



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA HIKING CLUB

MAY, 1962

TRIP TO LOST SOLDIER'S CAVE

by Bill Marquardt

A 20-foot and a 60-foot ladder drop greeted the 21 people visiting Lost Soldier's Cave in Sequoia National Park on the first weekend of Easter vacation this year. The trip was sponsored by the National Speleological Society (NSS) and included people from various parts of the state.

In the summer of 1909 or 1910 a soldier stationed in the area came back to camp with the news that he had found another cavern in the area nearby. The next day the soldier set out to explore the cave alone, taking ropes, candles, a lantern, and a gun. When he did not return, a search party finally found the cave and the lost soldier, who by this time was either hysterical or temporarily insane after over 36 hours in the cave and now without light. The cave's location was not mentioned in a cave list compiled fifteen years after this incident was supposed to have occurred, and the legend grew. In May 1950 the cave was rediscovered by the California Grottoes of the NSS. (See Halliday, Adventure is Underground, and the California Caver, around 1950.)

The UCHC had planned to go there, but we found out that the NSS already had a trip planned for the same date. On Friday, April 20, I had my hard hat, carbide lamp, sleeping bag, etc., in Rm. C in preparation for an overnight trip to cave city which I found out about on Wednesday. At noon on Friday there was a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board saying that Ken Miller had room for one or two more people on the NSS trip to Lost Soldier's Cave. I asked him for details at about two o'clock, and he said, "Be at my house at five o'clock."

At 5:30 PM the car and six people left for Sequoia. The trip took about eight hours including one hour spent fixing a tire. At about 1:00 PM on Saturday the other cars had arrived. The people going to the cave--nineteen men and two girls--were divided into 4 groups, the first gung-ho group setting up the rigging. The rigging consisted of a hand line to the first ladder drop, a rope ladder down the twenty-foot drop, a line for rappelling, and a line for belaying the person making the 60-foot rappel. It was quite muddy and slippery until we reached the Lunch Ledge--a place from which one can go in several directions.

First we visited the interface between the granite and the limestone (also called the Contact Room) where two of the party attempted to climb up the granite wall to see if there was anything above where the crack visible from below turned. They climbed the face using pitons for safety. They finally climbed to the top and reported that there was nothing that they wanted to go into at that time---i.e., presumably the hole (s) were too small. The room appears to be about 70 feet high, as far as we could see from the boulder-strewn floor.

After going back to the Lunch Ledge and eating, we explored parts of the cave. We went to the Pool Room via Ruby's Route---a way which involved more crawling and chimneying than the Conventional Route which we used for the return to the Lunch Ledge. Ruby's Route is named after a girl caver who was the first to wiggle through the crack which constitutes a short-cut. We visited the Aragonite Room, misnamed after the mineral, the Soda Straw Room, characterized by slender, transparent columns and stalactites, and other places.

The pool Room features, as it's name implies, water; some of the group filled their water bottles and carbide lamps with the water. Back again at the Lunch Ledge, a few people made coffee and bouillon using the water that they had gathered from the Pool Room. They managed to drink the resulting substances.

Soldier's Cave was a new experience for me because of the length of time you spend in it. (Most stayed inside 12 to 15 hours; I was in the cave for 14 hours and 20 minutes.) Carrying a pack through a cave was new-experience for me, since they are probably not necessary for many of California's smaller caves. After several hours in the cave one begins to feel the effects of the fatigue barrier.

I found that a filling of carbide is good for about two hours and that a filling of water lasts for about three carbide fillings; however, this is very variable and depends upon many factors. A few cavers brought along carbide dump bags for our used carbide.

Some of the cavers made extensive use of baby products---plastic baby bottles for carbide, and water, canned baby food and baby cereal. Canned fruit juice, nuts, raisins, candy, pork and beans, bouillon, etc., were also brought along.

To get out of the cave from the Lunch Ledge, we chimneyed up the 30-foot ladder drop with an upper belay. Then there is the 20-foot climb up the rope ladder and back to the surface. It was daylight when I got out at 5:25 AM.

In conclusion, Lost Soldier's Cave is very interesting; some of its parts are extremely beautiful. There are also other caves nearby. It would be well worth a return trip.

Karin Carter overheard a tourist explaining to her parents that the Hiking Club, Yacht Club, etc. are the beatniks and communists. We got to explain again to everybody that the Hiking Club is not a front for the Communist party, but rather that the Communist Party is a front for the Hiking Club.

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BEAR TRACK Published by the University of California Hiking Club

Editorial Whee; Whee; Oops (spelled with ooze and peas)
Contributors: Very few since some people didn't turn in their articles.

