Unexpected rain last night here in the Los Angeles basin, in early August, very welcome. When I stepped outside the smell of freshly washed air made me think of...the desert, of course. Doesn't it for everyone?

We are so closely connected with our deserts in So Cal; walk, drive or cycle on almost any street and you will see desert plants in a lot of front yards, ever more so as we begin to recognize how much sense xerophytes planting makes in our area. Then sometimes during the year we become even more aware of our desertness, when a Santa Ana dry wind comes through.

When I get to the desert, especially driving from Joshua Tree National Park to the northeast toward Baker, my thoughts turn to conservation of the landscape and the views. Leafing through the most recent “Desert Report” from the California / Nevada Desert Committee in my pristine (don't believe it) home office, I'm reminded that there are no easy choices. Yes, we should put more emphasis on solar energy, but I'd a lot rather that we do that on rooftops in cities than in the Owens Valley or in the Mojave. Wind power? Similar questions, of course, and since I'm a dedicated birder I'm very concerned about the impact of wind electric power generators on migratory birds.

Here's to more desert trips and to keeping the views clear, consistent with our other goals insofar as is possible. Here's to clear skies and starry nights, desert storms we can watch from safe havens (or not!) and to future climbs.

THE NEXT SAGE SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 12, 2014

The Desert Sage is published six times a year by the Desert Peaks Section of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club. Subscription to The Desert Sage is ten (10) dollars a year. See back cover for ordering details. The Desert Peaks Section’s Sage is the property of the Desert Peaks Section of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club. All rights reserved.

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Cover Photo Credit

The photo is of Sheephead Mountain, which is located in the Ibex Wilderness near Shoshone, California, and was taken by Daryn Dodge on March 29, 2014 from Ibex Peak.
TRIPS & EVENTS
SEPTEMBER 2014 — APRIL 2015

Fossils on Schwaub Peak (photo taken by Debbie Bulger)

SEPT 12-14  FRI-SUN  DPS
I: Arc Dome (11,773’) and Mount Jefferson (11,941’): Join us for a fall climb of these two high altitude Nevada Peaks. Friday we will climb Arc Dome (4,600’ gain, 12 miles). That night we will camp at Columbine Campground at the trailhead and Saturday drive to the Jefferson trailhead, possibly doing some sightseeing at the Berlin Ichthyosaur State Park and Ghost town along the way, and enjoying a leisurely potluck that night. Sunday we will get an early start for climbing Jefferson (2,400’ gain, 4 miles) from the 4 wheel drive parking spot. There are only about 2 miles of 4 wheel drive road, and we can carpool if necessary. Co-leaders: Dave Perkins, Jim Fleming. Email if interested to Ann Perkins (ann.perkins@csun.edu).

SEPT 27-28  SAT-SUN  DPS,HPS
I: Charleston Peak (11,915’) and Mummy Mountain (11,528’): Join us on this very strenuous, moderately paced, early autumn trip up into the Spring Mountains of Nevada to climb two of the State’s most alluring peaks. Saturday we’ll take the South Loop trail out of Kyle Canyon for a moderately paced, but very strenuous hike on trail to Charleston Peak and return for a day’s total of 18 miles and 4,300’ of gain. Saturday night we’ll relax around the campfire and enjoy a traditional DPS potluck at a nearby campground. Sunday we’ll start out on the North Lake trail out of Kyle Canyon and then travel cross country at a moderate pace over very rugged class 2 terrain to the summit of Mummy Mountain and then return the way we came in for a day’s total of 10 miles and 3,700’ of gain. We’ve reserved a local campground for both Friday and Saturday nights; campground fees will be split among those of us who will be using it. This is a DPS Outing co-sponsored by the HPS. Email Mat Kelliher at mkelliher746@gmail.com with contact info, recent conditioning and experience for trip status and details. Leaders: Mat Kelliher and Bill Simpson.

♦ SEPTEMBER 12-14  FRI-SUN  DPS
I: Arc Dome (11,773’) and Mount Jefferson (11,941’):

♦ SEPTEMBER 27-28  SAT-SUN  DPS,HPS
I: Charleston Peak (11,915’) and Mummy Mountain (11,528’):

(Continued on page 5)
OCTOBER 12  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

NOVEMBER 1  SAT  DPS
I: Corkscrew Peak (5,804’): Join us for a list finish celebration for Paul Garry on this fine Death Valley peak. Cross country day hike to the peak from Daylight Pass Road (7.0 miles round trip, 3,300’ gain) and then celebrate at the DPS Chili cook-off to be held nearby. Send email (preferred) or SASE with conditioning/experience to Leader: Paul Garry. (pwgarry@earthlink.net) Assistant Leaders: Tina Bowman, Kathy Rich, Daryn Dodge, Edd Ruskowitz, Jim Fleming.

NOVEMBER 1-2  SAT-SUN  DPS
Chili Cook-off: The Chili Cook-off is scheduled for November 1-2, so save the date. The venue will be in/around the Death Valley area. More information will be forthcoming in a future issue of the Sage and on the section’s website. Hosts: Julie Rush (julierush@roadrunner.com) and Jan Brahms (janbee@reneric.com).

NOVEMBER 2  SUN  DPS
I: Highpoint of the Funeral Mountains Wilderness (5320’): Join us the day after the November 1st list finish and chili cook-off for an exploratory climb of the highpoint of the Funeral Mountains Wilderness (7 miles round trip, 2,300’ gain). Despite the dreary name, the mountains in this wilderness area (which lie just east of Death Valley and also include the intriguingly named 'Bat Mountain') are comprised of colorful and rugged bands of limestone rock. Access is off Hwy 190, southwest of the peak. Contact leader for trip details and vehicle/rideshare information (2WD OK). Leaders: Daryn Dodge at Daryn.Dodge@oehha.ca.gov and Kathy Rich at kathrynarich@gmail.com.

