It’s hard to believe that we are already into our 8th month with the current management team - elections will be here before you know it. In the next election there will be two positions up for nomination. If you were thinking of running (or know someone who might) please let one of us on the management team know. The DPS needs enthusiastic and energetic people like you and serving in a lead position with the Section does make you feel great about giving back to the Section which provided you so much over the years. And working with the second year incumbents, Ann, Pat, and Ron, is an added and enjoyable benefit too!

Congratulations to Tina Bowman who has achieved the 50 leads award. Tina is our 9th recipient for this new award and there is no one more deserving than Tina considering that she has led so many of us up the desert peaks and always with safety in mind while being focused on the trip objective. Also, congratulations to Daryn Dodge for achieving the 163rd DPS list finish on Last Chance Mountain this past October. There is a trip write up on page 13. Daryn not only finished the list (after being rained out last season) but led us up many of the peaks as well. When you see both of them next time please give them your congratulations.

Speaking of Daryn, please send him any changes that you come across when navigating our desert peaks. Daryn is leading the charge as editor to our sixth version of the DPS Road and Peak Guide. Even though he finished the list in just 5 years access to desert roads can change quickly (e.g., the road closure to Mitchell Caverns described in Ann’s column). When you see something in our fifth edition guide that just doesn’t seem right please let Daryn know.

If you want to voice an opinion about something related to the Section, or you want to propose a change and want to see what others think about it, or you are looking for people to join you on a future climb, or you just want to thank someone, etc. drop me a line. I will respond to each letter and may put it in the Sage or send out an email blast as well if I think it will benefit our members. I may even start up a Letters to the Editor column in an upcoming Desert Sage as long as I have letter(s) fit for public consumption and I and the management team can weigh in with our opinion/response. Who knows - maybe it will even start up a short debate. Please send your email to me at r.wyka@att.net with the subject title Letters to the Editor which tells me it is acceptable for publication. You can also send it to me via USPS at:

Letters to the Editor, Desert Sage
c/o Bob Wyka
PO Box 50, PMB 202
Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352-0050

Finally, let me wish all of you a very happy holiday and an awesome New Year with lots and lots of success at your endeavors. And whatever you are doing, whether driving, climbing, skiing, or even shopping - please be careful – safety first.
**Elected Positions**

**Chair**  
Bob Wyka  
P.O. Box 50, PMB 202  
Lake Arrowhead, CA, 92352  
(310) 570-9307  
r.wyka@att.net

**Vice Chair / Outings / Safety**  
Ann Perkins  
19050 Kilfinan Place  
Porter Ranch, CA, 91326-1024  
(818) 366-7578  
ann.perkins@csun.edu

**Secretary**  
Ron Eckelmann  
11811 W. Washington Place #107  
Los Angeles, CA, 90066-4649  
(310) 398-1675  
eckelmannr2@yahoo.com

**Treasurer**  
Pat Arredondo  
13409 Stanbridge Ave  
Bellflower, CA, 90706-2341  
(562) 867-6894  
paarredo@verizon.net

**Programs / Banquet**  
Jim Fleming  
538 Yarrow Drive  
Simi Valley, CA, 93065-7352  
(805) 578-9408  
jimf333@att.net

**Appointed Positions**

**Archives**  
Barbara Reber  
PO Box 1911  
Newport Beach, CA 92659-0911  
(949) 640-7821

**Conservation Chair**  
Virgil Popescu  
9751 Amanita Ave  
Tujunga, CA, 91042-2914  
(818) 951-3251  
gillypope@ca.rr.com

**Guidebook Editor**  
Daryn Dodge  
2618 Kline Ct  
Davis, CA, 95618-7668  
(530) 753-1095  
ddodge@oehha.ca.gov

**Mailer**  
Elaine Baldwin  
3760 Ruthbar Drive  
Hawthorne, CA, 90250-8473  
(310) 675-4120  
DWBaldwin@aol.com

**Membership Chair**  
Ron Bartell  
1556 21st Street  
Manhattan Beach, CA, 90266  
(310) 546-1977  
ronbartell@yahoo.com

**Merchandising**  
Gloria Miladin  
11946 Downey Ave  
Downey, CA, 90242  
(562) 861-2550  
miladingloria@yahoo.com

**Mountain Records (Registers)**  
Daryn Dodge  
2618 Kline Ct  
Davis, CA, 95618-7668  
(530) 753-1095  
ddodge@oehha.ca.gov

**Mountaineering Comm. Chair**  
Ann Perkins  
19050 Kilfinan Place  
Porter Ranch, CA, 91326-1024  
(818) 366-7578  
ann.perkins@csun.edu

**Mountaineering Committee**  
Ron Bartell  
ronbartell@yahoo.com  
Tina Bowman  
tina@bowmandesigngroup.com  
Brian Smith  
brian.s.smith@aero.org  
Vic Henney  
wyhenn@msn.com

**Newsletter Editor (SAGE)**  
OPEN

**Webmaster**  
Larry Hoak  
838 S Orange Drive  
Los Angeles, CA, 90036-4912  
larryhoak@ca.rr.com

---

**Cover Photo Credit...**

goes to Ron Bartell on a DPS climb looking east towards Kelso Dunes near the summit of Granite Peak #1.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day(s)</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JAN 7-8</td>
<td>SAT-SUN</td>
<td>DPS, HPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAN 7-8</td>
<td>SAT-SUN</td>
<td>DPS, HPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAN 7-8</td>
<td>SAT-SUN</td>
<td>DPS, HPS, LTC, WTC, HPS, SPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAN 8</td>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>DPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAN 13-15</td>
<td>FRI-SUN</td>
<td>DPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB 11</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>DPS, DPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB 12</td>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>DPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB 25-26</td>
<td>SAT-SUN</td>
<td>DPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR 3</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>HPS, DPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR 10</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>DPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR 24-25</td>
<td>SAT-SUN</td>
<td>DPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR 31-APR</td>
<td>SAT-SUN</td>
<td>LTC, WTC, DPS, DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR 13-15</td>
<td>FRI-SUN</td>
<td>DPS, LTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR 14</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>LTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR 21-22</td>
<td>SAT-SUN</td>
<td>LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR 27-29</td>
<td>FRI-SUN</td>
<td>LTC, Harwood Lodge, WTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR 28-29</td>
<td>SAT-SUN</td>
<td>LTC, SPS, DPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 20</td>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>DPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 26</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>LTC, WTC, HPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUN 2</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUN 3</td>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG 5</td>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEP 23</td>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**JAN 7-8**

I: **San Ysidro Mountain (6,147’), Indianhead (3,960’+):** Start out the New Year by spending a pleasant weekend in the beautiful Anza Borrego Desert State Park. Saturday we’ll enjoy a moderate hike at a slow, relaxed pace on road and rough trail to San Ysidro Mountain near Warner Springs (5 mi RT, 1,600’ gain). Some dirt road driving is required to reach the San Ysidro trailhead; high clearance 4-wheel drive recommended. Saturday night we’ll car camp at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campground and enjoy an evening of revelry around a campfire under the crisp, desert night sky. Sunday we’ll set off early for a strenuous hike at a slow pace over rugged and rocky class 2 terrain up the lovely Borrego Palm Canyon and then up and along scenic ridgelines to the spectacular Indianhead summit (8.0 mi RT, 3,200’ gain). Participants are welcome to join us for one or both days. If planning on car camping, bring a little firewood and come equipped for Happy Hour and Potluck dinner. Bring plenty of water, lunch for each day, a hat, warm clothing, and the rest of your 10 essentials. Email leader at mkelliher746@gmail.com with recent experience and conditioning for trip status and details. Leaders: Mat Kelliher, Jim Fleming.

**JAN 7-8**

I: **Chemehuevi Peak (3,694’), Whipple Mountain (4,130’):** Shake off your post-New Years’ hangover and join us for two moderate peaks west of Lake Havasu. Saturday we’ll climb Whipple Mountain (9 miles, 2,700’) followed by a primitive car camp and festive happy hour. Sunday we’ll stroll past the occasional cholla field and grab Chemehuevi Peak (7.5 miles, 2,000’) before heading for home. Send recent experience, conditioning, and carpool info to Leader: Matthew Hengst. Co-leader: Neal Robbins.

(Continued on page 5)
**JAN 7-8**  
**SAT-SUN**  
**DPS, LTC, WTC, HPS, 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 or SASE, contact info, navigation experience/training, any WTC, leader rating, rideshare to Leader: Robert Myers, rmmyers@ix.netcom.com. Assistant: Phil Wheeler.

**JAN 8**  
**SUN**  
**DPS**  
**Potluck and Management Committee Meeting:** Join us at the home of Gloria Miladin, 11946 Downey Ave., Downey, for our monthly potluck. Committee meeting at 4:30 pm and potluck at 6:00 pm. Bring a dish to share. RSVP to Gloria, 562-861-2550 or miladingloria@yahoo.com.

