My fellow desert explorers!

Though we are in the high peak season, I know that all of you are excited about getting to the fall season and those other, lower desert peaks. Now is the time for our leaders to begin working on their trip planning and for DPS members to give us input on what peaks they would like to see us lead. Myself, I am looking to do a few trips in the next schedule, and hope that I will have many participants going along with me! For, as I tell the people doing our hikes-if it weren't for enthusiastic peak seekers joining the leaders, there wouldn't be trips at all (at least, not scheduled ones)!! Our new Outings Chair Brian Smith has just sent out a friendly reminder to all leaders on getting their trips into the schedule and into this issue of the Sage. I do hope that y'all are giving a full schedule, including leading exploratory trips, private outings (Mexico peaks), and being creative.

Also, we need to have someone host the first DPS potluck and meeting of the season on October 13, 2013! The DPS Management Committee meets at 4:30 p.m., followed by the potluck at 6:00 p.m. SO, who out there can help us out? Let myself or another Management Committee member know so that this can be arranged!

Happy trails,

Jim S. Fleming, DPS Chair for 2013-2014
# Elected Positions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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# Appointed Positions

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</tbody>
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# Cover Photo Credit

The photo, which was taken by Mat Kelliher on May 11, 2013 on a scheduled DPS trip, is of flowers along the ridge on the way to Virgin Peak.
TRIPS & EVENTS
SEPTEMBER 2013 — APRIL 2014

Manly Peak (photo by Penelope Smrz)

SEPT 22  SUN  LTC, WTC, DPS, HPS, SPS  Grinnell Ridge Navigation
OCT 13  SUN  DPS  DPS Meeting and Potluck
NOV 2-3  SAT-SUN  DPS  Palo Verde Peak and Quartz Peak
NOV 10  SUN  DPS  DPS Meeting and Potluck
NOV 16  SAT  LTC, WTC  Navigation Workshop on 3rd Class Terrain
NOV 16-17  SAT-SUN  LTC, WTC, DPS, HPS, SPS  Indian Cove Navigation
DEC 08  SUN  LTC, WTC, DPS, HPS, SPS  Warren Point Navigation
DEC 08  SUN  DPS  DPS Meeting and Potluck
JAN 12  SUN  DPS  DPS Meeting and Potluck
MARCH 9  SUN  DPS  DPS Meeting and Potluck
APRIL 13  SUN  DPS  DPS Meeting and Potluck

♦ SEPT 22  SUN  LTC, WTC, DPS, HPS, 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 Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant Leader: Phil Wheeler

♦ OCT 13  SUN  DPS

O: DPS Management Committee Meeting and Potluck: Please contact any Management Committee member if you’re interested in hosting the DPS Management Committee meeting and potluck.

♦ NOV 2-3  SAT-SUN  DPS

I: Palo Verde Peak (1760’), Quartz Peak (2160’): Join us for an exploratory trip to climb two Wilderness Highpoints and prospect for precious agates/calcendony specimens in a remote area of desert south of Blythe, CA. Saturday: climb Palo Verde Peak, highpoint of the Palo Verde Wilderness (2 mi, 1000’) and scout nearby Thumb Peak (1375’), also known as a remarkable geode collecting area. Sunday: climb Quartz Peak (5.7mi, 1000’), highpoint of the Indian Pass Wilderness area. Contact leaders for trip details and vehicle/rideshare information (2WD OK). Leaders: Daryn Dodge (Daryn.Dodge@oehha.ca.gov) and Kathy Rich. (kathynarich@gmail.com)

NOV 10  SUN  DPS

O: DPS Management Committee Meeting and Potluck: Join us at the home of Bob Wyka and Peter Christian in Marina Del Rey for the DPS Management Committee meeting at 4:30 pm and potluck at 6:00 pm. Please bring a beverage of your choice and a potluck item to share. RSVP to Bob Wyka at r.wyka@att.net

♦ NOV 16  SAT  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

(Continued on page 5)
and medical forms required/group size limited. Send email/sase, SC#, class 3 experience, conditioning, contact info to Leader: Robert Myers. Co-Leader: Jack Kieffer

- **NOV 16-17** SAT-SUN LTC, WTC, DPS, HPS, SPS
  **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, rideshare, to Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant Leader: Phil Wheeler

