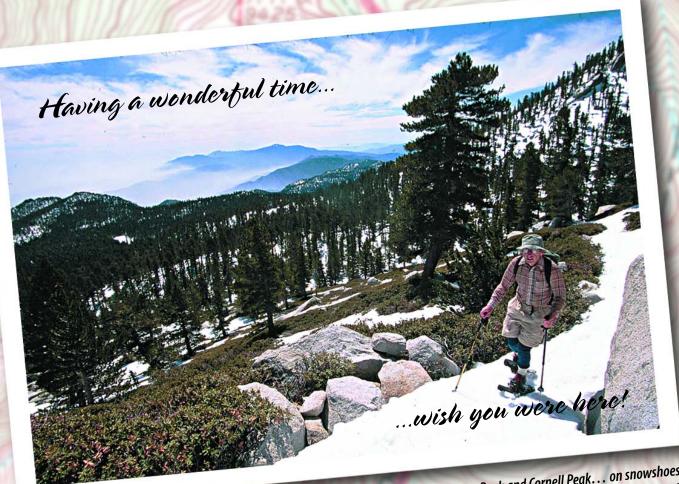


Vol. 12, No. 3 / Summer 2001 www.angeleschapter.org/wtc

# Newsletter

Newsletter of the Wilderness Training Committee



Asher Waxman leads an April Fool's backpack to San Jacinto Peak and Cornell Peak... on snowshoes!

The whole harrowing story on page 3.

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# **WTC Officers**

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#### It's never too early\* to start thinking about

# **Wilderness First Aid**



Twice each year, Steve Schuster and the volunteer medical staff of the WFAC (Wilderness First Aid Course) train dozens of Angeles Chapter leaders in the ABCs of wilderness first aid. The

three-day course is offered at the Harwood Lodge, 6,000 feet up in the San Gabriel Mountains. The course is very popular and is usually fully booked months in advance.

Course participants spend the weekend at Harwood, sleeping dormitory-style in the lodge or in tents on the Lodge grounds. Meals are provided each day by the volunteer staff in Harwood's kitchen. Now, here's how YOU can help:

Two or three volunteers are needed for kitchen duty each day of the course to prepare breakfast, lunch, supper and snacks. Help just one day or all three — it's up to you. In return for your help, Steve can guarantee you'll get a spot in this extremely popular course the following season. And remember: If you're thinking of going for that I- or M-rating, a wilderness first aid course is required for certification. Even if you've already completed the WFAC, don't be shy about volunteering to help out in the kitchen. Though there's plenty of work, there's also plenty of free time to set your chair out in Harwood's front yard and take in some of the glad tidings the mountains offer at Harwood Lodge.

J. Foremski Former WTC Newsletter Editor and Former Cook and Bottlewasher at Harwood

\*and we mean never!

### Wanna see how cars camp?

Then be sure to set aside the weekend of November 10-11 for a WTC Car Camp at Joshua Tree National Monument to coincide with the Indian Cove LTC rock and navigation checkouts and practices. Contact Beth Epstein, WTC Outings Chair, for more information (see page 4).

# **Headline Deadlines**

**Absolute deadlines for submitting outings** 

#### For publication in the Fall WTC Newsletter:

**July 27** Last day to submit restricted outings to the Outings Chair.

**August 10** Last day to submit non-restricted outings to Area Outings Cooridinators.

**August 17** Last day for Outings Coordinators to submit write-ups to the Outings Chair.

**August 24** Last day for all WTC Newsletter submissions.

#### For publication in the November through February Angeles Chapter Schedule:

**June 18** Last day to submit both restricted and non-restricted outings to the Area Outings Coordinators.

**June 25** Last day for Outings Coordinators to submit write-ups to the Outings Chair.

# **April Fools!**

### **Trip Report**

San Jacinto Peak, Cornell Peak Snowshoe Trip March 31 through April 1, 2001 HPS/WTC/SPS



espite the weight of Dave Coplen, myself and all our equipment, the hybrid-electric Prius motored up the long grade from Palm Springs to the tram station without a complaint. Asher Waxman, our leader this trip, was waiting in the hikers parking lot; the rest—Ron Crowley, Sandy Burnside, David Hankins, Keven Moore, Roy Randall, Joyce MacIntosh, David Heffernan, Rick Gordon, Michelle Owen, and Andy Taylor—would arrive shortly. Like Dave's Prius this was a hybrid trip mixing Sierra Peaks veterans, local peak baggers, and WTC students, all attempting to reach San Jacinto Peak and Cornell Peak... on snowshoes. Would we all do as well as our high tech car?

The tram took us from 2,643′ to 8,516′ in less time than it took to pay for the tickets. With only patchy snow at the top around the tram station, we started off with our snowshoes tied to our backs. Within a mile we hit solid snow. We abandoned the trail and stepped into our snowshoes. Our route roughly followed the creek that drains out of Tamarack Valley. By going off trail we cut a mile off the hike. Of course that also meant navigating the steep slopes of the creek bank. It was a good test of snowshoes, demonstrating which had the most effective crampons (from the back

of the line the MSRs and Atlases seem to be doing very well). Andy was experimenting with carrying some gear in a sled. Since we weren't on a trail, the sled tended to follow the fall line of the slope. This was not a helpful tendency. Andy was a good sport and despite his difficulties he didn't complain.

Asher's expert navigation brought us directly to the Tamarack Valley campground. The big question: where's the outhouse? This was too busy an area in the summer to think of just improvising our cat holes. Asher headed in one direction and David Hankins, equipped with a GPS preset with the coordinates for the center of the campground, headed off in a slightly different direction. It's no aspersion on Asher's skill to say that David found the outhouse first. GPSes are great . . . when they work.

