

Picture Perfect



Newsletter
Newsletter of the Wilderness Training Committee

www.WildernessTravelCourse.org
Vol 22, No. 3 / Summer 2011

WTC Newsletter

WTC Newsletter

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See page 8 for contact info

WTC

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Adrienne Benedict

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Note from the Newsletter Editor:

To me, there really is no more rewarding job in WTC than that of the newsletter editor. As editor, you get to read about all the exciting trips and imagine all the places that folks are going before anyone else gets to see them. You also get to place into the students' hands the key to their extended journey through the wilderness, that they have just begun to realize is available to them. For WTC, the newsletter is far more than the printed page. It is the soul of the program. It connects the students to the new opportunities available to them in a tangible way.

I have been proud to serve the WTC organization as the newsletter editor for the last 6 years. I have seen many classes of students eagerly devour the trip descriptions the same way I did when I was a student. In the newsletter, we have addressed many topics from trip write ups to the 100th anniversary of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club, to detailed instruction on how to get the best performance out of your camera in the field. Going forward, I will be passing the editor's torch to Edd Ruskowitz from the Orange County section of WTC. Edd has much experience in this area - he was the one I took over from 6 years ago. Edd - I know that you will keep the torch burning, and the students entertained and informed!

Thanks, Kay Novotny

Graduation:

Graduations are currently scheduled for October 15 and 16. Keep in touch with your group leader for more information regarding the location and activities associated with graduation.

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, or contact the outings department at (415) 977-5528 for a printed version.

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

California Sellers of Travel Disclaimer: CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

Headline Deadline

For publication in the Fall 2011 WTC Newsletter: Aug 15

For publication in the Winter 2011 WTC Newsletter: Nov 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 319 Angeles Chapter Schedule (Nov 5 - Feb 28): Jul 9

For publication in the 320 Angeles Chapter Schedule (Mar 1 - Jun 30): Nov 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

Half Dome, Yosemite National Park, at sunset. Photo by Gary Novotny.



The WTC newsletter is published quarterly for students and staff of the Wilderness Training Committee and is distributed at class sites. It is also available in color on the WTC website: <http://www.wildernesstravelcourse.org/> as a download in PDF format. All questions, copy and photo submissions should be directed to Edd Ruskowitz, WTC Newsletter Editor, at hikinedd@yahoo.com.

WTC Info Line: (310) 967 - 2029

Picture Perfect

Wilderness Photography Part IV - Text and photos by Gary Novotny

This article is the fourth and final article in a series that gives advice on how to take better photographs in the wilderness. These articles are meant to take you to the next level in your picture taking by giving you simple rules to utilize. If you wish to learn more advanced techniques in photography, there are many fine books available to read.

For those who have not read the first three articles, you should first read through these by going to the Newsletter archives located at <http://www.wildernesstravel-course.org/the-course/newsletters> and choosing the 2009 Summer (Part I), 2009 Fall (Part II) and 2010 Summer (Part III) newsletters.

Please note that sometime in the next few months, I will be leading a local outing to help those of you who want to learn in a real life environment. During this outing, a group of us will take photos along our hike and will later critique each other, thereby helping all of us to take better photographs. **If you are interested in such an outing, contact me at knovotny27@gmail.com with a heading of "Photo Outing" and I will contact you.**

The article in this issue will show you how to put the finishing touches in your photographs. When film was used in cameras, finishing touches were applied in the darkroom process in order to create the best photograph possible. Nowadays, we have a much more convenient method to turn a good photo into a great photo. For those of you who have used film before, most never had access to a darkroom. Therefore, you would never use techniques such as "dodge", "burn" or "unsharp mask". Rather, you would turn in your roll to a local film processor and get back printed pictures that never had finishing touches applied. Nowadays, any computer can use software to apply final changes to get the most out of each photograph.

Why do we need to make changes after snapping the shutter on the camera? Well, a camera sees the world differently than how our eyes see the same image. After the camera captures the image, software lets us make adjustments to allow the final product to match what our eyes saw. The photo series in Example 9 clearly shows this phenomenon in action. The first 3 shots came from the camera, while the final image was processed using computer software. The camera is just not capable of producing an image that accurately represents what our eyes see. Isn't this cheating? Well, many of you may have heard about a nature photographer – Ansel Adams. He produced some of the most stunning prints of wilderness ever seen. However, before Ansel would produce a print, he was busy in the darkroom using techniques such as dodge and burn to optimize the photo. Ansel turned these techniques into an art form that turned his photographs into masterpieces. Software gives all of us the same opportunity to adjust our photos in order to create a superior final product.

Keep in mind that software can be used to create fake pictures, which are often called "photochopped". While many think that these fake pictures are new, in reality, fakes have been around for over 150 years, since the very beginning of photography. For example, in 1860 the head of Abraham Lincoln was placed on the body of the southern politician John Calhoun's body as shown below.

(continued on page 11)



Outings

To reserve your place on an outing, follow the instructions listed in the trip description and provide all the 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 information. Typically requested information includes name, address, home & work phone numbers, WTC leader's name, the name and date of the outing you wish to join, and your experience and physical conditioning. You may be placed on a waiting list if the number of persons interested in the trip is large. If you change your plans, it is very important that you contact the leaders to let them know your revised plans, even if you are on the waiting list.

Please see the Outings Leader Directory on page 8 for contact information.



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



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.



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



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.

June

Jun 11-12/Sat-Sun



WTC

I/Red Tahquitz (8720'), Tahquitz (8846')

From Humber Park, we'll take the Devils Slide Trail to beautiful Tahquitz Valley and make camp (3.5 mi, 1600' gain). With a lighter load, hike xc to Red Tahquitz, then xc down north-east ridge to pick up trail. Return to camp for happy hour (5 mi rt, 1,600' gain). Sun morning Tahquitz and lookout tower (4 mi rt, 800' gain), then pack out. Send sase/e-mail, phones, recent hiking and conditioning to: Ldr: Rebecca Cummings. Asst: Barry Holchin.

Jun 13/Mon NEW!



WTC

O/Silver Lake Stairs Series Walk # 1 of 3

5 mi, 2 hrs, train for the mountains by exploring the secret stairs and steep/ hilly streets of Silver Lake. Option to prepare for backpacking by wearing a weighted backpack. Meet 6:30pm outside Cafe Tropical on Sunset Blvd and Parkman. Bring 1 qt water and wear good walking shoes. No restrooms en route. Ldr: Sarah Schuh. Co Ldr: Ann Pedreschi Shields

Jun 18-19/Sat-Sun NEW DATE!



SPS, WTC New Date

ER/Mt Dana (13,057')

Climb the 2nd tallest mountain in Yosemite by a classic snow route. Sat morning easy backpack to Dana Lake, afternoon snow climbing practice. Sunday ascent Mt Dana by way of the Dana Glacier, return to camp and pack out. Participants must be experienced with ice ax, crampons and roped travel. Send e-mail or SASE with climbing resume and recent experience to Provisional Ldr: Neal Robbins. Asst: Doug Mantle

Jun 19/Sun



Verdugo Hills, PolComm, WTC

O/Hike with your Los Angeles community college board member & celebrate the Angeles Chapter's centennial

Easy 2 mi rt hike with Mifuel Santiago. Come discuss your concerns and issues of the day with him on the way to great views of the Crescenta Valley, Glendale, threatened local woodlands, and more. Meet at 8:45 am at the south end of Whiting Woods Road. Co Ldrs: Garen Yegparian and Delphine Trowbridge

Jun 21/Tue NEW!



WTC

O/Silver Lake Stairs Series Walk # 2 of 3

5 mi, 1.5 hrs, Happy summer! Train for the mountains by exploring the secret stairs and steep/ hilly streets of Silver Lake. Option to prepare for backpacking by wearing a weighted backpack. Meet 6:30pm outside the Red Lion, 2366 Glendale Blvd. Bring 1 qt water and wear good walking shoes. No restrooms en route. Ldr: Sarah Schuh. Co Ldr: Sue Northrop

June, continued

Jun 24-26/Fri-Sun



WTC

I/Olancha Pk (11,923')

Discover the beautiful & historic southern Sierra with this early summer backpack of a SPS emblem peak, geared toward fit WTC students. Total distance for the weekend about 22 mi, elevation gain/loss about 6000'. Send e-mail or SASE, \$5 permit fee, recent experience and conditioning, and contact info to: Ldr: Neal Robbins, Co Ldr: Linda Campbell

Jun 25-26/Sat-Sun



WTC, Long Beach

I/Southern San Geronio Wilderness Romp

Enjoy early summer in the high reaches of the San Geronio Wilderness at lesser-used Dobbs trail camp. Cross-country bag of a nearby named or unnamed peak; optional reconnoiter down streambed to numerous waterfalls. Geared toward WTC students for experience trips. Total distance for the weekend about 17 mi, elevation gain/loss about 5000'. Permit limits group size, WTC students given priority. Send name, contact & conditioning information to: Ldr: Sharon Moore. Co-Ldr: Sherry Ross

Jun 25-26/Sat-Sun



SPS, WTC

M/Moses Mtn (9,331'), N Maggie Mtn (10,234')

Join us for an introductory M rated trip to the Golden Trout Wilderness. Perfect WTC experience trip for students wanting to get back out on the rocks. Saturday we'll hike in (3 miles, 1000') to set up camp and then head for North Maggie Mountain (5 miles, 3000'). Sunday we'll do a 3rd class scramble up Moses Mountain (5 mi, 2000') before returning to camp to pack up and head for home. Comfort on 3rd class rock required. Send recent experience, conditioning, and carpool info to: Ldr: Matthew Hengst Co-Ldr: Ron Campbell

Jun 25-26/Sat-Sun NEW!



