership List

The updated SMS roster issued  
 with the March Mugelnoos had a few  
 errors of fact & omission. If your  
 name, address, etc. as listed was in-  
 correct(ormissing!) please notify  
 Lloyd Dalsem, SMS Secty by May 1. A  
 corrected list will be issued in May.  
 913 Kenter Way, LA 90049. (213)472-  
 2031) LB

F O R S A L E

Fisher 101B skis (173cm) w/Look GT  
 toe piece and Marker Rotamat FD-S  
 binding - \$75; Katsinger leather  
 ski mountaineering boots, size  
 9 1/2, extra heel piece and toe piece  
 - \$40. Robert Sommano, (213)  
 790-2123 home, (213) 354-2213 w.  
 P.A. rock shoes, green style, size 7 1/2,  
 excel. cond. - \$40 (too small for  
 Bill). Bill Krause, (714) 621-  
 8000 x2050.

WANTED: Will buy old alpine equip-  
 ment: skis, Ramer bindings, climbing  
 skins (strap-on only), boots, etc.  
 John Wedberg, 472-6768 before 8 PM.

PARTNER WANTED TO CLIMB LIBERTY  
 RIDGE ON RAINIER!

I would like a partner to climb Rai-  
 nier and other peaks in the Pacific  
 N.W. during late May and early June  
 I am slightly flexible on timing.  
 Contact Bill Krause, 321 S. Char-  
 vers Ave., West Covina, CA 91791,  
 (714) 621-0000 x2050.

RCS MISC. NOTES

Safety Test - May 7: Individuals  
 interested in taking the safety  
 test should contact LeRoy Russ  
 by May 4. Reservations required.  
Yosemite Valley - May 28-30: Con-  
 tact LeRoy Russ(ldr) or Anna  
 Mout(asst) for info. Meet at  
 Curry Village cafeteria 7am.  
 Group campsite will be available  
 if not flooded. Mike & Beth  
 Mulry will provide fording insts  
Questionnaires: Students and instr-  
 uctors please return before May  
 3; your input helps to improve  
 course.

Reinstated Members: Al Fowler,  
 longtime RCS member and So. CA  
 resident until the stars drew  
 him away was reinstated to RCS  
 membership. His reinstatement  
 letter "subtly" hinted influ-  
 ence with the Chairman, who also  
 selects the Safety Comm. Chair  
 and serves on the Safety Comm.  
 Now in the case of Al Carlson,  
 he being unable to rely upon  
 influences, wrote a groveling  
 letter, that showed definite  
 assistance by Jim Endo, Master  
 Groveler. Al backed up his let-  
 ter by hauling portable toilets  
 to Fossil Falls last month. Wel-  
 come back Al & Al. Is there a  
 Capone out there? LR

ROCK CREEK FINALE (JUNE 4-5)

This trip is a first in SMS sche-  
 duling: two women leaders, Kathy  
 Crandall and Mary Gyax, will take  
 all inquiries to this popular tour  
 (You see, there are hard women out  
 there!, ed.). A short 2 mile hike  
 assures a comfortable snow camp  
 with a view and a variety of runs  
 for 2 full days. JVD

TIOGA SKI TOUR (MAY 28-30)

The Tioga ski tour is still on with  
 a change of leader( Mark will be  
 skiing in Europe). Contact Owen  
 Maloy at his Irvine address or Tom  
 Dureya. This is a popular tour  
 with a warm weather car camp above  
 Lee Vining and daily tours to a  
 variety of areas. JVD

PEAR LAKE CHANGE OF PLANS

We did not receive the planned re-  
 servation of the hut this year, so  
 we are planning to make the 3 day  
 tour a snow camp a few yards from  
 the hut. All those who sent me a  
 SASSE are on the trip. Those who  
 were notified as being on the  
 (cont. Pg 3)

CLINCH DEFENDS HIMSELF

Nick Clinch was nominated for RCS honorary membership at the Annual Business Meeting last October. The bylaws call for distribution of the candidate's qualifications (through Lugelnos or by mail), followed by a secret mail ballot election. RCS members will find ballots enclosed with this Lugelnos issue. Ballots must be received by May 20, 1963 to be counted.

RCS honorary membership is conferred on present or former active members for outstanding service to the RCS and/or the greater mountaineering community. Present honorary members are Robert Underhill, Glen Dawson, Art Johnson, John & Ruth Mendenhall, Royal Robbins, and Chuck & Ellen Wilts. The first H. M. was the late Norman Clyde, elected in 1937.