We made camp at 9,100'. Most of the group set up their tents on the snow while a few of us found bare dirt. Soon after, we were headed toward our first climb of the weekend, Cornell Peak, rising above us to the northwest. We hiked about a quarter of a mile from our camp to the base where we left our snowshoes and climbed up the sunny south slope. Some solid 2nd class rock scrambling brought us up to the 'lunch ledge' at the base of the summit block. From there we could look north into Banning pass, more than 7,000' below; it was a stunning view. Asher found a 3rd class route to the 9,721' summit while I came up another route, followed by David Hankins. The summit wasn't even big enough to sit on, so we took turns standing on it (Asher), touching it (me), and looking closely at it (David). Naturally, we had

to get back down, which seemed a lot tougher than going up. Somehow we made it down to the ledge with the others in time for a few photos before heading back.

In camp we found a large flat boulder large enough for everyone to sit on and cook. Our campsite was surrounded by massive Ponderosa Pines and White Firs. We had a great happy hour—or three—telling short tales of tall mountains and tall tales of short mountains. When it got dark we cleaned up and headed to our beds for the night. Had we stayed up we'd have seen a rare Aurora Borealis, caused by a huge solar storm days earlier.

Sunday was to be our big day of climbing with three peaks scheduled. While some were eager for the challenge, others lingered in bed and over breakfast. Asher and I discussed our plan for the day. We realized there were no obvious routes up Jean and Marion that were gentle enough to climb safely without ice axes. We decided to limit ourselves to an attempt of San Jacinto, which made sense considering our late start and the abilities of some participants. We finally set out at about 10 am, with Michelle staying behind to guard the camp. Asher forged a path up to about 10,200', where we picked up the trail at a big switchback. Taking it across the east slope of San Jacinto to the north end, we headed for the east ridge. With Asher allowing me the honor of leading the group to the summit we tightened our snowshoes and made our final assault on the peak. A few hundred feet of climbing later we were at the top: 10,804'. Gone was the old wooden sign saying 'Mt San Jacinto' and the summit register, which had been moved to a stone cabin by the trail. Yet even without these markers we knew we were at the top. As John Muir once said, "The view is the most sublime spectacle to be found anywhere on this earth."

We were feeling awfully smug until we met five climbers who had come directly up Snow Creek on the north face of San Jacinto; an 8,000' foot snow climb!

Heading down to camp we followed the same route we had taken before. We packed up, shouldered our heavy packs (Andy opted to carry his sled down) and headed for the tram station. Arriving at a creek crossing where a young woman in tennis shoes was peacefully enjoying nature, we knew it was time to stop, make a lot of noise and lose the snowshoes. We had an easy hike on trail from there to the station, except for the long concrete ramp going up to it (while getting odd looks from the tourists). A lot of people were waiting in the station to get back down to the desert. Despite the crowded car, our fellow passengers kept their distance. Was it the sharp sticks and crampon claws jutting from our packs or was it perhaps the rich odor of thirteen gamey climbers who hadn't bathed in days? Oh well, we didn't care. . . we had been to the mountaintop.



# **WTC Student Experience Trips**

These outings fill up fast! Before you send your SASEs (self-addressed, stamped envelopes) to the leaders, call or email the leader to confirm your chances of reserving a place on the outing. If you must cancel, please let the leader know immediately so others on the waiting list can fill that spot. Remember to bring your WTC Student Record Card on the outing and be sure to have the leader sign it. See you at graduation!

Please see Outings Leader Directory on page 4 of the WTC Newsletter print version for SASE and contact information

### June

#### June 16-17 / Sat-Sun WTC, HPS

#### I / Grinnell Mtn. (10,284'), Lake Pk. (10,161'), 10,000' Ridge (10,094')

Moderate two-day backpack with xc dayhikes in San Gorgonio Wilderness. Sat backpack to camp at Lodgepole Spring, 5 mi, 2000' gain, climb Grinnell 3 more mi rt, 1000'gain. Sun climb Lake Pk and 10,000' Ridge, 4.5 mi rt, 1000'gain, return to camp and hike out. Send 2 sases, recent conditioning, H & W phones, e-mail address to Ldr: Sarah Anderson. Asst: Mars Bonfire.

#### June 23-24 / Sat-Sun WTC

#### I / North Maggie Mtn (10234')

Sat backpack 4 mi, 1000' gain, from Mtn Home SP in Western Sierra to camp. Sun climb peak 3400' gain, 4.5 mi rt and pack out. WTC or equivalent required. Send 2 sase with H&W phones, recent conditioning/experience, rideshare info to Ldr: KC Reid. Co-Ldr: Ron Campbell

#### June 23-24 / Sat-Sun WTC

#### I / Olancha Peak (12,123)

Sat bkpk 7 mi, 3600' gain and set up camp. Evening happy hour. Sun climb 2500', 3.5 mi to reach peak via class 2 boulders. Back to camp and pack out. Total for weekend 21 miles r/t and 6500' gain. Send sase or email with H&W phones, experience, conditioning and rideshare info to Ldr: Marnie O'Toole. Asst.: Brad Hinkle.

## Julv

# July 4-8 / Wed-Sun CNRCC Desert Comm/Toiyabe Chapter Ruby Mtns Backpack

Moderately strenuous 5-day backpack, strenuous drive and car shuttle. Rugged mountains with passes above 10,000 feet, sparkling lakes, glacier-carved valleys filled with wildflowers, expansive desert views. Possible layover day and climb of King's Peak. For information, reservations, send name, address, telephone numbers, backpacking experience, conditioning, sase to Ldr: Henry Egghart

#### July 21-22 / Sat-Sun WTC, Sierra Peaks

#### I / Mt Langley (14,042)

Sat backpack 6 mi, 1200' gain to camp near Cottonwood Lk #5. Drop packs and ascend peak via Old Army Pass, 6 mi rt, 3000' gain. Return for well-deserved happy hour. Sun backpack out after leisurely morning. WTC or equiv req'd. Send sase, H&W phones, email, recent cond/exper., rideshare to Ldr: Will McWhinney. Co-Ldr: Bill Oliver.

#### July 21-22 / Sat-Sun

Long Beach, WTC

#### M / Jepson Pk (11,205'), Charlton Pk (10,806'), Little Charlton Pk (10696')

Enjoy our local San Gorgonio Wilderness; gain experience in class 3 rock; climb So Cal's 2nd highest pk. Sat comfortably-paced trail hike from South Fork to base camp, 6.5 mi, 2600' gain. Sun bag Charlton via class 3 route then hike others, 2 mi x-c, 2300' gain. WTC/equiv req'd. Send 2 sase, phone & carpool info, and name of SC Ldr as reference to Ldr: John Hinz. Asst: Mike Adams.