WTC

O/San Bernardino Pk (10,649')

Saturday morning, 7 mi, 3600' gain, up Forsee Creek Trail (Jenks Lake area) to camp at Trail Fork Springs (10,440). Sunday morning 6.5 mi rt along beautiful San Bernardino Ridge, East San Bernardino Pk (10,691') and San Bernardino Pk (10,649') then out to cars. (20 mi total rt) Permit limits group size. Send e-mail/sase, phones, recent conditioning to Ldr: Chuck Currier. Asst: Garen Yegparian

Jun 25-26/Sat-Sun NEW DATE!



WTC

I/Local Wilderness Hot Springs tour

20-mi overnight hike in Ventura County to Sespe Hot Spring, Willett Hot Spring and waterfall indicated on map. Leave Sat. morning from Mutau Flat near I-5. 6 mi, 2000' loss, half off-trail to waterfall and Willett Hot Spring. Soak or not, then 7 mi on river trail to Sespe Hot Spring. Camp there and back to cars (7 mi, 2,000' gain) in timely fashion Sunday morning. Send email and hiking/climbing resume to Ldr: Joel Kilpatrick. Asst: Jack Kieffer

June, continued

Jun 25-26/Sat-Sun **NEW!**



WTC HPS

I/San Jacinto Peak (10,804), Folly Peak (10,480), Cornell Peak (9,750)

15 mi., 3800' elev gain. Saturday AM take Palm Springs Tram (\$23.25) to trailhead, then backpack 2 mi (500' gain) to Round Valley, set up camp. Saturday afternoon, moderately paced day hike to San Jacinto and Folly Peak, 9 mi 2250' gain rt xc back to camp. Saturday evening happy hour. Sunday AM break camp, backpack to Cornell, 4 mi 1200' elev gain and xc back to tram. Contact Ldr: Victoria Overbey. Co Ldr: Rod Kieffer

Jun 29/Wed **NEW!**



WTC

0/Silver Lake Stairs Series Walk # 3 of 3

5 mi, 2 hrs, train for the mountains by exploring the secret stairs and steep/ hilly streets of Silver Lake. Option to prepare for backpacking by wearing a weighted backpack. Meet 7:00pm outside LaMill Coffee on Silver Lake Blvd and Effie St. Bring 1 qt water and wear good walking shoes. No restrooms en route. Ldr: Sarah Schuh. Co Ldr: Sue Northrop

July

Jul 1-3/Fri-Sun **NEW!**



SPS, WTC

I/Coyote Pk (10,892'), Angora Mtn (10,198')

Join us for 2 peaks at the southern tip of the Kern Divide. Friday hike in from Lewis Creek trailhead (11 mi, 2500') to camp at Deep Creek. On Sat climb Coyote and Angora (14 mi, 4500' rt). Hike out Sun. Good conditioning required; expect x-c travel, class 2 scrambling, and minor bush-whacking on peak day. Happy hour Fri and Sat evenings. Send email/sase, conditioning and contact info to Ldr: Daryn Dodge. Co Ldr: Kathy Rich.

July 2-4/Sat-Mon **NEW DATE. SEE AUG 26.**



WTC

I/Mt Tyndall (14,018')

Come celebrate the Chapter Centennial on this trip to Mt Tyndall which is a loose re-creation of a trip done over Fourth of July in 1931 by Norman Clyde, Alice Knapp, H. R. "Bob" Sturdevant, Niles Werner, D. D. Chalmers & Kasper Casperson, among others. Sat pack in 6 mi, 4,000' gain on trail to camp at Anvil Camp. Sun hike on trail 3 mi, 2,000' gain to Shepherd Pass (12,025'), then xc climb Tyndall via 2nd class NW ridge, approx. 2 mi, 2,000' gain. Mon pack out on trail. Total for weekend is approx. 22 mi rt, 8,000'+ gain. This will be a moderately paced but strenuous trip. Strong WTC students welcome. Send contact info & recent conditioning/experience to : Ldr: Melody Anderson, Co-Ldr: Dwain Roque

Jul 8-10/Fri-Sun



WTC

I/Mt Tom (13,652')

Climb the most prominent mountain visible from Bishop and the upper Owens Valley. Friday backpack from Pine Creek 4 miles and 3100' gain to Gable Lake. Saturday ascend 7 miles RT and 3250' gain to summit Mt Tom. Late season snow may divert peak to Four Gables (12,720'). Sunday pack out. Send e-mail or SASE, \$5 permit fee, recent experience and conditioning, and contact info to: Ldr: Neal Robbins, Co-Ldr: Adrienne Benedict

Jul 9-10/Sat-Sun



WTC

I/Mt. Silliman (11,188')

Strenuous but moderately paced backpack from Lodgepole in Sequoia National Park to camp at Silliman Lake. (5 mile, 3300' gain). Sunday climb the class 2 south slope to the summit (1200' gain) and pack out. Cross country travel and friction climbing steep granite slabs necessary. Email, phone, conditioning, experience, \$5 permit fee to: Ldr: Steve Curry Asst: Ann Marie Richardson

July 16-17/Sat-Sun



WTC,SPS

I/Mt Agassiz (13,893')

From South Lake trailhead, backpack to Bishop Lake (4 mi 1600' gain) and set up camp followed by an afternoon happy hour. Sunday we'll climb Mt. Agassiz via class 2 route (4 mi RT 2650 gain) then pack out. Please send ESASE/SASE with recent experience and conditioning info to Ldr: Bob Draney. Co-Ldr: Joe Speigl.

July/August

Jul 15-16/Fri-Sat

Palos Verdes -- South Bay, Hundred Peaks, WTC

I/Mt. San Antonio (10064') **NEW!**



Annual Moonlight Hike (Barry's Baldy Bivy- well not quite). It's time to start another SC tradition! This'll be about the 5th year for this event, but the first as a SC-sponsored activity. Early p.m. departure from Manker Flat, hike at slow to moderate pace to the top under a full moon (4 miles one way and 4000' gain). Return on Saturday via an adventurous xcuntry route after breakfast and viewing the sunrise and Baldy's shadow travel down West Baldy (possibly climbing Mt Harwood (9552') on the way). Bring trekking poles, scree gators, lugs, 10 essentials with minimalist pack to spend a cool/cold windy night and accommodate steep xcuntry descent. Send email (preferable) or sase with conditioning and carpool info to Ldr: Barry Holchin. Co-Ldr: Wayne Voltaire

Jul 16-17/Sat-Sun



WTC, SPS

I/Mt. Silliman Show and Tell (11,188')

Enjoy two moderately paced days backpacking in Sequoia National Park totaling 10 miles of mixed trail and cross country travel with an elevation gain of 4,403 feet. Starting early Saturday morning we will backpack from Lodgepole Campground to Silliman Lake via trail and cross-country travel. Saturday night happy hour and gear show and tell (share with the group your favorite backcountry gear; light weight or luxury item). Sunday it's up before dawn for our cross country climb to the top of Mt. Silliman. Then we will return to Silliman Lake to break camp and hike out to our cars. Send email with contact info, experience, and recent conditioning to: Ldr: Bill Payne Asst: Matthew Hengst

Jul 16/Sat

NEW!



Long Beach, WTC

0/Mt. San Gorgonio (11,499')

Hike to Mt. San Gorgonio summit via Vivian Creek. 17 mi round trip, 5500' gain. Moderately-paced, but not for beginners. Rendezvous 6 am at Mill Creek Ranger Station with minimum 3 liters water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, USFS parking permit, \$\$ for pizza afterwards in Redlands. Group size limited by permit. To participate, contact Ldr: John H. Co Ldr Jeff Kenyon.

Jul 22-24/Fri-Sun



WTC, SPS

I/Mt. Davis (12,311')

Friday backpack from Agnew Meadows Campground (7 miles 1200' gain) to Thousand Island Lake. Saturday climb class 2 route to Mt. Davis from North Glacier Pass (6 mile rt 2500' gain xc). Sunday backpack out on the PCT High Trail. Email, phone, experience, rideshare to: Ldr: Steve Curry Asst: Joe Speigl.