**JAN 13-15**  
**FRI-SUN**  
**DPS**  
**I: Sentinel Peak (9,634’), Porter Peak (9,101’):** Join us for a strenuous weekend backpack in Death Valley. Friday we'll backpack up Surprise Canyon (7 miles, 3,600') to explore the famous ghost town of Panamint City where we'll spend the following two nights. Saturday we'll be up early and make the long climb to Sentinel and Porter along the ridge (14 miles, 7,000') before returning to camp. Sunday hike out and drive home (5 miles, 0'). Send recent experience, conditioning, carpool info, and predisposition for suffering to Leader Matthew Hengst. Co-leader: Jack Kieffer.

**FEB 11**  
**SAT**  
**HPS,DPS**  
**I: Calico Peak (4,542’):** Come join other hikers for my annual moderate/strenuous 14 mile roundtrip, 2,600’ gain hike to Calico Peak in the Calico Mountains just north of Barstow. Bring layered clothes, sturdy boots, 3-4 quarts of water and lunch/snacks. Meet at 8:00 am at the BLM parking lot on South Barstow Rd across from the entrance to Barstow College. For more info contact Leader Terrence McCorkle at 760-252-2194 or 760-412-1683(cell) or oldhikerdude@verizon.net.

**FEB 12**  
**SUN**  
**DPS**  
**Potluck and Management Committee Meeting:** Join us at the home of Tina & Tom Bowman, 283 Argonne Ave., Long Beach, for our monthly potluck. Committee meeting at 4:30 pm and potluck at 6:00 pm. Bring a dish to share. RSVP to Tina, 562-436-3809 or tina@bowmandesigngroup.com.

**FEB 25-26**  
**SAT-SUN**  
**DPS**  
**I: Palen (3,848’), Big Maria Mountain (3,381’):** Join us for winter climbs of these two low elevation peaks in Riverside County. Saturday climb Palen (2,600’ gain, 5 miles roundtrip.) We will camp and enjoy a potluck near the starting point of Big Maria Saturday night. Sunday climb Big Maria (2,300’ gain, 4.5 miles roundtrip), and we should be able to start for home by early afternoon. Several miles of the approach to each roadhead require 4WD. Leader Dave Perkins; email with experience and conditioning to assistant leader Ann Perkins.

**MAR 3**  
**SAT**  
**HPS,DPS**  
**I: Rosa Point (5,083’):** Join us in the Anza Borrego Desert State Park for a very strenuous day hike at a slow – moderate, but steady pace to this remote HPS and DPS listed peak in the Santa Rosa Mountains near Borrego Springs, CA. This ridge hike is all cross country for 12 miles roundtrip and 4,800’ of gain across steep, rocky, sometimes loose, always thorny desert terrain. Bring lots of water (5 liters recommended), food, a hat, and the rest of your 10 essentials. Consider car camping at the trailhead (or a nearby motel) to ease the impact of our ‘first light’ start. Email leader at mkelliher746@gmail.com with recent experience and conditioning for trip status and details. Leaders: Mat Kelliher, Jim Fleming.

**MAR 10**  
**SAT**  
**DPS**  
**19th Annual Chili Cook-Off:** Join us for a day of fun in the desert at the foot of the Orocopia Mountains. Whether you like your chili traditional, Texas-style (no beans), or vegetarian, bring your favorite recipe or just hearty taste buds to this DPS classic. Cooks prepare chili from scratch at the site, then all enjoy happy hour followed by chili tasting and judging. Prizes will be awarded by category, with special recognition for the Spiciest Chili, Best Presentation, Most Original Recipe, and the coveted Best Overall Chili. Cook for free or taste for $10. Optional short hiking activity in the area before the Cook-off. Send SASE with choice of Cook or Taster to Hosts: Dave & Elaine Baldwin (DWBaldwin@aol.com) and Leaders: Larry and Barbee Tidball (lbtidball@verizon.net).

**MAR 24-25**  
**SAT-SUN**  
**DPS**  
**I: Pinto Mountain (3,983’), Eagle Mountain (5,350’):** Join us for two easy peaks close to Los Angeles in beautiful Joshua Tree National Park. Saturday, we will meet at 9 am so folks can drive up early Saturday morning and miss the
LA traffic. We will climb Pinto Saturday, 2,400' gain, 9 miles roundtrip. Saturday night we will have beverages of the world happy hour and then Sunday we will climb Eagle, 2,400' gain, 9 miles roundtrip. Send SASE or e-mail to John. Leaders: John Cheslick, Daryn Dodge.

The Desert Sage

MAY 26
SAT
LTC, WTC, HPS

O: Annual DPS Banquet: Mark your calendars now for our annual soiree! Join your fellow desert explorers and friends for a wonderful evening. This year we will again enjoy the fine accommodations at The Proud Bird Restaurant in Los Angeles (near LAX). Social Hour and No Host Bar start at 5:30 pm, followed at 7:00 pm by dinner and program (TBD). Evening will be capped off by awards. For more information, contact Jim Fleming at: jimf333@att.net.

I: Beginning Navigation Clinic: Spend the day one-on-one with an instructor, learning/practicing map and compass in our local mountains. All levels are welcome. Not a checkout, but it will help you prepare. Many expert leaders will attend; many “I”-rated leaders started here in the past. 4 miles, 500' gain. Send SASE, phones, $25 deposit (Sierra Club, refunded at trailhead) to Leader: Diane Dunbar. Co-Leader: Richard Boardman

(Continued on page 7)
In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see http://sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms or call 415-977-5528.

In the interest of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make 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 the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

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

(Created from page 6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>♦ JUN 2</th>
<th>SAT</th>
<th>LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I: Heart Bar Peak (8332'): Practice navigation for Sunday’s check off on this 7 mile roundtrip, 1400’ gain hike. We will take a cross-country route to Heart Bar Peak and practice micro-navigation skills along the way. Send email (preferred) or SASE, with contact info &amp; recent conditioning to Leader: Robert Myers. Co-Leaders: Jane Simpson, A Aedrienne Benedict, Ann Pedreschi Shields</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>♦ JUN 3</th>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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 Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant Leader: Phil Wheeler.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>♦ AUG 5</th>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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 Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant Leader: Kim Homan.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>♦ SEP 23</th>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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 Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant Leader: Phil Wheeler.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Conservation**

by Virgil Popescu

**Take Action**

It is very important to continuously support our Sierra Club campaigns for both U. S. and international environmental protection.

By reviewing different environmental organizations I found that our Club has an easy to use information tool with regard to conservation and the environment through its newsletter *The Insider*. Accordingly I strongly recommend to you to subscribe to this publication at the Sierra Club website, sierraclub.org. Especially important is their *Action Center*. The Dec. 6th, 2011 issue has an excellent organized Action Center, with 29 actions presented in four groups as follows:

- Resilient Habitats & Safeguarding Communities
- Curbing Carbon & Green Transportation
- Beyond Coal & Clean Energy Solutions
- Other Environmental Solutions

Just reviewing the short descriptions will give you an idea as to the multitude of problems we face. To make a difference, have your voice heard and take action. To TAKE ACTION for some or all subjects click on each one and complete your information (just once). You may personalize your message but the printed one is very well done and saves your time. This process will take only a couple of minutes.

Thank You and Have a Happy Holiday Season!

Virgil Popescu, Conservation Chair
The DPS has long been active in maintaining registers on desert peaks, and anyone can help by placing new books in registers that have full books or have missing books. Quite a few books have gone missing from registers in the Death Valley area in the past year. Several months ago I purchased 50 register books for the Club. Since then I have passed out many to Club members who have offered to carry the books with them when they visit desert peaks. But I still have a few left. You can contact me at ddodge@oehha.ca.gov and I would be happy to send you a book or two.

I would like to get reports on the condition of summit containers and the register books, especially an estimate of pages left to fill is helpful.

Below is a list of DPS peaks in need of books and/or containers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Peak</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Last Chance Mtn</td>
<td>Needs book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyramid Peak</td>
<td>Needs book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry Mountain</td>
<td>Needs book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moapa Peak</td>
<td>Needs book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge Mtn</td>
<td>Needs book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signal Peak</td>
<td>Needs book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castle Dome Peak</td>
<td>Needs book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Peak</td>
<td>Could use new large book to replace one in register falling apart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemehuevi Peak</td>
<td>Needs new can or ammo box to replace plastic water bottle can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potosi Mtn</td>
<td>Needs new container to replace busted plastic one</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The latest casualty on the DPS list (although we hope only temporary) is the standard route on Edgar Peak. We learned in November, talking to a Park Ranger at Kelso Depot, that the Providence Mountains State Recreational Area is among the current state park closures. Although most of the closures will not take effect until next spring, this area is closed now because there was no funding to make needed repairs to the infrastructure (presumably Mitchell Caverns). What this means: the caverns are closed, the campground is closed, and the Essex Road leading to the campground is gated off (as nearly as I could determine on the map) about 4 miles before the campground and the standard route that leaves from there. Ron Bartell and Vic Henney have suggested that Gilroy Canyon might be a good alternative route. Any additional suggestions would be appreciated; I won’t be able to check it out until February. It was suggested that it might be possible to climb Fountain Peak from another direction and then run the ridge to Edgar. Dave and I attempted this some years ago and it might be possible, but it’s definitely third class.