#### July 21-22 / Sat-Sun

WTC

#### I / Kaiser Peak (10,320')

Saturday pack in 4 miles, 1000' gain to Upper Twin Lake in Kaiser Wilderness. Sunday xc hike to Kaiser Peak 3 mi, 1700' gain, and pack out. Send email or sase, \$3 permit fee, H&W phones, recent conditioning/experience and rideshare info to Ldr: Mark Roberts. Asst: Brad Hinkle.

#### July 21-23 / Sat-Mon

Sierra Peaks, WTC

#### I / Mt. Davis (12,303')

SPS introductory trip near Mammoth geared to WTC students and prospective SPSers. Moderate and enjoyable pace. Sat backpack 10 mi, 1500' gain to 1000 Island Lake at 9833' elev. Sun climb class 2 Davis in 8 mi rt, 2500' gain xc. Mon backpack out. Legendary community happy hours Sat and Sun eves. Send 2 sase, \$5 permit fee per person, recent conditioning, H&W phones, rideshare info to Ldr: Patty Kline. Asst: Joe Wankum.

#### July 28-29 / Sat-Sun

WTC

#### I / Mt. Lamarck (13,417')

Sat backpack 3 mi, 2100' to above Lamarck Lake. Sun climb peak, 3 mi 2000', then pack out to trailhead. Send \$5 permit fee, recent experience and 2 legal size sase to Ldr: Marc "RoadKill" Hertz. Asst: Bill Jackson.

# August

#### August 3-5 / Fri-Sun

WTC

#### I / Tyee Lakes, Peak (12,744')

Moderately strenuous backpack to Tyee Lakes & Peak (12,744') above Bishop Creek. Fri. pack in 3 mi. 1955' to camp at Lake 11,015', optional hike to Peak (11,938'). Sat climb 2 mi., 1800' to Peak (12,744'), free time for fishing, wild flower photography, and Happy Hour. Sun relax & pack out. WTC or equivalent required. Send 2 sase, H & W phones, conditioning & experience, ride share info to Ldr: Lisa Foremski (Robbins). Asst: Sigrid Sexton.

#### August 3-5 / Fri-Sun

#### **WTC, Wilderness Adventures**

#### I / Pear Lake Loop Backpack in Sequoia NP

Moderately strenuous but easy paced trip in spectacular Sequoia NP. Friday backpack 6 miles, 2300' gain to camp near Alta Meadow (9400'). Saturday pack XC 6 miles, 2000' gain/loss exploring alpine tablelands on the way to camp at Pear Lake. Sunday pack out 6 miles to trailhead with breath-taking views of Kaweah River and Tokopah Valley. WTC or equivalent required. Send email or 2 lg sase with H/W phones, rideshare info, recent backpack experience/conditioning to Ldr: Adrienne Benedict. Asst: George Denny.

#### August 4-5 / Sat-Sun

#### **WTC, Sierra Peaks Section**

#### I / Lone Pine Peak (12,943')

Sat bkpk 4.7 mi, 3600' gain from Whitney Portal to Meysan Lks and group happy hr. Sun climb peak, 2 mi, 2300' gain by 2nd class xc rt over talus & scree to great views, then pack out. WTC/equiv req'd. Send sase or email, H&W phones, \$5 permit fee, recent conditioning/experience and rideshare info to Ldr: Anne Marie Richardson. Asst: Asher Waxman.

#### August 4-5 / Sat-Sun

WTC

#### I / Mt. Gilbert (13106)

Interesting cross country scramble in eastern Sierra with beautiful views from the top. Sat backpack from South Lake, 4 mi, 1500' gain to Treasure Lakes at 10,700' and set up camp. Climb the peak via SW ridge, 2mi, 3570 gain. Return to camp. Sun leisurely hike around the lakes. Pack out and hike to cars. Comfort with class 2 talus required. Send 2 sase, \$5 permit fee per person, resume of experience and recent conditioning, H&W phones, rideshare info to Ldr: Barbara Gorecka. Asst: Georgette Rieck

#### August 4-6 / Sat-Mon

Sierra Peaks, WTC

#### I / Mt. Morgan South (13,748')

SPS introductory trip in eastern Sierra geared to prospective SPSers and WTC students. Casual, relaxed and enjoyable. Sat backpack 4 mi, 1500' gain to Francis Lake at 11,000'. Sun climb class 2 Morgan in 5 mi rt with 2800' gain, xc. Legendary community happy hours Sat and Sun eves. Mon backpack out. Send 2 sase, \$5 permit fee per person, recent conditioning, H&W phones, rideshare info to Ldr: Patty Kline. Asst: Rick Jali.

#### August 10-12 / Fri-Sun

WTC

#### I / Dusy Basin Exploratory, Columbine Pk (12,662')

Enjoy alpine scenery and sharpen navigation skills on this moderately paced backpack. Fri backpack 7 miles from South Lake over Bishop Pass to Dusy Basin (2200' gain/600' loss). Spend Sat exploring this lake-dotted basin and enjoying views of the towering peaks of the Palisade Crest. Sun early optional climb of Columbine Pk (4.5 m rt with 1300' gain). Pack out Sun afternoon. Send email or sase with H&W phone, experience, conditioning and rideshare info to Ldr: Sheryl O'Rourke. Asst: Bob Beach

#### August 11-12 / Sat-Sun

WTC

#### M / Moses Mtn (9320'), N Maggie Mtn (10234')

Sat backpack 4.5 mi, 1000' gain, from Mtn Home SP along Middle Fork Tule River through redwood groves to camp. Sat afternoon climb Moses 2500' gain, some 3rd class climbing. Sun short & steep 3400' gain to N Maggie, return to cars. Send 2 sase, H&W phones, conditioning and experience, rideshare info to Ldr: George Faeustle. Asst: Greg Foerstel

#### August 11-12 / Sat-Sun

WTC, PVSB

#### I / Second Laking Expedition

Sat backpack 3 mi, 1100' gain from South Lake above Bishop to camp south of Lake Ruwau. Some 50 bodies of water within a 1.5 mile radius beckon our bottoms. Sat-Sun we will wet ourselves in as many as possible. Chocolate Peak an added bonus. Send \$5 Permit Fee, 2 sase, H&W phones to Ldr: Richard Boardman. Asst: Garen Yegparian.