- **DEC 8** SUN LTC, WTC, DPS, HPS, SPS
  **Warren Point 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 Leader: Robert Myers. Assistant Leader: Phil Wheeler

- **DEC 8** SUN DPS
  **DPS Management Committee Meeting and Potluck:** Join us at the home of Tom and Tina Bowman in Long Beach for the DPS Management Committee meeting at 4:30 pm and potluck at 6:00 pm. Please bring a beverage of your choice and a potluck item to share. RSVP to Tina Bowman at tina@bowmandesigngroup.com

- **JAN 12** SUN DPS
  **DPS Management Committee Meeting and Potluck:** Join us at the home of Francesca Marcus in Sierra Madre for the DPS Management Committee meeting at 4:30 pm and potluck at 6:00 pm. Please bring a beverage of your choice and a potluck item to share. RSVP to Francesca Marcus at cesca.m8@gmail.com

- **FEB 9** SUN DPS
  **DPS Management Committee Meeting and Potluck:** Join us at the home of Gloria Miladin in Downey for the DPS Management Committee meeting at 4:30 pm and potluck at 6:00 pm. Please bring a beverage of your choice and a potluck item to share. RSVP to Gloria Miladin at miladingloria@yahoo.com

- **MARCH 9** SUN DPS
  **DPS Management Committee Meeting and Potluck:** Join us at the home of Tom Sumner in Sylmar for the DPS Management Committee meeting at 4:30 pm and potluck at 6:00 pm. Please bring a beverage of your choice and a potluck item to share. RSVP to Tom Sumner at locornnr@aol.com

- **APRIL 13** SUN DPS
  **DPS Management Committee Meeting and Potluck:** Join us at the home of Barbee and Larry Tidball in Long Beach for the DPS Management Committee meeting at 4:30 pm and potluck at 6:00 pm. Please bring a beverage of your choice and a potluck item to share. RSVP to Barbee and Larry Tidball at lbtidball@verizon.net

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](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.
I know this is the middle of a hot summer, but this issue of the Sage will take us to October and the start of a new desert season, so it is important for all our leaders to start planning trips for the winter and publishing them in the Sage. The process for publishing trips starts with a proposal from certified leaders that I review and pass on to the Sage and our Sierra Club Chapter. If you are planning on an E or M trip, it needs to be reviewed by the Mountaineering Oversight Committee (MOC) and this can apparently take up to 4 weeks, so starting early is a good idea. I am trying to promote Exploration as a theme for this year, so if you have a favorite desert peak not on the list, feel free to lead an Exploratory. Or, if you have a peak in mind that is on the list, consider climbing it by a different route.

In the last Sage, I suggested that we might put Mexican peaks in the Sage in a "private trip" section. That way they are not officially sponsored by the DPS and Sierra Club, but members will be able to see when such trips are going. Your feedback on this (or trip suggestions) are welcome. Perhaps we need a disclaimer quote as a header for this section to make clear it is for member information only and not an official trip.

Summer is the time for climbing our highest peaks and I certainly got quite a clutch of them as late spring blended into early summer. I summited, with friends, on Waucoba, Dubois, Jefferson and Arc Dome through June and July. I attempted new routes (for me) on the first 3 and managed 2 of them. Some of you may be interested to know that Route A on Waucoba is now hard to reach. A new dirt road has been bulldozed into the route described by the Guide just before the cabin ruins and where the two intersect, there are now moraines of loose soil and rocks to negotiate which are a challenge even to those with 4WD. Our party declined. It would be interesting to find out where this new road starts. On Dubois, Marble Canyon, rather than Queen Dick, proved to be a doable (if long) route (thanks to good beta from Greg Gerlach and Steve Eckert). I was certainly anxious about the 7,000 feet gain, but it goes surprisingly easily provided you pace yourself and start early to avoid 100 degree heat at the base. It will take 12-14 hours dependent on your fitness level. Finally, ascending Jefferson from Pine Creek Campground - though longer than the standard route - is a sheer joy in July with wildflowers in colorful abundance. Since my theme this year is exploration, I thought it best to practice what I preach!
Two Different Solutions

"We can't just drill our way out of the energy and climate challenge that we face". This is a strong statement made by President Obama on June 25, 2013 speaking on Climate Change. Despite this position, Shell and other oil companies are still pushing to drill in the Artic (Polar Bears Seas) for year to come and the Obama Administration is considering allowing them to do so.