A paperwork reminder (always the paperwork) is that the sign-in sheets for the trips should be sent to me after the trip. The ones for the restricted outings are especially important, since copies of the sign-ins and medical forms have to be sent to National. Thanks to the leaders for all your good work, and keep those trips coming!

Happy climbing,
Ann

OUTINGS CHAIR
by Ann Perkins

Below is a list of DPS peaks in need of books and/or containers.

Desert Peaks Register Report

By Daryn Dodge

The DPS has long been active in maintaining registers on desert peaks, and anyone can help by placing new books in registers that have full books or have missing books. Quite a few books have gone missing from registers in the Death Valley area in the past year. Several months ago I purchased 50 register books for the Club. Since then I have passed out many to Club members who have offered to carry the books with them when they visit desert peaks. But I still have a few left. You can contact me at ddodge@oehha.ca.gov and I would be happy to send you a book or two.

I would like to get reports on the condition of summit containers and the register books, especially an estimate of pages left to fill is helpful.

Thanks to Richard Carey & Mark Adrian for leaving a new book on Tucki Mtn. Also, thanks to Guy Dahms for placing a new book on Potosi, and to Stan Laidlaw and Guy Dahms for leaving new books in the Virgin Peak register.
DPS MEMBERSHIP

Membership Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Regular</th>
<th>Sustaining</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriber</td>
<td>52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals:</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activity Report

Achievements
Tina Bowman, Fifty Leads, #9
Grapevine Peak, 10/16/2011
Daryn Dodge, List Finish, #163
Last Chance Mountain, 10/9/2011
Greg Gerlach, Emblem, #581
Montgomery Peak, 7/30/2011

New Members
Matthew Hengst
Martinez Mountain
1 year

Matt Horbal
Hayford Peak
1 year

Elena Sherman
Glass Mountain Ridge
2 years

Scott Sullivan
Smith Mountain
2 years

New Subscribers
James Aborn
1 year
Donna Webster
1 year

Sustaining Renewals
Henry A. Arnebold
1 year
Tom & Tina Bowman
2 years
Jim Fujimoto
1 year
Mary McMannes
1 year
Peter Rosmarin
5 years

Renewals
James Barlow
1 year
Jan Brahms & David Reneric
1 year
Debbie Bulger
2 years
Richard L. Carey
1 year
Beth Davis
2 years
Ron Eckelmann
2 years
Larry Edmonds
1 year
Paul Garry
1 year
Geoff Godfrey
1 year
Bob Greenawalt
1 year
Rich Henke & Rena Tishman
1 year
Kenneth Jones
5 years
Ron & Leora Jones
1 year
Roy & Barbara Magnuson
1 year
Wayne Martin
1 year
Dove Menkes
1 year
Robert Morrill
1 year
Rayne & Mary Motherall
1 year
Le Roy Russ
1 year
Eric Schumacher
1 year
Jim Scott
1 year
Neal R. Scott
1 year
Bruce & Terry Turner
1 year
Jack Wickel
2 years
Charles Winger
1 year

Donation
$10 from Rayne & Mary Motheral
DPS members gathered at the Kelso Dunes in the Mojave National Preserve on the clear morning of Saturday, November 5th, to remember Charlie Knapke in the surrounds of his favorite place, the Mojave. Our hiking plans were to take a short, easy hike in the Dunes, visit the Kelso Depot, and later in the day join the other DPS outing in progress nearby at Granite Mountain. Sunday some of the group would join in the Old Woman Mountains hike, while others would head to other destinations or home.

I had the pleasure and surprise of having Linda McDermott alongside as my co-pilot for the drive out on Friday evening. We found a good spot on a minor side road heading south from the Dunes access road, about halfway in from the Kelbaker road, to camp out for the night (high clearance recommended). It was pretty cold overnight, but at least the rain had stopped! In the morning we packed up quickly and drove just a few minutes to the Kelso Dunes trailhead, where a few other participants had already gathered. There are some interpretive signs here, parking, and "facilities". It is well before the camping area at the end of the road. Other participants trickled in during the next several minutes, last but not least my co-leader Sue Holloway and her co-pilot Cliff Jones (and mans' best friend Scodie as well). In addition to myself, Linda, Sue, and Cliff, others joining us were Devra Wasserman, Larry Becsey, Barb and Dave Sholle, Alan Coles, Eric Siering, Don Croley, Dan Richter, Ann Perkins, Sandra Hao and her son Bradley, and Rich Gnagy. We missed Mary Mac who wanted to attend but was tied up out of town.

We started the hike following the beaten path from the parking area towards the dunes. Our intention was to climb to the high point, which is conveniently located on the foremost lines of dunes, towards the left as seen from the parking area. After a few minutes walking, the group stopped and gathered to share a few thoughts about why we were there that day. Several members of the group, led by Devra and husband Larry, offered memories of Charlie, thoughts about the DPS, the desert, or just the moment. There were more than just a tear or two and a few hesitant voices. That's okay.

After the pause we continued with the hike. The hike to the summit of Kelso Dunes was made somewhat easier than normal by the recent light rain which had somewhat compacted the sandy surface. This helped for the lower-angle slopes, but along the steeper final ridge it was still quite an ordeal for some for the final few minutes. The summit of the dunes is about 700' above the surrounding flat terrain, which isn't much but it is slow going. There aren't many visual impediments nearby so views are grand, with cool and calm weather. We noted a dusting (at least!) of snow on the north faces of Granite and Edgar/Mitchell.

We descended from the summit via the "direct" route, plunge-stepping through the steep sand directly toward the parking area. Everyone enjoyed this. All made it back to the cars in less than two hours round trip. From there, some said farewells, some went to the Granite Mtn. trailhead, and the rest of us continued north on the Kelbaker Road about 10 miles to Kelso itself for a tour of the Kelso Depot. This is a restored (within the last few years) railroad depot and is quite an interesting visit. It is now a NPS visitor center with interpretive displays and a snack bar known as "The Beanery" where one can grab a simple but tasty lunch if you're there mid-day. There was also a photo/art exhibition setting up that day while we were there. The NPS rangers conduct "talks" twice a day, which some of our group partook.

(The group shares thoughts on why they were there that day and offered memories of Charlie)
of. Anyway, I'd recommend a stop or side-trip here for all desert fans at least once... the facilities are nice, great views, history... what more do you want?

I'd say around 3PM we saddled-up and drove back south on the Kelbaker Road to the Granite trailhead. The side road leading southwest is easy to miss so measure your mileage carefully. When we arrived at the trailhead (about 2 miles from the pavement), we found many cars but no humans. No worries; they must have gotten a late start or been slowed by the bit of snow from the night before. The first returnees we saw in the wash were John Strauch and Terry Flood after a successful climb of Silver Peak. It was another hour or so before the Granite Mountain team led by Kathy Rich and Daryn Dodge appeared. Others, such as Edna Erspamer and Ed Herrman drove into camp in the meantime. At any rate, by late afternoon, all parties were well and accounted for. The potluck dinner and campfire were underway shortly thereafter, and lasted late into the evening. Stories and photos of Charlie were shared and passed around. Joy. All in all it was a great day.

On Sunday morning a mini-potluck appeared for breakfast. Some participants were leaving early for the Old Woman Mountains hike, so it didn't last long. The rest of us enjoyed a bright clear morning in the desert but were wary of dark clouds in the west. Linda and I headed for home mid-morning, and got rained on for a while during the drive on the I-40.

Thanks to Sue and Devra for the help in organizing this trip to commemorate the life of Charlie Knapke, a friend of the desert, the DPS, and a formative figure in my hiking past. He will be remembered.

*******************************************************************************

Charlie Knapke Memorial Weekend
November 5-6, 2011
By Terry Flood

This was a weekend for the DPS to remember Charlie and many people showed up at Kelso Dunes to eulogize Charlie. I joined the group that was meeting at the Granite Mountains trailhead however, and after a lengthy initiation talk by the local UC docent, several people took off on the DPS Granite Mountain trek, and John Strauch and I headed north for Silver Peak (6,365’) which is another of many unlisted peaks in that area. We all returned before dusk to regale Charlie, and many others of our departed desert mountain brethren that evening in typical DPS fashion. All enjoyed a great continental breakfast the next morning and then all were off, to do more peaks or return home. Many thanks to Sue Holloway, Gary Craig, and Kathy Rich for organizing this memorial tribute to Charlie who will be remembered in all of our future adventures!!

(Continued from page 10)
Henry, a retired aerospace engineer, passed away in Overland Park, Kansas, where he had relocated several years ago after becoming a well-known trip leader/participant in the Angeles Chapter. Henry was born on a family farm in Iowa and, with aging taking its toll on his health, he found solace in moving close to family members.

