



Newsletter

Newsletter of the Wilderness Training Committee

WTC Students earn diplomas at University Peak



www.angeles.sierraclub.org/wtc
Vol 18, No. 4 / Fall 2007

WTC Officers

See page 8 for contact info

WTC

Chair
Scott Nelson

Long Beach

Area Chair
KC Reid
Area Vice Chair
Dave Meltzer
Area Trips
Mike Adams
Area Registrar
Jean Konnoff

Orange County

Area Chair
Edd Ruskowitz
Area Vice Chair
John Cyran
WTC Outings Chair and Area Trips
Tom McDonnell
Area Registrar
Kirt Smoot

San Gabriel Valley

Area Chair
Dawn Burkhardt
Area Vice Chair
Shannon Wexler
Area Trips
Helen Qian
Area Registrar
James Martens

West Los Angeles

Area Chair
Gerard Lewis
Area Vice Chair
Gerard Lewis
Area Trips
Marc Hertz
Area Registrar
Ann Pedreschi

The WTC Newsletter is published quarterly for students and staff of the Wilderness Training Committee and delivered via U.S. mail or distributed at class sites. It's also available in color on the WTC website:

www.angeles.sierraclub.org/wtc as a download in PDF format. All questions, copy and photo submissions should be directed to Kay Novotny, WTC Newsletter Editor at (562) 860-4078, or emailed to: knovo@ca.rr.com

WTC Info Line 310-967-2029

This is it! Time to Graduate!



Patch, patch, who has earned their patch? Below is the schedule for WTC graduations for 2007. Every student who has completed the graduation requirements and has mailed their completed student card to their area registrar will receive the coveted WTC patch at the graduation ceremony for their group. Even if you have not completed your requirements for graduation, please come to the graduation celebration to enjoy yourself and cheer for your classmates! All students are welcome. If you are looking for that last elusive experience trip, please see pages 4 through 6 of this newsletter for final experience trip opportunities.

Graduation Schedule:

All Area Graduations will be held October 20 and 21 at Indian Cove in Joshua Tree NP

Each area has reserved at least one group site at Indian Cove campground for graduation. Please contact your group leader to find out where your group is meeting.

There are special outings planned for this weekend – please check the “outings” section of the newsletter to find these special opportunities.



For Sale!



Expedition Backpack, North Face Alpha Aurora, Red, Men's Medium, 6000+ cu in, Excellent condition. \$600 new, yours for \$180. Steve Schuster, steve.n.wfac2@sbc-global.net, 714-315-1886



Trips Liability Notice

Liability Waiver Notice To participate in a Sierra Club outing, you will need to sign a liability waiver. To see a copy of this waiver prior to attending the outing, please see www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms

Transportation Notice In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make voluntary carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

Headline Deadline

For publication in the Winter 2008 WTC Newsletter: Nov 15

For publication in the Spring 2008 WTC Newsletter: Feb 15

These are the last days for trips to be submitted to the WTC Outings Chair. Provisional trips and leaders should already have an LTC review. Restricted trips should prepare a Mountaineering Application.

For publication in the 307 Angeles Chapter Schedule (Mar 1 - Jun 30): Nov 9

For publication in the 308 Angeles Chapter Schedule (Jul 5 - Oct 31): Mar 9

These are the last days for trips to be submitted to the WTC Outings Chair. Provisional trips and leaders should already have an LTC review. Restricted trips should prepare a Mountaineering Application.

On The Cover

With Kearsarge Lakes in the background, leaders Patrick McKusky and George Faeustle lead a group of WTC students up University Peak, June 23 and 24, 2007. For more information about the trip, please see page 11.

Photo by Louis Kwan.

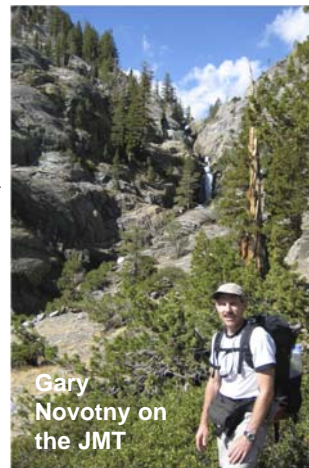
How did the JMT go?

By Kay Novotny and Gary Novotny.

My husband, Gary, has recently completed his adventure on the JMT. He began his trip at 6:15 AM on August 27th, at Happy Isle in Yosemite Valley, and completed the odyssey at the top of Mt Whitney, at 9:00AM on September 8th. Read on for excerpts from his JMT journal:

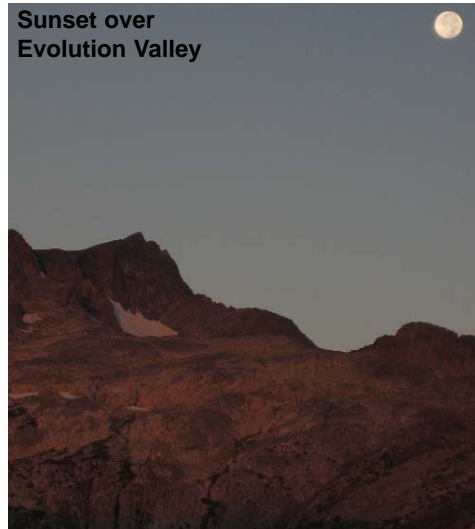
Day 1 (Monday)

Kay drove me to the Happy Isle trailhead. Along the way, we spotted a bear. Was this some type of omen? As it turns out, it is my birthday this morning. I could not think of a more glorious way to celebrate my 30th birthday (of course I could not think of a more glorious way to celebrate my actual age either). I excitedly left the car at 6:15 and started up the JMT. I avoided having the hot sun hit me until I had reached the top of Nevada Falls. When I reached Little Yosemite Valley, I refilled my water and headed towards Sunrise camp. After this point, the number of hikers encountered dramatically dropped, since I was now past the Half Dome cutoff. After a bit of a slog up Sunrise Mountain, I reached the picturesque Long Meadow - very nice! Because of the disappointing winter, there was no water reaching Sunrise Camp. They had to haul it all in on mule for guests, so they would not allow hikers to take any water. I would have to wait until Cathedral Lakes to fill up. It was all down hill after summiting Cathedral Pass, the first of 11 (12 for me, but more on that later) passes on the JMT. As often happens in the Sierras, I had thunder, lightning and a bit of moisture for most of the afternoon. I saw 4 fires that were apparently started by lightning strikes. By 5:30, I was in Tuolumne Meadows and met Kay at the lodge for dinner. More rain and large amounts of hail fell after I made it to camp. We had dinner at the camp kitchen which consisted of salad, cowboy steak, baked potato, vegetables and cheesecake. Daily total: 25 miles, 6000 feet of gain.



