

Vol. 23, No. 2 / Spring 2012

WTC Newsletter

Newsletter of The Wilderness Training Committee

WTC OC instructor Kevin Carter emerges from his chimney at Joshua Tree National Park, sees his shadow and predicts five more weeks of WTC

Experience This!

INSIDE: The Trips Are Here!
Loads of Experience Trips
You'll Need to Graduate



The Second Step

Congratulations. You've completed the Course. You're physically equipped and mentally prepared for anything Mother Nature can throw at you. Survivorman? Amateur. Bear Grylls? Wannabe. You're the real deal. You're Sam dragging Frodo and that stupid ring up **Mordor**. You're **Stallone** hanging from a cliff in... well, Cliffhanger. You're the Tin Man braving flying monkeys and bushwacking through poppy fields, recalling Steve Schuster explaining in his First Aid lecture how, "Poppies will make you sleep."

No? Okay, I lied. Truth is you'll never complete the Course. Sure, your classes are done and your four outings are over.



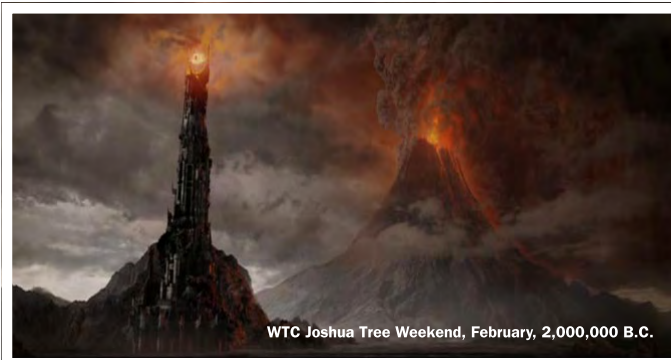
Stickin' the chimney.

Soon enough, you'll go home with a WTC patch and a certificate of completion. But before you can wrap your paws around those prized possessions, there's the matter of Experience Trips – the only qualifier standing between you and said patch.

Scan the Experience Trips in this Newsletter, find one whose description appeals to your abilities,

contact the leader and await a reply. Mark your calendar, then prepare your body and gear the way you were taught by your dedicated instructors, then take off on an adventure that may well be the first in a lifetime of discovery.

My students are used to my waxing on about how WTC changed my life. I went from playing golf four to five times a week to only three times in the past 12 years. I discovered the Sierra Nevada and the deserts through WTC. I've never known greater physical challenges nor deeper peace than I've experienced out there (a great deal of that peace comes from just knowing those places will always be there).



WTC Joshua Tree Weekend, February, 2,000,000 B.C.

Hopefully WTC is only the beginning for you as it was for me. Sign up for the Experience Trips and don't limit yourself to just two. Contact your classmates and plan your own trips (you can even count one as an Experience Trip). Check out the individual Sierra Club outings sections -- the Sierra Peaks Section. Hundred Peaks Section, Desert Peaks Section and many, many others. Sign up for advanced instruction in snow and rock travel. Lead your family and friends into the great outdoors now that you've demystified the wilderness. Or lead more than family and friends and become an official Sierra Club leader (see the blurb on LTC, the Leadership Training Committee).

Our job is done – the spoon feeding is over. We've provided the introduction, the first step. The second one is yours...

You still here?

— Edd Ruskowitz, WTC Editor

Already tired of following?

A Leading Question:

Would you like to be an outings leader for the Club?

Take the first step on Saturday, April 14, by attending an outdoor leadership training seminar sponsored by the Angeles Chapter's Leadership Training Committee.

The seminar will cover all the basics of leading – from choosing and planning a trip to proper safety and conservation practices. The seminar is required for everyone seeking a leadership rating from the chap

The all-day seminar at Costa Mesa Community Center in Orange County costs \$25. You can find an application is online at angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc.

Mail your application and check, payable to Sierra Club, to Steve Botan, LTC Registrar, 18816 Thornwood Circle, Huntington Beach, CA 92646. Or you can reach Botan at (714) 321-1296 or e-mail: lrcregistrar@hundredpeaks.org

IMPORTANT: Applications and checks due March 31, 2012.



Can one possibly have too many hats? If you'd like to purchase one of these beauties contact Cheryl McMurray at cherylamcmurray@gmail.com for info. Once she gets enough takers (25 minimum) she'll put an order in.

HEADLINE DEADLINES

For publication in the Summer 2012 WTC Newsletter: **May 14**

For publication in the Fall 2012 WTC Newsletter: **August 13**

For publication in the Angeles Chapter Schedule #320, July 5 - October 31: **March 10**

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

OUTINGS

Liability Waiver Notice To participate in a Sierra Club outing, you will need to sign a liability waiver. To see a copy of this waiver prior to attending the outing, please see www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms, or contact the outings department at (415) 977-5528 for a printed version.

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

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

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

WTC Info Line: (310) 967-2029

On the Cover WTC Orange County instructor Kevin Carter emerges from his chimney at Joshua Tree National Park, sees his shadow and predicts five more weeks of WTC.

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Outings

The outings published in this newsletter are sponsored by a variety of Sierra Club groups and sections. As a WTC student, your training places you in good standing with other groups and sections of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club who welcome your participation in their outings. For a full listing see the Chapter's Schedule of Activities or go to angeles.sierraclub.org

ET WTC Experience Trip Trips that qualify as WTC experience trips.

TI Trip of Interest Outings of interest do not qualify as WTC experience trips, but can be... well, very interesting.

TR Training Opportunity WTC students should find many of these trips within their abilities.

MT Mountaineering Technically challenging, typically not suited to WTC students. Strong students with prior mountaineering experience may qualify.