While living in Southern California, he earned emblem status in the Desert Peaks Section, Hundred Peaks Section and Sierra Peaks Section, and he finished the DPS list in 1991. He enjoyed writing trip reports for The Desert Sage and authored two elaborate pamphlets on DPS trips to Mt. Tom in the Sierra Nevada (September 1953) and to Picacho del Diablo in Baja California (November 1971). Henry is remembered fondly by those who climbed with him, and they particularly recall that on the Picacho trip he carried an injured climber piggyback down the canyon to where a helicopter evacuation could occur.

In his later years, Henry, then active in the Canyon Explorers Club, gained further visibility by leading a series of "Henry Trips" to the Southwest deserts and beyond. He also organized work parties for the restoration of Kelso Depot and the Goffs Schoolhouse. In even later years, Henry invited anyone and everyone to the “Annual Bash” at his home in Anaheim. He would escort all guests who would join him to view his plantation along the shores of “Lake Heusinkveld” (a spreading pond along the Santa Ana River), from which he diverted enough water to nurture his tomatoes, peach trees, flowers and other cherished plants. His farming background would not be put aside.

Henry was a cherished icon who will be fondly remembered.

**ICE AXE, Italian Interlay, Donated by DPS List Finisher Julie King.**
Free for the taking. Please contact Fred Dubos at frdobos@yahoo.com

**COACHELLA VALLEY HIKING WEEKEND Saturday/Sunday, March 31/April 1**
Sponsored by the Sun City Palm Desert Hiking Club, Meet at Coachella Valley Preserve Visitors Center in Thousand Palms, CA, 10:00 am Sat for hiking, climbing, BBQ. Reservations required.
Sandy Point and Last Chance Mountain
October 8-9, 2011
By Daryn Dodge

Twenty-four participants met at the turnout described in the DPS Guidebook at 8 am. The parking spot is about 0.25 mile SW of the high point over Waucoba-Saline Road, and 4.15 mi. east of pavement’s end next to Crater Mine. All 10 or so vehicles were able to park here off the road. Following introductions, the group walked NE on the road for several hundred feet, then turned east off-road and walked just south of a small knoll (Point 4920+). Once the expansive view of the Last Chance Range came into sight to the south, we located the beginning of the canyon that leads to the Last Chance ridge. After this, route finding issues were minor as we headed south on the ridge to the summit. The only spot that caught our attention was a short section of steep, loose class 2 scree and rock about 1.5 miles before the top. A use trail helped with finding the easiest path through here.

The weather was perfect and the group as a whole did an excellent job of staying together. With only 2700 feet of gain and relatively easy terrain, our large group of desert hikers had an excellent pace and covered the round trip distance in about 7 hours. The ridgeline run to Sandy Point is described as long and “boring” in the DPS Guidebook 5th edition, but Zdon’s Desert Guidebook describes the ridge as “tremendous” due of the wonderful views. I would strike a compromise and call it “boringly tremendous” due to the extended time one gets to enjoy the scenery along the ridge top. In particular, the views across to the Sierras after the recent snow fall was a spectacular sight.

The Sandy Point participants were Daryn Dodge (leader), John Cheslick (co-leader), Gary Schenk (co-leader), Kathy Rich (co-leader), Bob Wyka, Greg Gerlach, John Ide, Francesca Marcus, Paul Garry, Keith Christensen, Steve Eckert, Sandra Hao, James Barlow, Mary Jo Dungfelder, Gary Bowen, Tina Bowman, Lisa Barboza, Brian Roach, Peter Kudlinski, Tracey Thomerson, Brian Smith, Stephanie Glyden, Miriam Padilla and Isaias Alavez.

Our potluck and camp for the night was at Crater Mine, just off the dirt road that leads into the mine area. Greg Roach, Virgil Popescu and John Hooper joined us for the evening’s festivities and tomorrow’s climb. Even with the stark surroundings, once tables, chairs and campfire (with an already existing campfire ring) was set up, the camp looked nice and cozy. Thanks to all that brought the tables and the delicious food!

In the morning, Lisa Barboza and Brian Roach had to leave early for work, and Miriam Padilla and Isaias Alavez decided to visit Eureka Dunes. This left 23 participants to take on Last Chance (Continued on page 14)
Mtn. I chose to climb Last Chance using the route described in Zdon’s desert peaks book. We simply continued north up the dirt road from Crater Mine about 2.5 miles to another mining area at the base of a long ridge that leads to the peak. Two-wheel drive vehicles can handle this road, although high clearance is probably mandatory. I took the direct approach on the way up, climbing straight towards Point 7062. Once there we had another enjoyable ridge run to the summit, with a bit more up-and-down action than the run out to Sandy Point the day before. The view west to the Sierra was even better here on Last Chance.

This was also my DPS list finish, so bottles of champagne and a wonderful selection of treats began to appear. Having now climbed all the peaks on the list, I have a keen interest in climbing other desert peaks not on the list. In fact, this is one of the goals the DPS list is meant to encourage. It certainly worked on me. I even climbed the unofficial DPS Suspended Peaks List, consisting of 3 peaks (Kino, Argus and Maturango). It’s too bad these peaks are suspended due to access issues. All are worthy peak climbs.

On the return from the summit we ran into a use trail junction just south Point 7853 that I didn’t notice on the way up. After a bit of hemming and hawing, Greg Roach suggested we follow the other use trail and continue the remaining way down a wash to the east of the ridge line we took up. He had done this route before and knew it would work just as well. This was actually the route suggested in Zdon’s book. The wash route had little more brush, but a little less steep rock. It was a nice alternative for the last mile back to our cars. The climb was 7 miles round trip with 2,300 feet of gain. Round-trip time was about 7.5 hours.
This is a trip that I had planned to do last spring, having failed to attain the summits on an earlier attempt in 2009. Well, the third time is the charm!

My co-leader, Tina Bowman, graciously accepted the invitation to do these great peaks with me, and so very early on Saturday morning (6:30 a.m., ready to go!) our group met at the camping area in Phinney Canyon for the start of our climb to Mount Palmer. Most of the group was there earlier, on Friday night, having made the long drive from wherever we called our humble abode. For one participant (John Ide), unfortunately, there would be no climbing this weekend. Someone cut the tires on his vehicle, so he was stuck in Beatty, awaiting replacements. Sorry, John—hope you can join us soon! At any rate, the road was passable into the canyon to the camp area via high clearance 2WD vehicles, and we were all able to pack into three vehicles to caravan up to the saddle for the start.

We really lucked out weather-wise, it was quite pleasant. I had worried that it would be too hot (and it can be this time of year), but the gods cooperated. The route along the ridges to the last gasp of rock at Palmer is quite a roller coaster ride, but we made good time, and soon entered the final chute for the summit ridge. Well, I went up a bit too far, passing the place where one exits the chute. Tina showed me where it was. Three of the group, including moi, went all the way up and over, then dropped down to sweep the group. Ahh, finally the summit is reached, and we have a great lunch break and take in the fabulous views! We could see much of the snowy clad Sierra Nevada crest, including Whitney, Williamson, Olancha, Russell, and others, and also the Panamints, Dry, Tin, many others.

We couldn’t dawdle too long, and Tina cracked the bull-whip and had us scrambling back down the chute and over to the ridge for our return ride. We managed good time on the return trip as well and were soon back to camp.

Our happy hour featured many delicious goodies, and all were well fed for the evening. Much
We left Reno at 4:00 pm planning to arrive at the trailhead in the Sweetwater Mountains before dark to camp and get an early morning start on the trail. Our group of seven had dwindled to three hikers: myself, Larry Grant, Larry Dwyer, plus my dog Tioga.

Driving south from Wellington, the turn off from NV SR 338 was not marked. The Nevada Road & Recreation Atlas enabled us to see that our right turn onto Riuse Road (#050) was shortly after the left-sided Nye Canyon sign.

I’d recommend high clearance vehicles on the last rough rocky dirt road that heads up to the corral, even though Larry D. drove his Subaru Outback all the way without a problem. We arrived at the corral (7,520’) at last light. Away from city lights, we enjoyed phenomenal stargazing.

In the morning, we started up the cold frosty trail at 7:45 am. Pinyon and mountain mahogany surrounded us at the start of the canyon, but towards the saddle we rose to a brushy open area. As we ascended we could see the valleys below filled with white puffy clouds and wispy clouds drifted around us. Precipitation had been forecast for that afternoon.

At the Northeast Ridge (Lyon County High Point, 10,560’), I mistakenly took us to the higher cairn that marks the Von Schmidt line. Here we signed this register, then later returned to the Lyon CoHP on the way down from Middle Sister to sign its register. I had even been warned not to make this mistake!
and then found shelter in the trees out of the cool breeze for lunch.

After lunch, we hiked back down to the Lyon CoHP to find and sign the register. We descended a different route after Larry G. spotted a vague road that headed back down the canyon we had skirted above on the way up. The descent wove through sage and mahogany with no bushwhacking. However, it won’t take long before this vague road gets totally overgrown.

On a day with more time and no worries of a possible storm, it would be easy to also summit East Sister.

We returned to the vehicles without the forecast precipitation and arrived back in Reno by 5:00 pm.

