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BACKPACK SECTION, LOMA PRIETA CHAPTER

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*Section members and public are invited.*

## SECTION MEETING

### New Backpackers Invited

**Monday, May 14, 2007 at 7:30 PM**

Students participating in the Beginning Backpacking course are invited to attend this month's meeting. Now that they've got one of three planned outings behind them, we'd love to hear from them how it went, what they've learned, and what kinds of trips they'd like to take in the future.

We'll also cover some Section business, hear reports from trip leaders on the Beginning Backpacking course's first outing, held at Castle Rock State Park last weekend, and enjoy refreshments and some social interaction.

Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter, Backpack Section (BPS)  
 c/o Katherine Greene  
 PO Box 390578  
 Mountain View, CA 94039

## Backpack Section (BPS)

<http://lomaprieta.sierraclub.org/bps/>

Founded January 13, 1956, the BPS is an official activities section of the Sierra Club's Loma Prieta Chapter, serving San Mateo, Santa Clara, and San Benito counties in California. The Section sponsors backpacking trips to wilderness and scenic areas, ranging from easy beginner weekend outings to more rigorous expeditions of up to two weeks, no matter what the season. Most trips are within California and Nevada, mainly in local, state, or national parks, national forests, wilderness areas, and national monuments. All trip leaders are volunteers, and fees for trips are limited to actual costs incurred for expenses, such as group meals and permits.

### Officers and Appointees

#### Chair

Steve Sergeant, (408) 937-8116  
[backpack.chair@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org](mailto:backpack.chair@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org)

#### Vice-Chair/Equipment Manager

Matt Hahne, (408) 749-9968

#### Secretary/Living It Up! Editor

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[jean@effable.com](mailto:jean@effable.com)

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#### Outings Chair

Steve Stearns, [stearns@ieee.org](mailto:stearns@ieee.org)

#### Conservation

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#### Membership

Katherine Greene, [bloominkat@yahoo.com](mailto:bloominkat@yahoo.com)

#### Programs Director

#### Webmaster

Steve Sergeant (408) 937-8116  
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### Loma Prieta Chapter

3921 E. Bayshore Rd, Ste 204  
Palo Alto, CA 94303  
(650) 390-8411

### Sierra Club

85 Second St., Second Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3441, USA  
Telephone: (415) 977-5500  
FAX: (415) 977-5799

## Meeting Details and Location

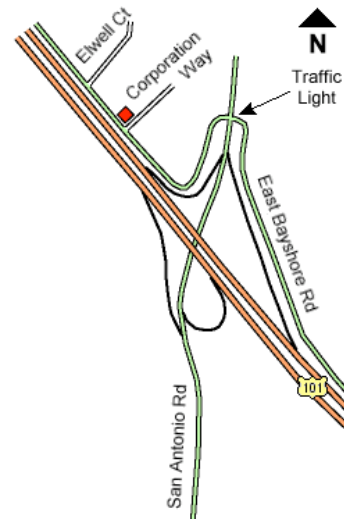
Members and nonmembers are invited to attend Section meetings. Meetings are held at 7:30 PM at Acterra in the Peninsula Conservation Center on the second Monday of every month. The evening's program is followed by a refreshment break, then Section business, conservation issues, trip reports, and discussions of upcoming trips.

### Address

Acterra Building  
Peregrine Room  
3921 E Bayshore Rd  
Palo Alto, CA 94303

### Directions

From Highway 101, exit San Antonio Rd (north). At the first traffic light, turn left onto E. Bayshore Rd, and continue 0.2 miles. Acterra is located at the corner of E. Bayshore Rd and Corporation Way.



## PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS NEEDED

*Submitted by Jean Higham-Sergeant, Secretary/Newsletter Editor*

### What ideas do you have?

In lieu of begging you to fill the Backpack Section's hard-core sounding volunteer position of programs director, I'm asking instead for your ideas on what we might do for the evening programs at our monthly meetings. Can you or someone you know give a short presentation to a small group of people? Topics of interest are vastly numerous, including:

- Environmental issues
- Slide shows, near and distant trip destinations
- Equipment demonstrations/reviews
- How-to lectures
- Backcountry cooking demonstrations
- Poetry readings, book reviews
- Introductions to other Sierra Club sections and activities
- Photography
- Wildlife
- Wildflower/plant/mineral identification

Please pass along your ideas to any Section officer or appointee, or to Section Chair, Steve Sergeant, at [backpack.chair@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org](mailto:backpack.chair@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org) or at (408) 937-8116. 🏔️

## KAREN'S BIG PCT ADVENTURE

**Read her trail journal, sign her guestbook, visit her on the trail!**

*This note comes from Karen Keller, a Section trip leader many of us know and love.*

After a year of planning, I'm finally out on the trail for my thru-hike of the Pacific Crest Trail. Yes, that's 2,658 miles from Mexico to Canada.