The Polar Bears Seas is home to about 20 percent of the polar bears and is warming twice as fast as the rest of planet, making it harder for polar bears to survive and find food. They don’t need worse climate disruption or oil disasters.

A different solution came from Great Britain (home of British Petroleum) where a pilot program from the Air Fuel Synthesis Company (AFS) has produced gasoline using carbon dioxide and water. A presentation of the AFS process has been made by the Company’s General Director, Peter Harrison, at the Mechanical Engineering Institute, London. The AFS process is a method of making transport fuel and other hydrocarbon based products in a sustainable way using air as the chemical feedstock.

Using renewable energy, the AFS process captures carbon dioxide and water from the air, electrolysis the water to make hydrogen and reacts the carbon dioxide and hydrogen together to make the hydrocarbon fuels. This is a good solution, but it’s expensive.
Keynot Peak (11,101’)
April 27, 2013, by Jorge Estrada

Participants: Jorge Estrada, Diana Neff Estrada, Gary Schenk and Mary Jo Dungfelder

At 5:00am, we met Gary and Mary Jo at the Macdonald’s in Lone Pine for a hearty breakfast of champions. We consolidated in our 4-wheel drive pick-up and headed to the trailhead. At the 4-wheel drive junction, the DPS guide says to drive a mile to a turnaround. After half a mile, we decided to park it at a clearing and start our hike from here. That would give us a warm-up before ascending the steep south ridge of Union Wash.

At about 6:20 we were ready to go, and upon reaching the 4-wheel drive parking area found an SUV parked and wondered whom we might run into up there. Gary is the real Sierra Club leader, but he was just as happy to let Diana and I lead and set the pace. At a little past 10:00 we arrived at the saddle past point 9,185 feet and took a well deserved break. From here we headed east past Bedsprings Campground gaining the Inyo crest at 10,080 feet. We took another break here to enjoy the views in all directions before heading south to Keynot.

It was 11:30 when we departed again before arriving at my favorite part of the hike….the white limestone ridge, enjoying the openness on both sides. Upon reaching the reddish-brown crags, we ran into Craig Barlow and Pat Headley. They had started about half an hour earlier than we had and already had climbed Mt. Inyo. After some greetings and comparing notes, we said farewell. At this point we were not sure how good or bad the trail on the east side of the crags would be. However, Jim and Pat assured us it was well defined with no obstacles. Being re-assured, we felt more confident as we dropped a hundred feet or so below the crags with a few patches of snow. We traversed around then up the steep slope to the ridgeline that would take us to Keynot.

I arrived first at 1:12, followed by Diana, Mary Jo and Gary. With high five’s and congrats all around, we...
TRIP REPORTS - continued...

(Continued from page 8)

were happy to join the Keynot Club. We saw the usual names on the summit register and if I remember correctly, we were the third party up this year. Having done Telescope Peak the week before, Diana and I were acclimatized for altitude. I do not think Gary and Mary Jo had been this high since leading a DPS outing to Porter-Sentinel Peaks a month ago.

It was 2:00 PM as we put on our backpacks for the tough hike back down. Gary commented that it was some of the worst footing he had hiked. Two hours later we were back at the saddle past point 9,185 feet and headed down the ridge to about the 6,800-foot level. From here, we dropped down the north side of the ridge to the scree slope that would take us to Union Wash. We glided all the way down in about 35 minutes, thankful to reach stable ground as we hiked out of the wash to our vehicle at about 7:00.

After doing a quick makeover, changing shoes and some clothing, we made our way back to Lone Pine for a well-deserved dinner at the Merry-Go-Round. For Diana and I, it was our 28th and 30th DPS peaks, and for Gary and Mary Jo, their 28th and 30th as well.

(Continued on page 10)

Everyone was ready before our planned 6:00 a.m. departure from the campground Saturday morning, so off we went several miles on up highway 157 to the Mt. Charleston trailhead. Trail signs, wilderness signs, everything says Mt. Charleston, though of course the map and the DPS call it Charleston Peak. What’s up with that? There’s even a community there called Mt. Charleston. Anyway, the picnic area and trailhead parking have been renovated and we didn’t have to pay a fee to park, though it looked like the picnic area was a fee area. We were ready to go and hit the South Loop trail at 6:10.