Jul 22-24/Fri-Sun



WTC

I/Moose Lake (10,550+')

Friday backpack from Wolverton Trailhead in Sequoia National Park to Alta Meadow (7.2 miles, 2200' gain). Saturday take a cross country outing to Moose Lake for some relaxing, swimming, fishing, and exploring. We'll return to camp at Alta Meadow in the afternoon (7 miles rt, 2,150' gain). Bring appetizers and drinks for happy hour Saturday night. Sunday morning backpack out to trailhead. \$5 permit fee. Send experience and conditioning, phone number info to: Ldr: Linda Robb. Asst: Bill Payne.

July 22-24/ Fri-Sun



WTC, SPS

M/Mt. Sill (14,153')

Fri rugged cross-country backpack 5 mi, 3500' gain from Glacier Lodge to camp near Elinore Lake. Sat climb Sill via SW slope, 3 mi, 3200' gain. Sun out. Happy hour both nights. Recent 3rd class rock experience, helmet, medical form required; restricted to Sierra Club members. Send e-mail (preferred) or sase with H&W phones, recent conditioning and climbing resume, rideshare info and \$5 check for permit fee to: Ldr: Ron Campbell. Co-Ldr: Jack Kieffer

WTC Newsletter

July/August

Jul 22-24/Fri-Sun

SPS, WTC

MR/Mt Stanford (13,963'), Mt Ericsson (13,608'), Deerhorn Mtn (13,281')



Climb these significant backcountry peaks. Fri backpack from Onion Valley over Kearsarge Pass and on to camp near Vidette Lakes; 11 mi, 4500' gain. Sat climb Stanford, 6 mi, 5500' and Ericsson, 2 mi, 1800'. Sun pack out, 11 mi, 2500'. Climb Deerhorn also if time allows. All peaks class 3. Helmets, experience with exposed 3rd class rock, excellent conditioning, medical form required. Send climbing resume with SC#, contact info to: Ldr: Ron Hudson.

Co-Ldrs:

Matthew Hengst and Kathy Rich

Jul 29-31/Fri-Sun



Long Beach, WTC

M/Mt. San Gorgonio (11,499'), Jepson Pk (11,205'), Charlton Pk (10,806'), Little Charlton Pk (10,696')

Especially planned for WTC students who enjoyed climbing the rock at J-Tree and who want to gain more experience on class 3 rock. We will climb Charlton Peak by the mountaineers' route. Fri, comfortably paced trail hike from South Fork to base camp, 6.5 mi, 2600' gain while enjoying our local San Gorgonio Wilderness. Sat, ascend 1600' on Charlton's north side, half of it class 3. Then go on to summit a bonus peak and the two highest peaks in Southern California by 3 miles of cross-country and some trail, 2700' total gain for the day. Hike back to camp, 5 miles on trail. Sun morning return to cars. WTC/equiv. reqd. Send 2 sase, phone & carpool info, and name of SC leader as reference to: Ldr: John H. Asst: Mike Adams.

Jul 30-31/Sat-Sun

NEW!



Wilderness Adventures, WTC

I/Mt Agassiz (13,893')

Join us to climb Mt Agassiz in the beautiful John Muir Wilderness. Sat backpack in for 6 mi, 2000' gain from South Lake trailhead to set camp near Bishop Pass. Sat aft relax, explore the area and enjoy our Happy Hour at camp. Sun am early start to bag Mt Agassiz (1 mi xc, 2000' gain). Sun aft, break camp, hike out and drive home. Good condition is a must, suitable for new WTC student for graduate experience trip. Send contact info and recent conditioning to Ldr: Doan-Trang Tran. Co Ldr: David Coplen

Jul 31-Aug 6/Sun-Sat



Mule Pack, Sierra Peaks, WTC

O/I/Soldier Lakes Mule Pack, Joe Devel Peak (13,327'), Mt Pickering (13,474'), Mt Newcomb (13,422'), Mt Chamberlin (13,169')

Trip designed for strong hikers who desire cross-country routes and peakbagging. From Cottonwood Pack Station at Horseshoe Meadow (9,900'), hike 10 miles over Cottonwood Pass (11,128') to Soldier Lakes (10,400'). Joe Devel Peak, Mt Pickering, Mt Newcomb, and Mt Chamberlin, as well as Mt Langley and Cirque Peak, are accessible from campsite. Mon-Fri climb peaks with leaders, hike near camp, photo, fish, or relax in camp. Enjoy nightly organized dinners. Sat hike out. \$300. Mules will carry 50 lbs gear per person. Participants selected will be asked to complete the Participant Medical Form found at <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/forms.html>. Note reserve/cancel policy at http://angeles.sierraclub.org/mps/Reservation_Policy.htm. To apply, email high altitude and distance conditioning to Co-Ldr: Sandy Lara. Co-Ldr: Peter Lara.

Aug 4-7/Thu-Sun



SPS, WTC

I/Electra Peak (12,442'), Foerster Peak (12,057')

Unusual route to these distant peaks in the Ansel Adams Wilderness. Thursday start from the Clover Meadow area and hike to Bench Canyon along the North San Joaquin River, 11 miles and 3300 ft. gain with a 2000 ft. loss. Next two days climb peaks, 7 miles and 3,400 ft. gain each. Sunday pack out. Contact leader with hiking resume and recent conditioning: Ldr: Rudy Fleck Asst: Gary Schenk.

August, continued

Aug 5-7/Fri-Sun



WTC

I/Moose Lake (10,550') and Tablelands in Sequoia NP

Explore a remote and seldom-visited corner of Sequoia NP. Fri pack in 7 mi / 2,200' gain from Wolverton to Alta Meadow via Alta Trail. Sat 10 mi xc rt, 2,000-3,000' gain to Moose Lake, Table Meadows and, time permitting, the 'rim' of Tableland for a day exploring high terrain near the Kings-Kaweah Divide. Enjoy spectacular 360 degree views of the Sierras. Sun pack out on trail. Send contact info and recent conditioning and experience to: Ldr: Joseph Bell, Asst: Eric Scheidemantle.

Aug 5-7/Fri-Sun



WTC

I/Big Pine Lakes

Backpack to explore the upper reaches of the Big Pine Creek Basin and the Palisades Glacier. On Friday, pack in to Third Lake along the North Fork of Big Pine Creek (past Lon Chaney's cabin) and set up camp. On Saturday we will ascend to explore Sam Mack Meadow, an alpine meadow with Sam Mack Lake. From there we will go cross-country to the glacial lakes from the Palisade Glacier (12200 feet). Great views of higher ranges in the Sierras, and the Big Pine Basin. On Sunday, consider a side trip to bag a peak before packing out. 16 miles, 4100 feet of gain for the weekend. Send e-mail or sase with conditioning, recent experience, WTC class, contact and rideshare info to: Ldr: Misha Askren. Co-Ldr: Georgette Rieck.

Aug 5-7/Fri-Sun **NEW!**



WTC

I/Blue Lake and Sunset Lake Trek

Kid approved! Annual Kid's Backpack! Friday, enjoy a moderate backpack from the Lake Sabrina trailhead to camp at scenic Blue Lake, 4.5 mi 1300' gain. Explore and practice navigation, happy hour after. Saturday cross country trek to Sunset Lake (11,464') via Baboon Lakes, 6 mi rt, 1200' gain. Great fishing opportunities. Sunday pack out. \$5 permit fee per person required. To join, send an email with H&W phones, experience and conditioning to Ldr: Kay Novotny. Co Ldr: Gary Novotny

Aug 6-8/Sat-Mon



WTC, SPS

I/Hengst Peak (11,196'), White Chief Peak (11,159')

Join us for two unlisted peaks and help one of the leaders bag his namesake peak in this slow paced three day jaunt out of Mineral King. Saturday we'll hike in (4.5 mi, 2200' of gain) and camp at Mosquito Lakes so we can bag the two nearby peaks (3 mi, 1000') and (5 mi, 1500') before hiking out Monday. Send recent experience, conditioning, and carpool info to: Ldr: Matthew Hengst Co-Ldr: Adrienne Benedict

Aug 6-8/Sat-Mon



Sierra Peaks

I/Red Slate Mtn. (13,123')

SPS Intro Trip geared to WTC Students and prospective SPS'ers. Relaxed, casual and enjoyable with slow to moderate pace. Sat backpack up McGee Creek to Big McGee Lake at 10,472' in 7 mi, 2300' gain. Sun climb class 2 Mountaineers Peak, 6 mi rt, 2700' gain, considerable cross country. Mon hike out. Legendary community happy hours Sat and Sun eve. Send SASE with \$5.00 permit fee, recent conditioning and high altitude experience, H,W and Cell phones, ride share info to: Ldr: Patty Kline. Asst: Joe Wankum.

Aug 7/Sun



LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS

I/Mt. Pinos Navigation

Navigation noodle in Los Padres National Forest for either checkout or practice to satisfy Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare, to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Kim Homan.