April 3, 1962

Al Kaplan has worked out the distribution of keys. The President shall have keys to everything. All officers (not including Reps-at-large) will have keys to the library. The Treasurer and President will have keys to the Treasury, and the Treasurer will have a copy of every key. The caving Section, Mountaineering Section, and Bear Track chairmen will have appropriate keys and may distribute copies as they see fit. The Quartermaster will have a key to the general lockers and may distribute copies. Manufacture of keys must be approved by Ex Com. Kaplan moved and Noble seconded that we accept the above plan. This was passed. (This is not as complicated as it looks--try making a chart.)

A letter has been written to thank Will Siri for speaking at our General Meeting.

Noble pointed out that Marcia Rottman's father has a name and it should have been used on the posters about this week's general meeting.

Suczek asked that the person signing out the key to Senior Men's Hall on Friday nights be sure to sign out in the little black book.

Pennington suggested that old National Geographics would be an excellent addition to the library.

April 10, 1962

Suczek said that we need someone to fill Krehe's place on Ex Com since he has gone to Europe. Aley suggested that Roger Ulrich be nominated. Roger was elected to fill the vacancy.

Suczek said that we need someone to fill Joe Maxwell's place as Rolk Dance Committee chairman since he has also gone to Europe. Karin Carter was nominated by Christie, seconded by Eric, and elected by the Committee.

Sturgis asked for a Treasurer's report. This never materialized. Aley moved that Taylor be given a kitten. Suczek (her cat has the kittens) seconded it. The motion passed. (I don't think that Tim was paying attention at this point since there was no violent objection.)

April 24, 1962

Kaplan asked if the posters which we voted to order quite a while ago have been ordered. They haven't. Kaplan said he would do it.

Taylor reported that there will be an auction of trucks in fair condition in Barstow soon, and asked if the club is interested. Since we still haven't heard from the committee which is supposed to be investigating this issue, we decided not to do anything about the auction.

Aley reported that he had a talk with the Dean of Students about the Hiking Club, and he asked that we encourage members of other clubs not to tip over icecream machines because we get blamed for it.

Ex Com members are Tom Aley, Eric Beals, John Fitz Al Kaplan, Bill Noble, Marcia Rottman Christie Suczek, Tim Taylor, and Roger Ulrich.

TRIP TO IXL CAVE

by Bill Marquardt

Five of us left Berkeley at 7:15 AM for Santa Cruz for a day of caving at and near IXL Cave. The whole area near the cave had limestone outcroppings and fissures in rocks. The cave is fairly easy to crawl in, except for a few tight places. Most of the formations are broken; parts of stalactites, stalagmites, columns and other speleothems remain only partially intact. The effects of vandalism--both intentional and accidental--are visible. The cave appears to have been quite beautiful at one time.

On the Saturday when we were there, about three car-loads of people arrived while we were in the cave. As I was crawling in a narrow passageway I heard what sounded like children in the cave. I met a girl about six years old, a younger brother, and one about eleven. They have one flashlight each. When I asked, they said that it was the second time they had been inside a cave; it was the second time for their mother also.

Steve Cafferata and I helped them get out of the cave. Dave Rottman commented that children of that age had no business inside this type of cave--especially with so little experience. We all agreed.

After going to the end of the cave, Eric Beals went out and helped Kathy Connell and another girl catch butterflies and hike around the area. Dave, Steve, and I went and looked at a few other caves nearby. In Spider Cave most of the spiders were gone. Another of the caves had a type of fungus growing on the floor. Writing on the wall indicated that a party had been there in 1914.

We left for home near sunset after an interesting day.

TETON TEA

*Some of you know and might want to know how to make Teton Tea, invented by Bill Briggs at Jerry Lake Campground, the Tetons, Wyoming. I got this recipe from Dick Scheible, and any corrections any of you think necessary can be given to me.

Ingredients:

- Wine
- Tea
- Lemons
- Raspberries
- Sugar
- Water, if desired.

Make strong tea, add squeezed lemons, about 6 to a quart of tea, and add about 2-3 gallons of wine, add berries one frozen package, and heat. Add sugar to taste. The quantities subject to debate, variation, and preference of the imbibers, only tea, wine, lemons, and heat being essential.

Wine: White port is best, white wine better than red because doesn't taste too strong for the tea and berries.