Note: Here is the link to Bob Sumner’s guidebook. Be sure to check his Update Section for any recent information on the routes.
http://www.nevadahighpoints.com/

Needle and Manly
November 19-20, 2011
By Tina Bowman

Work, fear of flats and long dirt roads, and other such problems reduced our group to five: participants Francesca Marcus, Greg Gerlach, and Amin Faraday and leaders Kathy Rich, who did all the work and most of the leading, and me, Tina Bowman, happily coasting along. We gathered Friday night on the Warm Springs Road about three miles up from the excellent dirt West Side Road in Death Valley. The West Side and lower part of the Warm Springs Road had recently been graded; in fact, two graders were parked at the intersection of the roads. No camping is allowed in the first two miles of the Warm Springs Road, and at about three miles the road widened again so that we could park on the road and not impede other cars.

Saturday morning at 6:30 as planned, we left Kathy’s Rav4 and drove to Butte Valley in Greg’s and my 4WD Tacomas. The road is rocky for long stretches after the initial easy miles with a spot or two with rocky steps that were easy to negotiate. Good clearance definitely is needed, but 2WD probably would be fine. The flag was flying at the Geologist’s cabin, and although we could see two serious Jeeps and a Land Cruiser there, we stopped to check out the cabin. Luck was with us. The fellows were packing to leave, so we left some chairs and continued on our way to the trailhead for Needle, Route A of the DPS Guide. One of the guys had been coming to the cabin for sixteen years and helped roof it last time around.

We saw no sign of a wilderness boundary marker and parked at Willow Spring. We were hiking at
8:45, enjoying cool, sunny weather, perfect for hiking. Following burro trails at first, we took our first break in an hour when we were in the wash near the three-way split. Not long after the break we were at the saddle and made our way over to the next ridgeline, contouring then to the ridge below 1,750+ m and then following ducks and use trail up toward 1,750+ and onto the ridge, false summit, saddle, and up to the true summit at 11:45. This was Kathy’s sixtieth DPS peak. On the way back, we went more directly down to the first saddle mentioned, a looser, rougher, but much more heavily ducked way. From the saddle it was easy sailing. We took a break at the same spot as on our way up and were back to the cars by 2:30.

Soon back at the cabin, we lost no time in moving in. Kathy, Francesca, and Amin slept in the cabin, while Greg and I slept in our trusty trucks. The cabin has a spectacular view of Butte Valley and Striped Butte with windows greeting the morning sun. Though not large, it is snug and not rodent ridden. We enjoyed a potluck dinner—Kathy’s soup and Francesca’s homemade biscotti were the stand outs—and a nice fire in the fire place.

At 6:30 Sunday morning, the trucks were loaded and the cabin swept. Off we headed for a short drive to the road head for Route B on Manly, essentially above and behind the cabin in another drainage. At 6:55 we were hiking, following Kathy often on rocks or above shrubs make the going as easy as possible on the slope of decomposed granite. Eventually we headed up left and took a little break just below the main ridgeline. It was a chillier, windier day, mostly cloudy, and we stayed pretty well bundled. Once we were on the ridge, we didn’t have far to go to make it to the ridge connecting ours with the summit, which was often shrouded with cloud. Just below the summit area hoarfrost decorated the plants and some of the rocks, and the summit itself was frosty. Since the register is below the summit, we stayed with it, protected from the wind for our short stay before heading down. I noted that it was my fiftieth DPS peak for the third time. As we neared the main ridge, I led us, contouring from the connecting ridge to the main one and down a bit farther than where we had attained the ridge coming up. The result was that we had nice sandy slopes for much of the route down to the trucks, arriving at 10:10, well below the DPS Guide’s time of four hours for this route.

Soon we were on our way out of Butte Valley and on our way home after a fine outing with a wonderful group of people.
Southern Arizona and Northern Mexico
Thanksgiving Weekend 2011
By James Barlow

The trip started with a logistical snag as my car had some alignment issues. Apparently it is not good to drive a Toyota Yaris on rough dirt roads constantly – who knew…. At least I finally know what rocks are hitting on my car when I hear them go “clunk.” We left 29 Palms around 6pm in Jenn’s new car and headed for Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. After a quick meet and greet with a friendly National Park Service police officer who wondered why we were going into the campground at 1am, we settled in. The drive took about 6 hours – don’t forget to set your watch to Arizona time! Right as I was passing out I heard a few bursts of gunfire coming from a southwesterly direction – great….

The Park Service Campground is really nice and was quite empty the night before Thanksgiving.

Jenn and I were up with sun and headed to Ajo Mountain Road for our first hike. The DPS Guide is accurate for driving directions. There is a pit toilet on the right side of the road and the trail starts from the left. We took the shorter of two trails up to Bull Pasture. From here, the DPS Guide describes routefinding to the south ridge of Ajo. There is now a very beaten trail heading up from Bull Pasture that is almost as good as the maintained trail below here. It is extremely easy to follow all the way to the summit, especially compared to the average trail-less DPS peak. As we approached the summit the wind picked up so when we topped out we found a sheltered spot to eat lunch. After the obligatory summit photos, we followed the trail back down to Bull Pasture as the clouds closed in on the summit. We took the alternate trail back to the trailhead, adding a meager half mile to our trek while enjoying some different scenery. We headed for Lukeville, just a few minutes south of the Visitor’s Center at Organ Pipe, for our Mexican Insurance for Friday. Since there was plenty of daylight left and we were not tired after the easy trail hike up Ajo, we drove north from the visitor center to the end of the open section of the road where there is a pit toilet. We headed up Pinkley Peak, straight up the west ridge, which had a few easy Class 3 moves. The summit register was nearly empty and we were the first ascent in a year and a half. The sun set just as we arrived back at our car and we headed for the campground to cook our Thanksgiving Feast! Happy Thanksgiving DPS style – a can of Bush’s Beans and a few bratwursts!!

Friday we were up before the sun to get to the National Park for El Pinacate as early as possible. The DPS driving directions to the beginning of the dirt road were spot on. No problems at all. It is really hard to miss the entrance to the National Park. It is well signed and the only thing around for miles. We chatted with the Mexican National Park Ranger about the route to El Pinacate. He informed us that we could not drive to the peak and that it required a hike of a whopping 11 km from the end of the road! Apparently they don’t see a lot of hikers and cater to lazy vehicle-borne tourists…. Unfortunately the road is high clearance 4WD per the Ranger. We took that with a grain of salt of him being overly cautious about the 11 km hike (easy for an average Sierra Clubber). The place that you want to go to for the trailhead is Cono Rojo which branches off to the left after half a mile. The berm to get on this road was too high for the Scion to overcome, so we were stuck exploring the tourist parts of the park on the loop road. I have to say it is one of the best road tours in a

(View from the top of Ajo)
The Desert Sage

January/February 2012

TRIP REPORTS - continued...

The signs are in English and Español and the stories about the formation of the craters are hilarious – much more imaginative than your average American Park sign. We hiked around both craters and up some hill near El Tecolote. There is also a camping area at El Tecolote. No toilets (not even pit toilets) and bring your own water. The park has undergone a lot of improvements since the guide was written and a lot of the dirt roads have been closed, however, the dirt road leading to El Pinacate is open to high clearance vehicles. There may be fewer junctions to navigate on the way up to Cono Rojo, but we couldn’t drive that way. There is camping at the trailhead near the reddish butte in the guide, named Cono Rojo – bring everything you need including water & shovel to dig your own toilet. The Mexican Rangers recommend camping at Cono Rojo the first night and then hiking on day 2 (early start) so that you can drive out the same day. Since we did not drive the road, we have no idea how long it would take, but the DPS Guide shows about 14 miles of driving. You could probably drive in, hike, and drive out same day if you walk fast. The park gate is open 8-5 daily. Entrance fees were $5 per person (well worth it) and they take US cash if you don’t have pesos. The full tourist loop road to Crater El Elegante, El Tecolote, and Cerro Colorado is passable to passenger vehicles. After exploring the tourist wonders of the National Park, we headed north, skunked, but armed with information for a future return to climb El Pinacate. We grabbed lunch in Sonoyta and headed back to the US to make our way to Baboquivari. The border crossing at Lukeville was the most hassle-free crossing I have ever encountered coming back from Mexico. We were the only car in line and we were through in under 60 seconds – beat that Tijuana!