Nick Clinch has been an RCS member and leader since 1957 and has made many friends in the section over the years. However, because he lived in Palo Alto for quite a few years, fewer people now meet him on local trips. The following letter, received by the RCS historian in response to a query, will give an idea of Nick's accomplishments and personality.

Dear John,

It's a plot! It's a plot! I'm not paranoid, but it's a plot! You hope that by making me an honorary member of the RCS, I might not even show up at all, but I am still going to come out to haunt you ever if you carry out this nefarious scheme.

Of course, the trips are becoming more hazardous recently. Do you realize that in Yosemite last fall I actually got hauled out on a climb that is the RCS coming to?

You asked about my qualifications to become an honorary member. At first I thought the RCS could be the first climbing organization to make someone an honorary member who could never climb worth a hoot. But then I remembered King Leopold of the Belgians is an honorary member of the American Alpine Club.

What are my qualifications? I have wandered all over the world looking for something I could set up. This includes a trip to the Coast Range of British Columbia, two Andean expeditions, three Karakoram expeditions, a trip across the Vatnajökull in Iceland, and a trip to the Antarctic (Ed. note--expedition led by Nick made first ascent of highest mtn on continent), with various mountains attempted in between.

I have also avoided going climbing by being President and Treasurer of the American Alpine Club and Chairman of the Sierra Club Mountaineering Committee, which meant I had to spend my weekends in meetings instead of on the rock. I have inflicted upon a helpless climbing world, two articles in the old Saturday Evening Post, which was going great until my articles appeared, and one in the National Geographic, which managed to survive. My latest outrage is A Walk in the Sky about a trip in 1958 which climbed Hidden Peak (in the Karakoram--ed.). The book was written in 1959 and it took 23 years to find a publisher foolish enough to print it. The Safety Committee will be pleased to learn that my climbing has become safer in recent years as I have obtained a sturdier step-ladder on which to climb while using my library.

I trust the foregoing fulfills your legal obligations to the members of the RCS about my background. Only the Lugelnos would dare print it. My I conclude by saying if the RCS makes me an honorary member, it won't get any sympathy from me.

Your most unhumble and disobedient servant,  
Nick Clinch

P.S. I have frequently served as the featured speaker at various Sierra Club chapter annual banquets when they were unable to afford obtaining a decent program.

Remember to mail your post card ballot so that Margo will get it by May 20. Any RCS member not receiving a ballot should contact Margo Koss immediately.

--John Ripley

SCAR TISTS TO BE GIVEN THE BIRD

RCS member Tony Bird will present a paper, "Routes and Their Names: A Rock Climber's Folklore", at the annual meeting of the Southern California Academy of Sciences at Cal State Fullerton on May 6. Tony is a Graduate student in Folklore and Mythology at UCLA and will be telling the Academy about the real reasons people climb rocks (no, Edmund, not because they're there!). Tony has compiled a list of dozens of route names from climbing areas in the Southwest, and he finds that the most recurrent themes are religion, sex, movie stars, and food. --Tony Bird

TOM FROST PRESENTS CLIMBING SHOW

Tom Frost, well known climber who pioneered many big (CONT. pg. four

(Pear Lake Change, CO T. from pg. 2) waiting list will remain in that status until I hear from the park service regarding the number of people allowed on the wilderness permit. One week before the trip you will receive a trip sheet listing participants and trailhead instructions. Let's plan to share tents and stoves to lesson our weight.

Jackie Van Dalsem

(Frost Presents, CO T from pg. 3) Routes in the USA will present a slide show lecture May 13, 7pm at Pasadena City College "Forum", E corner of the campus at Colorado and Hill.

Frost, a professional photographer, founded Great Pacific Iron Works with Yvon Chouinard. More recently, he designed much of Lowe's gear. His program will feature highlights of: The Nose, 2nd ascent; Salathe Wall, 1st ascent; N.A. Wall, 1st ascent; 1st on the Lotus Flower Tower; Annapurna S.F.; Ama Dablam, etc.

A \$300 down bag from Wilderness-X will be offered as door prize. Tickets are available by mail prior to the show. Send check or money order for \$5.00 along with a S.A.S.E. to Bannister, 1562 No. Los Robles, Pasadena 91104.

--Norman Kingsley

#### NEW RCS PROFICIENCY RATES

In addition to the graduating RCS students, the new RCS proficiency roster enclosed with this month's Mugelnoos includes 17 new or reinstated proficiency rating holders who have come in since August 1982 on the basis of their climbing experiences:

John Anderson	Bob Harvey	Steve Murray
Steve Lakesley	Paul Kenworthy	Dave Raymond
Brian Crouch	Quin Koenig	Ronald Richardson
Paul Dolan	Mark Lyon	Paul Sumpter
Tom Duryea	Blair Margot	John Wiley
Judy Glenn	Kathy Moore	Randy Danta

Welcome to the RCS!