Gary Novotny on the JMT

Sunset over Evolution Valley



Day 3 (Wednesday)

At 2:00 in the morning I suddenly wake up and attempt to scream as a bear has his head under my rain fly and is pulling my sleeping bag out of the tent by the shoulder. I am horribly panicked, but I am powerless to do anything as this beast is too large and powerful and my arms are trapped inside my mummy bag. All of my attempted screams never result in any noise actually coming out of my mouth as I have lost my voice at this traumatic point in time. The only good news about this event is that it has only been a nightmare, but my adrenaline and heart rate are at historic levels, so I am not able to fall asleep again for almost 2 hours.

Day 4 (Thursday)

At 5:00, I got up to enjoy another hot spring encounter at the bath house. After breakfast, I was packing up my gear, when it started to rain again. It was only 5:45 and I already had to put my rain gear on. By 6:15, I was heading down the trail. The further that I went, the harder it rained. I kept my head down, and trudged along, mile after mile. I passed many tents along the trail that had hikers waiting for the storm to pass before heading out. At 11:30, the rain stopped and I had a quick lunch. By 11:40, it had started up once again. ...More rain, more miles pounded out. I can't describe Lake Virginia, Tully Hole or Cascade Valley since my head was always looking straight down to avoid the pounding rain from hitting my cold face.

The one piece of good news was that there was no lightning, so I made it up and over Silver Pass without any safety issues. Left foot placed in the puddle in front of the right foot, right foot placed in the puddle in front of the left foot. ...I setup camp at the junction to Mott Lake. Since there was nothing to do but keep hiking the entire day, I was now only an hour and 20 minutes from the water taxi pickup point at Edison Lake. As I pulled gear out of my bag, I discovered that everything was wet, even though I had a pack cover on my pack the entire day. The only item that was still dry was my sleeping bag which was in a ditty bag, within a plastic bag, within my pack, under the pack cover. Thank goodness 4 layers of protection worked. Due to wearing my backup footwear in constant rain, I have started to develop several blisters. After setting up camp, I devoured my freshly baked pizza and quickly went to bed on my wet pillow. Daily total: 26.2 miles (a full marathon), 6000 feet of gain.

Day 5 (Friday)

At 5:00 sharp, my wake up call came in via a tremendously loud "KA-BOOM!!!!". Once again, thunder and lightning awaited me. Since I was so close to the Vermillion water taxi pickup point, I decided to see if I could wait out the storm. At 6:00, the rain had stopped and I exited my tent. ...We spent the two days at Vermillion playing scrabble, darts, cards and catching up on the news in the outside world. The satellite TV reported that on Thursday, the moisture from hurricane Dean traveling north met a low pressure system traveling south to create a "perfect storm" centered over Fresno, just west of my hiking location. I would later find out that a hurricane affects the weather in the Sierras about once every 9 years. Boy was I lucky.

Day 8 (Monday)

Once again, a sunny morning greeted me prior to starting my hiking day. Once on the trail, I quickly reach the cutoff for Blayney Meadows. I remember to bypass this, although most through hikers will go this way to pick up their final supplies. I continue down the San Joaquin River, until I reach a junction. To the left is Piute pass, to the right is Kings Canyon. I quickly head left for the first of my two passes. I attack the pass aggressively. Piute Pass is a real bear. It is VERY steep and has stair step blocks going up and up and up. After about 1 ¼ miles up, I have to rest because of exhaustion going up this monster of a pass. Sweat is even dripping from the tips of my fingers. I take out my map to see how much further I still have to go - only to find that Piute Pass is not shown on my map. This was not a good sign. I discovered my problem - on my trail profile, I wrote down "Piute Pass" instead of "Piute Pass Trail Junction". I was never scheduled to do Piute Pass. Mental note: always double check my map when a junction is encountered.

If you would like to read the full account of Gary's JMT adventure, see the website at: <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/wtc/pdf/jmt.pdf>

Outings

To reserve your place on an outing, follow the instructions listed in the trip description and provide all information requested by the leader. If a sase (self addressed stamped envelope) is requested, send a 9.5 x 4 inch envelope along with your other information. Typical requested information includes name, address, home & work phone numbers, WTC leader's name, name and date of outing you wish to join, your experience and physical conditioning. You may be placed on a waiting list if the number of persons interested in the desired trip is large. If you change your plans, it is very important that you contact the leader to let them know your revised plans, even if you are on the waiting list.

Please see Outings Leader Directory on page 8 for SASE and contact information. **NEW!** - Indicates a new trip not published before.



Trips which qualify as WTC experience trips are identified by a backpack logo.



Outings of interest will be identified by binoculars. These do not qualify as WTC experience trips, but they are very interesting.



Training opportunities are identified by a book. WTC students should find many of these trips within their abilities. Snow travel training will require prior experience.



Last, but not least, the gnarly trips are identified by an ice-axe and crampons. These are technically challenging trips - typically not suited to WTC students. Strong WTC students with prior mountaineering experience may qualify.

September

Sep 14-16/Fri-Sun Wilderness Adventures, WTC I/Goat Mtn (12,207')

Travel less-frequented trail out of Kings Canyon and peer back down over terrain 7,000 feet below from the peak! Friday, strenuous 5.5 mile, 5,300 ft gain trail backpack from Kings Canyon to Granite Basin (killer gain, but we'll take a moderate pace). Sat moderate xc 5 mi, 2,200 ft climb of Goat Mtn with possible climb of nearby Kid Pk or stroll to Granite Lake. Sun return to cars. Must be comfortable with steep, off-trail hiking. Send \$10 permit fee, 2 SASE, H&W phones, email, recent conditioning, experience, rideshare to Ldr: Mark Mitchell, Co-Ldr: David Coplen.

Sep 14-16/Sat-Sun Sierra Peaks, WTC I/Mt Johnson (12,871')

Sat backpack to Upper Treasure Lake and establish camp (3.5 miles 1740' gain), then climb Mt. Johnson (2 mi rt 1500' gain). Return to camp for happy hour. Sun backpack out. Send \$5 permit fee, email or SASE, recent conditioning / experience, H&W phones, and ride share info to Ldr: Doug Owens. Asst: Anne Marie Richardson.

Sep 15-16/Sat-Sun WTC I/Cirque Peak (12,900')

Sat start at Horseshoe Meadows Campground above Lone Pine. Hike in to Cirque Lake approx. 6 mi and make camp. Relax, enjoy the scenery. Sun climb Cirque Pk via class 1 south saddle. Return to camp and pack out. Ideal for WTC students seeking to fulfill experience hike requirements. Contact Ldr: Steve Curry. Asst: Anne Marie Richardson.

Sep 15-17/Sat-Mon WTC I/Iron Mtn (11,148')

Moderately strenuous backpack to Iron Mtn in Inyo National Forest. Sat hike 4.3 mi to Fern Lake from Devil's Postpile (1600'). Over night at Fern Lake, summit Iron Mtn on Sun, 9 mi rt (2500'). Mon we will pack out, returning to cars by early afternoon. Participants need to be comfortable on class 2 rock and traveling cross country. \$6 permit fee collected at trailhead. Send email or sase, H&W phone, recent conditioning and hiking experience to Ldr: Bob Dryden. Asst: Virgil Shields.