#### August 17-19 / Fri-Sun

WTC

#### I / Rafferty Peak (11,110')

Fri backpack 7+ mi, 1200' gain from Tuolumne Meadows to quiet and scenic Boothe Lake. Sat climb peak 6.5 mi, 2200' gain. Sun pack out. WTC or equivalent required. Send 2 sase, H&W phones, \$6 permit fee, hiking resume, rideshare info to Ldr: Susan Richmond. Asst: Bill Jackson.

#### August 17-19 / Fri-Sun

**WTC, Sierra Peaks** 

#### I / Mt Wallace (13,377')

Fri backpack from Lake Sabrina to Moonlight Lake, 6.4 mi, 2,050' gain. Sat climb peak, 2.5 mi, 2,250' gain. Potluck Sat night. Sun break camp & hike out. WTC or equivalent required. Send resume, references, 2 sase to Ldr: Christy Grimsley. Asst: Sheryl O'Rourke.

#### August . 18-19 / Sat-Sun

**WTC, Sierra Peaks** 

#### I / Four Gables (12,720')

Sat backpack to Horton Lake above Bishop, 4 mi. 2000' gain, climb Four Gables via 2nd class S. ridge, 3 mi. 2700' gain. Relax and swap stories. Sun stroll out. Send 2 sase, resume with experience, conditioning, H&W phones, e-mail and rideshare info to Ldr: Roman Gunther. Co-Ldr: Ken Wagner

#### August 18-20 / Sat-Mon

Sierra Peaks, WTC

#### I / Mt. Julius Caesar (13,200')

SPS introductory trip in eastern Sierra geared to prospective SPSers and WTC students. Moderate and enjoyable pace. Sat backpack above Honeymoon Lake, camping at 10,600 in 7 mi and 3200' gain. Sun climb class 2 Julius Caeser in 9 mi rt, 2600' gain with xc. Legendary community happy hours Sat and Sun eves. Send 2 sase, \$5 permit fee per person, recent conditioning, H&W phones, rideshare info to Ldr:Patty Kline. Asst: Will McWhinney.

#### August 18-19 / Sat-Sun

WTC, PVSB

#### I / Mt. Langley (14,029)

Southernmost 14'er. Sat backpack to 4th Lake, 5 mi 1000' gain. Sun go for peak, 7 mi 3000' gain & pack out. Prior conditioning required. Send \$5 Permit Fee, 2 sase, H&W phones, experience and conditioning to Ldr: Richard Boardman. Asst: John Hinz

#### August 24-26 / Fri-Sun

**WTC, Wilderness Adventures** 

#### I / Mt Agassiz (13,893')

Fri backpack 4 mi, 1400' gain from South Lake in the Eastern Sierra to camp at Bishop Lake. Sat climb Agassiz, 5 mi rt, 2600' gain for incredible views of the Palisades, then return to camp and celebrate at happy hour. Sun sleep in, then pack out to cars. WTC or equivalent required. Send 2 sase, email, \$5 permit fee, rideshare info and recent experience/ conditioning info to Ldr: Adrienne Benedict. Co-Ldr: Marc "Roadkill" Hertz.

#### August 25-26 / Sat-Sun

#### **WTC, Sierra Peaks Section**

#### I / Basin Mt (13,181)

Sat easy paced backpack to camp at Horton Lk., 4 mi 2000' gain. Sun climb Basin, 3 mi 3200' gain, with an interminable talus slope, and pack out. Send sase with experience, conditioning, H&W phones, and email to Ldr: Helen Qian. Asst: Greg Foerstel.

#### August 31-Sep 3 / Fri-Mon

#### **Wilderness Adventures**

#### I / Mt Langley (14,026')

Backpack Bus Trip: Leave Fri eve on bus. Sat backpack 6 mi, 1000' gain from Horseshoe Meadows above Lone Pine to camp at 11,000'. Sun xc dayhike 10 mi, 3000' gain to summit, some class 2 rock scrambling. Return to camp for happy hour. Mon pack out to meet bus. Space limited by permit. Experience at altitude req'd. Cost \$110 with SC#/120 non-member, includes bus, bus snacks, permit fees, Monday dinner. Send check (Wilderness Adventure), 2 sase, H&W phones, email, recent backpacking/altitude experience/conditioning info to Ldr: Jason Lynch. Asst: Peggy Kinney.

# September

#### September 8-9 / Sat-Sun

WTC

#### I / Crag Peak (9,440′)

Saturday backpack from Kennedy Meadows in the Southern Sierra to Clover Meadows, 4-1/2 mi, 1000' gain, set camp. Explore and enjoy happy hour. Sunday climb named peak, 2 mi., 2240' gain, return to camp and pack out. Send 2 sase, H&W phones & experience/conditioning to Ldr: Gregg Adams. Co-Ldr: Brad Hinkle

#### September 8-9 / Sat-Sun

WTC, OCSS

#### I / Thompson Lake, Peak (12,744)

Sat backpack in 3 mi, 2000' gain to camp at Tyee Lakes above Bishop Creek. Sun hike xc to Thompson Lake, 3 mi, 1750' gain, climb Peak 12,744'. Return to camp and pack out. Send sase or e-mail, h&w phones, experience & rideshare info to Ldr: Markey Daley. Co-Ldr: Ron Campbell.

#### September 8-9 / Sat-Sun

WTC, Sierra Peaks Section

#### I / Mt. Stanford #2 (12,836)

Sat backpack 4.8 mi., 950' gain to camp near Hilton Lakes. Sun climb 2.4 mi. 2500' gain on xc route to peak, return to camp and pack out. Send 2 sase, resume with experience, conditioning, H&W phones, e-mail and rideshare info to Ldr: Roman Gunther. Co-Ldr: Jack Knox.