Aug 12-14/Fri-Sun



WTC

I/Basin Mountain (13,181')

Celebrate the Chapter Centennial by climbing the same route taken by Norman Clyde on his first ascent of Basin on November 9, 1930. Fri backpack 4 mi, 2100' gain to camp at Horton Lake. Fri afternoon relax, explore nearby mine, followed by happy hour. Sat XC climb Basin, 5mi rt, 3200' gain. Sun break camp & pack out. This is a fairly strenuous ascent, so WTC or equivalent required. Send email w/recent conditioning & experience to: Ldr: Klaus Gerhart Asst: Daniel Kinzek

August, continued

Aug 12-14/Fri-Sun



WTC

I/Mt Silliman, (11,145')

Experience trip for leaders and WTC students. Fri backpack from Lodgepole, Twin Lakes trailhead to camp at Silliman Lake, 4 mi, 3300'. Sat climb Mount Silliman, 4 mi rt, 1100', then fish. Sun fish and then pack out. Send 2 SASE or 1 SASE and e-mail, \$5 permit fee, recent experience and conditioning, H&W phones, and rideshare info to: Ldr: Stephanie Smith Asst: Mike Dillenback

Aug 12-14/Fri-Sun **NEW!**



SPS, WTC

I/Mt Conness (12,590)

Friday hike from Tuolumne Meadows in Yosemite National Park (5 miles 1200' gain) to Young Lakes. Saturday climb Conness via southern approach (7 miles rt and 3,000' gain). Sunday return to trailhead. \$10 permit fee plus \$20 national park vehicle entry fee. Email, phone, recent conditioning, experience, rideshare to Ldr: Steve Curry. Co Ldr: Joe Speigl

Aug 12-14/Fri-Sun **NEW!**



SPS, WTC

ER/Palisade Crest (13,553')

Climb a 4th class peak in the spectacular Palisades Region of the Sierra. Friday backpack from Glacier Lodge to camp at Elinore Lake, 5 miles and 3200' gain. Saturday climb Palisade Crest (13,553') and return to camp, 4 miles RT and 2500' gain. Option to climb Mt Jepson (13,390') on the return route. Sunday pack out. Participants must have 4th class roped climbing experience, and be comfortable on exposed 3rd class and lose talus. Send e-mail or SASE with climbing resume and recent experience to Provisional Ldr: Neal Robbins, Asst: Tina Bowman

Aug 13-14/Sat-Sun



WTC, SPS

M/Mt Gayley (13,510')

Climb an SPS peak that provides a great climb to one of the best views of the Palisades. From the South Fork of Big Pine Creek we'll travel 5.8 miles, 3900+ ft gain via trail and cross country to camp and afternoon happy hour. Sunday we'll climb Mt. Gayley via a class 3 route dubbed, The Yellow Brick Road, to gain our peak (3 mi RT 2350 gain/loss) then pack out. Send ESASE/SASE with recent experience and conditioning info to: Ldr: Bob Draney Co-Ldr: Joe Speigl.

Aug 13-14/Sat-Sun



SPS, WTC

I/M/North Peak (12,242')

Gourmet Backpack! Join us for Decadent Wilderness Weekend IX. Sat backpack 3 mi, 500 ft gain from Saddlebag Lake to Conness Lakes for 5-star dining experience. Sun work off those calories with 1-mi, 1700' gain to North Peak. Depending on group's strength and experience we will take either the 2nd class southwest slope or the 3rd class southeast face. Send e-mail (preferred) or sase with H&W phones, recent conditioning, recent experience on 3rd class rock and your most outrageous culinary ideas to: Ldr: Ron Campbell Assts: Georgette Rieck, Ed Cottone, Lisa Buckley

Aug 19-21/Fri-Sun



WTC

I/Thousand Island Lake, Mt. Davis (12,311')

Fri relaxed pace backpack 10 mi, 1500' gain via incredibly scenic portion of PCT (High Trail) from Agnew Meadows to camp at Thousand Island Lake (9,840') in Ansel Adams Wilderness. Sat class 2 xc route to Mt. Davis via North Glacier Pass, 6 mi rt, 2,500' gain. This will be a strenuous day, but the views will be well worth it! Sun pack out via River Trail. WTC or equivalent required; priority given to 2011 WTC students. Shuttle bus fee of \$7 from Mammoth Mtn ski area to trailhead required; \$5 for wilderness permit. Send e-mail (preferred) or SASE with contact info, experience, recent conditioning and WTC group leader info to Ldr: Melody Anderson, Co-Ldr: Bob Draney

Aug 19-21/Fri-Sun



WTC

I/20 Lakes Basin Photography / Navigation Backpack

Spend a weekend photographing and practicing navigation in this gorgeous part of the Hoover Wilderness near Yosemite's eastern entrance. Friday hike or boat from Saddlebag Lake 2.5 miles to camp at one of the lakes and enjoy shared quesadillas; Saturday explore the lakes, find a mine and a hidden lake, approx 5 miles of hiking, followed by happy hour festivities. Sunday, pack out. Send experience and conditioning info to: Ldr: Jane Simpson. Co-Ldr: Adrienne Benedict.

August, continued

Aug 19-21/Fri-Sun



WTC, SPS

I/Caltech Peak (13,832')

Strenuous three day trip to climb a recent addition to the SPS peaks list. Fri pack in 6 mi / 4,000' gain to Anvil Camp. Sat hike 3 mi / 2,000' gain to Shepherd Pass (12,025') then 5 mi xc / 2,000-3,000' gain to Caltech Peak. Summit via class 2 SE ridge. Sun pack out on trail. Total for the weekend is approx. 28 mi round trip, 9,000'+ gain. Send contact info and recent conditioning and experience to: Ldr: Joseph Bell Asst: Paul Garry.

Aug 20-21/Sat-Sun



WTC

I/Muah Mtn (11,016')

14 mi rt, 3,500' gain for weekend. Sat AM backpack from Horseshoe Meadow camp (10,000') over Trail Pass to PCT, then to Diaz Creek area (9,600') to setup camp. Cross country climb to Muah Mtn. Return to camp for happy hour. Sun break camp, pack out for an earlier return to LA. Email leader with phones, recent backpacking, conditioning, altitude tolerance to: Ldr: Sandy Lara Co-Ldr: Peter Lara

Aug 20-21/Sat-Sun



WTC

I/Iron Mountain, (11,148')

Experience trip for leaders and WTC students. Sat backpack from Devils Postpile/Fern Lake trailhead to camp by Fern Lake, 5 mi, 1800'. Sun climb Iron Mountain, 5 mi rt, 2400', then pack out. Send 2 SASE or 1 SASE and e-mail, \$5 permit fee, recent experience and conditioning, H&W phones, and rideshare info to: Ldr: Stephanie Smith Asst: Jack Kieffer.

Aug 26-28/Fri-Sun



WTC

I/Thousand Island Lake, Peak 10344

Friday backpack 8 miles, 2000' gain to camp at picturesque Thousand Island Lake in Ansel Adams Wilderness near Mammoth. Saturday climb cross country, class 2 route to Peak 10344, 6 mi rt, 800' gain. Sunday pack out. Shuttle fee of \$7 from Mammoth Mountain to Agnew Meadows trailhead required. Send email (preferred) or sase, with contact info & recent conditioning to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co-Ldr: Sarah Myers Rebensdorf.

Aug 26-28/Sat-Mon **NEW DATE!**



WTC

I/Mt Tyndall (14,018')

Come celebrate the Chapter Centennial on this trip to Mt Tyndall which is a loose re-creation of a trip done over Fourth of July in 1931 by Norman Clyde, Alice Knapp, H. R. "Bob" Sturdevant, Niles Werner, D. D. Chalmers & Kasper Casperson, among others. Sat pack in 6 mi, 4,000' gain on trail to camp at Anvil Camp. Sun hike on trail 3 mi, 2,000' gain to Shepherd Pass (12,025'), then xc climb Tyndall via 2nd class NW ridge, approx. 2 mi, 2,000' gain. Mon pack out on trail. Total for weekend is approx. 22 mi rt, 8,000'+ gain. This will be a moderately paced but strenuous trip. Strong WTC students welcome. Send contact info & recent conditioning/experience to Ldr: Melody Anderson, Co Ldr: Dwain Roque

Aug 27-28/Sat-Sun



WTC, SPS

I/Mt. Mallory (13,850') Mt. Irvine (13,770')

Overnight backpack to climb two challenging peaks in the John Muir Wilderness via the Meysan Lake trail (12.5 mile rt, 7,000' gain). Sat: backpack from Whitney Portal to Meysan Lake. Sun: climb peaks, then back to camp and out to cars. Send experience and conditioning via email to: Ldr: Monica Suua Asst: Regge Bulman.

Aug 27-28/Sat-Sun **NEW!**



WTC, SPS

MR/University Peak (13,589)

13 miles, 4389' gain Saturday hike to Bench Lake, 4 miles, 1700' gain. Saturday night happy hour. Sunday climb University Peak from Bench Lake, third-class via the north face, 5 miles, 2700' gain. Break camp and backpack out. Must be comfortable on exposed third-class rock. Helmet, climbing harness, and medical form required. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Send email with Sierra Club #, climbing resume, experience with third-class rock, conditioning, and contact information to Ldr: Rod Kieffer. Asst: Mike Adams

Outings Leader Directory

Unless indicated by a letter "c" (cell), "w" (work), the numbers listed are home phone numbers and should be respected as such. To reserve your place on an outing, contact the leader as specified in the trip description. Include an information sheet with the following information: your name, address, home & work phone numbers, your WTC leader's name, the outing you wish to join, your experience, your physical conditioning program and whether you need or can offer a ride.