Onward to Baboquivari! The road to the campground on the reservation can be driven to with a passenger car, though you have to slow down for the rough road. Jenn called ahead for a permit using the number in the DPS guide. They email the permit to you. The campground is nice. The men’s room toilet had a bit of a plumbing problem, but the women’s room worked fine. Keith and Paul rolled into camp a little later. Some other campers were making some noise, but they were able to fall asleep ok. Jenn and I located the trailhead the night before so we knew exactly where to go. We were up before sunrise since the cliffs above the camp mean that there isn’t sunlight until quite late in the morning. After a minor navigational error near the beginning, we found the trail junction past the water tanks. There is a wooden sign saying “Trail to Peak.” From here, we followed the trail all the way to the bottom of the first slab, taking two quick breaks along the way. It was quite windy for most of the hike to this point. We put our helmets on and stashed some water and trekking poles here since we knew we would return. The route up to the Class 4 pitch is easy (Continued on page 21)
to follow. Based on beta from Matt Hengst, who climbed Babo in October, we only took one 60m climbing rope. I slipped on my rock climbing shoes and had Paul belay me as I led up to the anchor near the tree. I clipped into two bolts on the way just to be safe. Once up top, I set an anchor using the two new-looking bolts at the top and proceeded to belay Paul and Keith up while Jenn just free climbed up to get out of the wind. For future parties, you will only need a 60m rope. Two ropes are unnecessary, so save the weight. We stashed our rope at the top of the pitch and made our way up to the summit. It wasn’t too tough to follow the route up and soon we were on top of Baboquivari. We could hear the wind howling around us, but the summit was not breezy. There are offerings to the Tohono O’Odham Gods on the summit, including a lot of nice climbing gear. After pictures, summit register entries, and lunch, we headed down. Pay attention to how you go up the final part to the summit so you can find your way back. Kitt Peak Observatory is visible from the summit to the north. As the winds died down, the trail got hot and we didn’t waste too much time heading down.

The drive back to the pavement was uneventful and we decided to have dinner at the grocery store in Sells. $10 for a pizza that fed us all was a pretty good deal. We were the only non-Indians in the store the whole time we ate. We picked up some food for Kino and we were on our way back to the town of Ajo. We turned towards Bates Well as indicated in the DPS guide, drove about a mile and pulled off the excellent dirt road to bivy for the night. We weren’t sure if the hill to the west was natural or a tailings pile since it was dark. The night was warm and we settled in. The goal was an early start on Kino.

Once again, we were up before the sun and quickly shuffled gear to Jenn’s car which we left at a large dirt pullout at the intersection with AZ-85. We drove Paul’s new 4Runner to Bates Well which requires high clearance but not 4WD. We left offerings for our fellow travelers in the form of 2 jugs of water and some old boots. We left almost all the gear in Jenn’s car near the highway, so we weren’t too worried about the car being broken into. From Bates Well, we headed south and soon found our way up the main canyon heading south towards Kino Peak. There is a well-travelled trail heading perfectly north-south in this area, which seems to see a lot of northbound through-hikers. We made it up to the pass and followed the DPS guide instructions from here. As we approached the east face, it surely looked unclimbable and we really worried that we were off route. Jenn and Keith headed down the chute they found and we made our way around to the low point below the east face. From here, it was not all that hard to follow the route up to
TRIP REPORTS - continued...

(Continued from page 21)

the summit. The usual summit revelry ensued: pictures, lunch, and register signing. We safely found our way down the ridge and then down to the trail. It was a bit easier to follow the trail as we headed north. We did some Sierra Club cleanup along the trail removing dozens of plastic water containers as we hiked back to Bates Well. Leave the wilderness cleaner than you found it! By the time we hit the car, all of our packs were full of bottles and we had huge jugs strapped to the outside. No visitors had picked up any of our offerings, so we loaded up and were on the way to Ajo for dinner, followed by the long drive back to SoCal.

Overall, the trip was a blast. Mexico is not dangerous in this area and El Pinacate is completely safe, well south of the border problems. Babo only requires one full length rope and you will need high clearance to reach Bates Well and Pinacate. Definitely call ahead to the Indian Reservation to get a permit emailed to you. If anybody wants to head back for Pinacate, let us know, we all still need it!

DESERT TIPS
Submitted by Barbara Lilley
On I-40, one can avoid the very expensive gas in Needles by crossing into Arizona, where one can save almost $1 per gallon (at the junction of I-40 and Hwy 95 South).

All DPS’ers may not be aware that the same fire permit (also needed for stoves) required by California National Forests is also required on California BLM lands.

Treasurer’s Report

By, Pat Arredondo

DPS Account Summary
January 1, 2011 to December 4, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banquet Book Sales</td>
<td>174.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banquet Raffle</td>
<td>99.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banquet Tickets</td>
<td>3,788.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise</td>
<td>551.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td>3,312.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,924.56</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ATM Adjustment</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATM Adjustment</td>
<td>90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banquet Deposit</td>
<td>472.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banquet Expense</td>
<td>4,477.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banquet Refund</td>
<td>35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD Materials</td>
<td>80.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPS Registers</td>
<td>177.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Supplies</td>
<td>40.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage Expense</td>
<td>16.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sage Expense</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sage Mailing</td>
<td>741.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sage Printing</td>
<td>1,865.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Tax</td>
<td>46.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey Expense</td>
<td>24.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Cost</td>
<td>39.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,141.93</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OVERALL TOTAL** (217.37)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CASH ON HAND</th>
<th>11/30/2010</th>
<th>11/30/2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Checking</td>
<td>2,439.38</td>
<td>2593.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savings</td>
<td>500.35</td>
<td>500.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Desert Sage
An occasional series on the geology of our beloved peaks.

Bob Michael is a consulting petroleum geologist living, for the time being, in Fort Collins, Colo. His work involves evaluating and acquiring (for clients) Federal and State oil & gas drilling leases in Wyoming and Colorado. Bob grew up in Pomona, and earned a bachelor’s at Pomona College in Claremont and a master’s (in geology) at the University of Wyoming in Laramie. He is a DPS and HPS list finisher, and has collected all 54 Colorado 14’ers (including the dreaded Little Bear). Aside from peaks and deserts, he enjoys rafting through canyons, classical music and opera, and anything to do with volleyball. Although he lives now in Fort Collins because of his work, he hates the winter and misses the desert and the beach horribly (it could be worse – Rocky Mountain National Park is a short day trip).

HUMPHREYS PEAK, ARIZONA

The wreck of one of the greatest stratovolcanoes in the United States graces our List. Humphreys is the monarch of the San Francisco Volcanic Field, a geologically young menagerie of over 600 volcanic features of every description that sit atop the Kaibab Limestone on the southwest corner of the Colorado Plateau. The oldest features such as 9,265’ Bill Williams Mountain just south of Williams (and a delightful hike) are less than 6 million years old and appear to cluster at the western end of the Field. The mountains get younger as you go east; 10,408’ Kendrick Peak (another beautiful ramble) formed between 2.7 and 1.4 million years ago, and Humphreys, despite its great size, is a geologic infant, taking shape between 1 million and 400,000 years ago (just in time to catch Pleistocene alpine glaciations). And Sunset Crater (doubtless visited by many DPS'ers on a Humphreys quest) is a newborn baby geologically, only about 1,000 years old. Geologists see no reason to assume the field is dead, and any day a new volcano could explode in a quiet Ponderosa glade.

These volcanoes are totally different from the active-continental-margin volcanoes that are features of active subduction zones, such as the Cascades, the great volcanoes of Chile, and the volcanoes that stud Indonesia almost from end to end. The San Francisco Peaks have erupted in a continental interior, in one of the most geologically tranquil parts of the West. (Consider the utter flatness of most of the rock layers of the Grand Canyon – that’s tranquility for you, over a very long period of time.) The clue here is the “younging” of the volcanic activity from west to east. The leading theory is that north-central Arizona is over a rising mantle plume like the even bigger ones that created the Hawaiian Islands and the Snake River Plain leading to Yellowstone. And, as the North American plate has drifted westward, the plume has periodically melted its way up through the crust like a welding torch and spit out its wrath on the surface.

Humphreys is the only stratovolcano in the San Francisco Volcanic Field. This type of classic Fuji or Shasta-type volcanic peak is built up of flows of andesitic lava of composition intermediate between quartz-poor black basalt (too runny to make a nicely shaped peak) and quartz-rich rhyolite (generally too viscous and sticky to make a pretty conical peak). The lava flows alternate with beds of cinders and
ash; remember the crumbly nature of much of the rock on the route? This sort of rock is not quite Sierra granite, and not very resistant to erosion; thus the peak is actually in somewhat of a state of ruin despite its young age. You might say it “lived fast, died young, and left a good-looking corpse.” The most notable feature of the peak is the great “Interior Valley” on its northeast side, which has essentially hollowed out the mountain, rather like the post-blast topography of Mt. Saint Helens. Indeed, geologists speculate that this side of the mountain as well as the top was in fact blown out by a St. Helens-type enormous lateral blast, and the hole was enlarged and smoothed by water erosion and a small Ice Age alpine valley glacier. Humphreys is the only place in Arizona with unequivocal Pleistocene glaciation. Some geologists claim to have found glacial features on the second highest peak in the state, 11,590’ Mt. Baldy (yet another gorgeous hike) in the White Mountains on the eastern border, but the evidence is not as clear-cut.

Finally, here's a fascinating thought to leave you with: assuming Humphreys really did blow its side and guts out; how high was it pre-blast? We'll never know, of course, but if you extrapolate the three sides of the Interior Valley up into the air, you get a ghost summit easily over 15,000 feet high....Just imagine! A DPS FIFTEENER!

(Continued from page 23)

W. A. (Bill) Chalfant was born in the Comstock Lode boom town of Virginia City, NV in 1868, the son of two ‘49ers, P. A. (Pleasant Arthur) and Adeline Chalfant.