## September 9-15 / Sun-Sat CNRCC Desert Comm/Toiyabe Chapter

#### I / Escalante River Backpack

Magnificent Southern Utah desert canyon. Narrow canyons, much wading. Weather determines whether trip goes: Rain and flash flood mean change of dates. Contact leader early. High clearance or 4WD necessary for roadhead at Coyote Gulch. For more info send 2 sases, name, address, telephone numbers and \$20 deposit made out to "Sierra Club" to Ldr: David Hardy

#### September 15-16 / Sat-Sun

Sierra Peaks, WTC

#### I / Pinchot (13,494'), Wynne (13,179')

Saturday backpack to Lake Marjorie via Taboose Pass (11 mi, 6,400'). Sunday climb Wynne and Pinchot (5 mi, 2,800') and pack out. WTC or equiv required. Send email or sase with recent conditioning and experience, H&W phones and rideshare info to Ldr: Dave Endres. Asst: Barry Holchin

# Sept. 15-16 / Sat-Sun Wilderness Adventures, WTC, Sierra Peaks M / Split Mtn (14,058')

While neither as high nor as easy as Mt Whitney or Langley, Split Mtn (originally "South Palisade") provides an excellent climb of one of California's "Fourteeners" for those who are comfortable w/3rd class rock and can breathe the thin air. Sat backpack 6 mi, 3900' gain to camp at Red Lake. Evening Happy Hour. Early start Sun for summit via 3rd class north ridge, 5 mi rt, 3600' gain. Pack out. Some dirt road driving to reach trailhead. WTC or equivalent req. Send 2 sase, H&W phones, email and a detailed climbing resume w/rock exp to Ldr: Jason Lynch. Asst: Tina Bowman.

#### September 15-16 / Sat- Sun

WTC, PVSB

#### I / Dobbs Peak (10.459')

Navigation workshop and peakbag in San Gorgonio Wilderness. Sat backpack 5 mi, 3200' gain to camp at High Creek. Sun xc climb of Dobbs, 5mi rt, 1300' gain, pack out. Send 2 sase, H&W phones to Ldr: John Hinz. Asst: Richard Boardman

#### September 15-16 / Sat-Sun

**WTC, Sierra Peaks** 

#### I / University Pk (13,632')

Sat backpack 5 mi, 2600' gain over Kearsarge Pass to Kearsarge Lakes on trail and xc. Potluck Sat night. Sun steep xc climb 1 mi, 2500' gain to class 2 summit and return to cars. WTC or equivalent required. Send \$5 permit fee, 2 sase, H&W phones, rideshare info, and recent conditioning/experience to Ldr: Patty Rambert. Asst: R J Secor

#### September 15-16 / Sat-Sun

WTC

#### I / Iron Mountain (11,149')

Sat bkpk 6.5 mi 2100' gain from Mammoth's Devil's Postpile to camp at Fern or Anona Lake. Sun xc route to climb peak, 2000' gain, then pack out. WTC or equivalent required. Send 2 sase, information sheet with rideshare info, conditioning, H&W phones, e-mail address to Ldr: Ed Morente. Asst: Ron Campbell.

#### September 15-16 / Sat-Sun

WTC, OCSS

#### I / Mt Agassiz (13893')

Sat backpack 4 miles, 1600' gain from South Lake in E Sierra to Bishop Lake. Shared happy hour. Sun climb peak 5 miles rt, 2500' gain and return to cars. Send 2 sase with H&W phones, recent conditioning and experience, rideshare info and \$5 permit fee to Ldr: KC Reid. Co-Ldr: Cheryl Gill

#### September 15-16 / Sat-Sun

WTC

#### I / Chocolate Peak (11,682')

Sat backpack 3 mi, 1900' gain from South Lake to Ruwau Lake. Sun climb peak, 900' gain, pack out. WTC or equivalent required. Send 2 sase, H&W phones, \$6 permit fee, hiking resume, rideshare info to Ldr: Adrienne Benedict. Asst: Susan Richmond.

#### September 15-17 / Sat-Mon

**WTC, Santa Clarita** 

#### I / Hilton Lakes to Mount Stanford (12,838')

Saturday moderate 5 mi, 500' climb on trail from Rock Creek to camp at Hilton Lake 4 (10,353) situated against stunning Mt. Huntington. Sunday moderately strenuous 5 mi, 2485' gain hike xc along a string of pearl lakes to Mt. Stanford and back. Monday easy hike out by noon. Send 2 sase with backpacking history, H&W phone, e-mail, recent conditioning and experience, rideshare info to Ldr: Sarah May. Co-Ldr: Greg Foerstel

## September (continued)

#### September 15-17 / Sat-Mon

Sierra Peaks, WTC

#### I / Mt. Gilbert (13,106')

SPS introductory trip in eastern Sierra geared to prospective SPS'ers and WTC students. Relaxed, casual and enjoyable. Sat backpack 4 mi, 1500' gain to Treasure Lakes at 10,700'. Sun climb Gilbert in 4 mi rt, 2500' gain. Comfort with class 2 talus required. Legendary community happy hours Sat and Sun eves. Mon backpack out. Send 2 sase, \$5 permit fee per person, recent conditioning, H&W phones, rideshare info to Ldr: Patty Kline. Asst: Sue Holloway.

#### September 22-23 / Sat-Sun

WTC

#### I / Mt. Tom (13,652')

Moderate 6,000'+ gain, 12 mile round trip weekend. Sat. bkpk to Horton Lake in E. Sierra near Bishop, 4 mile, 2250' gain. Set up camp and happy hour. Sun climb peak via SW ridge, 2 mi, 3570 gain. Return to camp and pack out. Send sase or e-mail with h/w phones, experience, conditioning and rideshare info to Ldr: Marnie O'Toole. Asst: Brad Hinkle

#### September 22-23 / Sat-Sun

**WTC, Sierra Peaks** 

#### I/M / Dunderberg Pk (12,374'), Excelsior Mtn (12,446)

Fall color and lots of scrambling to these peaks above Virginia Lakes north of Yosemite. Sat backpack 2.5 mi, 1200' gain on Summit Lake Trail to camp at tarn below pass. Climb Excelsior's N ridge, 4 mi, 2300' more, return to camp for happy hour. Sun leader's choice on Dunderberg - bumpy SW ridge, 5 mi, 2000' gain or pack down and dayhike from cars. Send 2 sase or email, resume of experience and conditioning, H&W phones, rideshare info to Ldr: Beth Epstein. Asst: Kim Gimenez.