March 17-18 | Sat-Sun

MT MR Mount San Gorgonio (11,500')

Snow mountaineering outing for Sierra Club members only. Sat backpack from Vivian Creek trailhead to High Camp, 4 mi, 3,200'. Sun cross-country snow climb San Gorgonio, 5 mi rt, 2,100' and pack out. Helmet, ice ax, crampons, medical form and recent snow mountaineering experience/training required. Must be Sierra Club member. Send e-mail with resume of snow mountaineering experience and conditioning, SC number, phone and rideshare info to Ldr: Joel Kilpatrick. Assistant Ldr: Ron Campbell

WTC

March 30-April 1 | Fri – Sun

HPS, DPS, WTC

ET | Sheep Mtn (5141'), Martinez Mtn (6560')

Join us on a slow-paced three day backpacking trip to these classic peaks in the Santa Rosa Wilderness south of Palm Springs. Fri. we'll backpack to our water supply at Cactus Spring, set up camp, and then climb Sheep Mtn (8 miles, 2,100' gain). Fri. evening we'll enjoy a hearty Happy Hour in camp before drifting off to sleep under desert night skies. Sat. we'll set

off early for Martinez Mtn and then return to camp (6.5 miles, 2,400' gain) for yet another fun-filled Happy Hour. Sun. we'll sleep in a little and then leisurely pack out (4.5 miles, 750' gain & 950' loss). Email leader at mkelliher746@gmail.com with recent experience and conditioning for trip status and details. Leaders: Mat Kelliher, Pat Vaughn

March 31-April 1 | Sat-Sun

LTC, WTC, DPS, DC

TR | Places We've Saved Navigation Noodle in Mojave National Preserve

Join us for our tenth annual journey through this jewel of the Mojave; preserved under the California Desert Protection Act, as a result of the efforts of Sierra Club activists and others. A basic to intermediate xc navigation day-hike workshop will be conducted out of the Mid Hills area in the pinyon and juniper forests at 5500' elevation. Potluck and social on Sat, and for those arriving early on Fri. Limited to 14 participants. Send email/sase to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co-ldrs: Virgil Shields, Ann Shields, Adrienne Benedict

TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE ON AN OUTING, follow the instructions listed in the trip description and provide all the information requested by the leader, typically your name, address, home & work phone numbers, WTC leader's name, the name and date of the outing you wish to join, and your experience and physical conditioning. If a SASE is requested, send a 9.5 x 4 inch self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) along with your information. You may also sign up for an outing through the Chapter's new OARS application.

You may be placed on a waiting list if a trip is full. If your plans change and you need to cancel your reservation, it's very important that you contact the leaders to let them know your revised plans, even if you are on the waiting list.

Most students will find the WTC Experience Trips within their abilities. When selecting a trip read the description carefully and contact the leader for additional information. Consider the distance, elevation, duration, and destination, then contact the leader listed in the trip description. Remember that "M" level trips are a bit more technical than those you took during WTC. Trip leaders will select participants that match up well to the trip.

These outings fill up early! Plan ahead and reserve a place. If you must cancel, please notify the leader as soon as possible so another student who wants to graduate can take your spot. Remember to take your Student Record Card with you on the outing so the leader can sign it for you.

Participation in WTC outings may be denied by leaders for legitimate reasons. The leaders are responsible for the safe and enjoyable conduct of these outings, and will use their best judgement in selecting participants.

March 31-April 1 | Sat-Sun (Corrected Date)**WTC****ET | Carey's Castle**

Help us locate a mysterious miner's dwelling in the beautiful and remote southern section of the Eagle Wilderness in Riverside County. Once there, we'll make camp and explore, including a climb to nearby peak 3468', where we'll enjoy expansive views of the area. Hike out Sunday. Must be comfortable with boulder scrambling and carrying all water (dry camp). Moderate pace, 9 miles rt, 1700' total gain for the weekend. Send sase/e-mail, phones, recent hiking and conditioning to Ldr: Rebecca Cummings. Asst: Jack Kieffer.

March 31 | Sat**WTC, SMMTF****TI O La Jolla Cyn / Mugu Peak**

Moderate 7.5 mile hike with a total of 1300' elev. gain. Hike a rugged canyon and enjoy panoramic views from Pt. Mugu Pk. While on-trail we will practice basic terrain recognition. Bring water, snack/lunch and ten essentials. Meet at 8am at Pleasant Valley Rd Park and Ride, Camarillo, or 9:00a at the La Jolla Canyon parking lot (off PCH). Ldr: Kim Nielsen E-mail: Thyrringnielsen@gmail.com. Assistant Ldr: Peter Ireland.

March 31-April 1 | Sat-Sun**WTC, HPS****ET | Mount Inspiration (5,560'), Guzzler Spring (4,485')**

Sat. get "Inspired" with an 8:00am start. Hike XC 2.3 mi; 200' gain from the back-country board parking to camp. Set-up camp and hike XC 2.9 mi, 600' gain to Guzzler Spring via Pk 5066. Lunch at the Spring. Return to camp XC 3.5 mi, 800' gain via Tandy Pk (5,084'). Enjoy a Happy Hour! Sun hike XC 3 mi, 1500' gain to Mount Inspiration. Lunch at peak., then return XC 2.75 mi to camp. Break camp and return 2.25 mi to parking. Bring 6-8 liters of water/electrolytes and your meals. The pace will be moderate, the route is somewhat strenuous. Send email with hiking/cond. resume, and contact info to Ldr: Philip Bates (philipabates@gmail.com), Asst: Peter Lara

April 7-8 | Sat-Sun (CANCELLED)**WTC****ET | Quail Mtn (5814')**

Easy paced but moderately strenuous cross-country scramble to Quail Mtn providing beautiful panoramic views of the desert. Approx. 12 miles and 1800' elevation gain. This is a dry camp; be sure to bring at least 6 liters of water and something to share for happy hour on Sat. Trip size is limited. Possible extra navigation practice Sun. in Hidden Valley. Please send an email or sase including name, address, phone number, and recent experience and conditioning to Ldr: Leti Puyol Asst: David Meltzer

April 7-8 | Sat-Sun**WTC****ET | Quail Mountain (5814')**

Moderately paced, moderately strenuous 13 mile rt, 1800' gain backpack to highest peak in the Riverside County desert. Substantial cross-country travel with some steep rocky portions and brush obstacles. Participants will enjoy spectacular desert scenery and views from summit peak. WTC or similar experience required. Send email (preferred) or sase, with contact info & recent conditioning to: Ldr: Bernie Yoo. Asst: Nicole Baxter.