In 1871, the Chalfant family moved to Independence, CA, where P.A. and a partner established Inyo County’s first newspaper, the Inyo Independent. And it was at the Independent working as a type-setter that young Willie Chalfant learned the trade that would become his life-long profession.

Although his family moved to Bishop in 1881, Willie, thirteen years old at the time, continued to work for the Independent. When his wages failed to be paid, however, he too departed for Bishop.

In 1885, P.A., ever the entrepreneur, established the firm of P. A. Chalfant and Son and began publication of yet another paper, the Inyo Register. Two years later, in 1887, after P.A. began pursuing other interests, Willie (W.A.) took over active editorship at the Register, and continued to serve in that capacity until a year before his death in 1943.

(Continued on page 25)
During his long career with the Register, W.A. Chalfant was a staunch advocate for Owens Valley residents, especially during the early 1900’s when the area’s water rights were being acquired by Los Angeles interests. When firebrands began dynamiting the resulting aqueduct, however, Chalfant opposed their action and subsequently was threatened to be run out of town. Later he served on the Inyo Associates Committee, a group formed to repair relations with the City of Los Angeles, and, partially through his counsel and sense of justice, he lived to see town properties resold to local residents, thereby returning many acres of Owens Valley land to production.

John B. Long, manager of the California Newspaper Publishers Association, said, "Angels Camp had its Mark Twain, the Valley of the Moon its Jack London, San Francisco its Bret Harte, and Owens Valley its Bill Chalfant."

Which begs the question, “Who better than Bill Chalfant to write a history of Inyo County?”

First published in 1922, The Story of Inyo contains a wealth of information on its namesake County, including, but not limited to: the geology of the area (now somewhat dated), a brief history of the county’s first inhabitants (the Paiutes and Shoshones), notes on its earliest explorers (Jedediah Smith, Joe Walker, John C. Fremont), the ordeal of the emigrants who came through Death Valley in 1849, the first attempts to organize a new county (Inyo County was originally part of Tulare County), early mining claims (Coso and Argus in 1860, Slate Range in 1861), the arrival of the first cattle (1861), the Indian Wars (1861-1867, during which 60 whites and some 200 Indians died), the development of the Cerro Gordo mines (beginning in 1865), the eventual establishment of Inyo County (1866), the Great Earthquake (1872), the opening of the Panamint mines (1873), the discovery of borax in Death Valley (1880), and, last but not least, the development of the Owens Valley as an agricultural area.

Updating The Story of Inyo in 1933, Chalfant took aim at the Southern California interests which had acquired most of the water rights in the Owens River drainage, thus severely limiting the area of its agricultural promise. Starting with Chapter XXXIV, “The Betrayal of Owens Valley,” and including six additional chapters with foreboding titles such as: “The Coils Tighten,” “Unceasing Menace,” and “City Lawlessness Emulated,” the author provided a detailed—if somewhat mind-numbing—explanation of how the Owens Valley lost its birthright.

An exact reprint (but in paperback) of the 1933 volume is available from Amazon.com for $25.65.

THE MOJAVE DESERT: Ecosystem Processes and Sustainability (2010)
Edited by Robert H. Webb, et al.; Forward by Charles Wilkinson

The second Mojave Desert Science Symposium, attended by over 200 scientists and land managers, was held in November 2004 at the University of Redlands in Redlands, CA. Six years later, in 2010, after

(Continued on page 24)
rigorous peer review, the addition of material to fill in gaps, and the consolidation of the information into similar-themed chapters, *The Mojave Desert*, the work of thirty-six scientists and land managers, was published by the University of Nevada Press (470 pages, $65.00).

*The Mojave Desert*, however, is not a volume intended for the casual reader. Indeed, the book, replete with charts, diagrams, maps, photos, and page upon page of references to existing research material, is moderately to highly technical and is intended primarily for other scientists and land managers.

The following two examples represent but a small portion of the material to be found in *The Mojave Desert*:

1. To study the effect of anticipated global change, the Nevada Desert Research Center operates two study sites within the Nevada Test Site, one of which mixes various concentrations of CO² with ambient air, and then, by means of towers, distributes the mixtures over nine study plots. At another site, nitrogen in the form of calcium nitrate is dispersed over eight treatment plots. Results from both studies suggest that increases in CO² and N (think air pollution) may foster the growth of invasive grasses, which in turn could create fire dangers.

2. In a study of recreation-induced soil compaction, four 100 meter trails—foot, bicycle, motorcycle, and four-wheel motor vehicle—were created at two Southern Nevada sites by making 1, 10, 100, and 200 passes with each type of transportation.

Because soil compaction results in reduced seed bank and soil function, including a loss of biological soil crusts, reduced water infiltration and a reduction in carbon and nutrient inputs, Simon A. Lei, the author of the study, concludes that it is important that ecologists and park rangers nationwide educate visitors that human trampling, especially on moist soils, can cause significant compaction. “Visitors must stay within established trails at all times when viewing nature reserves.”

Although the long-term outlook for the Mojave remains cloudy, it’s of comfort to know that significant amounts of time and effort are being spent to understand, recover and restore our neighboring desert.

**BITTERNESS ROAD: The Mojave, 1604 to 1860 (1994)**
*Lorraine M. Sherer*

In the early 1900s, the father of Lorraine M. Sherer found employment in Needles, CA, working as a brakeman on the Santa Fe Railroad. When his family joined him there, his wife, Lorraine and Lorraine’s brother were filled with “a dread of the ‘wild’ (Mojave) Indians...” To her surprise, however, Mrs. Sherer found “the Indian women were more friendly than their non-Indian counterparts... (And) as her friendship with them grew, she started keeping notes on what she learned about their culture.” Years later, by which time she was a professor at the UCLA Department of Education, Lorraine Sherer decided to research and publish material on Mojave ethnography,

Using her mother’s notes as a starting point and ensuring their authenticity by consulting with Francis Stillman, a tribal elder, Sherer, in the 1960s, published three scholarly papers on the Mojave Indians. She then began work on *Bitterness Road*, the sad history of the Mojave and the non-natives who came through their

(Continued on page 27)
territory between 1604 and 1860. Unfortunately, Ms. Sherer passed away before her book, which was nearly complete at the time of her death, could be published. Thanks to the efforts of Sylvia Brakke Vane and Lowell John Bean, of the Ballena Press, publishers of anthropological papers, Bitterness Road was finally completed, edited and published.

The first non-native incursion into Mojave land occurred in 1604 during a Spanish expedition from New Mexico, a time at which the Spaniards found the Mojave to be “comely and good-featured.” The men wore no clothes, but the women covered their loins in skins. When they traveled, they carried lighted firebrands in their hands and were judged to have abundant supplies of food.”

In 1775, Father Francisco Garcés, on his way to become the first European to cross the Mojave Desert, visited the tribe. He wrote, “I can say in all truth that these Indians are superior in many things to the Yuma and the rest of the Colorado River nations. They are less troublesome, and they are not thievish. They show spirit, and are very obliging; nowhere have I been better taken care of.”

Later exposure to non-Indians didn’t go quite as well. In 1826, after accompanying the fur trapper Jedediah Smith from the Colorado River to the Mission San Gabriel, his two Mojave Indian guides were thrown in jail where one died of flogging, and the other, charged with having piloted Smith into Mexican country, was sentenced to be shot (but was later pardoned). In 1851, the Sitgreaves Expedition, reconnoitering the Mojave area for the U.S. Government, breached proper etiquette by refusing help from the tribe. The Beale Survey of 1857-58, commissioned to lay out a wagon road for use by the Army, also set the Mojave on edge. Francis Stillman, Sherer’s Mojave consultant, noted, “Beale was like Sitgreaves in that he wanted nothing to do with the Mojave. He went right through. The Mojave did nothing to him. They wanted to be friends, but he did not respond. He crossed right in the middle of their land and their river. Now it’s everybody’s river.”

The real trouble, however—Sherer’s Bitterness Road—began August 30, 1858, the day two wagon trains of California-bound settlers were camped on Mojave land waiting to cross the river. That evening a group of Indians—later determined to be Hualapai—attacked the wagons, killing one settler, wounding eleven others, driving off stock, and plundering provisions.

Responding belatedly, the 6th Infantry, under the command of Colonel William Hoffman, arrived at what was by that time known as Beale’s Crossing in January 1859. Repelled by the Mojave during the first skirmish, Hoffman retreated to Yuma. That April, with a larger force transported on two steamboats, he moved north again to finally subdue the tribe. To discourage further outbreaks, Hoffman took hostages, including Chief Cairook and seven young Mojave who volunteered to serve in place of tribal elders.

That July, however, during a fresh-air break at the Fort Yuma prison, Chief Cairook overwhelmed a sentinel, allowing his fellow captives to escape. Cairook was bayonetted on the spot, but the escapees carried the story of the chief’s self-sacrifice back to the tribe where his name remains venerated to this day.