## **October**

#### October 6-7 / Sat-Sun

**WTC, Sierra Peaks** 

#### I / Three Sisters (10,612')

Fall backpack in the Western Sierra from Courtwright Reservoir to Cliff Lake, 4.5 mi, 1200' gain. Laze at lake or explore Dogtooth Peak and return for happy hour. Sunday climb Three Sisters, 3 mi rt xc, 1200' gain. Send 2 sase or email, H&W phones, resume of experience and conditioning to Ldr: Beth Epstein. Asst: Kim Gimenez.

#### October 6-7 / Sat-Sun

WTC

#### I / 3rd Annual Last Chance Backpack to Tahquitz Peak (8846')

Here is your last minute chance to graduate WTC! Sat backpack, 3.5 mi 1600' gain, from Humber Park in Idyllwild to Tahquitz Valley and set up camp. Dayhike to the summit of Tahquitz Pk Sat afternoon & return to camp. Sun hike to Skunk Cabbage Mdws and Red Tahquitz Pk, return to camp and pack out. Must carry all the water you need for the weekend. (Sorry!) WTC or equiv req'd. Send resume of conditioning and experience, H&W phones & rideshare info to Ldr: Georgette Rieck. Co-Ldr: Jason Lynch.

#### October 13-14 / Sat-Sun

WTC, HPS

#### I / Quail Mountain and Lang Mine Backpack

Moderately paced, moderately strenuous 13 mi rt, 1800' gain backpack trip in Joshua Tree NP. Most of this trip will be offtrail with possible rock scrambling and brush obstacles. Participants will enjoy views from the tallest peak in Joshua Tree NP, but will need to carry all their water for the weekend. Send sase, H&W phones, email, recent conditioning and backpacking experience to Ldr: David Coplen. Asst: Diane Dunbar.

# **Trips of Interest**

These trips do not qualify for WTC graduation requirements.

#### Jun 16 / Sat

#### **Hundred Peaks, WTC, OCSS**

#### 0 / Gray's Pk (7920'), Bertha Pk (8201')

Two pretty peaks on the north side of Big Bear Lake. Moderately paced, approx 13 mi rt, 2400' gain. Meet 7 am Pomona rideshare pt. Bring 3-4 liters water, lunch, lugsoles, 10 essentials and your camera for the lovely views and maybe some flowers. Co-ldrs: Luella Fickle and Cheryl Gill.

#### Jun 23 / Sat

#### Wilderness Adventures, WTC, HPS

#### I / Kratka Ridge to Mt Waterman

No trails needed! Substantial XC route in the Angeles Forest from Buckhorn Camp to both Kratka and Mt. Waterman. Climb the east ridge to Kratka to the summit. Traverse west off-trail to eastern ascent of Mt Waterman, 8 miles, 2500' gain total. Group limited to 10. Send sase, or email, with recent hiking/conditioning info to Ldr: Peggy Kinney. Co-Ldr: Diane Dunbar.

#### July 14 / Sat

**Antelope Valley Group** 

#### 0 / Mt Baden Powell (9,399')

Moderate dayhike to one of the great alpine places in the San Gabriel Mtns, 9 miles rt, 1400' gain. Meet 8:00 AM at the Palmdale rideshare point. Bring lunch, water, lug soles. Rain postpones. Leader Steve Caldwell. Coleader: Jerri Clifton.

#### Jul 28-29 / Sat-Sun

Wilderness Adventures, WTC

#### 0 / Redwood Canyon Backpack

Moderate 7 mile backpack loop trip thru the largest remaining giant sequoia grove and several meadows of wild flowers. (Great for new backpackers with at least one previous trip under your boots). Artists and gourmets welcome for creative and delicious potluck dinner Saturday evening. Sun pack out by 4 pm. Park entrance and permit fees. Send 2 sase, or email, to Ldr: Peggy Kinney. Co-Ldr: Adrienne Benedict.

#### July 29 / Sun

Hundred Peaks, WTC, SMMTF

#### I / San Gorgonio Mtn (11,499'), Dobbs Pk (10,459')

Vigorous 14 mi rt, 5600' gain hike from Vivian Creek. Long off-trail descent from Dobbs. Send email or sase to leader with address, am-pm phone numbers, recent experience. Limited to 12 strong hikers. Ldr: Ray Riley. Co-Ldr: Don Croley

#### Sep 30 / Sun

LTC-WTC

#### I / Grinnell Ridge Navigation

Nav Noodle in San Bernardino Natl Forest for either checkout or practice to satisfy both basic (I/M) or advanced (E) level nav reqs. To receive homework assign, send sase with nav experience/training, rideshare info, H &W phones to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Bob Bradshaw.

#### Oct 26-28 / Fri-Sun

LTC, WTC, Harwood

#### **O / Wilderness First Aid Course (WFAC)**

Runs from 8 am Fri to 5:30 pm Sun. Proof of CPR within previous 2 yrs required. Course fee of \$140 members/\$150 non-members; includes lodging and meals. Send sase, SC#, proof of CPR and check (WFAC — full refund through Sept 15) to WFAC, PO Box 3414, Fullerton, CA 92834. For course info call Idr. For enrollment info call Registrar: Markey Daley. Ldr: Steve Schuster

#### Nov 10-11 / Sat-Sun

LTC, WTC

#### I / Indian Cove Navigation

Navigation noodles to satisfy basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. Sat for practice, skills refresh, altimeter, campfire. Sun for checkout. To receive homework assignment send navigation experience/training, rideshare info, H&W phones and sase to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Bob Bradshaw

#### Nov 18 / Sun

#### **Wilderness Adventures, WTC**

#### I / Fried Liver Wash and Bingo Peak (2900')

Join us for a moderately paced, moderately strenuous 15 mile rt, 2000' gain hike in Joshua Tree NP. Hike thru the transition zone between the Colorado & Mojave deserts. Hike up Fried Liver Wash to the SW of Pinto Basin with a short side trip to climb Bingo Peak. Then continue up Fried Liver Wash to the E end of Pleasant Valley before returning to our starting point. Sturdy boots, 3 qts water and 10 essentials required. Send sase, H&W phones, email, recent conditioning and hiking experience to Ldr: David Coplen. Asst Ldr: George Denny.