April 7-8 | Sat-Sun**WTC****ET | Eagle Mountain #1 (5320')**

11 mile, 2400' gain backpack in the remote wilderness of southeast Riverside County. We will start out at Cottonwood Springs and travel cross country to our dry campsite at the base of the Eagle Mountains; 3.5 mi, 700' gain to camp. We will travel cross-country 2 mi, 1700' gain to summit the highest peak in the Eagle Mts. WTC or similar experience required. Send e-mail (preferred) or sase, with contact info and recent conditioning to Ldr: Christina Pethe. Co-Ldr: Ann Pedreschi Shields

April 13-15 | Fri-Sun**NS, LTC, LB, PG, VH, DPS****TR | Desert Ecology Workshop**

Explore important waterways on the borders of Mojave and Colorado Desert during spring wildflower season. Observe birds and other wildlife, flora, and human impact on the desert. Car camp at Whitewater Preserve near Palm Springs, late hike Fri, various canyon hikes Sat/Sun, potluck & program Sat eve. LTC credit available. \$30 to SC Natural Science Section. Details via E-mail (preferred) or SASE. Send payment, conditioning, contact, and carpool information to Reservationist Judy Anderson. Ldr: Sharon Moore. Asst Ldrs/Naturalists: Sherry Ross, Ginny Heringer, Asst Ldrs: Mei Kwan, Margot Lowe, Judy Anderson. Naturalist: Kathy Keane.

April 14-15 | Sat-Sun**WTC****ET | Eagle Mt #1 (5320')**

11 mi rt, 2400' gain backpack in the remote Eagle Wilderness of southeastern Riverside County. We will start at Cottonwood Springs and travel cross-country to our dry campsite at the base of the Eagle Mts; 3.5 mi, 700' gain to camp. From our camp, we will travel cross country 2 mi, 1700' gain to summit the highest peak in the Eagle Mts. WTC or similar experience required. Send email with contact info & recent conditioning to: Ldr: Bernie Yoo. Asst: Robert Myers.

April 21-22 | Sat-Sun**DPS, HPS, WTC****ET | Sheep Mtn (5141'), Martinez Mtn (6560')**

Climb this classic pair of desert peaks in the Santa Rosa Wilderness south of Palm Springs. Sat: backpack to camp near Cactus Springs and climb Sheep (8 mi, 2100' gain). Sun: Climb Martinez and out (12 mi, 3000' gain). Contact ldr with recent conditioning: Tina Bowman. Co-ldr: Rudy Fleck

April 21-22 | Sat-Sun**LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS****TI | Warren Point 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 Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Phil Wheeler

ET WTC Experience Trip**TI Trip of Interest****TR Training Opportunity****MT Mountaineering**

WAS Wilderness Adventures Section | **PVSB** Palos Verdes South Bay Group | **LB** Long Beach Group | **OCSS** Orange County Sierra Singles | **SPS** Sierra Peaks Section | **HPS** Hundred Peaks Section | **LPC** Lower Peaks Committee | **WTC** Wilderness Travel Committee | **LTC** Leadership Training Committee | **DC** Desert Committee | **NS** Natural Science | **PG** Pasadena Group | **VH** Verdugo Hills | **BC** Backpacking Committee | **MP** Mule Pack

April 28-29 | Sat-Sun
ET | Pinto Mtn (3983')

Enjoy panoramic desert views and spot wildflowers as you backpack in the Mojave Desert near Twentynine Palms. Start Sat late-morning and backpack ~3 mi to camp. Sun climb a wash to the summit where you tower over Pinto Basin. Descend a ridge back to camp and then to cars. All cross-country route with some steep, rugged, and rocky sections, but at a steady, reasonable pace. 13 mi rt, 2400' gain. Send e-mail with contact info and recent experience to: Ldr: Sarah Schuh, Asst: Misha Askren.

WTC

May 26-27 | Sat-Sun
ET | Zion Narrows

Memorial Day weekend backpack through the Narrows of Zion, the spectacular canyon of the Virgin River in Zion National Park, Utah. Perhaps the most famous hike on the Colorado Plateau, our route takes us through one of the world's largest slot canyons. Much of the hike is done in the river; water level varies, but is expected to be largely below the knee. Participants must be comfortable completing the 16 mile backpack, as there is no easy exit from the canyon once the trip is underway. Meet early Sat at the Zion Adventure Company in Springdale, UT for equipment rental (approx. \$30 per person.) Take shuttle bus (approx. \$35 per person) to the trailhead at Chamberlain's Ranch. Hike 11 miles down the canyon to campsite, and spend the night inside the canyon. Sun hike out 5 mi to canyon mouth at the Temple of Sinawava. Rain definitely cancels this trip! Please sign up only if you are certain of your availability. Send email with conditioning/experience to Ldr: JOSEPH BELL. Asst: Adrienne Benedict

WTC

May 5-6 | Sat-Sun
ET | Quail Mountain (5813')

OCSS, WTC, HPS, DPS

Enjoy the views of San Jacinto and San Geronio on this easy backpack from Boy Scout Trailhead to our campsite [4 miles, 630 gain] on the way to Quail Mountain [5,813'], 12 miles RT, total of 1800' gain, where we will set up camp, have lunch, bag the peak and then return to camp for happy hour Sat, and return to cars Sunday. Bring backpacking equipment, 10 essentials, 6-8 qts of water for entire weekend, all meals and potluck contribution. Interested participants contact leader to submit recent backpacking experience and for more information. Fire or heavy rain cancels. Leader: Fran Penn (fpenn@rutan.com) Assistant: Bob Beach.