September continued

Sep 21-23/Fri-Sun Wilderness Adventures, WTC I/Twin Lakes-Silliman Nav Challenge Sequoia NP

Improve your navigation skills, get a peak and get happy on a moderately paced 6.5 mi, 2600' gain backpack to beautiful Twin Lakes. Sat xc explore both sides of Silliman Crest, and climb a no-name peak, 1400' net gain via 7 mi loop. Return to camp for shared treats and gourmet quesadillas. Sun head home. Comfort on class 2 climbing required. No tigers please. Send check for \$7 permit fee (payable to Wilderness Adventures), 2 sase (or email), contact & rideshare info, recent backpacking & conditioning experience to Ldr: Jane Simpson. Co-Ldr: Adrienne Benedict.

Sep 22-23/Sat-Sun WTC, Sierra Peaks I/University Pk (13,632')

The longer way via Kearsarge Pass. Sat backpack from Onion Valley, over Kearsarge Pass to camp at Kearsarge Lakes, 5.5 miles, 2600' gain. Sun steep xc climb to summit, 2 mi rt, 2500' gain. Then pack out and return to cars. Send sase, or use email, with info on Sierra experience, WTC leaders name, and conditioning info to Ldr: Ed Morente. Asst: John Cyran.

Sep 22-23/Sat-Sun WTC I/Alta Pk (11,204')

Hike beautiful Sequoia National Park visiting lovely alpine lakes along the trail to cross-country ascent to Moose Lake (10,545') (8 mi, 4000' gain). Fish, explore, enjoy the scenery. Community happy hour. Sun, break camp, climb class 2 Alta Pk, (3.8 mi rt, 1910' gain), and return to trailhead (8 mi, 2100' gain). Good conditioning required. Email or sase conditioning, experience, home and work phone, rideshare info to Ldr: Steve Curry. Asst: Anne Marie Richardson.

Sep 22-23/Sat-Sun WTC, Sierra Peaks M/Mt LeConte (13,680')

Restricted to Sierra Club Members with third class climbing experience; helmets required. Pack in 4 mi, 3500' gain to camp at Meysan Lake from Meysan Lake trailhead. Sun climb LeConte, 2 mi, 2600' gain and pack out. Medical form required. Send climbing resume, recent conditioning, sase/esase, H&W phones, \$6 permit fee to Garen Yegparian. Asst. Virgil Shields.

September continued

Sep 22-24/Sat-Mon



WTC

I/Mt Silliman (11,188')

Sat backpack 4 mi, 2000' gain on a use trail from Lodgepole, Sequoia National Park to camp. Time to relax or explore. Sun 4 mi, 2500' gain to summit for spectacular views. Mon pack out. Comfort on class 2 rock required. There will be a \$5 permit fee collected at the hike. Send sase/esase, phones, rideshare info, recent backpacking/conditioning to Ldr: Pat Vaughn, Co-Ldr: Eric Scheidemantle.

Sep 28-30/Fri-Sun



WTC

I/Florence Pk (12,437'), Vandever Mtn (11,937')

Fri backpack 5 miles and 2800' gain to Franklin Lake. Set up camp. Sat climb Florence Pk, 5 miles round trip and 2100' gain. Sun break camp and backtrack to Farewell Canyon, 2 miles. Climb Vandever Mtn, 6 miles round trip with 2900' gain. Backpack remaining 3 miles descending back to the trailhead. Ldr: Mike Dillenback. Asst: KC Reid.

Sep 28-30/Fri-Sun NEW



WTC, Long Beach

I/Tuolumne Meadows to Mattie Lake Backpack

Depart from Tuolumne Meadows (8600') and backpack 5.5 mi to a little past Glen Aulin High Sierra Camp (7900') with an elevation gain of 300' and a loss of 1000'. Sat depart Glen Aulin area and proceed off trail at 7800' for 3 mi with gain of 1550' and loss of 250' to Mattie Lake (9200'), includes walking on slab granite, through scrub brush, bouldering up the outlet notch and meandering in the meadow to the lake, and make camp in Mattie Lake. For those interested there is an optional scramble to Wildcat Pt (9562') for a fabulous sunset view. Sun return to Tuolumne Meadows the way we came, hiking out all the way. Trip is limited by permit. Contact Leader Jean Konnoff at jean.konnoff@dcma.mil. Asst: Jane Simpson.

Sep 29/Sat



LTC

Deadline for Leadership Training Seminar

Last day for receipt of application and payment, by LTC Registrar for Oct 13 seminar. Next seminar: Spring 2008. See ad in back pages of the Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activities. Registrar: Steve Botan.

Sep 29/Sat



WTC

O/Nike Base Rendez-Vous Hike #4 WTC Introductory Hike

Westridge Rd to Nike Base; Caballero Cyn to Nike Base: Learn about the Wilderness Travel Course on this 7 mi rt, 1000 feet gain hike in the Santa Monica Mts. The hike will include info on wilderness first aid. Westsiders Meet 8:00 am end of Westridge Rd (Sunset Blvd to Mandeville Cyn Rd, N 1/4 mi to Westridge Rd, L to end); observe street parking restrictions. Valley-ites meet at Caballero Cyn trailhead on Reseda Blvd. at 8:00 am (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Reseda Blvd 1.9 mi south across from Braemar County Club); free street parking. Ldrs: Jane Simpson, Bill Jackson, Robert Myers, Georgette Rieck, Melody Anderson.

Sep 29-30/Sat-Sun



WTC, Hundred Peaks

I/Grinnell Mtn (10,284'), Lake Peak (10,161) 10K Ridge (10,094')

Three great peaks in the nearby San Geronio Wilderness. Saturday we'll pack to camp and happy hour at Dry Lake (7 mi, 2700'). Sunday we'll climb 6 mi., 1800' gain cross country to our peaks, then pack out. Send experience, conditioning, phones, email, rideshare info via email or sase to Ldr: Edd Ruskowitz. Asst: Melissa Kane.

Sept 30/Sun



LTC, WTC, Hundred Peaks

I/Grinnell Ridge Navigation

Navigation Noodle in San Bernardino National Forest for either checkout or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. To receive homework assignment, send navigation experience/training, rideshare info, H&W phones to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Phil Wheeler

October

Oct 6/Sat NEW



WTC, DPS

I/Last Chance Mtn (8456')

Moderately strenuous XC daypack in Death Valley. We'll car camp on the bluff just before the large open pit of the former Crater Mine approximately 34.5 mi north of Scottys Castle off of Death Valley Road. Day hike 7 mi rt with approximately 2300' elevation gain to Last Chance Mtn. Last Chance Mtn is roughly 3 mi from the Crater Mine Site. This trip can be paired with the Sandy Peak trip Oct 7 (Sun). Please send experience / conditioning, WTC leader's name (if applicable), contact info via email to Ldr: Allison Dryden. Asst: Ann Pedreschi.