Dec 9 / Sun LTC-WTC

#### I / Warren Pt Navigation

Nav Noodle at Joshua Tree National Park for either checkout or practice to satisfy both basic (I/M) or advanced (E) level nav reqs. To receive homework assign, send sase with nav experience/training, rideshare info, H &W phones to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Bob Bradshaw.

# **Trips for Leaders**

These trips are for those pursuing advanced leadership ratings.

#### Jun 16-17 / Sat-Sun

**WTC, Sierra Peaks** 

#### M / Mt Dade (13,635')

Snow climb restricted to SC members with appropriate ice ax and crampon experience. Sat backpack 4 mi, 1500' gain from Mosquito Flats to camp at Treasure Lakes. Sun alpine start to climb Dade Couloir and east ridge, 1.8 mi, 2400' gain. Not for WTC students. Send sase, \$5 permit fee, SC#, H&W phones, email and climbing resume to Ldr: Larry Gibson. Asst: Greq Foerstel.

#### Jun 23-24 / Sat-Sun

**WTC, Sierra Peaks** 

#### M / Mt Winchell (13,775')

Sat 6 mi, 3500' gain backpack from Glacier Lodge to Sam Mack Mdw. Sun climb 1.5 mi, 2400' gain to summit via 3rd class east arete. Return to camp and hike out. Snow climb restricted to SC members with appropriate ice ax and crampon experience. Not for WTC students. Send 2 sase, \$5 permit fee, SC#, H&W phones, email and a detailed climbing resume w/rock & snow experience to Ldr: Jason Lynch. Asst: Beth Epstein.

#### July 7-9 / Sat-Mon

Sierra Peaks, WTC

#### M / Mt. Tyndall (14,019')

Restricted trip limited to SC members with very strong physical conditioning and exposed 3rd class rock and ice axe and crampon experience. Sat strenuous backpack from Symmes Creek trailhead to Shepherds Pass, 12 mi 5700' gain. Sun climb Tyndall via North Rib. Mon pack out. Send 2 sase or email describing experience, qualifications, conditioning, references, phones, SC#, to Ldr: Maria Roa. Asst. Mike Adams.

#### Aug 3-5 / Fri-Sun

Sierra Peaks

M / E. Vidette (12,356'), Deerhorn Mtn (13,281'), W. Vidette (12,533')

Fri long, strenuous day, first hike in over Kearsarge pass to Vidette Mdw then climb E. Vidette via cl3 east ridge. Sat another long day to climb Deerhorn via cl3 ridge on north and W. Vidette. Sun hike out. Restricted to SC mems w/cl3 rock exp. Prefer resumes w/detailed climb experience and LTC practice. Send resume & sase, H&W phones, email, rec cond/exper, rideshare info to Ldr: Tom McDonnell. Asst: Nile Sorenson.

#### Aug 4-5 / Sat-Sun

WTC

#### M / Dragon Peak (12,955')

Restricted to Sierra Club members with experience on exposed 3rd class rock. Sat backpack 2.5 miles, 2200' to camp at highest unnamed lake east of peak. Sun climb Dragon, .75 miles, 1600' gain with exposed traverse to summit block, then pack out. Harness and helmet required. May require ice axe. Not for WTC students. Send climbing and conditioning resume, SC#, 2 sase and email to Ldr: Gary Embrey. Assistant Virgil Talbott.

#### Aug 10-12 / Fri-Sun

**WTC, Sierra Peaks** 

#### M / Whorl Mtn (12,033'), Matterhorn Pk (12,278')

Two good peaks in northern Yosemite. Fri moderately strenuous backpack from Mono Village to camp at Horse Creek Pass, 4 mi, 3600 gain, then climb 2nd class Matterhorn Pk, 2 mi rt, 1500 gain. Sat head over to 3rd class Whorl Pk, 4 mi rt, 1900 gain. Sun hike out. Trip restricted to SC members only. Not intended for WTC students. Send resume including 3rd class experience, SC#, sase or email to Ldr: Will McWhinney. Co-Ldr: Bill Oliver.

#### Aug 18-19 / Sat-Sun

**WTC, Sierra Peaks** 

#### M / Dragon Pk (12,955')

One of the classic Sierra climbs! Sat backpack to camp near Golden Trout Lake, 3 mi, 2200' gain. Sun start early to climb peak via exposed 3rd class route, approx 2 mi rt, 1600' gain, then pack out. Restricted to SC members with appropriate rock experience. Not for WTC students. Send 2 sase, \$5 permit fee, SC#, H&W phones, email and a detailed climbing resume w/rock experience to Ldr: Jason Lynch. Asst: Georgette Rieck.

#### Sep 22-24 / Sat-Mon

Sierra Peaks, WTC

#### M / Mt. Lyell (13,114') & Mt. Maclure (12,960')

Restricted trip limited to SC members with strong physical conditioning and 3rd class rock and ice axe and crampon experience. Sat, backpack from Silver Lake along the June Lake Loop up the Rush Creek drainage 9 mi, 3500' gain. Sun climb the glacier to Mt. Lyell via Donohue Pass, then cross to Mt. Maclure and back to camp. Monday hike out. Send 2 sase or email describing experience, qualifications, conditioning, references, phones, SC# to Ldr: Maria Roa. Asst. R.J. Secor.