May 19-20 | Sat -Sun
MT | MR Mount Abbot (13,704')

WTC, SPS

Snow mountaineering outing for Sierra Club members only. Sat backpack from Mosquito Flat trailhead to camp by Mills Lake, 3.5 mi, 1,800'. Sun cross country snow climb Mount Abbot from Mills Lake, third-class via the Abbot glacier, 2 mi rt, 2000', then pack out. Helmets, ice ax, crampons, medical form and recent snow and 3rd class rock mountaineering experience required. Send an e-mail with resume of recent mountaineering experience and conditioning, H&W phones, and rideshare info to Ldr: Stephanie Smith. Assistant: Mike Adams.

May 19-20 | Sat-Sun
ET | Quail Mountain (5814')

WTC

Easy paced, moderately strenuous 13 mi RT 1800' gain backpack to Quail Mountain. Cross country travel encountering some steep rocky sections and brush. Leave heavy gear at camp and hike to summit and enjoy fantastic desert views and return to camp. Must carry all water required for trip (Dry Camp). Send email with contact info and recent conditioning to Ldr: Ashley Grayden. Asst Ldr: Virgil Shields.

May 26 | Sat
TR | Beginning Navigation Clinic

LTC, WTC, HPS

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

June 2 | Sat
TR | Heart Bar Peak (8332')

LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS

Practice navigation for Sunday's checkoff on this 7 mile rt, 1400' gain hike. We will take a cross-country route to Heart Bar Pk and practice micro-navigation skills along the way. Send email (preferred) or sase, with contact info & recent conditioning to Ldr: Robert Myers. Co-ldrs: Jane Simpson, Adrienne Benedict, Ann Pedreschi Shields

June 2-3 | Sat-Sun
ET | Reeds Meadow (7,700'), Marion Mtn (10,362')

WTC, HPS

Sat hike Devil Slide trail 4 mi; 1,800' gain to set-up camp near Willow Creek. After lunch hike XC 2.5 mi, 600' gain to explore Reeds Meadow area. Sat Happy Hour. Sun. hike XC 2.5 mi; 2,500' gain to Marion Mtn, returning XC 3.5 mi, 300' gain via Deer Springs to camp and then pack-out. Moderate paced, but strenuous hike. Adventure Pass required. Bring small daypack + 3 liters of water/electrolytes for Sun hike. Send email with hiking/conditioning resume and contact info to Ldr: Philip Bates (philipabates@gmail.com) Asst: Rod Kieffer

June 3 | Sun
TR | Grinnell Ridge Navigation

LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS

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

June 8-10 | Fri-Sun
MT | MR Mt. Shasta (14,179')

WTC

Classic snow climb of one of California's premier 14,000' peaks in the southern Cascade range. Friday hike 3 mi. from Bunny Flat trailhead (6,900') to Helen Lake (10,443') via Avalanche Gulch. Saturday alpine start and climb of Mt. Shasta, 2 mi. and 3,700' gain. Saturday pack out to cars. Additional day provides options in the event of bad weather. Summit success dependent

ET WTC Experience Trip

TI Trip of Interest

TR Training Opportunity

MT Mountaineering

WAS Wilderness Adventures Section | **PVSB** Palos Verdes South Bay Group | **LB** Long Beach Group | **OCSS** Orange County Sierra Singles | **SPS** Sierra Peaks Section | **HPS** Hundred Peaks Section | **LPC** Lower Peaks Committee | **WTC** Wilderness Travel Committee | **LTC** Leadership Training Committee | **DC** Desert Committee | **NS** Natural Science | **PG** Pasadena Group | **VH** Verdugo Hills | **BC** Backpacking Committee | **MP** Mule Pack

on snow conditions and weather. Restricted to Sierra Club members with ice axe and crampon experience. Helmet, ice axe, and crampons required along with other snow gear. Medical information forms also required. \$20 climbing summit permit fee required at trailhead. Send contact information, climbing resume, recent conditioning, and altitude experience to Ldr: Robert Myers. Asst: Tina Bowman.

June 9-10 | Sat-Sun

WTC, SPS

MT MR University Peak (13,589')

Snow mountaineering outing for Sierra Club members only. Sat backpack from Onion Valley trailhead to camp by Bench Lake, 3 mi, 1,667'. Sun cross country snow climb University Peak from Bench Lake, third-class via the north face, 5 mi rt, 2746', then pack out. Helmets, ice ax, crampons, medical form and recent snow and 3rd class rock mountaineering experience required. Send an e-mail with resume of recent mountaineering experience and conditioning, H&W phones, and rideshare info to Ldr: Stephanie Smith. Assistant Ldr: Neal Robbins

June 16-17 | Sat-Sun

WTC, LB

ET | Southern San Geronio Romp

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

June 16-17 | Sat-Sun

WTC

ET | Tahquitz Peak, (8,828'), Red Tahquitz, (8,720')

Experience trip for leaders and WTC students. Sat backpack from Devil's Slide trailhead to camp at Tahquitz Meadow, set up camp and climb Red Tahquitz (5 miles and 2,710'). Sun climb Tahquitz peak then pack out, (6 miles and 941'). Send e-mail, recent experience and conditioning, H&W phones, and rideshare info to Ldr: Stephanie Smith. Co-Ldr: Mike Dillenback

June 22-24 | Fri - Sun

WTC, SPS

ET | Merced Peak (11,726'), Red Peak (11,699')

Two peaks in southern Yosemite National Park. Fri 7:30 am start from trailhead near Quartz Mtn 27 mi from Oakhurst along a windy road. Strenuous 13 mi, 2900' gain from trailhead to camp at or near Lower Ottoway Lake (9656'). Sat climb Merced Peak and Red Peak, 6 mi, 3300' steep xc with talus and scree. Sun pack out. Trip designed for strong WTC students and others with comfort on loose terrain at elevation. Happy Hour both nights. Email recent high altitude tolerance, distance conditioning to Ldr: Sandy Lara, Co-ldrs: KC Reid, Peter Lara

June 23-24 | Sat-Sun

WTC

ET | Jean Pk (10,670'), Marion Mtn (10,362'), Newton Drury Pk (10,160')