NOVEMBER 8-9  SAT-SUN  DPS,HPS
I: New York Butte (10,668’), Pleasant Point (9,690’), Cerro Gordo Peak (9,188’): Join us for a pleasant autumn weekend in the southern Inyo Mountains as we scale a couple of classic DPS peaks as well as a bonus trip up to the summit of one of the Great Basin Peaks Section peaks. Saturday we’ll start out from Long John Canyon near Lone Pine, CA to ascend the long and steep southwestern ridge of New York Butte to its summit and return for a very strenuous day’s total of 8.3 round trip miles with 6,200’ of gain. Saturday night we’ll camp at our cars in Long John Canyon and enjoy a traditional and festive DPS Potluck Happy Hour. Sunday we’ll drive over to the eastern side of Owens Lake and head up into the Inyo Mtns. From our trailhead in the Cerro Gordo Ghost Town, we’ll first head north up the southern ridge crest to Pleasant Point and return for a total of 6.0 round trip miles and 1,850’ of gain. Then we’ll head south to hike up an old mining road to the summit of Cerro Gordo Peak and return for a total of 2.8 round trip miles with 1,150’ of gain. This is a DPS Outing co-sponsored by HPS. Email Mat Kelliher at mkelliher746@gmail.com with contact info, recent conditioning, and experience for trip status and details. Leaders: Mat Kelliher and Bill Simpson.

NOVEMBER 9  SUN  DPS
O: DPS Management Committee Meeting and Potluck: Join us at the home of Dave and Elaine Baldwin in Hawthorne for the DPS Management Committee meeting at 4:30 pm and potluck at 6:00 pm. Please bring a (Continued from page 6)
beverage of your choice and a potluck item to share. RSVP to Dave and Elaine Baldwin at DWBaldwin@aol.com

♦ DECEMBER 14  SUN  DPS
O: 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

♦ JANUARY 11  SUN  DPS
O: DPS Management Committee Meeting and Potluck: Join us at the home of Paul Cooley in Culver City 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 Paul Cooley at prc.calif@gmail.com

♦ FEBRUARY 8  SUN  DPS
O: 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 8  SUN  DPS
O: 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 12  SUN  DPS
O: DPS Management Committee Meeting and Potluck: Join us at the home of Larry and Barbee 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 Larry and Barbee 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 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.
Membership Summary

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Activity Report

Achievements

Second List Finish

#20 John Hooper  5/23/14  Cerro Pinacate

List Finish

#166 Kathy Rich  6/7/14  Glass Mtn
#167 Gloria Miladin  6/7/14  Glass Mtn
#168 Greg Gerlach  6/7/14  Glass Mtn

New Member

Leo Logacho  Glass Mtn

Renewals

Kevin & Lisa Heapy  1 year
Jeffrey Koepke  1 year
Karen Leonard  1 year
Ken Linville  1 year
Edward H. Lubin  1 year
Mike Sos  3 years

The Desert Peaks Section’s most recent list finishers, from left to right, Gloria Miladin (list finisher number 167), Kathy Rich (list finisher number 166), Greg Gerlach (list finisher number 168) and John Hooper (list finisher for the second time, number 20) on Glass Mountain on June 7, 2014 (photo by Kathy Rich).
Greetings, fellow desert-o-philtes!

Is it just me, or is it really hot out there? It doesn't seem to matter how high you go, it's still TFH. I was at 14,000’ recently in the Sierra and it was still hot there. It seems to me it's been that way since April. No June gloom, either.

So here's hoping we turn the corner next month as autumn approaches and start to get cooler temperatures - at least above 10,000’. Our outings calendar is filling up with trips to Arc Dome and Charleston in September, but of course, there's always room for more, so, leaders, keep sending your trip proposals in.

Another feature of autumn is the resumption of our potluck evenings, so be sure to support the opener at Bob Wyka’s house October 12th.

Remember this is still the year for celebrating many important milestones - 150 years for the Yosemite Grant and setting up the State Park system, 50 years for the Wilderness Act and 20 years for the California Desert Protection Act. This was signed October 31st, so it is fitting that we will be holding our Chili Cook Off in the Death Valley Wilderness that weekend. Make sure you sign up for that and Paul Garry's List Finish Nov 1st.

As usual I've been busy exploring. See my article on an alternative route to Wheeler Peak. The Snake Range of Nevada has several peaks over 12,000’ and is full of woodlands, meadows and wildflowers, so I'll definitely be going back.

See you out there!

Outings Chair
by Brian Smith

TREASURER’S REPORT

by Pat Arredondo

DPS Account Summary from January 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014

INCOME
Banquet Book Sales $54.00
Banquet Silent Auction $172.00
Banquet Ticket Sales $2,285.00
Merchandise $202.00
Subscriptions $1,220.00
TOTAL INCOME $3,933.00

EXPENSES
Banquet Award $16.35
Banquet Payment $2233.13
Andy Zdon $250.00
Office Supplies $42.49
Sage Mailing $616.44
Sage Printing $454.02
Sales Tax $42.46
TOTAL EXPENSES $3,654.89

CHECK BALANCE (7/30/14) $3,728.73
SAVINGS BALANCE (7/30/14) $501.13
TOTAL BALANCE (7/30/14) $4,229.86

UPDATES ARE NEEDED TO THE CURRENT DPS ROAD AND PEAK GUIDE!!

Please send road and climbing route updates to the DPS Road and Peak Guide Editor, Jim Morehouse, at desertpeakssection@gmail.com. Jim is working on a new Version 6 of the guide, so be sure and send him a quick email after climbing a peak with suggested updates to the Guide while the information is still fresh in your mind. The DPS and Jim also welcomes volunteers to join the DPS Road and Peak Guide Committee to assist with updating the current Guide. Please contact Jim via email for further information.
Campito Mountain (11,565’)
By Gregory Frux
July 9, 2014

In preparation for climbing in the Sierra Nevada mountains, I camped in California’s White Mountains. Coming from sea level to 10,200’, sleep alongside my car was surprisingly peaceful. To accelerate my acclimatization, I decided to take a quick scramble up Campito Mountain, approximate elevation 11,565’. I parked at the high point of the road, elevation 10,620’, leaving a note of my intended route. Aiming for the highest visible point I walked steadily uphill on soil, then rocky terrain. A small change in my bearing to the left across a rock ridge was required when the actual summit became visible. The top was reached in 50 minutes, where there was a small marker and a summit register. The peak was an ideal location to shoot a panorama of the Palisades section of the Sierra and the entire White Mountains. The climb was part of an ongoing project to ascend as many mountains over 10,000’ as possible and was number 81 for me.