Oct 6-7/Sat-Sun NEW



WTC

I/Mt Silliman (11,188')

Sat backpack 4 mi, 2000' gain from Lodgepole, Sequoia NP to camp. Sun 4 mi, 2500' gain to Mt. Silliman then return to camp and pack out. Comfort on class 2 granite slabs required. Send esase (preferred) or sase with phone and rideshare info, recent backpacking/conditioning experience to Ldr: Peter Lara. Asst: Richard Boardman

Oct 6-7/Sat-Sun NEW



WTC

I/ALMOST LAST CHANCE BACKPACK

This is almost your last chance to graduate WTC! Sat backpack, 3.5 mi 1600' gain, from Humber Park in Idyllwild to Tahquitz Valley and set up camp. That afternoon, we'll dayhike to the summit of Tahquitz Pk (8846') and return to camp via cross country route. Sun we'll hike to Red Tahquitz Peak, return to camp and pack out. We'll need to carry all the water we need for the weekend. (not as bad as it sounds). WTC or equivalent required. Join Us! Send sase/email, resume of conditioning & experience, H&W phones & rideshare info to Ldr: Georgette Rieck. Co-Ldr: Garen Yegparian.

Oct 7/Sun NEW



WTC, DPS

I/Sandy Point (7062')

Sandy Point is an approx. 11 mile round trip day hike. All of the travel will be cross country with 2000 ft of elevation gain. We return by the same route. You will carpool 5 miles to the start of the hike, from our car camp near Crater Mine. We will start the hike at 8:00 AM. The car camp is located 45 miles east of Big Pine and 34 miles north of Scotty's Castle, off of Death Valley Rd. This trip can be paired with the Last Chance Mtn. trip on Oct. 6th. Please send experience/conditioning, WTC leader's name if applicable, contact info via email or sase to Ldr: Bob Dryden, at bobisayoon@yhoo.com. Asst: Adrienne Benedict

Oct 7/Sun NEW



WTC, 20-30 Singles, LB Group, PV South Bay

O/Mt Wilson/Manzanita Ridge

WTC Introductory Hike. Invigorating conditioning hike at a moderate pace. 10 mi rt, 4000' gain. Leaders will provide an overview of the Wilderness Travel Course (WTC), which begins January 2008. Subjects include safe mountain travel, map & compass and wilderness first aid. This is a residential neighborhood so be mindful of parking regulations and resident's quite enjoyment of their neighborhood. Meet 9 am at trailhead. Mira Monte Ave and Mt Wilson Trail Dr. Take I-210 to Baldwin Ave exit, take Baldwin N to Mira Monte, Right to trailhead. Bring hiking boots, 2 ltrs water, snacks to share. Ldrs: Dave Meltzer, Barbara Phillips-Meltzer.

Oct 9/Tue



WTC

O/Nike Base Rendez-Vous Hike #5 WTC Introductory Hike

Westridge Rd to Nike Base; Caballero Cyn to Nike Base: Learn about the Wilderness Travel Course on this 7 mi rt, 1000 feet gain hike in the Santa Monica Mts. The hike will include info on winter travel. Bring headlamp or flashlight. Westsiders Meet 6:30 pm end of Westridge Rd (Sunset Blvd to Mandeville Cyn Rd, N 1/4 mi to Westridge Rd, L to end); observe street parking restrictions. Valley-ites meet at Caballero Cyn trailhead on Reseda Blvd. at 6:30 pm (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Reseda Blvd 1.9 mi south across from Braemar County Club); free street parking. Ldrs: Jane Simpson, Marc Hertz, Robert Myers, Georgette Rieck, Paul Garry.

October continued

Oct 13/Sat



LTC

Leadership Training Seminar

Become a qualified Sierra Club leader. For info, see LTC section in front of Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activities. Deadline for receipt of application and payment is Sep 29. No registration after this date or at door. Next seminar: Spring 2008. Registrar: Steve Botan.

Oct 13/Sat



LTC, WTC, Hundred Peaks

I/Mt Lowe (5603') Beginning Navigation Clinic

5 mi, 500' gain. Spend the day one on one with an instructor, learning/practicing map and compass. Beginners to rusty old timers welcome. Not a check off. Many expert leaders will attend; many "I" rated leaders started here in the past. Recent no-shows require a \$25 deposit, refunded at trailhead. Send large sase early with check made out to Sierra Club, H&W phones to Ldr: Diane Dunbar. Co-Ldr: Richard Boardman.

Oct 13-14/Sat-Sun



WTC, Hundred Peaks

I/Queen Mtn (5680'+)

Easy paced, but moderately strenuous, backbacking trip in Joshua Tree National Park. Enjoy spectacular desert scenery from the top of Queen Mt, visit historic Pine City and learn about the Wilderness Travel Course or satisfy WTC requirements on this "really last chance" graduation trip. Substantial cross-country travel with some steep, rocky portions. 10 mi rt, 1500' gain. Send email (preferred) or sase, with contact info & recent conditioning to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co-Ldr: Chi Choi.

Oct 20/Sat



WTC

I/Indian Cove Navigation Practice

This navigation practice will take place during the Wilderness Travel Course graduation in beautiful Joshua Tree National Park. We will travel cross-country to practice navigation skills learned in the class and develop new skills. Participation limited to WTC students. For more information, send email (preferred) or sase, with contact info & recent conditioning to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co-Ldrs: Adrienne Benedict, Chi Choi, Susan Richmond, Jane Simpson, Marc "RoadKill" Hertz, Misha Askren.

Oct 20/Sat **NEW**



WTC, Desert Peaks

I/Orocopia Mtn (3815')

Planning on attending WTC graduation? Come bag this DPS peak on your way there. Located in the Orocopia wilderness area just south of Joshua Tree National Park. Moderately paced 4.5 mile cross country hike, 1100' gain. On the peak enjoy great views of Salton Sea to the south, San Jacinto and Santa Rosa ranges to the east, and the Chuckwallas to the west. We plan to finish in time to enjoy a scenic drive north through the park to arrive in Indian Cove for the WTC graduation activities. For details contact Ldrs: Lisa Buckley and Wayne Vollaie.