12 mi rt, 5000' gain. Enjoy the San Jacinto Wilderness on a fairly-strenuous overnight backpack featuring 3 cross-country peaks. Sat am leave from Marion Mtn Trailhead for Little Round Valley, relaxation, happy hour, and dinner. Sun am, x-c navigation and some rock scrambling will put us atop Newton Drury Pk, Jean Pk, and Marion Mtn., then out to the cars. The perfect weekend. Send email or sase with contact info and conditioning to Ldr, Chuck Currier, Asst. Ldr Garen Yegparian

June 30-July 4 | Sat-Wed

BC, WAS, 20's & 30's

ET | Yosemite Adventures Backpacking Trip to Young Lakes and Mt Conness (12,590')

Leave Sat afternoon on our luxury bus for beautiful Yosemite! Start our backpacking adventures in Tuolumne Meadows on Sun for a moderate paced 7 mi, 1700' gain to Young Lakes (10,000') and set up our base camp (Sun-Wed). Mon day hike Mt Conness (12,590'). Tuesday is layover day. Possibly hike Ragged Pk and/or fish (individual CA DFG permit required) or simply kickback in the splendor of Yosemite High Country. Wed pack out to the bus. This trip is permit restricted and will count as a WTC experience trip. Cost \$220 with SC#/\$240 non-member, includes bus, snacks and drinks on the bus, park entrance and permit fees, Wed dinner. Please send check (Sierra Club) cell phone #, email address, SASE, recent backpacking & conditioning experience, WTC group & Leader (if any), to Ldr: Sridhar Gullapalli. Co-ldr: George Denny.

June 30-July 4 | Sat-Wed

BC

ET | Yosemite Tuolumne Meadows - Mattie Lake - Wildcat Pt (9562') Backpacking Trip

Leave Sat afternoon by bus for a moderate 5-day trip. We will start from Tuolumne Meadows and backpack 6 mi to Glen Aulin High Sierra Camp. Various day hikes on and off trail to Mattie Lake, Wildcat Point, and multiple waterfalls. Elevation gain for the trip is approximately 3,200 ft. Trip will include walking on granite slab, bouldering, and enjoying beautiful Yosemite. This trip is permit restricted. Please mail a check payable to the Sierra Club in the amount of \$220 and a self address stamped envelope, your backpacking and conditioning experience to David Meltzer, 611 E Pine Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245 to complete your reservation. I will forward you a confirmation if you are approved for the trip or on the waitlist. Fee includes bus ride, park entrance and permit fees and Wed dinner. I will forward additional information once approved for the trip. Ldrs: David Meltzer, Sharon Moore



WTC OC student Edith Garibay discovers renewed life and new confidence at Joshua Tree.

— photo by Robert Plance

July 13-15 | Fri-Sun

HPS, WTC

ET | Eight over Ten: Lake Pk (10,161'), Ten Thousand Foot Ridge (10,094'), Bighorn Mtn (10,997'), Dragons Head (10,866'), Jepson Pk (11,205'), Dobbs Pk (10,459'), San Gorgonio Mtn (11,499'), Grinnell Mtn (10,284')

Relatively easy 3 day/2 night backpack with strenuous day hiking to reach the peaks at a slow, but steady pace. Travel will be predominantly on trail; however significant XC segments across rocky and forested terrain will be necessary to reach several of the peaks. Friday we'll pack up the Fish Creek Trail to Fish Creek Saddle Camp (3.9 mi, 2,000' gain) where we'll set up camp, then hike down to Lodgepole Spring (1.5 mi RT, 625' loss/gain) to stock up on water for the weekend. Once back at camp we'll either set off for Lake Peak and 10,000K Ridge (2.75 mi, 950' gain) or head up to the nearby summit of Grinnell Mtn (1.2 mi r/t, 480' gain), and then return to camp for Happy Hour and an early night. Saturday will be a strenuous day consisting of 15.3 miles and 5,400' gain; we'll set off near first light to get Bighorn, Dragons Head, Jepson, Dobbs, and San Gorgonio, then return to camp to revel in our adventures over a hearty Happy Hour under the nearly moonless night sky. Sunday we'll get a leisurely start to go get the peak(s) we didn't get Friday, then return to camp to pack up and out. Email leader at mkelliher746@gmail.com with recent experience and conditioning for trip status and details. Group size limited by permit. Leaders: Mat Kelliher, Jim Fleming, Pat Vaughn

July 21-22 | Sat-Sun

WTC

ET | Mt. Gould (13,005'), Mt Rixford (12,887')

Enjoy a challenging overnight backpack in the Sierra 13 mi rt, 5700' gain. Hike from Onion Valley to below Kearsarge Pass (3.2 mi, 2000') on Sat, then rest and acclimatize. Early start Sun, over Kearsarge Pass to Mt. Rixford, then Mt. Gould (but not summit blocks) and back to camp. Return to the trailhead by sundown. Must be comfortable with strenuous Class 2 hiking at elevation. Send email with contact information, experience and conditioning to Ldr: Bernie Fox. Co-Ldr: Robert Myers.

July 28 | Sat

LB, WTC

TI O Mt. San Gorgonio (11,499')

Hike to Mt. San Gorgonio summit via Vivian Creek. 18 mi round trip, 5500' gain. Moderately-paced, but not for beginners. Rendezvous 5:30 am at Mill Creek Ranger Station with minimum 3 liters water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, USFS parking permit, \$\$ for pizza afterwards in Redlands. Group size limited by permit. To participate, contact Ldr John H. 562-427-0809, or Co-Ldr Kevin Gray 310-294-4908.

July 28-29 | Sat-Sun

WTC, SPS

ET | Basin Mountain (13,240')

Moderate WTC experience trip to climb to the top of Basin Mountain out of Bishop for wonderful views of the Owens Valley. Sat. backpack on trail 4 mi., 2200' gain to camp at Horton Lake. Sun. class 2 climb to Basin 2.25 mi., 3,200' gain all cross-country, then pack out to cars. Send email (preferred) or SASE with conditioning/experience to Ldr: Paul Garry. Asst: Joseph Bell.

Many of these trips include some hefty hiking.