(Continued on page 10)
The later part of the day I drew pictures of the Bristlecone Pine forest, before retreating to Bishop in the face of thunderstorms and rain.

Mount Jeff Davis...and Wheeler Too
By Brian Smith
(photos by Gloria Miladin)
July 5th 2014

In looking for interesting alternative routes on our listed peaks, I came across an article in the “Off the Beaten Path” section of the DPS website. It was written by Ted Brasket in the 90’s and described a route up Mount Jeff Davis (12,770’) in the Great Basin National Park, followed by a high level traverse to Wheeler Peak – a DPS peak. We thought we’d try it.

After enjoying the 4th of July fireworks in Ely, Nevada that followed a short excursion in a steam locomotive - driven train, Gloria Miladin and I drove over to Great Basin National Park. Not surprisingly, all campsites were occupied when we arrived, so we slept at one of the less crowded trailheads in the park. Rising early, we drove up the sinuous Wheeler Peak road to the main campground car park at 10,000’. After breakfast, we took off around 7:30 am on the clearly marked Bristlecone Pine Trail on the other side of the main road from the car park and headed towards the receding glacier of Wheeler Peak. The trail passed through beautiful woods for about 1.5 miles until we came to the trail junction between the Bristlecone Pine Loop and the Glacier Trail, which continued into the glaciated cirque below Wheeler Peak. We followed the loop trail into a grove of Bristlecone Pines and stopped by a particularly impressive specimen to have a snack (see photo)

From here, Jeff Davis and Wheeler looked formidably steep and the traverse between seemed populated with steep cliffs and gendarmes, looking almost impossible to traverse.

Our trip report directed us to head east cross country about a half mile to a ridge which went easily to the summit ridge of Jeff Davis. Leaving the Bristlecone behind, we found ourselves climbing steeply about 300’ on loose talus to a narrow plateau. From here, the route to the specified ridge was further east and below us. We had climbed too early. Not wanting to lose our hard won gains, we decided to continue on steep talus, now more solid, towards an isolated cliff face to the left of the main cliffs overlooking the glaciated cirque mentioned earlier. The going was steep and slow – no trail, no ducks, but a relentless slope of 1,700’ or more. Passing to the left of the isolated cliffs, we turned to the right and the gradient eased slightly. We saw the ridge we should have taken to our left across a wide, deep gully and opted to continue up our slope, since we could see the summit ridge high above us with no major obstacles in route. We crested the ridge, only to find we were on a broken ridge directly above the glacier and following this ridge up was not an option – too many cliff faces and loose rocks. We backtracked and descended about 100’ into the gully to our left, which was now steep,
approaching its headwall. We were able to cross the gully carefully on loose scree and entered a smaller gully heading straight for the summit ridge. Further up, the gully wall offered some solid rock to the left that we scrambled up over high 2nd/low 3rd class ledges to the flat, easy-going summit ridge. The broken ridge we first encountered turned out to be only 200’ from the summit. The climb of 2,770’ from the trailhead had taken 5 hours due to lack of trail and steep talus. From the summit, we could see the traverse to Wheeler required only to keep left of the precipitous edge and walk across an easily navigable rocky slope. It was much more manageable than it had appeared below.

After lunch, we started the traverse under gathering clouds and wondered if there might be thunderstorm activity later. However, no rain fell and no lightning struck. There were descents to two saddles on the traverse, the second one being less than 12,300’. From there, the final climb to Wheeler rose steeply over blocky talus for 800’. By now we were tired of endless talus and the need to lift tired legs over 2’ high boulders at each step. Nevertheless, we persevered and eventually crested the summit ridge below and about 200 yards from the actual summit around 3:30 pm. The traverse of over a mile and 800’ gain had taken over 2 hours, but we had not rushed. From here, we were able to see the traverse below us (see photo).

After a snack break, we followed the ridge to the summit and continued on to the descent down the standard route, which went very quickly to the meadows below under an overcast sky, but no rain. We decided to return to the trailhead via the two Alpine lakes – Stella and Theresa - which appeared to be drying out due to lack of rain. This added an extra mile and we finally returned to the car before 7:00 pm for a total elapsed time of just over 11 hours. A fit party could probably complete the climb in under 9 hours. From the summit of Wheeler Peak, other 12,000’+ peaks could be seen. Baker and Pyramid are close by to the south and out of the park to the northeast lies Mount Moriah. I think I’ll be going back for those another year!
TRIP REPORTS - continued...

Triple List Finish on Glass Mountain
By Kathy Rich and Daryn Dodge
June 7-8th, 2014

Plans for a combined list finish celebration began almost a year before when several of us - Gloria Miladin, Greg Gerlach and Kathy Rich - realized that we were all close to finishing the list. Someone mentioned Glass Mountain as a potential list finish peak, to which the rest of us said 'Great idea, let's do it!'. We planned the date for June, 2014, keeping our fingers crossed that we could finish the needed peaks in time, and that there wouldn't be too much snow left on the peak (since at 11K, it's rather high). When we learned that John Hooper would complete his 2x finish a few weeks prior on Cerro Pinacate, we invited him to join us as well.

A bit of research turned up a number of possible bonus peaks nearby, turning the trip into a possible peak-bagging extravaganza with a grand tally of 6 peaks over 2 days for those interested. On Saturday, in addition to the official DPS peak, participants would have a chance to climb the 17' lower north summit (the named Glass Mountain peak on topo maps) and Glass Mountain Ridge Peak to the south. On Sunday, three bonus peaks on Glass Mountain’s southeast ridge could be climbed - Wilfred Peak, Kelty Peak and Cone Peak. All these peaks are on the 4-mile long Glass Mountain Ridge which forms the northeast boundary of the Long Valley Caldera near Mammoth.

Luckily for us, 2014 was a low-snow year and excellent weather was forecast for the weekend. When the leaders arrived at the Sawmill Meadows campground on Friday afternoon, around a dozen cars were already there. We managed to get everyone and their cars parked in and around the campground area. Although facilities are limited to a couple of picnic tables, it turned out to be a great place for a large list finish, no fees or restrictions and we had the place to ourselves. The campground, which is ringed by limber pine and aspen trees on the edge of the meadow, is easily accessible by all vehicles and only 0.6 miles from the Glass Mountain Trailhead.