Oct 20/Sat **NEW**



WTC

I/Knot and Rope Workshop

Joshua Tree NP WTC graduation workshop. Great for anyone interested in getting more knot and rope practice and for those interested in the LTC M rock checkoff. This is not a climbing class and rock climbing will not be done. Location will be at or near one of the Group campsites. Some gear will be provided. Send experience, conditioning and contact info to Ldr: Gerard Lewis Co-Ldrs: Robert Myers, Daniel Kinzek

Oct 20/Sat **NEW**



WTC

M/Peak 4377'

Joshua Tree NP WTC graduation trip to this great class 3 peak near Indian Cove with WTC WLA leaders. WTC or equivalent skills required and comfort on class 3 rock required. Group size is limited. Participants must have suitable skills and conditioning. Climbing helmets required. Send class 3 rock experience, conditioning and contact info to Ldr: Virgil Shields Co-Ldr: Will McWhinney

October continued

Oct 20/Sat **NEW**



WTC

I/Forty Nine Palms Oasis

Joshua Tree NP WTC graduation outing to a unique and "one of a kind" part of the Park. Forty Nine Palms Oasis is one of five recognized oases in Joshua Tree National Park. Over 50 native California Fan Palms and localized dense vegetation are nestled deep within a rugged, sheltered canyon. 3.5 miles roundtrip, 769' elevation gain. Send experience, conditioning and contact info to: Ldr: Charles Irving Co-Ldr: Kim Homan.

Oct 20/Sat **NEW**



WTC

M/Rattlesnake Canyon Loop

Strenuous rock scramble through the Wonderland of Rocks, near Indian Cove, Joshua Tree National Park, 5 mi, 1300'. Class 3 rock travel experience required. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Helmets and medical info forms required. Send SC#, class 3 experience, fitness info, email, and phone to Ldr: Tom McDonnell. Asst: Alex Amies, Ron Campbell.

Oct 21/Sun



LTC, WTC

I/Indian Cove Navigation

Navigation noodles at Joshua Tree NP for either checkout or practice to satisfy the Basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. To receive homework assignment, send navigation experience/training, any WTC, rideshare info, H&W phones, prefer by email to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Phil Wheeler.

Oct 27/Sat



OMC

The next Outings Assembly will be held on October 27 of 2007. We would like your help in promoting the event at this time, for example posting notices in our newsletters and schedule. You'll be getting more information as we get closer to the date, especially about training and program opportunities. Kent Schwitkis, OMC Chair

Oct 27-28/Sat-Sun



DPS

I/15th Annual DPS Chili Cook-off/Pumpkin Carve Challenge, Sombrero Peak (4229')

Join us for a weekend in Imperial County of climbing, cooking, carving, and/or tasting and judging various recipes from magnificent cooks and their culinary chili delights! This year we will add a pumpkin carving contest to accompany the culinary exposition. Whether your chili specialty is Spicy, Texas Style, Vegetarian, Traditional, or your own unique concoction, please share with us at this fun event. Prizes are awarded based upon several categories, including, taste, heat, presentation and more! Cooks are free, tasters are \$5.00 each. Bring umbrellas and tarps for shelters in case of rain. Saturday climb class 1 Sombrero Peak, 2100' gain, 3 miles, then enjoy a happy hour and the cook and carve-off at an easily accessible 2wd site. Sunday is open for possibly another peak, or an early start home. Well-behaved canines welcome. Send sase with \$ for tasters, H&W ph #s, carpool info and indicate whether you will be a cook or a taster to Reserve: Yvonne Jamison. Leader: Scot Jamison Assistant(s): Barbee & Larry Tidball (Courtesy notice, see <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/dps/outings.htm> for contacts)



November

Nov 2-4/Fri - Sun



LTC, Harwood Lodge, WTC

C/Wilderness First Aid Basics

Runs from 8 am Sat to 5.30 pm Sun with optional airway/breathing skills Fri evening. Fee includes lodging, meals and practice first aid kit. Airway/breathing skills (7.30-9.30 pm Fri) required for those without CPR during previous 4 years. Fee \$160 with SC#/\$170 non-member; airway breathing skills \$15 additional (full refund through Sept 28). For application send email to Ldr: Steve Schuster.

Nov 3-4/Sat-Sun NEW



WTC

I/Jean Pk (10,670'), Marion Mtn (10,320')

Easy 2 mi, 800' gain from Palm Springs Tram to Round Valley on Sat, set up camp. Day hike Marion and Jean (6.5 mi, 3000' gain, significant cross-country). Sun optional hike to San Jacinto (5.5 mi, 1100' gain). Return to cars via tram. Trip size limited due to permit. Send esase/sase (email preferred), recent conditioning, H&W phones to Ldr: Nick Hooper. Asst: Eric Scheidemantle.

Nov 3-4/Sat-Sun



DPS

I/Porter Peak (9101')

Join us for a climb of this nine thousand foot peak in Death Valley. We will approach Porter from the west side driving up Pleasant Canyon to the stone corral. The climb itself is 3100 feet gain, seven miles (2WD) or 2000 ft gain and 4 miles (4WD). We will decide based on available vehicles and current road conditions. On Sunday we can explore this area of Death Valley, perhaps hiking up to Panamint City. Email or sase with recent conditioning experience to Leader: Dave Perkins Assistant(s): Ann Perkins (Courtesy notice, see <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/dps/outings.htm> for contacts)

Nov 3-5/Sat-Mon NEW



WTC, Sierra Peaks

M/Mt McAdie (13,799')

Meet at Whitney Portal Sat morning. Backpack to Consultation Lake and set up camp (3300' gain). Early start Sun morning heading south over moraine and talus to the saddle. Gain Arc Pass nearly to the top of the south summit then negotiate class three climbing to the north summit (2119' gain). Back to camp for R & R. Mon pack out to Whitney Portal. Class three experience, helmets, and medical form required. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Excessive snow may cancel. Send esase/sase along with climbing resume and recent conditioning to Ldr: Josh Hibbard. Asst: Anne Marie Richardson.

Nov 10/Sat NEW



Palos Verdes - South Bay, Hundred Peaks, WTC

I/Pinnacles (5737'), Mt Marie Louise (5507'), Deep Creek Hot Springs (5' deep)

17th semi-annual Deep Creek HS hike/soak/swim with some more peaks. Moderately paced 14 mi, 2500' gain with considerable cross-country via an exploratory route. Bring lunch, water, rain gear, lugs (swim suit optional). No beginners. Plan on spending full day - it's near Hesperia. Rain cancels. Send esase (preferable - bholchin@cox.net) or sase to Ldr: Barry Holchin. Co-Ldr: Wayne Vollaie

Nov 10/Sat NEW



WTC

O/Sandstone Pk

The trail takes the scenic way to the 3111' foot summit in the Santa Monica Mountains within the Circle X Ranch (6 mi rt, 1400' gain.). Views of volcanic rock formations and on a clear day beautiful skylines. Meet at 8:00AM on the north side of Yerba Buena Road, 1 mile east of the Circle X Ranch Park Office. (PCH to Yerba Buena Road for 6.4 miles) Bring water, trail snacks, boots, layered clothing, hat, sunscreen. Heavy rain cancels. Ldr: Diana Wu. Asst: Georgette Rieck.