Ever been over Lamarck Col or Kearsarge Pass hauling a 45 lb. pack? Whether you make it comfortably or crawl into camp dragging your tongue in the scree depends on your level of conditioning.

Your local gym is fine for staying in shape. But one of the best things you can do to get into hiking shape – and have fun as well – is to regularly attend one of the many conditioning hikes listed at the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter website. Go to <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/outings/OARS.asp> and click on **Search Options**. Type “conditioning” in the **Word or phrase box**, then click **Filter Activities**. Find a conditioning hike that fits your schedule and go!

July 28-29 | Sat-Sun

WTC

ET | Cirque Peak (12,900')

Join us for moderate backpack (13 miles total/3,000' gain) that will include XC exploration, navigation practice and Café Mocha/Lattes. Sat hike 4.5 miles and 1,300' gain via trail, from Horseshoe Meadow to Chicken Spring Lake (11,242'). Set-up camp, and then hike, XC 2 miles (1,650' gain) to Cirque Peak. Return to camp (XC 2 miles) for happy hour. Sun AM, begin with Café Mocha/Lattes, break camp and hike 4.5 miles back to trailhead. Send hiking resume to tonycebates@yahoo.com. Leaders: Rebecca Cummings and Tonyce Bates Asst Ldr: Jack Kieffer

August 3-5 | Fri-Sun

LB, WTC

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

Especially planned for WTC students who enjoyed climbing the rock at J-Tree and want to gain more experience on class 3 rock. We will climb Charlton Peak by the mountaineers' route. Fri, comfortably paced trail hike from South Fork to base camp, 6.5 mi, 2600' gain while enjoying our local San Gorgonio Wilderness. Sat, ascend 1600' on Charlton's north side, half of it class 3. Then go on to summit a bonus peak and the two highest peaks in Southern California by 3 miles of cross-country and some trail, 2700' total gain for the day. Hike back to camp, 5 miles on trail. Sun morning return to cars. WTC/equiv. req'd. Send 2 SASE, phone & carpool info, \$1 for materials, and name of Sierra Club leader as reference to Ldr: John H. Asst: Mike Adams.

August 4-5 | Sat-Sun (RESCHEDULED)

WTC, HPS

ET | Lake Peak (10,161') / Grinnell Mountain (10,284') / Ten Thousand Foot Ridge (10,094')

Join us for a strenuous backpack (21 miles total/6,000' gain) that will include XC exploration and gourmet happy hour. Sat hike 8 miles and 2,800' gain, via the Lost Creek Trail to Dry Lake (9,065). Set-up camp and enjoy happy hour. Sun AM hike XC 5.5 miles total (2,000' gain) to Grinnell Mountain, Lake Peak and Ten Thousand Foot Ridge. Break camp and hike 8 miles back to TH. Send hiking resume to tonycebates@yahoo.com. Leader: Tonyce Bates; Assistant: Victoria Overbey.

ET WTC Experience Trip

TI Trip of Interest

TR Training Opportunity

MT Mountaineering

WAS Wilderness Adventures Section | **PVSB** Palos Verdes South Bay Group | **LB** Long Beach Group | **OCSS** Orange County Sierra Singles | **SPS** Sierra Peaks Section | **HPS** Hundred Peaks Section | **LPC** Lower Peaks Committee | **WTC** Wilderness Travel Committee | **LTC** Leadership Training Committee | **DC** Desert Committee | **NS** Natural Science | **PG** Pasadena Group | **VH** Verdugo Hills | **BC** Backpacking Committee | **MP** Mule Pack

August 5 | Sun**LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS****TR | Mt. Pinos Navigation**

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

August 12-18 | Sun-Sat**MP, SPS****ET | Thousand Island Lake Mule Pack****Mt Davis (12,303'), Rodgers Pk (12,978'), Electra Pk (12,442')**

Trip designed for strong hikers who desire cross-country routes and peakbagging. Start Sun AM from Agnew Meadows (8300') in Mammoth area, hike 9 miles, 2500', to camp at Thousand Island Lake (9850'). These peaks, many lakes, the John Muir Trail, and other trails are accessible from base camp. Mon-Fri climb peaks with leaders, hike near camp, photo, fish, or relax in camp. Enjoy nightly organized dinners (you'll know exactly what to bring and won't have to guess). Sat hike out. \$325. Mules will carry 50 lbs gear per person. Participants selected will be asked to complete the Participant Medical Form found at <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc/forms/html>. Note reservation/cancellation policy in Schedule of Activities. To apply, email or phone high altitude and distance conditioning to Co-Ldr: Sandy Lara. Co-Ldr: Peter Lara.

August 13-16 | Mon-Th**SPS, WTC****ET | Mount Davis (12,303'), Rodgers Peak (12,978'), Electra Peak (12,442'), Foerster Peak (12,057')**

Backpack to the beautiful Ansel Adams Wilderness from Agnew Meadows via the PCT and then x-c over North Glacier Pass. Four days of Mountaineering will cover 41 miles and 14,100' gain. Contact leader with resume and current conditioning. Ldr. Rudy Fleck, rudy.fleck@gmail.com; Co-Ldr. Tina Bowman

August 17-19 | Fri-Sun (CANCELLED)**WTC****ET | Thousand Island Lake/Mt. Davis (12,311')**

Fri relaxed pace backpack 10 mi, 1500' gain via incredibly scenic portion of PCT (High Trail) from Agnew Meadows to camp at Thousand Island Lake (9,840') in Ansel Adams Wilderness. Sat class 2 xc route to Mt. Davis via North Glacier Pass, 6 mi rt, 2,500' gain. This will be a long, strenuous day, but the views will be well worth it! Sun pack out via River Trail. WTC or equivalent required; priority given to 2012 WTC students. Shuttle bus fee of \$7 from Mammoth Mtn ski area to trailhead required; \$5 for wilderness permit. Send e-mail (preferred) or SASE with contact info, experience, recent conditioning and WTC group leader info to Ldr: Melody Anderson (melodygrace1@gmail.com), Co-Ldr: Dwain Roque