Saturday morning was a little chaotic with almost 50 participants milling around chatting and catching up with friends not seen in a while. We had decided to divide everyone into 3 groups to try and simplify things: Dave and Ann Perkins would head up one group taking the standard route, Larry and Barbee Tidball elected to head straight up from the campground directly to the DPS Glass Mountain summit, while Daryn and Kathy planned to take another group who were interested in bagging the north summit first. [Of note, the DPS guide is out of date since the dirt road leading off the main road to the trailhead has been blocked off, thus we left all the cars at the campground and walked the extra 0.6 miles down to the blocked off side road].

Around noon, all three groups (48 participants in all) were finally assembled on the DPS summit of Glass Mountain. We were greeted with great views of snow-capped mountains in the Sierra Nevada. Numerous bottles of champagne had been carried up, so much popping of corks ensued, while Gloria had brought several boxes of chocolate treats to share. Each DPS list finisher got ‘pinned’ with their list finish pin by their climbing partner, and multiple photos were taken while draped in the DPS

(Continued on page 13)
flag (it had gone missing for a few years, but luckily had been recently found). The obligatory photos of past list finishers (single, double and triple) were also taken, along with a photo of ‘peakbagger.com’ site followers. The groups headed back to camp via various routes, with Daryn and Kathy leading a group of 25 die-hard peak enthusiasts keen to bag a third peak for the day (Glass Mountain Ridge Peak) on their way back to the campground. By the time the last group had returned, tables had been set up in the forest for the traditional DPS potluck and campfire which continued until after dark.

The following day, about half the participants said their goodbyes and headed home, while 23 hardy souls stayed to bag a few more peaks – including Cone and Wilfred, which are on Peakbagger’s non-Sierra 10K list. Since Kelty Peak was also nearby, most of us bagged that too. While most of the group drove some distance on multiple dirt roads to reach the trailhead near Cone Peak, the Roaches looked at the map and decided to hike on foot from the campground. Their timing was amazing as they met us on the summit of Wilfred (subsequently following us over to Kelty), showing that all that dirt road driving maybe wasn’t necessary if one wanted to get a few extra miles of hiking in!

A fun weekend was had by all - in addition to the partying and camaraderie, those hiking both Saturday and Sunday got to bag a total of 6 peaks. It was also a nice chance for several groups to get to know one another – in addition to DPSers, representatives from the Great Basin Group, Las Vegas Mountaineers, as well as a number of Peakbagger.com folk were present. John Bregar and his wife Dorothy joined us from Durango, Colorado as well. Many thanks to the co-leaders (Barbee and Larry Tidball, Gary Schenk, Dave and Ann Perkins, Mat Kelliher) for assisting with the trip.
In Memoriam
Roy Magnuson, 1926 - 2014

By Barbara Magnuson and Ann Perkins

Roy Magnuson, long time Sierra Club member and triple list finisher, died in the Seattle area on April 24th, 2014 after a long illness. He was born in Seattle in 1926 to Norwegian immigrant parents, the youngest of 10 children. Roy was drafted into the Army in 1945 just after high school, and shipped to the Philippines just as WW II ended, but he served on a radar station until 1946 and became interested in electronics. Subsequently, he attended the University of Washington, 1947-1950, and obtained a degree in Electrical Engineering, then spending 35 years with Litton Industries in Los Angeles, mainly in the field of guidance and control of aircraft and missiles.

Roy began hiking in his early 40’s, around 1968, as part of an effort to improve his fitness, and was inspired to join the Sierra Club after attending one of its evening programs and participating in some hikes. After becoming stronger, he began mountain-eering with the 3 peak-climbing sections, and took what was then BMTC (now WTC). Only three years after beginning to hike, he ascended Mount Aconcagua in Argentina with a small group that included SPS’ers Diana Dee and Frank Risely. In the Spring of 1971 he met his future wife, Barbara, on a snow climb of Mount Morgan in the Sierras as part of the chapter’s leadership training course and they married in December of that year. This was the start of an active climbing partnership – as far as we know, they are the first married couple to finish the DPS, HPS, and SPS lists. The first foreign peak Roy and Barbara climbed together was about a month after they married, Mount Chimborazo in Ecuador (20,564’), so their joint climbing career started out in a big way!

Their DPS list finish was November 4th, 1974 on Indianhead Peak, and they had carried champagne to the top, but then discovered that one of the participants, Phil Bruce, did not imbibe. Having brought enough for everyone, and not wanting to waste it, the rest of the small group finished the bottles and then decided they had better wait around until the effects wore off, so two hours later, they began the rocky descent! On August 27th, 1978 they both finished the SPS list on Round Top in the northern Sierras, thus completing all three of the climbing section lists (Folly was their HPS list finisher).

In addition to the peaks lists, Roy climbed many other mountains, including the high points of the western states, plus Hawaii and Alaska. On Denali, he was with fellow SPS members, including Doug Mantle, whom he had helped on one or two of his very first Sierra Peaks. He and Barbara also travelled widely (Roy estimated that he had been to about 100 countries), visiting all 7 continents, and he climbed the high points of Africa, North America, South America, and Australia.

To sum up, Roy lived a long, full and interesting life. He was kind, intelligent, and responsible and was noted for a good sense of humor. He died peacefully.
Great Basin Peaks Section members took advantage of great weather and headed to the Inyo Mountains Wilderness Area to hike Waucoba Mountain, the range highpoint at 11,123’. Nice weather lasted until the day we left for our trip. As we drove through the winter snow scene prior to Mammoth, we re-organized our schedule waiting an extra day before heading into the Inyo Range.

In the spirit of celebrating the 50-year Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, we hiked to the high point of the Crater Mountain WSA. The Sierra and Inyo Ranges were hidden in clouds and high views were gray and stormy. The best views were at our feet with amazing displays of wildflowers, especially a number we had never seen.