--Margo Ross

#### JOSHUA TREE (JAN 15-16)

About ten climbers showed up on an overcast but dry day at Indian Cove. This day was unusual only to the extent that your leader sheepishly used chalk for the first time on a 5.9 lieback (layback?) and to my chagrin, not hooked (hopefully a passing phase). Another plus was that it added nine points to my daily total. According to Al and John Fowler 5.5-5.12 counts as 5-12 points (5.0-5.4=0). Al extorted that he and John had about 50 points for the day as compared to my pitiful 22. This was easy for Al to say seeing as he has his own personal 5.12 climber to attach himself to for climbs. A horde of climbers signed-in for climbing on the second day at Hidden Valley. This included one non-member who signed-out with a guest (unheard of!!!--and behind my back!!!) Problems such as this are always compounded. An hour and a half after the next to last party reported in, we found them wandering along a back road near Barker Dam (at 4:45pm). All this and they didn't even climb the route! Robert Takahashi was dutifully chastised for his transgression.

--Virgil Shields

#### JOSHUA TREE (FEB 12-13)

This trip happened on a dry weekend between the storms. We had a site at the Indian Cove Group Camp for Friday and Saturday nights. On Saturday we had 19 climbers (9 members, 10 cardholders, 1 guest). Parties climbed on the Feudal Wall, Hoosedog Tower, and Campfire Crag. Quite a few people were defeated by the roof on Hoosedog. A falling rock cut a rope in half on the Feudal Wall. High winds that night didn't seem to cut attendance at the RCS campfire, which featured 3 guitars being played, not burned) and ample refreshments.

Sunday's climbing took place in the area centered around Hidden Valley Campground. 20 people (6 members, 12 cardholders, and 2 guests) climbed. Quite a few people had left on Saturday, but new climbers replaced them for Sunday. Climbing included the usual Hidden Valley CG routes, several Echo Rock/Cove routes, and two routes on Playhouse Rock. At the latter, Greg Vernon met with an accident while leading Beck's gear. A fall resulted in an ankle fracture, but this was not discovered until Monday. He finished the lead and returned to the car under his own power. Jim Bryla gave new cardholder Paul Dolan a tour that included two 5.3's and a 5.9 (Paul is a visiting Irish climber).

Leader Ripley thanks Laris Valkass for taking over as assistant leader when Margo couldn't attend (she ran the Palm Springs Marathon).

--John Ripley

#### RCS CONSERVATION EFFORT JAMMED!

Our very first venture into conservation activism took a real graner at the March Mugelnoos meeting when we tried to (CONT. onpg. 5)

(RCS Conservation, CO T. from pg. four) circulate a little petition through a crowded room of rock climbers and ski mountaineers and came up with six--count 'em, six!--signatures! We were later informed that RCS members had been climbing Left Ski Track on Intersection Rock the previous weekend and came away with such badly bruised knuckle joints from all that jamming that they were unable to write their names. The names that we did get were those of the real hard men and women who are used to 5.11. This is an acceptable excuse for RCSers. I don't know what the Ski mountaineers have to say. They might have gotten so absorbed in the excellent program on ski touring in Sweden that they forgot how to write their names!

Anyway, it appears the Sierra Club won a small victory anyway in spite of the paucity of signatures. The California Coastal Commission was persuaded to take exception to proposed development of the Ballona wetlands near Marina del Rey, one of the last significant wetland areas in Los Angeles County and a nesting area for more than 200 species of birds. But the real battle must be fought before the development-minded L.A. County Board of Supervisors, whose where snipes and mergansers don't seem to hold much sway!

Tony Bird

#### WALDY HUT REPORT

The month of March on Old Baldy featured deep snow and bad weather. The few times that good skiing was afforded, were abbreviated by an approaching storm, or by the mountain being enveloped in a whiteout as the clouds boiled up from the valley. One measure of how much snow is on this mountain, is whether or not we are able to ski all the way down to the car from the San Antonio Ski Hut. Three different Saturdays during March we skied to the car, which is exceptional. "Skiing to the car" is perhaps an inappropriate description of what actually happens on these occasions. On Sat, Mar 26 for example, it was pure mashed potatoes all the way. Turns were accomplished here and there, but putting it charitably let's say it was not your memorable downhill ski run.