I started on April 27th and hope to get to Canada in early October. You can follow along at:

[www.trailjournals.com/kkellerpct](http://www.trailjournals.com/kkellerpct)

I'd welcome visitors on the trail if you happen to be in the area when I pass through.

You can reach me by signing my guestbook and including your email so I can reply.

Hope everyone has a great summer — I am! 🏔️

## ANNUAL SECTION PICNIC HELD SATURDAY, APRIL 28TH

**Friends, food, and a lovely day hike at Huddart**

This year we held our annual picnic earlier than usual. Despite our concern that weather might be wet this early in the season, the day was beautiful, warm and sunny. We had a small but delightful gathering at Huddart

County Park in Woodside. After barbecuing burgers and fish steaks, and sharing wonderful salads and deserts, we went on an invigorating, approximately five and a half to six-mile hike from the Miwok picnic area

along the Chinquapin, Crystal Springs, and Dean trails.

Our thanks goes to Joe Schmidt for organizing this year's picnic. 🏔️

## SNOWMELT FORECAST

**As of May 1, 2007**

For the eight major rivers of the Sacramento and San Joaquin River regions, this is a forecast of snowmelt runoff expected during the period from April through July, 2006.

With experience in correlating these numbers with actual conditions, this forecast can help you anticipate what the streams and snow cover will be like when you travel to the Sierra Nevada.

### Forecast of April – July Unimpaired Snowmelt Runoff

River Basin	% of Normal*
Tuolumne	46%
Merced	36%
San Joaquin	39%
Kings	39%
Kaweah	33%
Kern	31%
Owens	48%
Mono	48%

*\*100% runoff forecast in percent of normal, based on averages during the years of 1951–2000.*

**Source:** *Bulletin 120*, a monthly publication about water conditions in California, published by the California Department of Water Resources.

For more detailed and up-to-date information, go to <http://cdec.water.ca.gov/> and select "Statewide Water Conditions" from the CDEC Resource Directory. 🏔️

## MEETING MINUTES *submitted by Jean Higham-Sergeant, Secretary*

**April 2007**

The April meeting was our season kickoff. It was hosted by the Sports Basement in Sunnyvale. Steve Sergeant presided, and there were a lot of new faces in attendance.

Steve Stearns, Dan Cobb, and Steve Sergeant prepared a slide show to accompany their various presentations, and the Sports Basement provided food and liquid refreshments, gave out \$10 gift

certificates to old and new members, and gave a 20% off (one-item) gift certificate to all attendees.

Steve Sergeant presented an introduction to the Sierra Club, the Loma Prieta Chapter, and our Backpack Section.

Steve Stearns described our Basic Backpacking course, and explained our trip leader qualifications.

Steve Sergeant described the Lightweight Backpacking Course, and summarized our upcoming trips

All attendees were eligible for a prize drawing held at the end of the meeting. Prizes were provided by the Sports Basement, and included several water bottles, a first-aid kit, and a hydration pack. In addition, the Section provided one free seat in the Basic Backpacking Course. 🏔️

## JOHN MUIR QUOTE

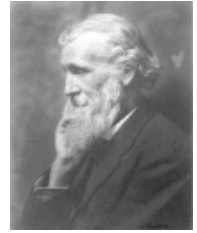
### Twenty Hill Hollow

After our smoky sky has been washed in the rains of winter, the whole complex row of Sierras appears from the plain as a simple wall, slightly beveled, and colored in horizontal bands laid one above another, as if entirely composed of partially straightened rainbows. So, also, the plain seen from the mountains has the same simplicity of smooth surface, colored purple and yellow, like a patchwork of irised clouds. But when we descend to this smooth-furred sheet, we discover complexity in its physical conditions equal to that of the mountains, though less strongly marked. In particular, that portion of the plain lying between the Merced and the Tuolumne, within ten miles of the slaty foothills, is most elaborately carved into valleys, hollows, and smooth undulations, and among them is laid the Merced Yosemite of the

plain -- Twenty Hill Hollow.