Name	Contact
Adams, Mike	AdamsFreeRange@AOL.com
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Zucker, Danielle	ZuckerD@Rocketmail.com

August, continued

Aug 27-28/Sat-Sun *NEW!*  **SPS, WTC**
ER/Mt Humphreys (13,986')

Climb the tallest peak visible from Bishop and the upper Owens Valley. Saturday backpack from North Lake over Piute Pass and on to camp at upper Humphreys Lake, 7 miles and 2600' gain. Sunday alpine start up the NW face and 4th class North Ridge route to summit Mt Humphreys, 3 miles RT and 2100' gain. Return to camp and pack out. Participants must have 4th class roped climbing experience, and be comfortable on exposed 3rd class and loose talus. Send e-mail or SASE with climbing resume and recent experience to Provisional Ldr: Neal Robbins. Asst: Tom McDonnell

Aug 27-29/Sat-Mon *NEW DATE. SEE SEP 3*  **SPS, WTC**
MR/Temple Crag (12,999'), Mt Gayley (13,510')

Sat rugged cross-country backpack 6 mi, 4100' gain from Glacier Lodge to camp below Contact Pass. Sun climb Temple Crag via SE face, 1 mi, 1200' gain. Either Sat pm or Sun am climb Gayley 2.5 mi, 2100' gain via "Yellow Brick Road." Out Sun. Happy hour both nights. Recent 3rd class rock experience, helmet, medical form required; restricted to Sierra Club members. Send e-mail (preferred) or sase with H&W phones, recent conditioning and climbing resume, rideshare info and \$5 check for permit fee to: Ldr: Ron Campbell. Co-Ldr: Matthew Hengst

September

Sep 2-5/Fri-Mon *NEW!*  **Wilderness Adventures, WTC**
O/I/Yosemite-Hoover Wilderness Virginia Lakes Backpack Bus Trip

Leave Fri am on our chartered bus for this 4 day/3 night backpack in this spectacular area just NE of Yosemite's crowds. Fri aft, backpack on trail from Virginia Lakes 6 mi, 1300' gain/1600' loss to set up camp at Gilman or East Lake (9500'). Sat reasonably strenuous 6 mi, 2900' gain, class 2 xc dayhike to Dunderberg Pk (12,374') for stunning views, before group Happy Hour back in camp. Or rest in camp or explore the local area. Sun dayhike on trail to Summit Lake, easy class 1 xc to Camiaca Pk (11,739'), then on trail to Green Lake and East Lakes. Mon am pack out to meet bus, Mon eve return to LA. Includes bus, bus snacks/drinks, all fees, Mon dinner on trip home. After 8/1, 90% refundable only if suitable replacement found. Send email or sase, recent backpack experience/conditioning, contact info, \$179 with SC#/\$184 non-member (Wilderness Adventures) to Ldr: Jane Simpson. Co Ldr: Ann Pedreschi Shields

Sep 3-5/Sat-Mon *NEW DATE!*  **SPS, WTC**
MR/Temple Crag (12,999'), Mt Gayley (13,510')

Sat rugged cross-country backpack 6 mi, 4100' gain from Glacier Lodge to camp below Contact Pass. Sun climb Temple Crag via SE face, 1 mi, 1200' gain. Either Sat pm or Sun am climb Gayley 2.5 mi, 2100' gain via "Yellow Brick Road." Out Sun. Happy hour both nights. Recent 3rd class rock experience, helmet, medical form required; restricted to Sierra Club members. Send e-mail (preferred) or sase with H&W phones, recent conditioning and climbing resume, rideshare info and \$5 check for permit fee to Ldr: Ron Campbell. Co Ldr: Matthew Hengst

Sep 9-11/Fri-Sun *NEW!*  **SPS, WTC**
I/Florence Pk (12,432'), Vandever Mtn (11,947'), Rainbow Mtn (12,043')

Join us for a gain-filled weekend out in Mineral King suitable for fit WTC students with previous experience at altitude. We'll hike in Friday (6 mi, 3000') to camp at Franklin Lakes. Saturday we'll make the long haul out to Farewell Gap and grab Vandever (10 mi, 5600') before returning to camp. Sunday wake up early and grab Florence Peak (5 mi, 2500') and an optional climb of Rainbow before breaking camp and hiking out (6 mi, 300'). Send recent experience, conditioning, and carpool info to Leader: Matthew Hengst. Co Ldr: James Montross

Sep 9-11/Fri-Sun *NEW!*  **SPS, WTC**
I/Mt Williamson (14,375')

The 2nd highest peak in the Sierra, also an SPS Emblem Peak. Friday drive to George Creek road to the end. Backpack to camp 4mi, 4500' gain. Saturday climb Williamson along the SE ridge, 5 mi rt, 4,400' gain. Happy hour both nights. Sunday pack up and hike out. Send email or SASE with \$5.00 and recent conditioning /experience, and contact info to Ldr: Jack Kieffer. Co Ldr KC Reid

September, continued

Sep 10-11/Sat-Sun *NEW!*  **SPS, WTC**
MR/Mt Winchell (13,775')

Sat backpack to Sam Mack Meadow 6.5 miles and 3400' gain. Sunday get an early start and head towards the Thunderbolt Glacier to climb Mt Winchell via the east arête. 3.5 miles 2600' gain roundtrip then return to camp, and pack out to the cars. This trip is restricted to Sierra Club members, must have experience on 3rd class rock. Helmets will be required. Send e-mail or SASE with resume, medical form and recent conditioning to Ldr: David Chapman. Asst: Neal Robbins

Sep 17-18/Sat-Sun  **WTC**
I/Mt Langley (14,026')

Sat backpack from Cottonwood Lakes trailhead to camp at upper Cottonwood Lake, 6 mi, 1200' gain. Group happy hour Sat evening. Sun climb Langley, 7 mi rt, 2000' gain, then pack out. This is the southernmost 14er in the Sierras, with spectacular views in all directions from the top, including views of Mt. Whitney, the Great Western Divide and the Owens Valley 10,000 feet below. Send e-mail with recent conditioning and experience -- and WTC group & group leader name, if applicable -- to: Ldrs: Melody Anderson, Will McWhinney

Sep 17-18/Sat-Sun *NEW!*  **WTC, HPS**
I/Grinnell Mtn (10,284'), Lake Pk (10,161')

15 mi 4700' gain "strenuous" hike. Saturday, backpack 6 mi 3100' gain to Dry Lake and set up camp. Day hike xc to Grinnell and Lake Pk, 5 mi rt, 1600' gain, back to camp. Saturday evening happy hour. Sunday AM break camp and backpack out. Contact Ldr: Victoria Overbey. Co Ldr: Rod Kieffer

Sep 18/Sun *NEW!*  **WTC, 20-30 SINGLES, LB GROUP**
O/WTC Introductory Hike: Echo Mtn, Inspiration Point and Muir Peak (4688')

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 miles with 2900 ft of gain. Leaders will provide an overview of the Wilderness Travel Course (WTC), which begins January 2012. Subjects include safe mountain travel, map & compass and wilderness first aid. Meet 9:00 am at the North end of Lake Street at the corner of Lake and Loma Alta Drive in Altadena by the "Gate." This is a residential neighborhood so be mindful of parking regulations and residents' quiet enjoyment of their neighborhood. Bring 2-3 liters of water, lunch, lugsoles, hat and layered clothing. Ldr: David Meltzer, Co Ldr: Gary Novotny

Sep 23-25/Fri-Sun  **WTC, Wilderness Adventures**
I/Twin Lakes-Silliman NavPack 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. Email contact & rideshare info, recent backpacking & conditioning experience to: Ldr: Jane Simpson. Co-Ldr: Adrienne Benedict

Sep 23-25/Fri-Sun *NEW!*  **Wilderness Adventures, WTC**
I/Red and White Mountain (12,816')

Remote peak that we'll get closer to via ferry across scenic Lake Edison from the west side of the Sierra. Fri, after the ferry, strenuous 8.5 mi, 2,500' gain trail backpack along Mono Creek to camp by Laurel Creek. Saturday, 9 mi strenuous trail and xc, 2,700' climb of Red & White. Sunday, return to Lake Edison & ferry ride to cars. Must be comfortable with steep, off-trail hiking. At time of publication ferry cost = \$18RT. Send \$5 permit fee, 2 SASE or email, H/W/cell phones, recent conditioning, experience, rideshare to Ldr: Mark Mitchell. Co Ldr: Daniel Kinzek

WTC Newsletter

September, continued

Sep 25/Sun **NEW!**



LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS

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. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare, to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co Ldr: Phil Wheeler

Sep 28/Wed



LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC

Workshop: Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP4) – Basic Safety System