In hopes of improved weather, we headed to the Inyos after a day of exploring lower peaks. We followed Route B from the Desert Peaks Section Guide (a great resource for trailhead and peak routes). We welcomed the end of our drive since the Saline Valley Road bounced all of our teeth out!

Waucoba Mountain was blanketed in snow from the two previous nights of storms. In the morning, we decided to at least try the hike even though it looked like both snow and weather would turn us back before the summit.

A steep hike when dry was a slippery snowy slog, but we slowly crept upward. It was a relief to finally reach the flat large summit area presenting us with an amazing Winter Wonderland. The surrounding view was a cover of low dark gray clouds.

We dug the register out of the snow, did a quick signing, photos, snack and then headed back down. We skipped the reward of lingering to savor the top considering the long slippery slope down and the threatening clouds that could dump moisture at any time.
Our luck held and we only had a light sprinkle of rain about 5 minutes before camp. The brief rain stopped allowing us to enjoy our dinner out in the trees celebrating another trip up a Great Basin peak.

More Great Basin Section News!
By Sharon Marie Wilcox

Last summer, smoky skies from numerous fires and unusual weather conditions didn't stop peak climbers from planning a number of trips. A long drive to escape smoke took us from Reno to the Ruby Mountains to hike Thomas Peak. Peak section members altered an Eastern Nevada trip because of rain, but still topped North Schell Peak, Cave Mountain and Spruce Mountain. The weekend before the first real snow of the season, another trip took us to the top of Grapevine Peak and Mummy Mountain.

This summer has many peaks accessible early because of the lack of winter snow. We hope to see you on the trail in 2014!

Silver Circle Patches Available!
By Sharon Marie Wilcox

Erik Holland, a Reno artist, has again donated his artwork to the Great Basin Peaks Section. The Silver Circle Patch displays part of his newest painting of Wheeler Peak including our Nevada state mammal, the desert bighorn sheep. The Silver Circle Level is achieved after a member hikes half of the 116 peaks on the Great Basin Peaks list. Dennis Ghiglieri, our webmaster, has listed ordering information on our website.

Join us! For details on membership, recognition categories, peak list, and trip reports check out the Great Basin Peak Section at:
http://nevada.sierraclub.org/GreatBasinPeaks.html
California has 149 wilderness areas, more than any other state. They range in size from 6 acres to 3.1 million acres and cover roughly 15% of the state. The website http://www.wilderness.net/ maintained by the University of Montana, has a complete list of wilderness areas, maps and information. For peakbaggers, the highpoints of these wilderness areas are of particular interest. Click here (while holding the Control key) to go to the California Wilderness Highpoints list on peakbagger.com. (In addition, if you press Control and click on the links below under 'DPS Peak in Wilderness Areas' and 'Range' you will find a wealth of maps, photos and route information on the peakbagger.com website).

About 72 out of the total 149 California wilderness areas are in desert areas. (By comparison, only 26 wilderness areas are in the Sierra Nevada). The highpoints of 147 of the 149 California wilderness areas are on the Peakbagger list. Twenty-one California wilderness areas contain DPS peaks, and in 17 areas the DPS peak is the actual highpoint of that wilderness area. Some wilderness areas contain more than one DPS peak (Death Valley tops the list with 17), while in others only one DPS peak is in a particular wilderness area, and in most cases is the highpoint as well (see table below).

The four exceptions are the White Mountain Wilderness (the HP is a few hundred feet below the summit of White Mountain due to the research station on top that is not part of the wilderness area), Picacho Peak Wilderness (Little Picacho is 5 miles from the highpoint), Santa Rosa Wilderness (Toro Mountain is on private property, with the lower west summit being on the HPS list), and Joshua Tree Wilderness (Quail Mountain, a well-known HPS peak is the highpoint).

So as you climb the DPS, SPS and HPS lists you will automatically earn California Wilderness Highpoints!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wilderness Area</th>
<th>DPS Peaks in Wilderness Area</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Death Valley</td>
<td>Telescope Peak (HP), Telescope (HP), Nelson Range, 11,048</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Sentinel Peak, Porter, Pyramid, Last Chance, Sandy, Dry, Tin, Panamint Butte, Tucki, Needle,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Grapevine, Palmer, Corkscrew, Smith, Canyon Point</td>
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<td>2. Inyo Mountains</td>
<td>Waucoba Mountain (HP); Keynot, NY Butte</td>
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<td>3. Mojave</td>
<td>Clark Mountain (HP); New York, Edgar, Mitchell, Granite, Old Dad</td>
<td>7,907</td>
<td>Mojave Desert Ranges</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Whipple Mountains</td>
<td>Whipple Mountains High Point</td>
<td>4,130</td>
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<td>5. Resting Spring Range</td>
<td>Stewart Point (HP); Eagle Mountain #2</td>
<td>5,266</td>
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<td>6. Palen/McCoy</td>
<td>Granite Mountain (HP); Palen</td>
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<td>8. Chemehuevi Mountains</td>
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### Desert Peaks Section Listed Peaks that are Highpoints of California Wilderness Areas - continued ...

(Continued from page 17)

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<td>Black Butte (HP)</td>
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<td>12. Kingston Range</td>
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<td>16. Big Maria Mountains</td>
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<td>17. Sheephole Valley</td>
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<td>B. Pichacho Peak</td>
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<td>1,430</td>
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<td>C. Joshua Tree</td>
<td>Quail Mountain (HP=HPS peak); Pinto, Eagle, Spectre</td>
<td>5,813</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Santa Rosa</td>
<td>Toro Peak-North Summit (HP on private property); Rabbit, Rosa Point</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>Peninsular Southern California Ranges</td>
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TELESCOPE PEAK  
(also Sentinel and Porter)

As you descend the little pass north of Searles Lake into the Panamint Valley, the enormous, tortured west face of the Panamint Range never fails to impress. This is BIG geology. Writhing masses of variously-colored rock seem to bear mute witness to a long history of geologic violence. While Charleston and Mummy’s rocks are mostly the legacy of an incredibly long stretch of geologic peace in the Paleozoic, the oldest of the much older rocks of Telescope speak dimly of geologic upheavals far back in the Proterozoic period, about 1.7 billion years ago. These are gneisses and associated high-grade metamorphic rocks which have been radiometrically dated at this age; however, these rocks were originally sedimentary rocks whose age and origins give us no clue, as they were utterly transformed by the metamorphic event. However, they may be close to half the 4.6 billion year age of the planet itself. In turn, the metamorphics are invaded by granites dated at 1.4 billion years.