The South Loop trail to Charleston was new to all of us. We enjoyed various wildflowers along the trail, both low on the mountain (lupine, paintbrush, and maybe peppergrass—I’m not sure of this one) and much higher, where we saw low-growing alpine blue columbines, shooting stars, and primroses. The trail climbs to the long south ridge of Charleston, reaching the crest just north of Griffith peak. Much of the hike along the ridge was gently undulating, affording terrific views. Not too far from the summit are the remains of a 1955 airplane wreck that killed fourteen. Because those on board were on their way to work on the secret U-2 program, the information about this wreck was classified for many years. For more information, check out http://

Charleston Peak and the Mummy’s Tummy
June 15-16, 2013, by Tina Bowman

Party! That was co-leader Gary Schenk’s word once we had a group of eight riding in Yvonne Lau’s fine Sportsmobile van. Some of us had already tested it on roads to Muddy and Moapa and knew it to be a fine 4x4 vehicle. This carpool—not arranged by the leaders!—helped us obey the rules at the Fletcher View Campground where we stayed both Friday and Saturday nights. I had reserved a double campsite that could have up to sixteen people, the limit I set for our group; unfortunately, we were allowed only four vehicles. With cancellations, we were down to a group of ten. With a no-show, we dropped to nine and only two vehicles.

Fletcher View is a nice forested campground, which has showers for a dollar (bring quarters). Our site had two tent platforms, which easily held four tents, as well as two tables and a nice fire ring.

On the summit of Charleston Peak, left to right, Gary Bowen, Rudy Fleck with Gary Schenk behind, Mary Jo Dungfelder with Wasim Khan behind, Yvonne Lau, Tina Bowman, Ted Tassop and Yvonne Tsai

(Continued on page 10)
The Desert Sage 10 September-October 2013

TRIP REPORTS - continued...

(Continued from page 9)
coldwarmonument.org/the-accident/.

The last two of us were on the summit about 12:15, twenty minutes after the rest of the group arrived. Because the trails in this area are so popular, we shared the summit with others and saw many other people on the trails.

Down we headed at 12:40, reaching the van at 4:45. It was a day with some generous breaks and a steady but not fast pace. Still, according to the guide it was eighteen miles. My Avocet showed 4705' gain, not the 4300' of the guide, probably accounting for the gain on the way back. Back to Fletcher View we went, pretty much tuckered out.

Sunday we were down to a group of nine hikers. Gary Bowen headed home in the morning, and Yvonne Lau and Yvonne Tsai opted to check out some other areas and Cathedral Rock. About 6:15 YL dropped us off at the Trail Canyon trailhead, which also has been improved since I was last there in 2004. With a large parking area and outhouse, the new trailhead is down the road about .2 miles from the old one. Off we went: Gary leading Mary Jo Dungfelder, Rudy Fleck, Wasim Khan, Ted Tassop and me up to the trail junction at the saddle where we met the North Loop trail. During our break at the saddle, we watched a western tanager flitting about in the pines.

On we went past Cave Spring and on up to the departure point from the trail for Mummy. This was definitely not 1.25 miles beyond the spring but significantly shorter, maybe about .75 miles. An arrow and “M” had been scratched in a snag beside the trail at the take-off point. Besides, footprints in the scree made it pretty obvious this was where we should leave the trail. I led us up this slog. After a short break where we gained the ridge, on we went to the summit of Mummy where we met a group of seven, who soon headed on with a plan to climb Charleston and Griffith that day as well. We reached the summit about 9:30.

Our descent went well. Because we were ahead of our ETA for meeting the two Yvonne’s at the trailhead, I left YL a voice message from the saddle. When we reached the trailhead a little after noon, there were the Yvonnes and the van. Woo hoo!

Having changed clothes and chugging Dr. Pepper, we were on our way home. Rather than creep along in the I-15 traffic beyond Baker, we headed south on the Kelbaker Road to I-40. Longer, yes, but much more pleasant with views of DPS peaks, lava fields, and sand dunes; deciding not to stop at the restored Kelso Depot, we zipped right along to and on the 40 and the rest of the way back to the Park and Ride and then on home.

(Continued on page 11)
TRIP REPORTS - continued...and Miscellaneous

(Continued from page 10)

Thanks to all, especially co-leader Gary, for a fine outing. I’m looking forward to the next one we lead, whatever that will be.