August 18-20 | Sat-Mon**SPS, WTC****ET | Red Slate Mtn. (13,123')**

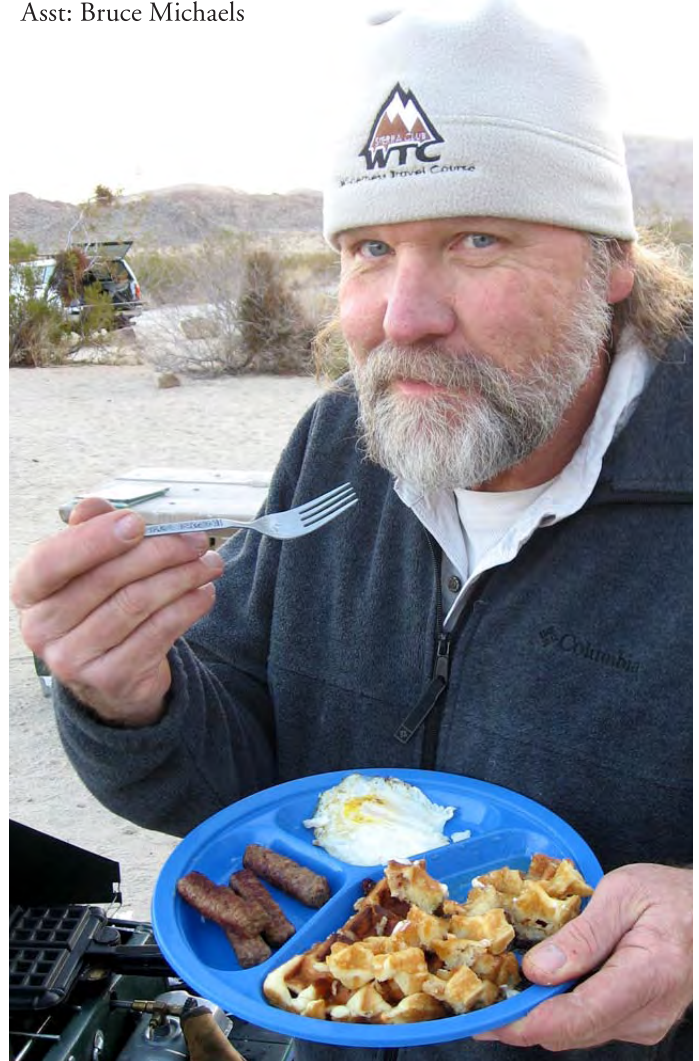
SPS Intro Trip geared to WTC Students and prospective SPSers. Relaxed, casual and enjoyable with slow to moderate pace. Sat backpack up McGee Creek to Big McGee Lake at 10,472' in 7 mi, 2300' gain. Sun climb class 2 Mountaineers Peak, 6 mi rt, 2700' gain, considerable cross country. Mon hike out. Legendary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

August 24-26 | Fri-Sun**WTC****ET | Thousand Island Lake, Peak 10344**

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

August 31-September 3 | Fri-Mon**BC, LB****ET | Garnet Lake, Peak 10,344, Thousand Island Lake Backpacking Bus Trip**

Spend Labor Day weekend among the beautiful lakes and peaks of the Ansel Adams Wilderness. Leave LA area Fri for Mammoth Lakes. Sat hike to base camp at Garnet Lake, 6 mi, 2000' gain. Sun climb 10,344 via class 2 route, then explore Thousand Island Lake basin, 7 mi, 1100' gain. Monday hike out to return home. No turtles, no tigers. Email (preferred) leader with experience and recent conditioning and contact information. Send check for \$220 w/SC#, \$240 w/o, payable to Sierra Club, to confirm participation. Price includes bus, permits, Friday campsite, Monday dinner. No refund after July 31 unless suitable replacement is found. Ldr: Sharon Moore, Asst: Bruce Michaels



OC Ass't Group Leader John Cyran's answer to the rigors of JTree weekend.

— photo by Edd Ruskowitz

September 7-9 | Fri-Sun**WTC****ET | Mount Stanford (North), (12,838')**

Experience trip for leaders and WTC students. Fri backpack to western most Hilton Lake, 6 mi, 1400'. Sat climb Mount Stanford, 5 mi rt, 2500' then fish. Sun pack out. \$5 permit fee will be collected. Send e-mail with recent experience and conditioning, H&W phones, and rideshare info to Co-Ldrs: Linda Campbell, Stephanie Smith, Mike Dillenback.

September 14-16 | Fri-Sun**SPS, WTC****ET | Mt. Julius Caesar (13,200')**

SPS introductory trip in eastern Sierra geared to prospective SPS'ers and WTC students. Fri backpack from Pine Creek to Honeymoon Lake (10,600'), 7 mi and 3200' gain. Sat climb Mt. Julius Caesar via Italy Pass, 9 mi rt., 2600' gain. Sun pack out. Legendary community happy hours both evenings. Send e-mail or SASE with recent experience. Ldr: Neal Robbins, Co-Ldr: KC Reid

September 19-23 | Wed-Sun**SPS, WTC**
**ET | Mt Pickering (13,474'), Joe Devel Peak (13,327'),
Mt Newcomb (13,422'), Mt Chamberlin (13,169'),
Mt Guyot (12,300')**

Strenuous backpack, including significant x-country travel in the High Sierras. From Horseshoe Meadow, hike 12-miles on trail to Soldier Lakes (10,400'). We'll make camp and from here climb nearby peaks Thurs. through Sat. Thurs. Pickering and Joe Devel (9 mi. rt. 3800' gain). Fri. Guyot (16 mi, 4,200' gain), Sat. (Chamberlin and Newcomb (5 mi, rt. 2,700' gain). Sun. pack out. E-mail experience, recent conditioning, phone to Ldr: KC Reid. Asst: Jack Kieffer.