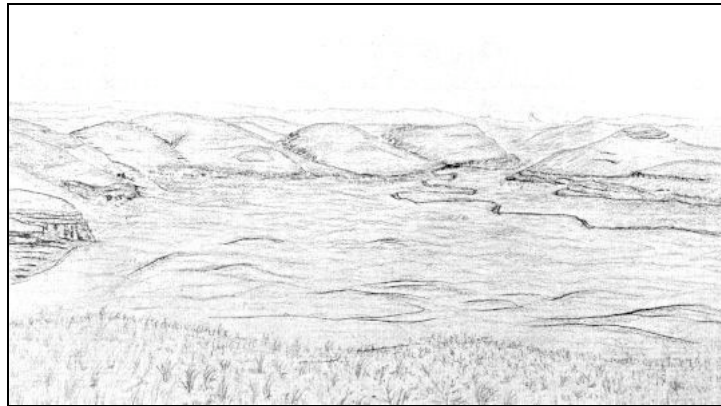
This delightful Hollow is less than a mile in length, and of just sufficient width to form a well-proportioned oval. It is situated about midway between the two rivers, and five miles from the Sierra foothills. Its banks are formed of twenty hemispherical hills; hence its name. They surround and enclose it on all sides, leaving only one narrow opening toward the southwest for the escape of its waters. The bottom of the Hollow is about two hundred feet below the level of the

surrounding plain, and the tops of its hills are slightly below the general level. Here is no towering dome, no Tissiack, to mark its place; and one may ramble close upon its rim before he is made aware of its existence. Its twenty hills are as wonder-fully regular in size and position as in form. They are like big marbles half buried in the ground, each poised and settled daintily into its



place at a regular distance from its fellows, making a charming fairy-land of hills, with small, grassy valleys between, each valley having a tiny stream of its own, which leaps and sparkles out into the open hollow, uniting to form Hollow Creek.

*From A Thousand-Mile Walk to the Gulf, 1916. 🏔️*



Twenty Hills Hollow, from a sketch by John Muir.

## TICKS: RISKIEST ACTIVITIES *by Jean Higham-Sergeant*

*This article is a reprint. It originally appeared in our May, 2004 Living It Up! newsletter.*

According to a Berkeley News press release on April 8, 2004, researchers at the University of California, Berkeley have been studying ticks in California. They were especially interested in determining what specific activities put people at greatest risk from ticks. They conducted their study at the UC Hopland Research and Extension Center in southeastern Mendocino County, an area predominantly forested with California black oak.

What they discovered is that sitting on a log is the riskiest activity, and it made no difference whether the wood was bare or covered with moss.

Gathering wood was the next most risky activity, followed by sitting or leaning against a tree. Sitting on the ground amid leaf litter is also risky, but less so.

Ticks also climb blades of grass or perch on edges of leaves, exhibiting a "questing" behavior. When they sense a mammal's presence, they extend their front legs, and if the mammal brushes against them, they latch on.

There are several species of pathogen-carrying ticks in California, so it's a good idea to be vigilant. Ticks can be found almost anywhere in the state, though less commonly in extremely dry regions. Lyme disease, which is less common in California than in the Eastern and Midwestern states, is carried by a small percentage

of western black-legged ticks and deer ticks. These ticks are found in the moister regions of the coastal ranges and the Sierra foothills. In their nymphal stage, these ticks are as small as poppy seeds, so it's easy to overlook them, even after they've attached themselves to a human host.

In tick-infested areas, wear light-colored clothing so you can more easily see a tick on you, and tuck your pant legs into your socks, and your shirt into your pants. Check yourself carefully, and continue checking yourself for several days afterwards. A tiny nymph swells after it begins feeding, making it a little easier to find, and it usually takes more than a

*[Continued on next page]*

[Ticks, continued]

day after it bites for an infected young nymph or adult tick to transmit the Lyme disease-causing spirochete.

If you discover a tick that's attached itself to you, forget all the methods for removal that you may have heard of, except for very carefully grasping the tick as close to your skin as possible with fine-point tweezers, and without squeezing, pull it steadily straight out of the skin. Squeezing the tick can force infected material from it into you. The tick might also release infected fluid through its mouth if you

encourage it to detach itself. Don't bother trying to smother it either; it already has enough oxygen to last through its feeding.

If possible, have someone else remove the tick for you. Check that its mouth parts are still intact, and not embedded in your skin. A magnifying glass is useful for this. See a doctor if part of the tick remained in the skin. Wash the bite area and apply an antiseptic, and be sure to clean the tweezers. It's a good idea to save the tick in a container, especially if you're uncertain what kind it is. Lab tests can

determine whether or not it's carrying a dangerous disease. Watch for signs of infection, particularly for the tell-tale bull's-eye rash or flu-like symptoms that result within three weeks from exposure to Lyme disease.