Neko Colevin’s 90th Birthday
Submitted by Tom McNicholas

Some DPS Section members may remember Neko Colevins who climbed with the likes of Sid Davis, Gordon MacLeod, Barbra Lilly, Andy Samatko, George Barnes and Arkel Erb in the 1960’s and 1970’s. Neko recently celebrated his 90th birthday and is now a resident at the Pacific Inn retirement home located in Torrance, and he would enjoy hearing from the old crowd that is still around. The last DPS event that he participated in was the 2002 Chili Cook-off where he received a prize for the best traditional chili. Neko is DPS Emblem holder #120, which was awarded on April 1, 1964. Also, he was a long time resident of Venice, California.

Neko Colevin hard at work on his award winning Chile during the 2002 DPS Chile Cook-off

Neko does not use a computer anymore and often misplaces his cell phone, so the front desk phone is probably the best way to contact him. The phone number for Pacific Inn is (310)543-1174 and his address is: Neko Colevins, Pacific Inn, 5481 Torrance Blvd., # 142, Torrance, CA 90503.

THE ROCKS WE CLIMB
by
Bob Michaels

is on summer break and will return in SAGE number 348

Sage Photos and Trip Reports Needed!!!

The SAGE needs articles and photographs, including cover photos, that pertain to outdoor activities of interest to Desert Peak Sections members and subscribers. Please note that trip reports should include trip dates and identify trip participants and photos should indicate when and where the photo was taken, what it is of, who is in it, and who took it. Please email SAGE submissions to gregrg@verizon.net no later than the second Sunday of even numbered months.

Host Needed for the October 13, 2013 DPS Management Committee Meeting and Potluck

Please contact any Management Committee member if you’re interested in hosting the DPS Management Committee meeting and potluck.

A Bighorn Sheep Skull (Photo taken by Matthew Hengst on the way to Edgar Peak on December 11, 2010 on a scheduled DPS trip)
The 20th annual DPS Chili Cook-Off weekend got off to a dubious start on Friday March 8, 2013. After the 2012 experience when we found our intended site occupied by another party, we were intent upon arriving early to secure the site advertised to the group. In spite of a low-pressure system spinning over Southern California, we left home under partly cloudy skies and reached Victorville with only a spot of rain. But on the way to Barstow things started to change. By the time we exited at Daggett there was light rain driven by a cold north wind. As we climbed the road toward the campsite the clouds closed in on the hills and the rain increased. By early afternoon we reached our destination and found the mountains totally obscured by cloud and snow blowing horizontally across our vacant campsite. We tested the ground and found the saturated soil so soft we feared damaging the area and retreated a mile down the road to firmer ground below the snow line. There we sat in the truck watching the windows fog up and slush slowly slide down the windshield. Shortly Bob and Ann arrived from Mammoth to join the vigil exclaiming, “We came to SoCal to get away from the snow!” Amazingly we had 4G cell service at the campsite and were able to monitor the weather radar which showed the precipitation slowly moving off to the east. Gradually the rain tapered off until just at sunset the sun peeked under the edge of the cloud cover, bathing the nearby hillside in a beautiful golden light and treating us to a rainbow. As the rain left the wind picked up, making it a challenge to heat dinner on the stove and erect tents for Janet and Geri before we turned in for the night.
Saturday dawned bright, cold, and windy with the Ord Mountains shining under a fresh cover of snow. Several left early to meet leaders Larry and Barbee Tidball for a snow climb up East Ord Mountain while others stayed to watch the camp and take some short hikes in the area. Due to the weather, it was afternoon before most of the group began showing up at the campsite and the following cooks were signed in on the registration board:

A. Janet Damen – Lotsa Chile, Traditional  
B. Peter Christian – Magic Chile, Traditional  
C. Gloria Miladin – Bush Chile, Traditional  
D. Dave Baldwin – Gobbler’s Reward, Texas style  
E. Laura Webb – Southwest Chili, Vegetarian

Soon the campsite was filled with the aroma of roasting chilies and simmering pots of spicy goodness. Janet cooked up a mountain of chilies. Peter worked his magic with beef and beans. Gloria peeled witchetty grubs” (shrimp) honoring a recent trip to Australia. Dave paid homage to the turkey that gave its all to reward the tasters’ palates. Laura crafted her first meatless entry. And Brian Smith manned the margarita bar. As the sun neared the western horizon all gathered to hear the cooks promote their creations, then set about tasting and rating each chili. As the campfire blazed, results were tallied with help from Jack Wickel and a laptop computer to reveal the winners:

Peter – Best Overall and Best Traditional  
Janet – First Runner-Up – Traditional  
Dave – Best Texas-Style  
Laura – Best Vegetarian and Best Presentation  
Gloria – Honorable Mention, Most Original Recipe, and Spiciest Chili

The Best-in-category winners received custom engraved bamboo cutting boards and all received Chile-themed kitchen towels and certificates hand-lettered by Elaine Baldwin.

While it’s been fun hosting the DPS Chili Cook-Off since 2008, all good things must come to an end. We are grateful to Larry and Barbee Tidball for leading the outings during this time. We are also happy to announce that Julie Rush and Jan Brahms will be taking over as hosts to carry on the great tradition of the DPS Chili Cook-Off.
The author/historian, Remi Allen Nadeau, was born in Los Angeles on August 30, 1920, earned a B.A. in history at Stanford in 1942, a PhD at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and served in the Mediterranean and European theaters for U.S. Air Force during WWII. In 1947, he married Margaret Smith, a UCLA graduate and an accomplished artist, and together they raised three children.

Nadeau's career highlights include writing editorials for the Santa Monica Evening Outlook, 1949-53; serving as assistant manager in the Executive Office of North American Aviation, 1958-67; and writing speeches for the Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., 1970-73. He was also active with the Friends of the UCLA Library, where many of his manuscripts, typescripts, correspondence, and research notes are stored. As far as I know, Nadeau is still living.


CITY-MAKERS: The Story of Southern California's First Boom (1948)

El Pueblo de Los Angeles, founded in 1781 by Mexican colonists, remained relatively insignificant until 1833, at which time the Mexican Republic confiscated the vast land holdings of the California missions. After that, large ranchos, raising "cattle on a thousand hills," emerged as the area's dominant economic factor. Later, with the California Gold Rush providing a "voracious market for Southern California beef, Los Angeles, along with new towns such as El Monte, San Bernardino, Anaheim, and Wilmington, thrived."

During the late fifties and early sixties, however, the gold mines and the ranchos were in decline; Los Angeles was becoming more and more dependent on nearby farms and orchards (e.g., orange groves, planted in the 1850s, were maturing by the 1860s, yielding excellent profits).

In 1861, the pioneer businessman Remi Nadeau (1821-1887), author Nadeau's great-great-grandfather—perhaps the motivation for Nadeau to begin writing history in the first place—arrived in Los Angeles. Born and raised in Quebec Province, the elder Nadeau first emigrated to New Hampshire where he married in 1844, after which he continued ever westward, through Chicago, Minnesota, and Salt Lake City, eventually arriving in Los Angeles driving an ox team.

Once in Southern California, the energetic Nadeau borrowed money to buy mules and wagons, set up a freighting company, and began making 700-mile treks to Salt Lake City, trips which took 35 days each way. That route, however, began to decline in 1868 as the cross-country railroad was completed.

Meanwhile, in March 1864, on the 8,400' crest of the Inyo Range, above the northeastern shore of
Owens Lake, a vast lode of argentiferous galena (silver-bearing lead ore) had been discovered. The Mexican prospectors who found the lode named the area Cerro Gordo, i.e., Fat Hill, a site close to the DPS peaks New York Butte and Pleasant Point.

Employing a huge wood-fired furnace, the ore was melted on-site into 18" long, 85 pound lead-silver ingots--producing nine tons a day at peak output--after which the alloy was shipped via mule team wagons, "wallowing across the sandy Mojave, doubling trips over rugged San Fernando Pass with half loads, and rolling into San Pedro from three weeks to a month later."

A shrewd businessman, Nadeau eventually gained the profitable contract for hauling the ingots from Cerro Gordo to Los Angeles, a trade made even more lucrative by back-hauling supplies to the mining camp. By September 1873, Nadeau had eighty teams on the road, each consisting of three mammoth wagons and fourteen mules. In addition, he purchased a steam boat to transport the ingots across Owens Lake, and set up stations at thirteen to twenty mile intervals--a day's haul apart--including stops at Rose Springs, Nine Mile Canyon, Coyote Holes, Red Rock Canyon, Willow Springs, and Mill Station. Once arriving at the depot of Phineas Banning's new Los Angeles and San Pedro Railroad Line, located at the corner of Alameda and Commercial Streets, the ingots were then transported by rail to a wharf at the foot of Avalon Boulevard in Wilmington, after which they were shipped by steamer to San Francisco for refining.