Fort Mojave was established at Beale’s Crossing in 1860, after which the Mojave, once proud and resolute, became yet another culture beaten down in the name of progress.
A difficult book to find, I borrowed a copy of Bitterness Road from the excellent desert collection at the College of the Desert in Palm Desert.

THE TURQUOISE LEDGE (2010)
Leslie Marmon Silko

Leslie Marmon Silko (1948-) made her debut in the literary world in 1977 with the publication of Ceremony, a critically acclaimed novel describing the life of a shell-shocked WWII Pueblo Indian veteran attempting to come to terms with post-war life. Along with authors such as N. Scott Momaday, Louise Erdrich, and Sherman Alexie, Silko became a major force in the so-called Native American Renaissance.

One-quarter Laguna Indian—the rest of her heritage being Anglo-American and Mexican-American—Silko grew up on the edge of the Laguna Reservation, near Albuquerque, NM. As a child she listened to traditional tribal stories as told by her father’s grandmother and aunts, leading her to claim, “I am of mixed-breed ancestry, but what I know is Laguna.” A graduate of the University of New Mexico, Silko was the recipient of both a MacArthur Foundation Grant in 1981, and the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Native Writers’ Circle of the Americas in 1994.

But as noteworthy as Ceremony is, its action takes place in New Mexico, outside the DPS climbing area. The Turquoise Ledge, however, Silko’s personal memoir, is set, for the most part, near her present home, an old ranch house located along the base of the eastern slopes of the Tucson Mountains, in the heart of the Sonora Desert.

Jumping back and forth between the past and present, Silko employs the small bits of turquoise she finds during her walks through a neighboring arroyo as a means to tie her tales together. Reminiscent of Joseph Wood Krutch, who also lived near Tucson, the author finds wonder and beauty in her arid surroundings. Indeed, the best parts of The Turquoise Ledge are Silko’s evocative descriptions. Consider, for example, her descriptions of weather at various times of the year:

Early May: “The storm came suddenly, and oddly there was not the thunder and lightning that usually accompany hail and rain. The hail was the size of corn kernels. The storm lasted only an hour or so but when it was over, I could see the big arroyo was flooded from bank to bank. The damp air amplified the sounds: I heard the low whir of the floodwater as it crossed the paved road with its slurry of pebbles and rocks.”

Late June: “...the heat penetrates the highest reaches of the atmosphere...(it) boils the sky to a deep blue. No traces of clouds, only the deepening blue as the air becomes crystal clear. The angle of the Sun causes the light to have the luminescence of a blue flame. The Sun is seated in the north corner of Time.”

July: “At five a.m. the sky over the Catalina Mountains is an ethereal mist of lavender pink. The humidity in the air above the peaks reflects the light of the sunrise blocked by the mountains. I hadn’t walked in weeks and all the lovely colors of the morning called me out.”

Late September: “Sometimes early in the morning when I walk the trail the air is cool and faintly scented with rain. Just before the sun rises over the mountains, incandescence floods over the bright greens of the mesquite leaves and the jade greens of the tall saguaros.”
Silko devotes the first chapters of *The Turquoise Ledge* to describing her early life, which included two marriages, two sons and two divorces. In her latter chapters, she describes her large menagerie including up to eight dogs (mostly mastiffs), several parrots, and her decision to not remove rattlesnakes from her immediate surroundings. Several of her dogs, in fact, have been bitten by rattlesnakes—one by a Gila Monster—so often they have become immune to the venom.

And here’s the kicker. Perhaps because of her Native American belief in spirits, Silko also claims she has communications with “Star Beings.” Seriously, she believes that these spirits, “customarily make contact with the dreams and imaginations of selected artists whose consciousness is open to them.”

Hey, if you have an inquiring mind, cozy up with a copy of *The Turquoise Ledge*.

---

**DESERT PEAKS SECTION AWARDS**

The Management Committee put a lot of time and thought into awards before the 2011 Banquet. It’s a difficult but very important responsibility for the group. Below is a set of criteria for each award to use as guidance for candidate selection (not the final qualifiers). We also feel it is important to get member suggestions for candidates. If you would like to nominate a deserving DPS member for an award, the Management Committee would like to hear from you.

**DPS SERVICE AWARD CRITERIA**

- Served on a management committee (either elected or appointed positions)
- Leads trips for DPS
- Hosts chili cook-off/old timer’s trip/etc...
- Hosts meetings/potlucks
- Does trip write-ups for Sage
- Participated in Sierra Club service activities; goes on service trips
- Serves as webmaster; contributes to DPS website
- Serves as Sage newsletter editor; contributes to Peak Guide
- Actively recruits for DPS
- Goes on DPS trips
- Promotes desert conservation and exploration
- Would their absence be noticed?

**DPS MOUNTAINEERING AWARD CRITERIA**

- Not necessarily a leader, but it counts!
- Has a passion for mountaineering and peak bagging
- Completion of DPS achievements (emblem, explorer, list finish)
- List finisher of other lists
- Supports DPS Peak List improvement: participates in exploratory trips; scouts/writes up new routes; reviews status and conditions of existing peaks, etc...

**DPS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD CRITERIA**

- Awardees shall have shown dedication to the DPS and Sierra Club over many years through service and/or mountaineering activities (such as those listed for the Mountaineering and Service Awards).
If you haven’t already done so, please consider renewing your Sage subscription. Dues are $10 per year and multiple year subscriptions are encouraged. If you feel even more compelled, the DPS offers a “sustaining” dues option ($20). Send your check made payable to “Desert Peaks Section” to:

Ron Bartell, 1556 21st Street, Manhattan Beach, CA, 90266

Include accurate address information. For your convenience, you may use the order form at the bottom of this page.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DPS Peaks List</td>
<td>$1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Road and Peaks Guide (5th Edition) CD ROM version (price includes shipping)</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Year <em>Desert Sage</em> subscription</td>
<td>$10 regular / $20 sustaining</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DPS Complete History and Lore CD ROM</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mail order form for above and payment to: Gloria Miladin, DPS Merchandiser  
11946 Downey Ave  
Downey, CA, 90242  
Grand Total: ___________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DPS Patch</td>
<td>$3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emblem Pin</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>List Finisher Pin</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Desert Explorer Award Pin</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DPS T-shirt (see item below) (Tan w/black and gray print (S, M, XL only)</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For T-shirt orders, add $3.50/1, $4/2 or more, per order for handling  
$3.50 / $4

Mail (T-shirt / patch / pin) order from and payment to: Gloria Miladin, DPS Merchandiser  
11946 Downey Ave  
Downey, CA, 90242  
Grand Total: ___________
DESERt PEAKS SECTION

DPS NEWSLETTER - THE DESERT SAGE - Published six times a year by the Desert Peaks Section of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club. SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT SAGE IS FEBRUARY 11, 2012.

SUBSCRIPTION/MEMBERSHIP - It costs ten dollars a year to subscribe to the SAGE. Anyone can subscribe to the SAGE, even if not a member of the DPS or the Sierra Club, by sending $10 to Membership Records. Sustaining Membership ($20) is also available. To become a member of the DPS you must (1) belong to the Sierra Club (2) have climbed 6 of the 96 peaks on the DPS peaks list and (3) send $10 to Membership Records for a SAGE subscription (or $20 for Sustaining). Non-members who subscribe to the SAGE are not allowed to vote in our elections. Renewals, subscriptions, and address changes should be sent to Membership Records Chair Ron Bartell, 1556 21st Street, Manhattan Beach, CA, 90266. The subscription/membership year is for six issues, regardless of when payment is received.

EMBLEM STATUS AND GUIDES - To receive DPS emblem status you must climb 15 peaks on the list, five of which must be from the list of seven emblem peaks, and have belonged to the section for one year. To work on the list you will probably want to buy from the Merchandiser (Gloria Miladin, 11946 Downey Ave, Downey, CA, 90242) the Desert Peaks Road and Peak Guide 5th Edition CDROM - $15. If you like to explore without much direction just purchase the DPS PEAKS LIST - $1 (enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope). Send completed peak and emblem lists to Membership Records Chair Ron Bartell, 1556 21st Street, Manhattan Beach, CA, 90266.

EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE - We welcome all articles and letters pertaining to outdoor activities of interest to DPS members. Some submittals may be too long and space limitations and other considerations are factors in the decision to publish a submission. The editor may modify submittals in an attempt to increase clarity, decrease length, or correct typos but will hopefully not modify your meaning. If you are a participant and know that the leaders are not going to submit a trip report, then feel free to submit one. We welcome reports of private trips to unlisted peaks and private trips using non standard routes to listed peaks. Please DATE all submissions. Please indicate topo map names, dates, and contour intervals. Digital (.doc or .txt) content is essential and will help ensure that there are no typographical errors. Only one web link (url) is permitted within each article submitted. Email material to the Editor by the published deadline (above). When submitting digital photos, please indicate when and where it was taken, what it is of, who is in it, and who took it.

ADVERTISEMENTS - You can advertise in the SAGE to sell items. The cost is $3 per line with a maximum of 5 lines per ad.

EDITOR - Robert Wyka, PO Box 50, Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352
   Email: desertpeakssage@att.net