Lemons: Cut lengthwise, i.e. parallel to the sections, not across. Stir always counterclockwise in the Northern Hemisphere in harmony with Nature.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA HIKING CLUB SCHEDULE--MAY 1962

Check in Room C for Signups and Details

- Sat May 5---YOSEMITE AND MT HOFFMAN BACKPACKING Whizzing over the
 Sun May 6 new highway to Tuolumne Meadows we don't generally notice the large high mountain mass that separates the Merced and Tuolumne Rivers north of Yosemite Valley. Here lies Mt. Hoffman with its spectacular north wall, Hoffman Thumb, numerous high lakes and views of much of Yosemite National Park. We will camp a few miles from the Tioga Pass highway and climb Mt. Hoffman and Tuolumne Peak overlooking the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne, and perhaps explore the Ten Lakes region. Be prepared for some snow on the ground; if the road is not open we will climb Mt. Hoffman from the floor of the valley. Hetch Hetchy and Tuolumne Meadows quadrangles. Leader: Tim Taylor--TH 5-1910
- Tues May 8--GENERAL MEETING--Check Room C for further details.
- Sat May 12--ICE AND SNOW TECHNIQUE--whatever can be practiced on mud, dirt cliffs and high-angle sand dunes will be carried on somewhere in the Point Reyes-McClure Beach area. An Ice axe is necessary. Beginners are invited, but the trip is primarily for those who have already done some snow and ice climbing. The group will probably be small and the workout both vigorous and rigorous. Any experts present will have been created on the scene. Leader: Bill Noble--TH 5-2871.
- Sat May 12--SONORA AND EBBETTS PASSES--Car Camping. Two of the more
 Sun May 13 rugged passes in the United States. These passes will just have opened and the snow will still be drifted high along the side of the road forming weird shapes as it melts. These paved roads are steep, twisting, and spectacular, and there are several short interesting hikes possible in the regions of both passes. Sonora Pass and Markleesville quadrangles. Leader: Christie Sucek--LA 5-9342
- Thu May 17--MOONLIGHT HIKE The days of wrath (professors) are coming, do not despair, come out for an evening's ramble somewhere in the Berkeley Hills--East Oakland area. If we're especially fortunate, we may have a view of the Bay Area covered with a mantle of fog below us, and the crisp stars above us, and us with us. Leave from Room C at 7:30 PM. Leader: John Fitz--TH 5-7406
- Sat May 19--DARDANELLES CONE BACKPACKING An exploratory trip into an area new to the Hiking Club. Dardanelles Cone and the Dardanelles are prominent, craggy summits north of the Sonora Pass road, and just north of the Stanislaus River. There will be a short backpack, partly cross-country, into McCormick or Drew Creek. These peaks should command fine views of the country between Yosemite National Park and Echo Summit, a wild area of many lakes and rugged peaks often overlooked because of the higher, more well-known area just to the south in Yosemite Park. Elevation gain: 3800 feet. Dardanelles Cone quadrangle. Leader: Al Kaplan--TH 9-1878
- Sat 26 May--WATERMELON FEED Check in Room C for details and

signup for Hiking Club's wanted messy-face-getting and seeds-spitting-at-each-other.

After Finals NORTH YOLLIABOLLY PEAK BACKPACKING Unwind after finals in one of the least accessible and therefore most wild areas in the state--the Yolly Bolly Wilderness area in The northern Coast Range. Lots of lingering snowdrift trails, manure-free trails, and beautiful lichen-covered trees to get you in the mood for more summer hiking. Yolla Bolly quadrangle.
Leader: Helen McGinnis--TH 3-3159

In a few weeks, before the semester's end, we'll be making plans for our summer schedule of Hiking Club activities. Suggestions for trips are warmly solicited from all members, whether they will be in the Berkeley area during the summer or not. Also, if you will be in the area, and are willing and able to lead a trip or two (or more), please let us know.

Suggestions and volunteerisms can be left on the Room C Eshleman Hall bulletin board. The time and place of the summer schedule planning session will be announced later. Watch the bulletin board.

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Hiking Clubbers are planning a trip to Alaska during the coming summer so if you are interested check in Room C.

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Glen Canyon is also on the list of places to be explored again during the early summer, the area described by Phil Pennington in his earlier articles on last summer's trip. He will be leading a month's trip or shorter shuttles and if you are interested in visiting this area, probably for the last time, please contact him at TH 5-7406. This area also involves a significant test case to determine whether the Bureau of Reclamation can back water up into a National Park, as the Glen Canyon dam will do to the Rainbow Bridge National Monument. The dam is constructed and due to have its gates closed on Jan. 1, 1963, and the beauty of the canyons which will be submerged makes me want to cry and at least urge that protest by mail be registered to Secretary of The Interior Udall and Congressmen.