There is a gap of 200 million years between this ancient granite and the next youngest rock in the Telescope Peak area. For 200 million years, we have absolutely no idea what was going on hereabouts except for a lot of erosion. To put this in perspective, 200 million years ago from now was the beginning of the Jurassic Period, and the dinosaurs were just beginning their heyday. I think that when we toss around terms like “billions of years”, it’s easy to gloss over the implications of how deep “deep time” really is.

The 1.2 billion year old Crystal Spring Formation of Precambrian age is the beginning of an incredibly thick sedimentary sequence that continues into the Triassic Period, including the limestones of Charleston Peak. It was deposited on the ancient crystalline basement on a remarkably stable shelf that marked the approximate southwest coast of the United States. (Of course, don’t imagine the U.S. as being in its current position; the continents have wandered over the earth in the intervening time.) After the Rodinian supercontinent broke up to our west and the other half rifted away, nothing terribly exciting beyond gentle uplift and subsidence happened on the southwestern continental shelf for an incredible 900 million or so years, when the war with the Pacific Ocean seafloor plate began in the Triassic. There are an astounding roughly 14,000 feet of Precambrian sediments exposed in the Telescope Peak area; the youngest formation in this area is the lower Cambrian Wood Canyon formation, which shows the first fossils of primitive animals. Although metamorphosed by younger activity in the Mesozoic, this is one of Earth’s great Precambrian sedimentary sections.

The Kingston Peak formation from about 700 million years includes a bizarre unit that looks a whole lot like modern glacial till, lending credence to the “snowball earth” theory. Progressively younger rocks are found in ranges to the east, north and south.

This long peace was shattered in the Triassic period, when conflict with the Pacific Ocean seafloor began as the nascent Mid-Atlantic Ridge spreading zone began shoving North America westward. The Panamint Range was sheared off as the continent began its northward journey.

(Continued on page 20)
mints have the most easterly of the Sierran-age granite intrusives dating from the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods that were generated by the subduction of the Farallon (East Pacific) Plate to form the great granite batholiths of the Far West. One “juicy” intrusive with dissolved minerals gave rise to the short-lived mining camp of Skidoo north of Wildrose. These granites also “cooked” the thick older sediments into metamorphics.

After the “subduction wars” and the overriding of the East Pacific Rise, the Tertiary period saw a dramatic reversal of the tectonic regimen from compression to extension. The “slab-gap theory” holds that, even after the seafloor-spreading zone was destroyed by being overridden by the continent, the ascending convection plume in the mantle is still cranking away, stretching the overlying crust in an east-west direction and breaking the crust into north-south-trending blocks, which collapse into ranges and valleys in an attempt to fill the new space created – behold, the Basin and Range! If we grossly oversimplify and consider the central Panamints and central Death Valley as an easterly-rotated mega-block, (Megathink alert!) we can see this pattern. The western side of the Panamints above Panamint Valley is the more sheer side, with relatively small alluvial fans. Compare this with the Death Valley side, with huge coalesced bajadas sloping down to the valley floor. Then, on the eastern edge of the mega-block, we see the sheer west face of the Black Mountains with wineglass canyons and small alluvial fans, and the lowest point (Badwater) not in the valley center but up against the base of the Blacks.

Rotation and massive upfaulting on the western side of the Panamints would also explain the “parks” south of Telescope in the Porter Peak area; gentle broad high valleys draining into steep narrow canyons, almost a “wineglass” configuration, suggesting a period of gentle relief when the Panamints were much lower, followed by massive rapid and relatively recent uplift.

As I said earlier, this is a broad-brushed picture; this is a SAGE piece, not a PhD thesis. It’s a fiendishly complex place, with numerous north-south strike-slip (San Andreas-type) faults also in play, many with vertical motion too. Certainly the extreme height of Telescope (standing at Badwater and looking at the peak, you are looking at slightly more vertical relief than the ENTIRE STATE of Colorado, from the Kansas border to Mount Elbert) requires some upfaulting on its eastern, not just western side. The proximity of the bizarre Garlock Fault may also help explain the extreme relief in this area. This fault arcs northeast from the structural “knot” at Tejon Pass to form the southeast flank of the Tehachapis, then striking easterly to form the uplift at Red Rock Canyon and the El Paso Mountains, passing north of the Owlsheads and mysteriously dying out north of the Avawatz. This fault is a LEFT-lateral strike-slip fault, and thus its northern side would intensify the pulling-apart of the blocks to its north---like the Panamints.

Aside from the odd earthquake, aren’t we lucky to live amid the wreckage of colliding tectonic plates!
Ambush: The Story of Bill Keys (1979), Art Kidwell

Joshua Tree (1970), Robert Cabot

AMBUSHER: THE STORY OF BILL KEYS, (1979), BY ART KIDWELL

More years ago than I like to remember, while my good friend Jim Scott and I were attempting to bag a desert summit somewhere east of Big Bear Lake, we were confronted by an elderly man who informed us that we could not hike across the open desert land he claimed to own, the most obvious route to the summit.

When we explained that we would "take only photographs and leave only footprints," he remained adamant. Indeed, he barred his teeth and snarled, "You can not cross my land!"

Jim, who at the time raised horses on his own spread in Agua Dulce, attempted to charm the geezer by claiming, in ranch argot, that he understood, because he too didn't appreciate strangers tramping over his ranch. The attempt was wasted. We drove off, and bagged the summit by a longer route.

Interestingly, I remember the confrontation more so than the name of the peak.

In his 1979 volume, Ambush, Art Kidwell relates a similar story of how, on May 11, 1943, two desert denizens, neighboring ranchers in what is now Joshua Tree National Park, one perhaps crazed, the other fiercely independent, attempted to resolve a similar access issue means of gunfire.

And that's only half the story. As a result of the resulting ambush, Bill Keys, the protagonist of this desert saga, stood trial, was convicted of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years in San Quentin Prison.