The hut was broken into again in Feb. A couple of kids from the Newport Beach area (judging from the size & label in the down jacket they left behind) scribbled us a note indicating that it was a "matter of survival" that they either break into the hut, or die on the mountain during the ensuing storm. From the time and trouble they expended to get in thru the north shutter, they could have been down to their car & home. Although they thanked us for the food and supplies they used, they left no money. No vandalism was detected, so it could have been worse. Our work party is June 4-5 this year. Anyone is welcome to join in some light maintenance and wood chopping, plus good fellowship as always!

John Hedberg

#### YOUTH MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE SEEKS CANDIDATES FOR GERMANY TRIP

Persons between ages 20-24 interested in participating in the Youth Exchange Program the Sierra Club's Mountaineering Comm. developed with the German Alpine Club should contact Andy Fried. The exchange program resumes this summer, and it's our turn to send 4-6 young mountaineers to Germany. They will be hosted in Munich by the Oberland Chapter there, and taken on climbs and hut-to-hut tours by young members of that section. Last summer, six young Germans visited here and were guided in the Sierra by Ron Judson, Greg Vernon, Tom Jeter, R. J. Secor and leaders from the Santa Prieta Chapter.

Norman Kingsley

#### FOSSIL FALLS (MARCH 19-20)

Student Ce Tofoya and newly reinstated RCS member Al Carlson provided the highlight of the trip--they towed to Fossil Falls two porta-cotties loaned to us by the BLM. It reduced the ecological impact of Tom Jeter's Saturday night wine brew, if not the physiological impact.

The climbing was the usual Fossil Falls mixture of frustration, pain and triumph. Student Bonner Meudell, following in Teresa Casacky's footsteps, showed us how the overhang is done, along with several other students and others. Several heroic routes were finessed by RCS climbers, including students. This year's class looks likely to produce a lot of good climbers.

The Tyrolean traverse across the gorge was the source of the trip's best quote: "Oh, my poor tits!" was student Deborah Main's pained comment on chest harnesses and Tyrolean traverses.

Now it's back to Nautilus for those of us who made our annual Fossil Falls discovery of how out of shape we are!

Margo Koss

WHITNEY WINTERS

Alois Smrz's account of their harrowing E. Face winter ascent reminds me of two New Year "parties" there:

Don Wilson and I swung leads up the Buttress (a real swing'n couple) After each lead, I spent more time pounding feeling into my hands than in making the lead (obviously not a "hard man"). The summit was a welcome sight.

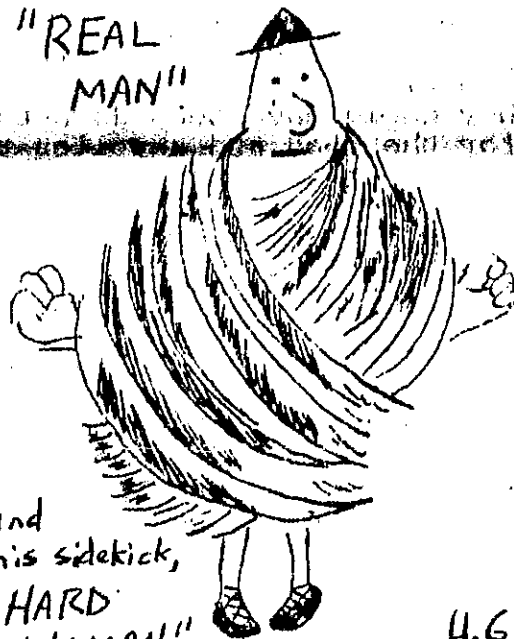
While packing in, I carelessly slipped on the water ice above the cliffs west of Clyde's Meadow, and went headfirst down a couloir. Fortunately, a boot jammed between a rock frozen into the ice and the wall. "Fortune favors the brave" but, unable to qualify on this score, I just thank dumb luck.

Another time, Steve Wilkie and I ascended by the trail. We had planned a ski ascent, but left the boards atop Whitney Pass because most of the snow had been blown off the rocks beyond. We knew by then that making the summit would mean a night out (not on the town), but pressed on. That night we found a soft boulder amid the snows below Whitney Pass. Although we lay head-to-foot with feet inside the other's parka, I qualified for the Order of the Royal Purple Feet. We gladly left as soon as light permitted. I skied out with perfect control, despite the more flexible boots we used then, for my feet had a stiffness equal to that achieved with our modern plastic ski boots.

--John Mendenhall

Coming Soon!  
The rigorous adventures  
of

"REAL  
MAN"



and  
his sidekick,  
"HARD  
WOMAN"

U.G.

THE MUGELBOOS  
Dove Henkes  
2530 Coventry Circle  
Fullerton, CA 92633

Stamp