November continued

Nov 10-11/Sat-Sun



DPS

M/(Restricted) Mopah Point (3530'), Chemehuevi Peak (3694')

Join us for two climbs in eastern San Bernardino County. Saturday Mopah, class 3, 8 miles, 2000' gain. Sunday climb of Chemehuevi, class 2, 7.5 miles, 2000' gain. Must be Sierra Club member to climb Mopah and submit medical form. E-sase or sase with recent experience on rock and conditioning to Leader: Tina Bowman Assistant(s): Tom Bowman (Courtesy notice, see <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/dps/outings.htm> for contacts)

Nov 11/Sun NEW



WTC, 20-30 Singles, LB Group, PV South Bay

O/Echo Mtn, Inspiration Point and Muir Peak (4688')

WTC Introductory Hike. Hike the Sam Merrill trail to the historic railway and resort area at Echo Mtn, then up Castle Canyon to Inspiration Point and on to Muir Peak. We will return by the Middle Merrill trail. Trip is a total of 12 mi with 2900' of gain. Leaders will provide an overview of the Wilderness Travel Course (WTC), which begins January 2008. Subjects include safe mountain travel, map & compass and wilderness first aid. Meet 9 am at the North end of Lake Street at the corner of Lake and Alta Loma Street in Alta Dena by the "Gate". This is a residential neighborhood so be mindful of parking regulations and resident's quite enjoyment of their neighborhood. Bring 2-3 liters of water, lunch, lugsoles, hat and layered clothing. Ldr: David Meltzer, Asst: Barbara Phillips-Meltzer.

Nov 11/Sun NEW



WTC

O/Potato Mtn (3422)

WTC Introductory Hike. Learn about the Wilderness Travel Course on this 5 mi rt 1200' gain hike over the western slopes of the mouth of San Antonio Canyon above Claremont. The hike will include info on footwear and clothing. Meet 8:30am at the roadside turnout on Mt Baldy Road 0.3 mi past San Antonio Dam. From the 210 Fwy exit Baseline, go west then right on Padua Avenue. Go 1.7 mi turn right onto Mt Baldy Road (stop sign). Go 1.5 mi you'll see roadside turnouts on your left and right. Ldrs: Edith Jaranilla, Steve Curry, Anne Marie Richards, Josh Hibbard.

Nov 17/Sat



Hundred Peaks, WTC

O/Mt San Antonio (10,064')

Climb Old Baldy via Harwood Ridge, gaining 2500' in one (very steep) mile, following a warm-up mile. Total (round trip or loop) 6-8 miles, 4000' gain, at a moderate pace. Meet 7:30 AM at Manker Flat. Ldrs: Asher Waxman, Mikki Siegel

Nov 17/Sat



LTC, Desert Peaks, Sierra Peaks

E/M/Mt. Rubidoux Rock Workshop/Checkoff

This intermediate and advanced workshop is based on the rock requirements for M and E leadership. Checkoffs for M and E rock must be pre-arranged. It is a restricted trip; to participate you must be a member of the Sierra Club and have suitable rock climbing experience. Helmet, basic climbing gear, and completed medical form required. Send or e-mail climbing resume, SC#, address and phone# to Ldr: Tina Bowman. Co-Ldrs: Doug Mantle, Tom Bowman

Nov 17-18/Sat-Sun



LTC, WTC, Hundred Peaks

I/Indian Cove Navigation

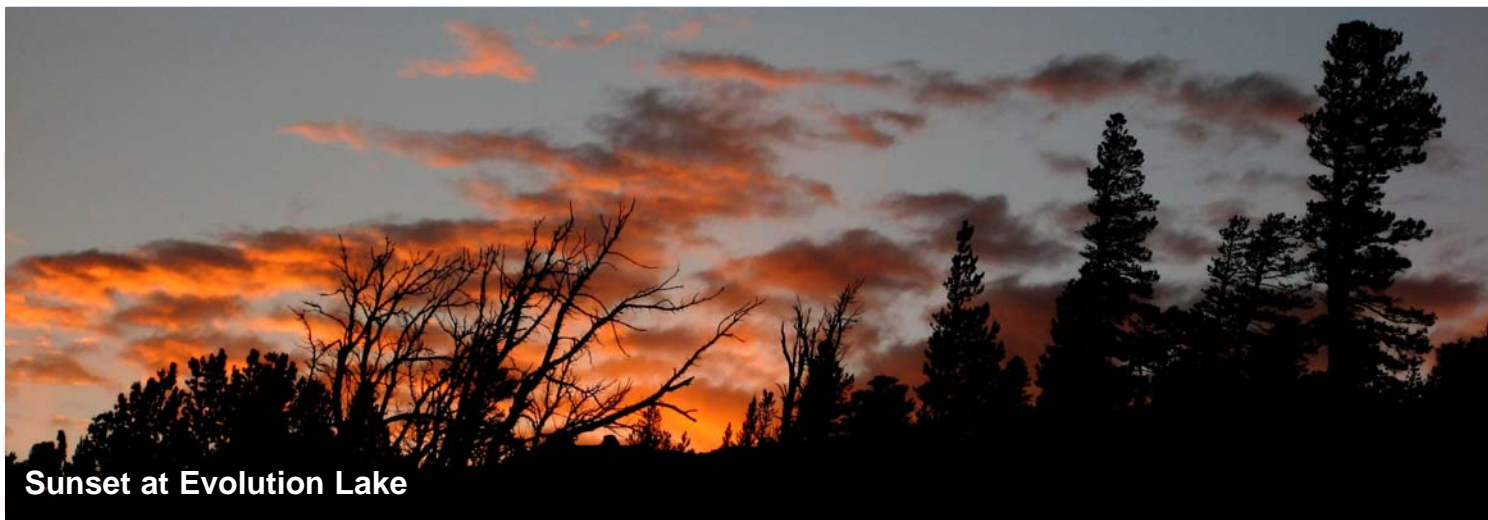
Navigation noodles at Joshua Tree NP to satisfy the Basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. Sat for practice, skills refresh, altimeter, campfire. Sun for checkout. To receive homework assignment, send navigation experience/training, any WTC, rideshare info, H&W phones, sase prefer by Email, to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Phil Wheeler.

Outings Leader Directory

Please see the Outings Leader Directory on page 8 of the WTC Newsletter print version for SASE and contact information.


Low water year at Edison Lake





Sunset at Evolution Lake

November continued

Nov 17-18/Sat-Sun NEW  **WTC**

I/Blackrock Mtn (9635'), Manzanita Knob (9120')

Enjoy meadows and springs and stay in an old cowboy camp, old buildings and corrals. Sat morning from Blackrock Corrals/Ranger Station in the southern Sierra hike xc to Blackrock Mtn, Manzanita Knob and down into camp. Moderate pace, Sat 5.5 mi, Sun 6 mi. Elevation gain over two days 4000' Send sase/esase, recent experience, email preferred to Ldr: Ron Rebensdorf. Asst: Eric Scheidemantle.