Five and a half years later, in October 1948, thanks to the efforts of Bill's loyal wife, Frances, and an old acquaintance, the author Erle Stanley Gardner, he was pardoned and returned to live out his life on his Desert Queen Ranch.

In his acknowledgement to Ambush, Kidwell notes that the three years he spent as a member of the staff at Joshua Tree National Monument afforded him "the opportunity for an in-depth study of the Keys Ranch artifacts, while numerous visitors on my Keys Ranch tours willingly shared memories of much earlier trips there. From these bits and pieces emerged a more complete understanding of the Keys family's ranch life." An accomplished desert writer, Kidwell is also the author of the two-volume, In the Shadow of the Palms: Across

(Continued on page 22)
Bill Keys was born as George Barth to German parents living in Russia in May 1879. While George was still a child, the Barth family emigrated to the United States, settling on the banks of Stinkingwater Creek in Hitchcock County, Nebraska, where his parents became operators of a grinding mill.

When he was about fifteen, George left Nebraska to begin a series of jobs that took him to New Mexico, Arizona, and Colorado. In 1898, just prior to the Spanish-American War, George, along with several of his friends, enlisted in Teddy Roosevelt’s Rough Riders. It was then that he and a few of his pals decided to change their names because of a serious illness, however, the newly-minted William Key missed out on seeing action in Cuba with Roosevelt.

After his recovery and following a series of small jobs, Bill landed in Kingman, Arizona Territory, where he worked for a rancher—a man whose life he saved during a gunfight with squatters—and where, in 1901 and 1902, he served as a deputy sheriff.

Next, Bill took up mining, first working at a Kingman area mine, then setting out on his own to prospect in areas including Goldfield, Rhyolite, Bullfrog, Searchlight, and Quartzite. During those early days, Bill became friendly with Walter Scott, aka Death Valley Scotty. Regrettably, Scotty managed to involve Bill in the so-called Battle of Wingate Pass, a scheme dreamed up by Scotty, a con man if there ever was one, designed to scare off a party of eastern investors who had come west to visit a non-existent Death Valley area gold mine that Scotty was hoping to sell them. The February, 1906 fake ambush backfired, however, and Scotty, another man, and Bill were brought to trial in San Bernardino. After it was discovered the resulting gunplay actually took place in Inyo County, however, the charges were dismissed.

Bill Key’s wandering days came to an end in 1911 when he hired on as a watchman and assayer at the Desert Queen Mine in Joshua Tree. When the mine ceased operation, the owner traded his interest in the operation—the mine, and a five-acre millsite, including a five-stamp crushing mill and several adobe buildings—to Bill in exchange for back wages due him. In 1916, Bill Keys (note: it was about this time when, because of confusion over the similarity of his name with that of a newly arrived homesteader, Bill added and "s" to his name.)
his last name) filed for homestead on an adjoining 80 acres, and thus the Desert Queen Ranch, aka the Keys Ranch, was born.

Next, as related by James Kaiser in his 2008 volume, *Joshua Tree: The Complete Guide*, "on a rare trip to Los Angeles, Keys wandered into a department store and met a young saleswoman named Frances Mae Lawton," whom, in 1918, he married and spirited away to his remote desert ranch.

As Art Kidwell continues, "Together using patience, ingenuity, and hard work, Bill and Frances built a life for themselves, raised a family of five children, and coped with the harsh realities of the desert."

Fast forward twenty-five years. It's midday, May 11, 1943, and Bill, now sixty-four, is pumping water into tanks and troughs for the cattle he runs. When the magneto on the pump's engine fails, he gets into his truck intending to drive back to his ranch, three miles away, to get a spare. To do so, Bill has to cross the property of a neighboring rancher, Worth Bagley, with whom he had previous run-ins regarding access. In the middle of the road Bill sees a cardboard sign reading, "KEYS, THIS IS MY LAST WARNING. STAY OFF MY PROPERTY." Getting out of his truck, Bill is almost immediately confronted by Bagley who is aiming a pistol at him. Not a man to be easily intimidated, Bill returns to his truck and picks up his rifle. Bagley fires a first shot, missing Keys, but striking his truck. Keys returns the fire, downing Bagley.

In the ensuing trial in Riverside, which lasted from July 7 to August 4, 1943, Keys claimed that he acted in self-defense, and that, furthermore, for years he had been passing over the road in question, which he considered to be open to the public.

The prosecution's evidence, however, proved to be stronger than Bill's defense. He was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to 10 years in San Quentin.

Bill Keys languished in prison for five years until an old acquaintance, the author Erle Stanley Gardner, with the help of members of Gardner's Court of Last Resort—a panel of experts who were willing to donate their time and experience in the interest of justice—were able to gather enough evidence to successfully appeal his conviction.

Among the new material the team uncovered was that the original autopsy had erred—Bagley had been wounded in the side, not the back. He was not shot while running away as the prosecution claimed. Other evidence indicated that Bagley had an uncontrollable temper, once shooting his favorite dog for no apparent reason. Important also were the divorce papers of Bagley's former wife, revealing "that her husband had intended to kill Bill Keys and had spent considerable time planning his execution."

Returning to his truck, Bill drives on to the fetch the magneto, returns to continue pumping water, and, at last, checks to discover that he has, in fact, killed Bagley. He then drives twenty-two miles to turn himself in to the Justice of the Peace in Twenty-nine Palms.
Bill’s beloved wife, Frances, passed away in 1963, and in 1969, Bill, at the age of 92, followed her. Both are buried on their homestead, the Keys Ranch, which is now listed as a National Historic Register Site.

FYI Guided tours of Keys Ranch are available and can be booked by calling Joshua Tree National Park Visitor Center at 760-367-5522 between 9 am and 4:30 pm any day of the week. Tickets may also be purchased prior to the day of the tour at the JTNP visitor centers located in Joshua Tree and Twenty-Nine Palms.

THE JOSHUA TREE (1970),
by Robert Cabot

Note: I first reviewed The Joshua Tree in the March/April 2003 issue of Desert Sage.

Rereading the volume for this essay, I realized that Cabot’s lyric novel, based on Bill Keys’ life, was much more compelling after first reading Kidwell’s Ambush: The Story of Bill Keys. If you’re interested in this curious chapter of high desert history, I strongly recommend reading Ambush first.