September 23 | Sun**LTC, WTC, HPS, DPS, SPS****TR | Grinnell Ridge Navigation**

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

October 13-14 | Sat-Sun**WTC****ET | "Really Last Chance" Graduation Trip**

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

November 17-18 | Sat-Sun**DPS, WTC****(rescheduled from October 2011)****MT MR Castle Dome Peak, (3,788'), Signal Peak (4,877')**

Mountaineering outing for Sierra Club members only. Climb two sought-after desert peaks in the Kofa Wilderness of SW Arizona. Sat climb class 3 Castle Dome Peak, 6 mi rt, 2100' and then have happy hour back at car camp. Sun hike to Signal Peak, 4 mi rt, 2000'. Helmets and recent 3rd class rock climbing experience required. Send an e-mail with medical form, recent experience and conditioning, H&W phones, and rideshare info to Ldr: Stephanie Smith. Ass't: Mike Adams



WTC OC Instructor Ed Cottone explains how to finish off a chimney to student Randy Stephens.

— photo by Robert Plance

Outings Leader Directory

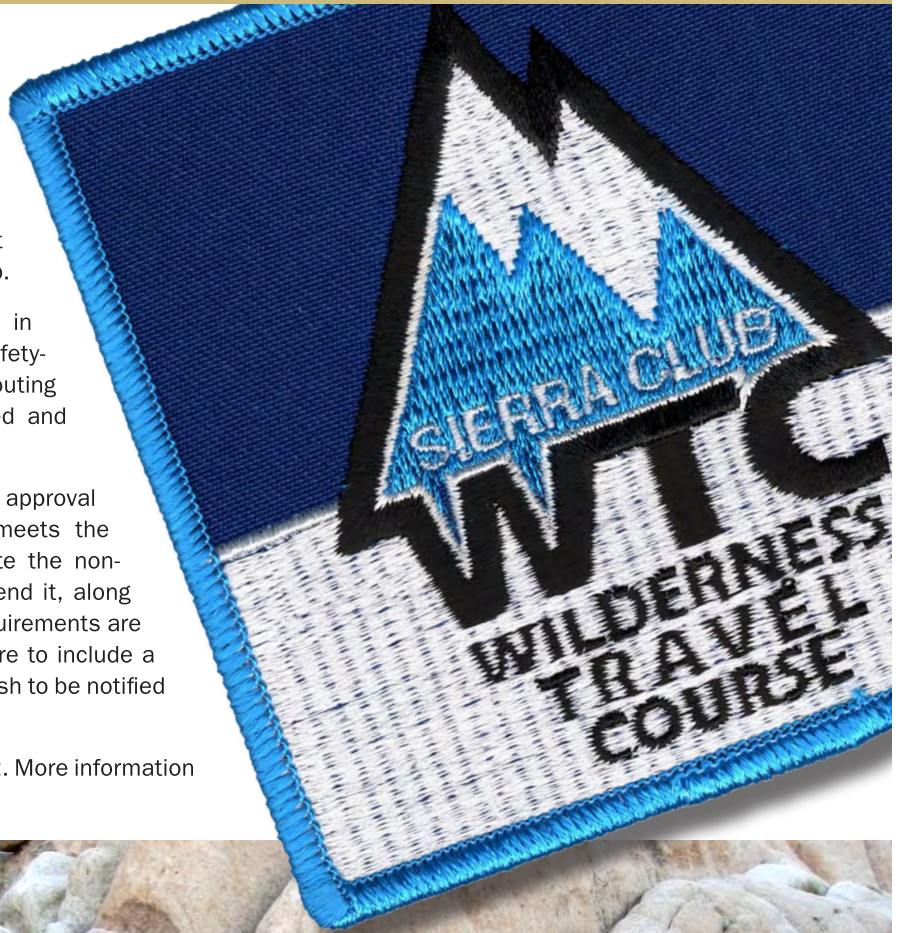
To reserve your place on an outing, contact the leader as specified in the trip description. Include your name, address, home & work phone numbers, your WTC leader's name, the outing you wish to join, your experience, your physical conditioning routine and whether you need or can offer a ride to the outing.

Mike Adams	AdamsFreeRange@AOL.com	James Martens	Martens.James@gmail.com
Melody Anderson	MelodyGrace1@gmail.com	Tom McDonnell	t.mcdonnell@sbcglobal.net
Misha Askren	Misha.Askren@gmail.com	Cheryl McMurray	Cherylamcmurray@gmail.com
Philip Bates	PhilipABates@gmail.com	David Meltzer	DWM@CRGPM.com
Tonyce Bates	TonyceBates@Yahoo.com	Bruce Michaels	Bucksnot7@gmail.com
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Mat Kelliher	Mathew.Kelliher@roadrunner.com	Stephanie Smith	Ssmith@PlatinumEquity.com
Jack Kieffer	JockORock42@Yahoo.com	Homer Tom	HikerHomie@gmail.com
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Sandy Lara	SSperling1@verizon.net	Danielle Zucker	ZuckerD@Rocketmail.com

Romancing the Patch

Congratulations — you're a third of the way to graduation! Your next step is to complete your two experience outings (see pages 4 through 10 for qualifying outings). Then comes the hardest part of the entire course: surviving graduation weekend!

1. Two experience outings must be completed to fulfill course requirements for graduation. At least one of the two outings must be a scheduled Sierra Club outing. The second may be a Sierra Club outing or a private outing. Both outings must be overnight backpacking trips that include substantial cross-country travel. At least one of the two outings must include a peak climb.
2. A peak-climb outing that does not succeed in reaching the summit, due to weather or other safety-related reasons, may count as an experience outing provided that most of the climb was completed and substantial off-trail terrain was encountered.
3. There is no requirement to obtain prior approval for a private outing. As long as the outing meets the requirements simply go on the outing, complete the non-scheduled experience outing record form and send it, along with your Student Record Card (after all other requirements are completed), to the registrar for your area. Be sure to include a self-addressed stamped envelope (sase) if you wish to be notified that your card was received.
4. WTC graduation is scheduled for October, 2012. More information will be mailed to students and staff .



Rock scrambling crack and chimney instruction with OC instructors Helene Lohr, Melissa Kane, Jeanne Mendoza, Ed Cottone and Kevin Carter at Indian Cove

— photo by Edd Ruskowitz