First of 4 climbing workshops open to SC members with prior roped climbing experience. Today's indoor evening workshop of 4 hours reviewing ropes, knots, harnesses, helmets, and basic climbing gear will take place in Pasadena. As space is limited priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send sase or e-mail with SC#, resume, phones to: Ldr: Dan Richter Asst: Pat McKusky

October

Oct 1/Sat



LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC

M/ER/Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP4) – Belaying

2nd of 4 climbing workshops open to SC members with prior roped climbing experience. Today at Stoney Point in Chatsworth, focus is on belaying and principles of anchor building. As space is limited priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send sase or e-mail with SC#, resume, phones to: Ldr: Dan Richter Asst: Pat McKusky

Oct 1/Sat **NEW!**



LTC, WTC, Hundred Peaks

I/Beginning Navigation Clinic

Spend the day one-on-one with an instructor, learning/practicing map and compass in our local mountains. Beginners to rusty old-timers welcome and practice is available at all skill levels. Not a checkout, but it will help you prepare. Many expert leaders will attend; many I-rated leaders started here in the past. 4 mi, 500' gain. Send sase, phones, \$25 deposit (Sierra Club, refunded at trailhead) to Ldr: Diane Dunbar. Co Ldr: Richard Boardman

Oct 2/Sun **NEW!**



Hundred Peaks, WTC

O/Sugarloaf Mountain (9952')

8 miles, 3100' gain round trip. Please join us for this hike after the potluck and fun evening at the Keller Hut HPS Fall Festival. We will meet at the Keller Hut at 7:30 AM and drive over to the Hatchery Road turn off Highway 38. Bring adventure pass, water, lunch, and good footwear. Ldrs: Wayne Vollaie, Coby King, Marlen Mertz

Oct 8/Sat



LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC

M/ER/Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP4) – Rappelling

3rd of 4 climbing workshops open to SC members with prior roped climbing experience. Today at Stoney Point in Chatsworth, focus is on rappelling. As space is limited priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send sase or e-mail with SC#, resume, phones to: Ldr: Dan Richter Asst: Pat McKusky

Oct 8-9/Sat-Sun



WTC

I/"Really Last Chance" Graduation Trip

Easy paced backpacking trip in scenic California desert. We will take exploratory cross-country routes in the Queen Valley area, taking in a peak along the way. Learn about the Wilderness Travel Course or satisfy WTC requirements on this "really last chance" graduation trip. 9 mile rt, 1000' gain. Send email (preferred) or sase, with contact info & recent conditioning to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co-Ldr: Ann Pedreschi Shields.

October, continued

Oct 15-16/Sat-Sun



LTC, SPS, DPS, WTC

M/ER/Advanced Mountaineering Program (AMP4) – Rock Climbing Techniques and Anchors

4th of 4 climbing workshops open to SC members with prior roped climbing experience. This weekend completes the series of AMP workshops at Joshua Tree National Park and focuses on climbing and anchors. As space is limited priority will be given to participants who commit to all four workshops. Send sase or e-mail with SC#, resume, phones to: Ldr: Dan Richter Asst: Pat McKusky

Oct 16/Sun **NEW!**



LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS

I/Indian Cove Navigation

Navigation noodle at Joshua Tree National Park to satisfy the Basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare, to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co Ldr: Phil Wheeler

Oct 22-23/Sat-Sun **NEW!**



DPS/WTC

MR/Castle Dome Peak, (3,788'), Signal Peak (4,877')

Mountaineering outing for Sierra Club members only. Climb two sought-after desert peaks in the Kofa Wilderness of SW Arizona. Sat climb class 3 Castle Dome Peak, 6 mi rt, 2100' and then have happy hour back at car camp. Sun hike to Signal Peak, 4 mi rt, 2000'. Helmets and recent 3rd class rock climbing experience required. Send an e-mail with medical form, recent experience and conditioning, H&W phones, and rideshare info to Ldr: Stephanie Smith. Asst: Mike Adams

Oct 28-30/Fri



LTC, Harwood Lodge, WTC

C/Wilderness First Aid Course

Runs from 8 am Fri to 5:30 pm Sun. Fee includes lodging, meals and practice first aid kit. Proof of CPR within previous 4 years required to enroll. Fee \$210 (full refund through Sept 23). For application send e-mail to: Ldr: Steve Schuster

Oct 29/Sat **NEW!**



Hundred Peaks, Palos Verdes - South Bay, WTC

I/Deer Mtn. (5586') and Deep Creek Hot Springs (5' deep)

21st semi-annual Deep Creek HS hike/soak/swim with another shot at Deer Mtn. Moderately paced 17 mi, 5400' gain, mostly utilizing the PCT. Bring 10 essentials, lugs, (swim suit optional), and water tolerant shoes for creek crossing (could be high water – trekking poles recommended). High clearance vehicles desirable for dirt road driving. No beginners. Plan on spending full day – it's near Hesperia. Rain cancels. Send email (preferable) or sase with carpool and recent conditioning info to Ldr: Barry Holchin. Co Ldr: Wayne Vollaie

Oct 30/Sun **NEW!**



WTC, 20-30 SINGLES, LB GROUP

O/WTC Introductory Hike: Mt Wilson/Manzanita Ridge

Invigorating conditioning hike at a moderate pace. 10-mile r/t, 4000' gain. Leaders will provide an overview of the Wilderness Travel Course (WTC), which begins January 2012. Subjects include safe mountain travel, map & compass and wilderness first aid. This is a residential neighborhood so be mindful of parking regulations and residents' 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, 3 ltrs water, snacks to share. Ldr: David Meltzer, Co-Ldrs: Gary Novotny

November

Nov 19/Sat **NEW!**



LTC, WTC

MR/Navigation Workshop on 3rd Class Terrain

This navigation workshop is limited to individuals participating in the Indian Cove Navigation Noodle and is intended to explore special navigation issues that arise on 3rd class terrain. Class 3 rock travel experience required. Restricted to Sierra Club members. Helmets and medical forms required/group size limited. Send email/sase, SC#, class 3 experience, conditioning, contact info to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co Ldr: Jack Kieffer

November/December

Nov 19-20/Sat-Sun **NEW!** 

LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS

I/Indian Cove Navigation

Navigation noodle at Joshua Tree National Park to satisfy the Basic (I/M) level navigation requirements. Sat for practice, skills refresher, altimeter, homework, campfire. Sun checkout. Send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, ride-share, to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co Ldr: Phil Wheeler

Nov 20/Sun **NEW!** 

WTC, 20-30 SINGLES, LB GROUP

O/WTC Introductory Hike: Echo Mtn, Inspiration Point and Muir Peak (4688')

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 miles with 2900 ft of gain. Leaders will provide an overview of the Wilderness Travel Course (WTC), which begins January 2012. Subjects include safe mountain travel, map & compass and wilderness first aid. Meet 9:00 am at the North end of Lake Street at the corner of Lake and Loma Alta Street in Alta Dena by the "Gate". This is a residential neighborhood so be mindful of parking regulations and residents' quiet enjoyment of their neighborhood. Bring 2-3 liters of water, lunch, lugsoles, hat and layered clothing. Ldr: David Meltzer, Co-Ldr: Gary Novotny

Dec 10/SAT **NEW!** 

WTC

M/Leader Rock Workshop

This staff development workshop is intended to prepare WTC staff to be effective instructors in WTC's rock scrambling instruction. This workshop is open to all staff members; new staff members are strongly encouraged to participate. Early sign-up recommended, since group size is limited. Climbing helmets required. To participate, send name, contact and rideshare info, WTC area, and Class 3 climbing experience to Ldr: Tom McDonnell. Co Ldr: Robert Myers.

Dec 11/Sun **NEW!** 

LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS

I/Warren Pt Navigation:

Navigation noodle at Joshua Tree National Park for either checkout or practice to satisfy the Basic (I/M) or Advanced (E) level navigation requirements. To participate, send email/sase, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare, to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co Ldr: Phil Wheeler

Dec 11/Sun **NEW!** 

WTC, 20-30 Singles, LB GROUP

O/WTC Introductory Hike: Mt Wilson/Manzanita Ridge

Invigorating conditioning hike at a moderate pace. 10-mile r/t, 4000' gain. Leaders will provide an overview of the Wilderness Travel Course (WTC), which begins January '12. Subjects include safe mountain travel, map & compass and wilderness first aid. This is a residential neighborhood so be mindful of parking regulations and residents' 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, 3 ltrs water, snacks to share. Ldr: David Meltzer, Co-Ldrs: Gary Novotny

Perhaps one of the most popular fake photos was the "Cottingley Fairies" which were created in 1917.



Just because software allows you to create fakes, you should not reject using these tools to help create better photos for your collection. In addition, sometimes creating a fake photo can actually be useful. For example, you take a summit picture of the group and add your body into the final photo. Example 1 shows a person being added to the photo.



Example 1

Software Options

As the cover of the Newsletter attempts to demonstrate, to create the perfect picture, you may need to make adjustments to match what your eyes saw at that moment. These adjustments can range from simple to very complex. All image editing software will let you perform the simple adjustments, but more complex processes may be limited to more costly programs. However, there are products available in any price range from free to many hundreds of dollars.