Robert Cabot would be an interesting fellow to get to know. Born in Boston in 1924, and serving in North Africa and Europe during WWII, he went on to earn his A.B. from Harvard and an LL.B from Yale. After beginning his career with the Marshall Plan, he continued on in the U.S. Foreign Service for another 10 years, during which time he was involved with aid programs in Italy, Thailand, and Sri Lanka. Later, in protest over the U.S. policy in Southeast Asia, he resigned. More recently, he has worked with international relations groups, the citizen diplomacy movement, and various environmental and social change projects.

Writing, however, is his first love. In addition to The Joshua Tree, he has written several novels, the most recent being, The Isle of Khería (2012). For three or four months a year he retretes to a mountain town in Sonora, Mexico, where he is working on a memoir and yet another novel.

Cabot became of friend of Bill Keys, getting to know him during several prolonged visits to Keys Ranch. In his Author’s Note at the end of The Joshua Tree, Cabot writes, "I owe Bill a lot: his hospitality when I first met him during my wanderings in the High Mohave Desert. His generous sharing with me of his life's story, his wisdom...May The Joshua Tree be my memorial to a heroic life and a good friend."

Will Spear, The Joshua Tree’s primary character, is based on the life of Bill Keys, a man the book’s dustcover describes as: “Cowboy, prospector and miner, living with the Walapai Indians, ‘desert rat,’ partner of Death Valley Scotty, (and) rancher in the high Mohave Desert.” Spear’s (i.e., Key’s) rip-roaring life history is told in a series of flashbacks, including explanations of why he shot several men and a description of his 5-year imprisonment in San Quentin as a consequence of the last encounter.

The Joshua Tree’s second most important character is Lily, a 1960s California girl, who, in a circuitous manner, ends up living with octogenarian Will on his high desert ranch in an arrangement that seems to suit them both.
Lily’s story—which may or may not be based on a real person—includes growing up with an incestuous father in Northeastern California; a college career marred by an incident of “put out or perish,” and her life in San Francisco’s Haight-Asbury District.

Check out Cabot’s poetic prowess in describing Lily’s impressions of the “flower-child” era in the Haight: “The strange streets and faces, the painted windows, wavering designs, clusters in the gutter, music that beats in your stomach, your womb...

“The ravaged beggar showing something to whoever will look into his secret trembling palm, leering spit. The honey-blonde boy with the sinking mustache, naked to the waist, pale pale and ragged blue jeans, bare feet caked with dirt, the pink pink eyes looking only inward—LSD, man, can’t you see?

“(U)p and up in the gable rooms where the sun is heavy in the musk-sweet smoke, clean, empty, full of the few bits and pieces each one has, the mattresses blotched and blanket rolls, the john all painted in psychedelic fish..."

But *The Joshua Tree* is, above all, a story of the Mojave Desert, and Cabot excels in describing it as well. Consider this scene of Will, during his early prospecting days, on a winter’s morning in Death Valley: “Here where the early sun comes in first while you’re chewing maybe on your jerky with a can of coffee. Comes in to cut the winter frost and stop your shaking and you’re all clenched up tight, to shine on the snow of the Panamints across the Valley and reach down into the desert and the sand and the salt flats and the Badwater and the tracks in the saltbush where the antelope step lightly on the graves. Running up to the north, into the haze where the desert’ll rise gradually into Ubehebe and the craters of the Indian’s evil.”

And more. After escaping the "airless pads of Haight Street," where the flowers in her hair had wilted, we next find Lily in the Mojave. "Oh Lily! Finally may you breathe deep the thin singing air, faint perfumes trembling in the heat? May you embrace the sun, let it penetrate to the heart, purify every cell, join, give life, bring forth the flower?...And against the sky the great shaggy arms of the Joshua tree holding out to the sun, over all, their handfuls of white lilies.”

If you love the desert and you have an ear for lyricism, *The Joshua Tree* is the book for you.
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The Desert Sage 26 September-October 2014
## Desert Peaks Section Merchandise

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<td>DPS Peaks List</td>
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<td>Road and Peaks Guide (5th Edition) CD ROM version (price includes shipping)</td>
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<td>1 Year electronic <em>Desert Sage</em> subscription</td>
<td>$10.00 regular / $20.00 sustaining</td>
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<td>DPS Complete History and Lore CD ROM (price includes shipping)</td>
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<td>DPS Patch</td>
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<td>DPS T-shirt (see below for shipping and handling), tan with black and gray print (S, M, L, XL)</td>
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<td>For T-shirt orders, add $3.50 for 1 shirt and $4.00 for 2 or more shirts per order for shipping and handling</td>
<td>$3.50 / $4.00</td>
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Make check payable to the Desert Peaks Section Merchandise

Questions: (562) 861-2550 (H) or miladingloria@yahoo.com

Gloria Miladin, DPS Merchandiser
11946 Downey Ave
Downey, CA, 90242

Grand Total: __________
DESSERT PEAKS SECTION

DPS NEWSLETTER - The Desert Sage is published six times a year by the Desert Peaks Section of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club. Please note that the submission deadline for the next SAGE is October 12, 2014.

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 Chair. Please note that a Sustaining membership/subscriptions is also available for $20. 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 Chair for a SAGE subscription ($20 for Sustaining). Non-members who subscribe to the SAGE are not allowed to vote in the DPS elections. Renewals, subscriptions, and address changes should be sent to Membership Records Chair Ron Bartell, 1556 21st Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266, or ronbartell@yahoo.com. 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, or ronbartell@yahoo.com.

SAGE SUBMISSIONS: We welcome all articles, photographs and letters pertaining to outdoor activities of interest to Desert Peak Sections members. If you are a participant and know that the leaders are not going to submit a trip report, then feel free to submit one. 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. Please note that digital documents and photographs are required for submissions to the Sage. 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 the editor no later than the second Sunday of even numbered months.

ADVERTISEMENTS: You can advertise private trips that are of interest to DPS members in the SAGE for free. Also, you can advertise in the SAGE to sell items; the cost is $3.00 per line.

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Email: gregrg1955@verizon.net