In 1872, The Los Angeles News, reported: "To this city, the Owens River trade is invaluable...What Los Angeles is, is mainly due to it. It is the silver cord that binds our present existence. Should it be uncomfortably severed, we would inevitably collapse." Nadeau, the great-great-grandson, adds: "Cerro Gordo's output reached 2,246 tons in 1871, constituting almost one fourth of the total exports through San Pedro, and greater by far than the next largest item, 785 tons of wool. At the same time some two thousand tons of local barley...was consumed by the Cerro Gordo mules."

Author Nadeau could have posited that the Cerro Gordo mines and his great-great-grandfather were the primary reasons that Los Angeles became the predominate city in Southern California. But as a good historian he didn't.

Indeed, the author gives substantial credit to several other city-makers, including, but not limited to, ex-Governor John G. Downey, who, by subdividing his Rancho Santa Gertrudas into small farm tracts, attracted immigrants to the area; F.P.F. Temple, owner of Rancho La Merced in the San Gabriel Valley, who entered the banking business, where he "was guided as much by the needs of his community as the opportunities for profit;" and Benjamin D. Wilson, who arrived in Los Angeles in 1841 on one of the first wagon trains to pull into the pueblo, was elected first clerk of Los Angeles County, and became the city's second mayor. In 1872, Wilson became instrumental in assuring that a new transcontinental railroad would pass through Los Angeles.

Although this review focuses on material of interest to Desert Sage readers, City-Makers also offers a cornucopia of additional Los Angeles and Southern California history, including a host of excellent early area photographs.
THE WATER SEEKERS (1950)

When the Irish-born William Mulholland arrived in Southern California in January 1877, the population of the city of Los Angeles was approximately 15,000 -- the county of Los Angeles perhaps 30,000. When he died in 1935, thanks in large part to his efforts, the population of the city stood at a million and a half and the county at some three million.

Mulholland began his memorable career by working on the open ditches that supplied the city with water, and, by virtue of hard work and self-education, in 1886 he became superintendent of the Los Angeles City Water Company (later, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power).

By the 1890s, however, the Los Angeles water supply was in jeopardy. Due to severe drought, lack of normal percolation in the basin, and a substantial increase in population, City Engineer Fred Eaton, realized that the local water supply could not suffice. Indeed, by mid-July 1903, "the city's water consumption began to exceed the inflow into its reservoirs, which were able to hold little more than a two-day supply." The population growth the city had hoped for, "raised by development of Henry Huntington's new Pacific Electric transit system, the Los Angeles harbor, (and) the latest Eastern rail connection via Salt Lake, would never be fulfilled."

In July 1904, Mulholland and Eaton, who had become good friends, began conspiring on how to bring water to Los Angeles from the Owens Valley, two hundred miles to the north. That September, the two could be found driving a two-horse buckboard across the Mojave Desert, "camping in the open and living on simple rations of bacon and beans."

Using a barometer and rough calculations, Mulholland and Eaton discovered that Owens River water -- "400 cubic feet per second--enough to provide a city of 2,000,000 people--could be diverted around briny Owens Lake and carried southward by gravity."

The Water Seekers relates the story of the construction of the resulting aqueduct -- largest in the Western Hemisphere at the time, including the fabrication of the 7,000-foot monster siphon across Jawbone Canyon, boring the five-mile Elizabeth Tunnel though the Coast Range, and the construction of a plant on the Tehachapi plateau to provide the 1,000,000 barrels of cement necessary.

On November 5, 1913, the first water to flow down the San Fernando Cascade was witnessed by 40,000 "exuberant citizens, who had ridden from every point in the Southland by carriage, auto and train." The water famine was over.

Or was it?

The Water Seekers explains the subsequent conflict arising in the Owens Valley, whose agricultural potential was substantially limited by Los Angeles' purchase of the rights of so much of the valley's water supply.