Nov 18/Sun NEW  **WTC**

O/Condor Pk (5439')

WTC introductory hike. A strenuous hike via Fox Divide 16 mi round trip 3400' elevation gain. Good physical condition needed. A great view from the top. Meet 8:30 am at Von's parking lot 7789 Foothill Blvd. and Mount Gleason Ave. in Tujunga, 91043. Exit 210 Fwy at Sunland Blvd. Proceed east for 1.5 miles. Von's on right (north). Bring water, lunch, good footwear and suitable clothing. Rain cancels. Leaders: Steve Curry, George Faeustle.

December

Dec 1/Sat  **DPS**

I/Old Woman Mountain (5326')


Join us for a climb of this San Bernardino County summit. We will approach Old Woman from the north, using route A or B. The climb is 3200 feet gain, seven miles, and should take seven hours. On Sunday we can explore this or other areas nearby in the wonderful botanical transition zone between the Mohave and Colorado Deserts. Well-behaved canines welcome. Email or sase with recent conditioning experience to Leader: Dave Perkins Assistant(s): Ann Perkins (Courtesy notice, see <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/dps/outings.htm> for contacts)

Dec 1-2/Sat-Sun NEW  **WTC, Desert Peaks**

M/Eagle Mtn #2 (3806')

Start the holiday season off right climbing a fascinating desert peak. Fri night, camp at the trailhead or show up early Sat morning for a climb up Eagle Mtn #2. Ascend a prominent gully to a jagged summit ridge to a panoramic summit view. Head back to camp for happy hour and stargazing. Class three experience, helmets, and medical form required. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Send esase/sase and recent climbing and conditioning experience to Ldr: Josh Hibbard. Asst: Anne Marie Richardson.

December continued

Dec 1-2/Sat-Sun NEW  **WTC**

I/Pinto Mtn (3983')

Enjoy desert scenery and burn off some Thanksgiving gluttony on a backpack in Joshua Tree. Sat late-morning start and 3 mi backpack to camp. Sun climb a wash to the summit and descend a ridge back to camp and then to cars. All cross-country route with some steep and rocky sections, but at a steady, reasonable pace. 12 mi rt, 2400' gain. Send email or sase with contact info and conditioning to Ldr: Reggie Bulman. Asst: Bill Jackson.

Dec 8/Sat  **WTC, Hundred Peaks**

I/Warren Pt (5103')

Practice navigation for Sunday's checkoff on this 6 mi rt, 1300' gain hike in the pinyon pine and juniper region of western Joshua Tree National Park. We will take a cross-country route to Warren Pt and practice micro-navigation skills along the way. Send email (preferred) or sase, with contact info & recent conditioning to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co-Ldrs: Susan Richmond, Jane Simpson.

Dec 9/Sun  **LTC, WTC, Hundred Peaks**


I/Warren Pt Navigation

Navigation Noodle in Joshua Tree National Park for either checkout or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. To receive homework assignment, send navigation experience/training, rideshare info, H&W phones to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Phil Wheeler

Dec 15/Sat NEW  **Hundred Peaks, WTC**

O/Santiago Pk (5687'), Modjeska Pk (5496')

Strenuous dayhike to the highest points in Orange Co., also known as Saddleback Butte. 22 mi, 5000' gain. Mix of trail and dirt roads. Great conditioning hike for prospective WTC students. Drive on 10 mi of dirt road. Email city, phone, recent conditioning, and experience to Ldr: Ted Lubeshkoff. Co-Ldr: Wayne Voltaire.

Dec 16/Sun NEW  **WTC, 20-30 Singles, LB Group, PV South Bay**

O/Mt Wilson/Manzanita Ridge

WTC Introductory Hike. Invigorating conditioning hike at a moderate pace. 10 mi rt, 4000' gain. Leaders will provide an overview of the Wilderness Travel Course (WTC), which begins January 2008. Subjects include safe mountain travel, map & compass and wilderness first aid. This is a residential neighborhood so be mindful of parking regulations and resident's quiet enjoyment of their neighborhood. Meet 9 am at trailhead. Mira Monte Ave and Mt Wilson Trail Dr. Take I-210 to Baldwin Ave exit, take Baldwin N to Mira Monte, Right to trailhead. Bring hiking boots, 2 ltrs water, snacks to share. Ldrs: Dave Meltzer, Barbara Phillips-Meltzer.

January 2008 and beyond

Jan 1/Tue



Hundred Peaks, WTC

O/Mt Wilson (5700+')

Enjoy one of leader's favorite SoCal hikes, 14 mile loop, 4000' gain/loss, including some steep ridges on descent. Be prepared for any weather. Contact leader if in doubt. Meet 8 AM at Chantry Flat, upper parking lot. Ldr: Asher Waxman Asst: Mikki Siegel

Jan 5/Sat



WTC, LPC

O/Temescal Pk (2126')

Learn about the Wilderness Travel Course on this hike through oak glens and chaparral in Topanga State Park. Info will be provided on the ten essentials of safe mountain travel. We will hike to the park's highest peak with spectacular views. 8 mi rt, 1100' gain on fireroad and trail. Meet 9:00 a.m. at Trippet Ranch fee parking lot (from Topanga Cyn Blvd, east on Entrada Dr for about 1 mi, turning left at every opportunity until parking lot). Ldrs: Robert Myers, Jane Simpson.

Jan 12/Sat



WTC, Hundred Peaks

I/Warren Pt (5103')

Practice navigation for Sunday's checkoff on this 6 mi rt, 1300' gain hike in the pinyon pine and juniper region of western Joshua Tree National Park. We will take a cross-country route to Warren Pt and practice micro-navigation skills along the way. Send email (preferred) or sase, with contact info & recent conditioning to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co-Ldrs: Susan Richmond, Jane Simpson.

Jan 13/Sun



LTC, WTC, Hundred Peaks

I/Warren Pt Navigation

Navigation Noodle in Joshua Tree National Park for either checkout or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. To receive homework assignment, send navigation experience/training, rideshare info, H&W phones to Ldr: Harry Freimanis. Asst: Phil Wheeler

Jan 26/Sat



LTC, Sierra Peaks, Desert Peaks, Hundred Peaks

M/E/Local Baldy Snow Practice

Come review snow climbing, rope travel, ice axe, and snow anchors. Practice your skills or brush up on new techniques. Especially for aspiring M & E leader candidates. Restricted to SC members with prior experience with the ice axe. Lack of snow may cancel. Email SC#, climbing resume, email address, phone # to Leader: Nile Sorenson Co-Leader: Tina Bowman

Feb 2/Sat NEW



Hundred Peaks, Desert Peaks, WTC

I/Rabbit Pk #2 (6640+')

Very strenuous outing in Anza Borrego State Park (6700' gain, 16 mi rt on use trail and prickly x-country). Bring lunch, 4-5 quarts water to trailhead, lug sole boots, flashlight. Limited participation. For more information/reservation email leaders with recent hiking experience. Ldrs: Joe Young And Asher Waxman.