# Dial M for Mountaineering

## **Getting the M Leader Rating**

**By Bill Oliver** 

Editor's note: Recent decisions and clarifications at the executive level of WTC have indicated that staff within each WTC group be required to include no less than two M rated leaders. This underscores the continuing need

for new M rated leaders, many of whom will have started out as WTC students

Let me try to clarify some of what it takes to earn the M Leader rating, especially regarding the necessary experience; I won't cover all aspects of the requirements.

LTC has made great strides (thanks to Harry Freimanis, Virgil Shields and Nile Sorenson — prominent WTC names) in making it easier to embark upon the M leader process. For example, we offer many Navigation, Rock and Snow practices/checkouts during the year. Dates for these LTC events appear on the LTC website. Serious candidates need to plan ahead.

We will also again be offering in 2002 the new Mountaineering Leadership Course (MLC), which starts up in April after WTC. Look for updated details on qualifications and course dates at the LTC website soon.

The MLC is intended for both aspiring M candidates and for current M/E leaders looking for a refresher. Last year we had 18 students, 17 of whom were involved with WTC— three of these were already M-rated.

LTC has made it easier to get started on your M. It has *not*, however, made it any easier to finish! It could be argued that LTC has made it *harder* to finish. OK.

A few pretty sharp candidates are able to attend a single Nav/Rock/Snow Practice, then pass their Checkout at the next opportunity. Having satisfied all three—plus the Wilderness First Aid requirement—they may then start thinking about their two required Provisional M trips. Before one can lead a provisional M trip, however, they must present an acceptable mountaineering resume, with emphasis on participation on M/E level trips in the high Sierra or equivalent; e.g., Shasta, Cascades, Rockies.

**What about local snow climbs? Don't they count?** Sure, these are relevant experience trips, but not sufficient. What really counts are M/E level high Sierra snow climbs.

What about gnarly rock climbs at Joshua Tree and Tahquitz? Don't they count? Good for you. These are also relevant but not sufficient. What really counts are M/E level high Sierra climbs.

What about lots of solo or private high Sierra trips? Don't they count? Sure, and I like the "lots." However, we do want to see people on most of your trips, and we definitely want to see some Sierra Club trips. Before very long, leaders discover that "dealing" with people can be the most challenging part of mountaineering leadership. You need to acquire this experience by being in a party of climbers.

How about mentioning lots of references? We don't check references—we look at your mountaineering resume!

Some M candidates, of course, begin the program with decent, relevant high Sierra experience. Many, however, do not. If you're only just now contemplating getting an M rating someday, go ahead and start developing the mountaineering experience already, dude.

Sure, we don't expect Provisional M leaders to have fantastic mountaineering resumes; I never will. But before we let you take folks "out there," we would like some assurance that you've "been there, done that" – that you've experienced the high Sierra in several different successful M/E level encounters and that you've had opportunities to observe personnel dynamics.

Final note: we're looking for fairly recent high Sierra experience, say, within the last 3-4 years. Stuff you did quite awhile ago is great, but significantly discounted. Similarly, a longtime M leader without recent experience might not be approved to lead a Restricted trip (one involving use of a rope or ice axe).

*So, bottom line here*: someone could possibly rush through and get all their checkouts in a matter of months. Getting relevant high Sierra experience, however, would likely take two or more active years. We're talking at least a few M/E rock climbs and at least a few snow climbs. When submitting your climbing resume, please highlight these ascents indicating the peaks, routes, dates, leaders and sponsoring entity if it was a Sierra Club trip.

Gosh, getting the M is a *BIG* commitment. Not everyone has the time and energy to pursue it. Some candidates seem to languish. LTC is not trying to rush folks through the system. However, if getting the M rating is something you really want, you can do it. And when you finally get the rating, you will be



To explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystem and resources; to educate and enlist bumanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment



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Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club, Wilderness Training Committee, FRIP # 0469

# ALASKA

by foot and by ship

# Chapter cruise still has space but best prices may only be offered through June 21

Come sail Alaska's glorious glaciers and view its rugged wilderness with the Angeles Chapter's fundraising cruise aboard the Ocean Princess. The Voyage of the Glaciers from Sept. 17–24 offers an opportunity to sample some of Alaska's panoramic grandeur and cultural history starting from Seward, on the Kenai Peninsula; to Skagway, the gateway to the gold rush; Juneau, the capital and site of the Mendenhall Glacier; and Ketchikan, a picturesque village abundant with native culture. Cruising days to see the massive glaciers tour College Fjord and Glacier Bay.

This trip, which benefits your local chapter of the Sierra Club, features:

- Daily group meetings.
- · Tips on photography and journal-writing.
- Special add-on hikes/sightseeing in port (extra cost).
- Optional Land excursion to Denali National Park prior to the cruise May 12-16 (extra cost) much cheaper than cruise line-offered tours.
- Single cruise passengers will be given access to others who desire similar room categories for matching purposes.

**Book now to get the best prices!** Costs start at \$789 per person; third and fourth person go for \$299 on inside cabins. Round-trip airfare, a percentage of which also benefits the Chapter, is \$479 plus \$71 tax per person.

Leaders are Mary Forgione, former editor of the Southern Sierran and outings leader for the Wilderness Adventure Section, and Tom Politeo, Communications Chair and Camera Committee outings leader.

To make a reservation, call Montrose Travel Groups Division at 800–301–9673. For information on the cruise and on the Denali portion of the trip, call leaders Mary Forgione and Tom Politeo at 310–547–1416.

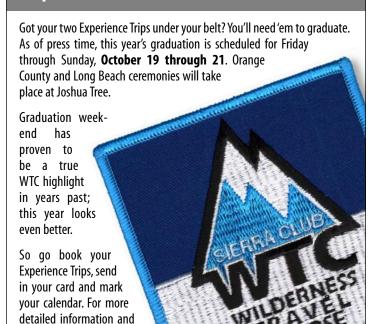


After two years at the helm, Joe Foremski retires as WTC Newsletter Editor (*he doesn't look too broken up about it. . .* ). As do all WTC volunteer staff, Joe put a lot of time and effort into every issue, effort that is heartily appreciated. Thanks.

# **WTC Graduation**

#### Pomp and circumstance

other group locations contact your area chair (page 2).





P.O. Box 1643, El Segundo, CA 90245

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