The volume also details the March 1928 failure of the San Francisquito Dam on the Santa Clara River, which resulted in the loss of 385 lives, 1250 homes and 7,900 acres of farmland. Built with Mulholland's endorsement, the flood and its tragic results cast a long shadow over the man's otherwise splendid reputation.

Part 2 of The Water Seekers considers the waters of the Colorado River, and includes the story of the ill-fated California Development Company's plan, built under the supervision of the noteworthy irrigationist, George Chaffey, to divert water into the Imperial Valley. Infamously, in November 1905, a breach at the head gate between the river and the canal was the cause for the two-year flood that eventually created the Salton Sea.

The story of the construction of Imperial Dam, Boulder Dam, Parker Dam, and the Colorado River Aqueduct (242 miles long, 92 miles of which are tunnels, including the 13 mile-long section which was bored under Mt. San Jacinto), is included.

And although it makes for dull reading, due consideration is also given to the 1922 seven-state Colorado River Compact, the subsequent

(Continued from page 15)
(Continued on page 17)
agreements and lawsuits, and the ongoing problems in regard to too little water and too much demand.

THE SILVER SEEKERS: They Tamed California's Last Frontier (2003)

Of the three Nadeau books reviewed here, the Silver Seekers is perhaps the most relevant for DPS members as it describes many of the early mining ventures near the Section's listed peaks in Mono, Inyo, and San Bernardino Counties.

Nadeau's history begins in the late 1850s as the excitement generated by the California Gold Rush was in decline. Indeed, the huge 1859 Comstock Lode find in Wahsoe country, in western Utah Territory (now Nevada), began a new rage for silver. "Thousands stampeded by foot and horseback...to every new strike," Nadeau notes. "In Eastern California, from Tahoe to the Mojave, men and sometimes women searched, fought and even died for the treasure. Before their mines faded, they had tamed California's last frontier."

One of the first and ultimately the largest of the California silver discoveries was that made on the crest of the Inyo Range--the 1860 Cerro Gordo find. Many of the details of this find, replicated in this volume, can be found in the review of Nadeau's City-Makers above.

In subsequent chapters, Nadeau describes in chronological order later strikes, including the 1861 activity on East Fork of the Carson River near Markleeville; the 1865 strike in the White Mountains (at which time the town of Montgomery was born); the longer lasting activity at nearby Benton (where the mines and mills stayed profitable until 1878); the 1870 strike made by the MacFarlane brothers on the slope of Clark Mountain; and Johnny Moss' 1871 discovery of silver and copper in the Avawatz Mountains.

Because I finished the DPS list on Sentinel Peak, camping out in a rodent-ridden Panamint City building the night prior to the climb, I was especially interested in Nadeau's description of that one-time boom town. Discovered in 1871 by Richard C. Jacobs and Bob Stewart, whom an acquaintance called "well-bred gentlemen, honest miners and men whose word was good as gold," the rush into Surprise Canyon was soon in full swing. And, as usual, charlatans such as 'Colonel' Eliphalet P. Raines, described by W.A. Chalfant, editor of the Inyo Independent, as "a man of daring character but limited attainments," emerged shortly thereafter. Surprisingly, two presumably mining-wise U.S. Senators, John P. Jones from California and William M. Stewart from Nevada, the latter so dominant in the Comstock area that he lead the campaign for Nevada statehood and wrote the Nevada Constitution, eventually became large investors.

Millions were spent on mining, mill, and furnace equipment. Panamint City grew to a population of 3,000. Unfortunately, however, the estimated size and the richness of the ore deposits were discovered to be overstated. As an end result, the 'Silver Senators' probably lost several hundred thousand dollars, big money in those days. Summing up the Panamint venture, Nadeau opines: "As the mines and mill closed down, some claimed it had been a stock promotion. But the answer lay in something simpler--bad judgment."

The Silver Seekers continues, reviewing mining activity at Darwin (1874), George Hearst's Modoc Mine in the Argus Range (1875), the Mammoth City mines (1877), Bodie (discovered by William Bodey in 1869, but not worked in earnest until 1877), and, the last bonanza, the 1881 Calico area discoveries.

Nadeau includes a treasure chest of interesting details--especially those concerning the characters involved--in regard to each of the strikes. I give the volume a top drawer, five star, must-read rating. A paperback version is available from independent booksellers via Amazon.com for $17.95 new, $9.22 used.
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DESERT PEAKS SECTION

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