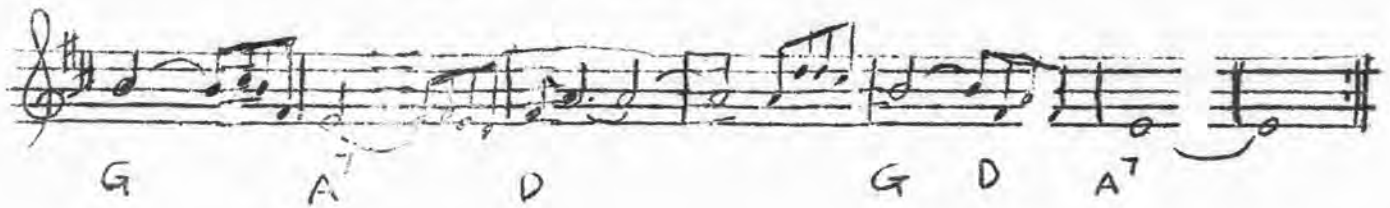
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Remember Hiking Club's annual High Trip during the late summer--signup for those interested and ideas for places to go and explore is already up on the bulletin board---no better way to get back that zim and zest for the fall grind.

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Tips for Ski Trips--if you want to keep your feet warm, put on your hat. Since your body regulates its distribution of heat by priority, head first, torso next, extremities last, if the head has no difficulty in keeping warm, more body heat will be available for those cold toes!

MAN OF CONSTANT SORROW



I am a man of constant sorrow,
I have seen trouble all my days,
I bid farewell to old Kentucky,
The place where I was partly raised.

For six long years I've been in trouble,
No pleasure here on earth I've found,
For in this world I'm bound to ramble,
I have no friends to help me round.

Maybe your friends think I'm just a stranger,
My face you'll never see no more,
But there is a promise that is given,
I'll meet you on God's golden shore.

You can bury me in some dark hollow,
For many a year where I may lay,
Then you may learn to love another,
While I'm sleeping in my grave.

I always thought I had seen trouble,
But now I know its common run;
So I'll hang my head and weep in sorrow,
Just to think what you have done.

So it's fare you well, my own dear lover,
I never expect to see you again,
I am bound to ride that Northern railway,
Perhaps I'll catch the very next train.

When I am in some lonesome hour,
And I'm feeling all alone,
I will weep the briny tears of sorrow,
And think of you so far gone.

(Copied from Bill Briggs Folk Song Book)

Editorial Whee

OFFICERS

Sometimes the club business seems to be election after election, installing new officers, electing new officers, installing, electing, installing..... Frequently the Nominating Committee has difficulty getting the twelve people to run for the nine positions as specified by our constitution, and it is common to have great difficulty in obtaining chairmen for the committees. All of which prompts a few remarks about the club organization, and about officers in particular.

The Hiking Club is, fortunately for the spirit it typifies, not burdened down by a weight of organization. Certain procedural matters come up from time to time, and often some pressure develops over some necessary operation, but the tone of the club is one of informality; the trips get planned and scheduled and they usually go, and if something doesn't go once in a while no one gets into a great sweat about it at least not a long-lasting one. And this is good; the point to the club is the people in it, not the structure, and thank heavens we don't have any organization-minded people. I would advocate abolition of the constitution but it serves the useful function of getting us recognized by the ASUC and providing us thereby with our office space and location on campus.

But all this informality leads to an attitude toward officers and committee chairmen of Let someone else who has the time do it. Dozens of Hiking Club members have much time to spend sitting in the office, but few express the willingness to take on the responsibilities of finances, parties, record-keeping, over-all co-ordinating, trip leading. Probably half of those asked by the nominating committee decline to run, and this is what really provokes this editorial; because the reason in most cases is simply the desire to be free of the burden of responsibility. Time pressure is one thing, but the club needs new members to be involved in its operation and planning, and we feel that no one is justified in declining a nomination (except for severe time pressure) because he thereby denies those members of the club who may wish to vote for him a chance to do so. So we urge all members who are nominated by the committee or from the floor as it were to run; this will insure a healthy club.

OVERPOPULATION

What is the solution to the dilemma of the increasing number of people in the universe, and the corresponding decrease in the wilderness of our country? Elsewhere we note the destruction of the Glen Canyon Wilderness; the devastation of the Sierras by highways and people crowding into the National Parks and Forests with their tin-cans and general disregard for the beauty there growing in our State; and one cringes at the thought that perhaps eventually the Sierras will also be covered by a mat of smog. We wish there were an equitable way to distribute people and preserve the mountains and trees; but is there any hope left? We can stave off the carving up of the Sierras perhaps a while longer, but the eventual criss-crossing of the hills with roads and traffic seems inevitable. The limit to our activity seems to be to support the Sierra Club, and to write letters to Congress; but in many cases ignorance of the threats to many areas seems to be the biggest problem. We urge following the issues in the Sierra Club bulletin, and the sending of letters to Congress. For instance, the Tehipite Valley area should be included in Kings Canyon National Park to protect it from any other future attempt at destruction.



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Hel en McGinnis
1807 Cedar

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