It should be noted that if you perform any enhancements that can change the final colors in the photo, it is best to have your monitor color calibrated with a calibration device. These devices ensure that the correct color is shown on your screen, so that blue is blue not blue-grey. There are a few relatively low cost options available including PANTONE Huey Pro and Datacolor Spyder3 Express.

The following is a partial list of available software. These tend to be some of the most popular options, but you may find a different product that meets all of your needs. Next to each product, I indicate if it is available on Windows (Win) or Apple (Mac).

- Adobe Photoshop (Win/Mac \$200+) – This is the premiere program that most professionals use for their adjustments. This product requires a very large learning curve.
- Adobe Photoshop Elements (Win/Mac \$80+) – This contains most of the features found in the full Photoshop, but is easier to use and less expensive. This still requires a fairly large learning curve to take advantage of all of the features.
- Adobe Lightroom (Win/Mac \$70+) – This product combines many essential image editing functions integrated with image management functionality.
- Corel Paint Shop Photo Pro (Win \$60) – Highly rated and contains many advanced features.
- Ulead PhotoImpact (Win \$30) – Missing some of the more advanced features.
- GIMP (Win/Mac \$0) – Contains much of the same features as older versions of Photoshop, but is free!
- Photoscape (Win \$0) – Another highly rated photo editor that is also free!
- Pixia (Win \$0) – Lacks some advanced features, but still rated highly.
- Picasa (Win/Mac \$0) – This Google product is similar to Adobe Lightroom in that it combines image editing and image management features in one tool.
- Seashore (Mac \$0) – This Mac specific software is much more advanced than iPhoto, but has a steep learning curve.

Features

Each of the above contains a different set of features. You will have to decide which features are most important to you. Here is a brief set of the most important features.

- Crop
- Rotate
- Red Eye Removal
- Lighting Adjustments
- Color Adjustment
- HDR

Since each of the software products listed above work completely different from each other, I will not be giving a step by step tutorial on how to accomplish a specific edit, but rather I will show the effect and leave it up to you to look up how your product performs the equivalent effect. Let's start by giving examples of each of the most important features.

Crop

When you crop a picture, you are changing the portion of the photo that is visible in the final product. There are three main reasons to perform a crop.

- 1) When there are elements in the photo that detract from the overall image and these elements should be removed. See Example 2. The final cropped shot draws



your eyes to the boy. Perhaps you start wondering "what is the boy thinking?", "why such a staunch pose?" or "what is the boy seeing?", adding to the intrigue of the photo. However, when you look at the photo as originally shot, you are probably thinking "what is that big blue blob on the left?". The picture should be about the boy, not about a blue blob.

Example 2

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2) When you want to change the height or width of the photo. For example, your camera may take pictures that are 4x6 (4 inches high by 6 inches wide), but you want to print the photo to place in an 8x10 photo frame. See Example 3.

3) Before you read the remainder of this paragraph, look closely at Example 4 and Example 5. After looking at each, which one did you prefer? If you want to create more visual impact to a photograph, you may be able to accomplish it by altering the dimensions of the image. Experiments have shown that using the "Golden Ratio" when cropping photos will usually give a more pleasing result. The Golden Ratio is 1x1.618 and is seen throughout nature, architecture, paintings, music and mathematics, so we are conditioned to find this ratio pleasing. If you picked Example 5 as more pleasing, then you agree with majority as this was cropped using the Golden Ratio.

4x6 Photo



8x10 Crop



Example 3



Example 4



Example 5

Your software will probably have a tool labeled as "crop" and it will let you perform a freeform Crop (no specific ratio) or it will let you set a specific ratio. To Crop a picture to fit in an 8x10 picture frame, the tool will let you set a specific height and width, so set it to 8 and 10, then drag over the picture to show the final result.

Rotate

There are two main reasons for performing a rotate.

1) The horizon is not level. Sometimes, after you have captured the picture, you realize that the camera was tilted, thus causing the horizon to be no longer level as expected. When this happens, just Rotate the picture slightly until the horizon becomes level once again. After performing a Rotate, you will most likely have to follow with a Crop to eliminate unwanted blank space in the corners caused by the rotate. See Example 6.

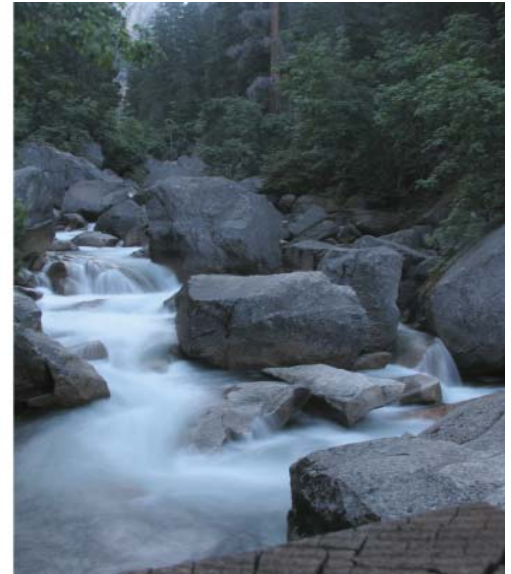


The camera was placed on a rock due to low light. The original has a severe tilt that can be easily corrected by Rotating the photo.

Example 6



2) Your camera became confused on what direction was “up”. Sometimes, when you view your pictures on the computer, a one particular shot may have your subject laying on her side instead of standing straight up. When this happens, set the Rotate tool to rotate the picture exactly 90 degrees. See Example 7.



Example 7

Red Eye Removal

Most compact cameras have the flash unit very close to the lens. This can cause a problem when the flash is used for a photo. When the flash is used and there is a person (or animal) in the picture, their pupils will turn red. To remove this problem, use the Red Eye Removal tool and it will turn their pupils back to black.

Lighting Adjustments

When you press the shutter on your camera, the camera lets light into the photo chip for a certain period of time (e.g. 1/100 of a second). If the shutter remains open for too long, then too much light is allowed to enter and the resulting pictures becomes washed out. If the shutter remains open for too little time, the results look dark and gloomy. One of the goals of taking a great photo is to use the correct amount of time (Exposure) and thus capture a picture that is properly balanced. Unfortunately, there will be times when you have a picture with the incorrect exposure and you will want to try to save the shot. Other times, you have the proper exposure, but the dynamic range (brightest whites to darkest blacks) may be too great to properly capture (think of a group of people standing in the shadows with bright sunlit snow behind them). Many programs have tools that let you make various lighting adjustments. These may include Brightness, Exposure, Fill Light (shadows) and Recovery (highlights). To get the best results from these adjustments, the original image still needs to be fairly close to the proper exposure. See Example 8.



Over
Exposed



Properly
Exposed



Under
Exposed

Color Adjustment

Most color problems are due to the White Balance (see the first article in this series) being incorrect. If your camera is capable of shooting in RAW format instead of JPEG, then you can adjust colors very easily since you are free to reset the White Balance to the proper setting. If you are shooting in the JPEG format, color adjustment will become more difficult. You will want to adjust the colors in your photo when you notice that the colors are wrong. For example, there may be a blue color cast to the entire picture. First, let's talk about RAW format adjustments. When you bring in your photos into your image editor, manually set the White Balance to the proper value for each individual photo. For example, if a particular picture was taken under cloudy skies, use that setting as a starting point. If there is still an incorrect color cast, make small adjustments to the Color Temperature slider until you get the correct color. Usually, this is the only color adjustment needed for photos taken in RAW.

For JPEG photos, the White Balance may have been set incorrectly by yourself or the camera may have chosen the incorrect value. White Balance can't be changed in this case. Your image editor should have controls that let you change the resulting colors. They may be called something like Hue, Saturation, Color Balance, Vibrance or Tint. Always make very small adjustments to these controls and review the results.

Example 8

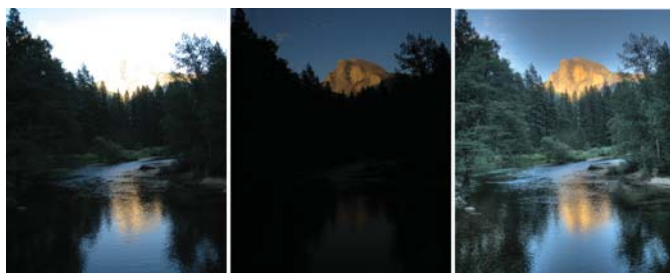
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HDR (High Dynamic Range)

When the difference between the shadows and the highlights is very large, current cameras are incapable of capturing the details on both ends of the scale. When you want to take a photo in such a circumstance, you will be forced to use the following technique to produce the proper image.

Your camera must be in full manual mode. Set your aperture (e.g. 2.8) and your shutter speed (e.g. 1/500 second) to create a properly exposed picture. This will cause the mid tones (between the lightest highlights and darkest shadows) to obtain maximum detail. Now, keep the aperture at the same value and change the shutter speed by two values (e.g. from 1/500 to 1/400 to 1/300) and frame the photo exactly as you did the first photo. Now change the shutter speed by two more values (e.g. from 1/300 to 1/200 to 1/100) and once again take the same exact shot. At this point, go back to your original shutter speed and adjust by two values in the opposite direction (1/500 to 1/600 to 1/700) and take a fourth photo. Finally, go two additional values (1/700 to 1/800 to 1/900) and take the final shot. It is important to frame all of these photos in the same way. The easiest method to accomplish this is with a tripod when available.