Feb 9/Sat



LTC, Sierra Peaks, Desert Peaks, Hundred Peaks

M/E/Local Baldy Snow Practice

Come review snow climbing, rope travel, ice axe, and snow anchors. Practice your skills or brush up on new techniques. Especially for aspiring M & E leader candidates. Restricted to SC members with prior experience with the ice axe. Lack of snow may cancel. Email SC#, climbing resume, email address, phone # to Leader: Nile Sorenson Co-Leader: Tom McDonnell

January 2008 and beyond

Mar 15/Sat NEW



WTC

I/ Snowshoe in the San Gabriels

Enjoy a moderately paced snowshoe hike to one of the local peaks in the Chilao/Waterman area of the San Gabriels. Exact location to be determined by snow conditions. Anticipate 6-8 mi rt, 1000-1500' gain. Bring water, lunch, waterproof lugsoled boots, winter clothing (layers), snowshoes, trekking poles with powder baskets. Send sase or e-mail (preferred) with recent conditioning & experience to Ldr: Melody Anderson, Asst: Eric Scheidemantle.

What has a cool logo, wicks moisture like crazy, is anti-bacterial and can be worn on any of your hiking adventures?



The new WTC performance shirt!

The advantages of performance shirts like Coolmax® are well known to all of us. The new WTC performance shirts take moisture management to the next level by using Intera®. Intera® yarn is the only patented moisture wicking technology built right into the fabric instead of being applied as a coating afterwards. In addition, we use UV resistant dyes for the WTC logo.

But wait, there's more! These WTC shirts are custom made to your exact requirements. You get to pick the shirt style, size and logo type that matches your specific needs. There are even shirt styles specific for you ladies!

Visit <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/wtc> and click on the shirt link at the bottom of the page for details.

Archive Trips from 2007

Jul 21-22/Sat-Sun

WTC

M:/Mt Ritter (13,157')

Sat morning leave Agnew Meadows for Ediza Lake, approximately 6 mi, 2000' gain. Sun morning alpine start to summit via Southeast Glacier (3 mi, 4000' gain) and back to camp. Pack up camp and back to trailhead. Restricted to Sierra Club members with recent ice ax & crampon experience. Medical form required. Send email or SASE with climbing resume to Ldr: Josh Hibbard. Asst: Patrick McKusky.

Jul 28-29/Sat-Sun

WTC, 20s&30s

I/Cloudripper (13,525')

Sat backpack from South Lake to Green Lake, 3 mi, 1300' gain. Sun hike 4 mi, 2900' gain to Cloudripper, then hike/backpack out. Slight class 3 on summit. WTC required or equivalent. Send sase or email, H&W and cell phones, recent conditioning and WTC leaders' names to Ldr: Will Sheehan. Asst: Vaughn Sherman.

Learning at the University (Peak)

By Patrick McKusky.

For a June 23-24 WTC experience outing, George Faeustle and I had decided to lead a climb of University Peak via the Southeast ridge. According to R. J. Secor's "The High Sierra: Peaks, Passes, and Trails", this route is rated Class 2; "Follow the Southern side of the ridge from University Pass."

I had never been up there before but George had done the route years ago. We figured that in late June of this low snow year we could get around any lingering snow in the North facing pass. But when we got there we saw that the "pass" was actually a steep gully leading to a low point on the ridge, and it was still full of snow. We would need ice axes to climb this gully but since this was not a restricted M level outing we could not use ice axes. So we had to explore an alternate route.

I had read in Secor that the East slopes of University were Class 3. We looked over at the East slope but our view was mostly blocked by a ridge. We would have to descend a ways to get a good look at it, and not knowing if it would really work for our group, we decided to try the Northeast ridge instead, which was directly above our position. George had descended this route years ago and thought it would be suitable for our group. I thought that Secor had rated the Northeast ridge as Class 3, as well.

I started our group of 12 up the sandy Class 1 scree slopes and stopped for a break where the scree had melded into Class 2 talus. George took the lead from there and brought us up to a notch on the ridge just above 13,000 feet. There, we got a good look at the North face of University and the route ahead. Class 3? While the group took a break I scouted the route to the summit which was hidden behind tall craigs.

As I climbed along the North side of the ridge I kept sensing the exposure and wondering if this was an appropriate route for our group. I was getting "nervous". "Why am I nervous?" I thought. I was comfortable climbing the varied Class 1/2/3 rock and the exposure didn't bother me, but I suddenly realized I was not just climbing the route for myself. I was looking around for the safest route to lead the group and my nervousness was coming from the anticipation of bringing them through some "no fall" zones.

As I approached one of the craigs on the ridge, I looked for a Class 3 route around it but I could only find one way up and around it. As I started up I knew this was not Class 3 so I backed down, took my pack off, and scouted around again but found no easier alternative. So I climbed up and over and then saw the summit a few hundred feet up ahead. I also saw that I (we) would first have to downclimb into another steep gully but this one was blocked full of snow and with wild exposure below. Another "no fall" zone. I now knew that this was a "no go" route for our group. I thought about tagging the summit but it didn't seem fair; if I wasn't going to let them do it, I wouldn't do it either. I radioed the bad news back to George and re-joined the group back at the notch. I was confident that those participants that were willing could have easily reached the summit, but it was clear to me that this route was well beyond the level of the original intent of this outing. Had I copied the route descriptions from Secor and brought them with me instead of relying on memory, I would have known this; "Northeast Ridge. Class 4. The best approach for this ridge is from Robinson Lake."

I found out later that while I was scouting the summit ridge, some of the participants informed George that they would not be going any further than the notch where they were resting, so there was not a lot of disappointment when we turned around and headed down. For some of the participants, this was their first Sierra climb. For others, this was the highest they had ever climbed before. Despite our lack of success at reaching our objective, wonderful weather and good company provided us all with a memorable experience on a spectacular mountain.



A comment from one of the participants, Rudy Fleck:

Beautiful weather, magnificent mountains, good people. There is a God and this is soul food. The University Peak outing June 23-24 lead by Patrick McKusky and George Faeustle was the WTC experience fully realized. The weekend was spent hiking at a comfortable pace with close attention by the leaders on teaching moments and numerous opportunities to expand on WTC class lessons. Considerable time was given to discussions on equipment and fine tuning our knowledge of the hiking, camping, climbing, as we were experiencing them. No death marching, just a pleasant outing preparing for and then climbing a 13,600 ft. mountain. Words are ultimately very limiting and a somewhat better sense of the event can be shared by viewing the pictures posted by Louis Kwan at <http://www.kenshin.smugmug.com/gallery/3055221#166391130>

The list of participants: Patrick McKusky, George Faeustle, Louis Kwan, Rudy Fleck, Sarah Sullivan, Dave Fujiyama, Marlen Mertz, Wayne Vollaire, Jordan Hill, Regge Bulman, Monica Suua, Gee.



PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ANAHEIM, CA
PERMIT NO. 514

**2390 Crenshaw Blvd, #343
Torrance, CA 90501**



Thousand Island Lake