At this point you have 5 photos of the same subject that are all identical except for the amount of light brought into the chip. Use the HDR function of your software to bring in all 5 photos and turn it into one perfectly exposed picture. This is how your eyes saw the scene, but would not be possible to represent in a photo without using this technique. In Example 9, I took multiple exposures of a scene that included a stained glass window. Notice how no one single photo accurately represented what my eyes saw until I processed them using HDR for the final version. In fact, the photograph of Half Dome on the cover used this technique in order to correctly show what my eyes were seeing at that moment. See Example 10.



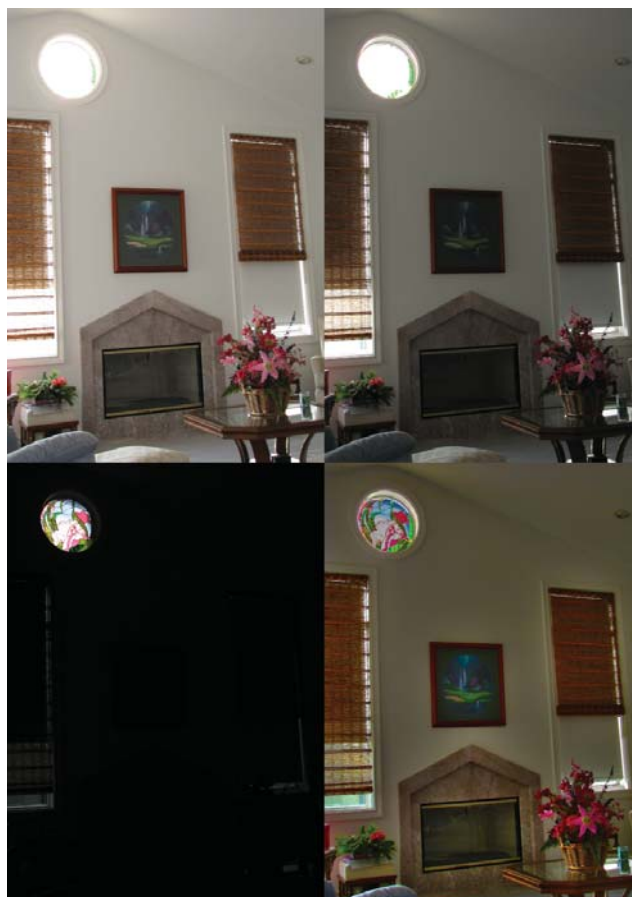
Example 10

Additional Features

Most software will have many additional features that you may or may not find useful. Some of these include:

- Dodge
- Burn
- Levels
- Cloning
- Touch-up
- Image extraction
- Adjustment layers
- Lens distortion correction
- Layers
- Healing Brush
- Unsharp Mask
- Panorama
- Type effects

There are many publications and help available on the internet that can assist you if you decide that these features are needed. Using these additional features, it is possible to remove unwanted features such as electrical wires (Example 11) or even an entire person. In fact, take a very close look at Example 1 again. Can you tell if the woman in blue was added after the picture was taken, or was she really removed afterwards? Which do you think it is? Are you sure? With a well done edit, it will be next to impossible to tell. With the Panorama tool, you can create a panorama shot that would be impossible otherwise (Example 12). Notice that in this example, other adjustments were needed in order to create the "Perfect Picture". When you want to add a title to a photo, the Type effects can create visual impact (Example 13).



Example 9

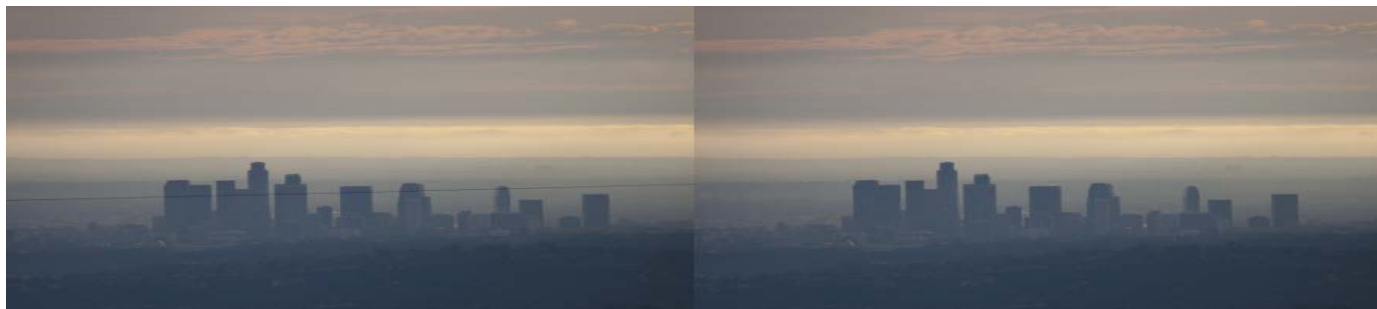
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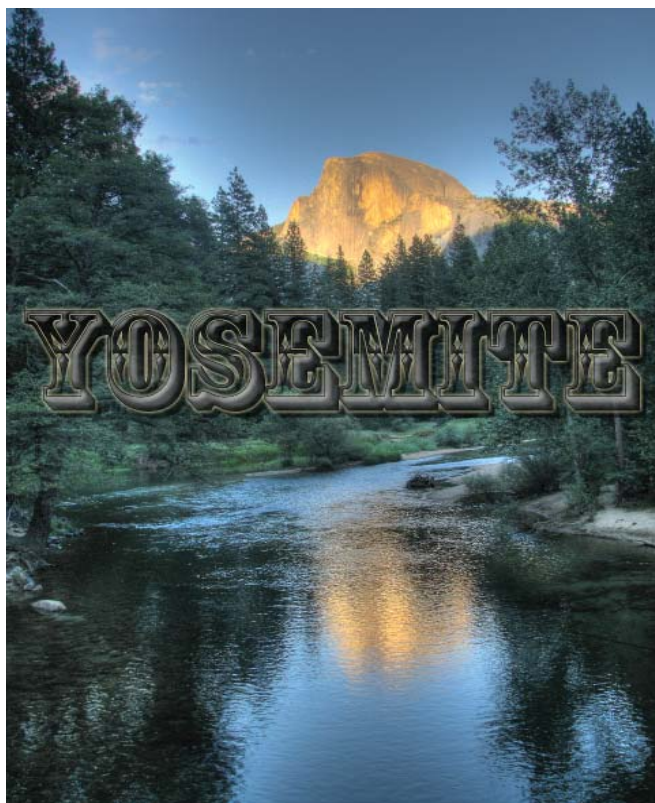
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Example 11



Example 12



Example 13

Workflow

Now you can see that many options are available for getting the most out of your photos. So, how do you decide what to do first? The order of adjustments is known as Workflow. If the photo that you took is already absolutely perfect, then there is no need to go through the Workflow. However, if it is a good but not perfect, go through and only make the necessary changes as outlined below. Don't make a change just because it is listed in the Workflow.

There is not a single Workflow that is best in every situation, but here is a rather comprehensive list showing what is possible with a Workflow:

- Shoot in RAW
- Use manual mode on the camera
- Set the aperture to the value that I want to use for the current photo
- Set the shutter speed to obtain the proper exposure and take the picture
- Change the shutter speed up and down a bit and take additional shots of the same subject
- Copy all of the digital images onto the computer
- Rate each photo
- For the best photos, continue with the workflow
- Set the proper White Balance
- Set Exposure
- Use Recovery to pull back details from clipped highlights
- Use Fill Light to pull back details from shadows

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- Use Brightness to manage overall tonality
- Set the proper Vibrance
- Use Lens Correction if there are chromatic aberrations in the high contrast areas (you will see a purple fringe where light and dark areas meet)
- Rotate and Crop as needed
- Adjust Levels to set the neutral grey point
- Set Color Balance
- Adjust Hue/Saturation in an Adjustment Layer
- Clean up the image with the Clone tool, Healing Brush, etc.
- Modify the shadows and Highlights
- Dodge and Burn any remaining areas that need to be lightened or darkened
- Use Unsharp Mask to sharpen the final product

On most photos, I spend less than a minute in my software making the photo better than originally shot. Other photos may take a considerable amount of time due to the number of issues present.

Conclusion

If you are ready to put some Wow into your photographs you will often need to make small adjustments to your captured photos. When you spend a little time, you will start noticing that you will be getting comments about how your photos are really good. Once these comments start coming in, you will always want to present your best effort by using software to provide the finishing touches.

All of the pictures presented in this article can be found at :
<http://knovotny.smugmug.com/Photography/Wilderness-Photography-Part-IV>
in full resolution.