Sources and additional information can be found at [http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2004/04/08\\_tick.shtml](http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2004/04/08_tick.shtml), <http://entomology.uc.davis.edu/faculty/rbkimsey/caticks.html>, and <http://www.lyme.org/ticks/tick.html>. 🗺️

## ACTIVITIES AND TRIPS

### General information

One trip is currently scheduled during this off-season. Look for more in the April LIU! after our annual trip planning meeting.

### Trip registration

Participants need not be Section members, however, trip leader approval is required. Contact the trip leader to preregister. For by-mail trip registration, send the trip leader two large, self-addressed, stamped envelopes (SASEs) with your name, address, work and home phone numbers, e-mail address, a summary of your back-packing experience, and

if specified in the trip description, send a check made out to the trip leader.

### Up-to-date trip information

All trip information is subject to change. The Section Web site at <http://lomaprieta.sierraclub.org/bps/> may reflect changes that occur after *LUI!* publication. Contact the trip leader for up-to-date information.

### Liability waiver

All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. You may review the liability waiver in advance at

<http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/>, or contact the Outings Department at (415) 977-5528 for a printed version.

The Sierra Club assumes no responsibility of liability for transportation by private vehicle.

### Equipment loans

Two bear canisters and some trail maintenance tools are available for loan (deposit required) to Section leaders and members. For details, contact Matt Hahne, Equipment Manager, (408) 749-9968.

### Trip ratings

Max Daily Mileage		Max Daily Elev Gain		Additional Criteria	
Distance in Miles	Rating	Elevation in Feet	Rating	Description	Code
0 – 5	1	0 – 1,000	A	Cross-country*	-xc
5 – 7.5	2	1,000 – 2,000	B	(Off-trail travel with backpack)	
7.5 – 10	3	2,000 - 3,000	C	Fast and light	-f&l
10 - 15	4	3,000 +	D	(Fitness/base pack-weight requirements)	
15+	5				

\* Any trip may include optional cross-country hikes from camp

NR = not rated (Contact trip leader for information)

### Schedule

#### Jun 30–Jul 4 (Sat–Wed), Green Creek to Virginia Lakes, Hoover Wilderness/Yosemite NP, 2B-xc

This is a shuttle trip. Two-days hike from Green Creek into the Hoover Wilderness with some easy cross country the second day, over Virginia

Pass to Yosemite NP. There will be a layover day camping at a selected lake with possibilities for exploration, including Stanton Peak, Grey Butte, and Soldier Lake in Yosemite NP. Return via Virginia Canyon along a different trail likely leaving Yosemite

over Summit Pass to finish at Virginia Lakes.

Meals are central commissary. All meals included from dinner on Saturday through lunch on

[Continued on next page]

[Schedule, continued]

Wednesday. Bear canisters will be used. Cost \$60.

Co-leader: Vince Coit, vince.coit@sbcglobal.net, (209) 992-9184, email preferred. Leader: Matt Hahne. Limit: 8. Contact co-leader to reserve.

**July 1–6 (Sun–Fri), PCT Section M, Sierra Buttes to Belden, 5C-f&l**

The northern Sierra Nevada is not popular with your typical backpacker, but there is plenty of beauty along the Pacific Crest Trail north of Donner Pass. In 92 miles we'll cross several major roads and pass near a couple of towns, but we'll also have the chance to climb the Sierra Buttes fire lookout, cross the Feather River, and explore the Buck's Lake Wilderness.

We'll travel in through-hiker style, hiking 16-20 miles per day, cooking on the trail, making camp at sunset, and continuing the hike at sunrise. This is a fast & light trip with special fitness requirements and gear-weight restrictions. Individual commissary. Through-hike requiring car shuttle. Limit of 5 participants.

To register, contact the leader: Steve Sergeant, steve.sergeant@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org or (408) 937-8116.

**July 5–7 (Thu–Sat), PCT Section L, Interstate 80 to Highway 49 (near Sierra City), 4B (day hikes only)**

When I retired in 1998, I told everyone one of my goals was to hike the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT). I'll never be strong enough to hike all 2,727 miles in one summer, so I'm hiking a section or two every year, subdivided into day hiking and backpacking trips, (depending on trails, trailheads, and available campsites) until my body refuses to hike anymore. And I'm inviting all of you to join me. Last year we completed Section K. This year we'll do Section L as a series of three day hikes, and Section J as a series of three backpacking trips.

We'll start this summer's PCT hiking by doing section L over the long 4th of July weekend. 40 miles of day hiking over three days, with 11 miles of mostly downhill on Thu, 12 miles on Fri, and 17 miles on Sat. Well-behaved dogs are welcome. For reservations and instructions, contact Dorie Stoessel at 650-941-2502 or

530-583-0382, or by sending email to duchess at casaraquel dot com (email preferred).

**Jul 14–15 (Sat–Sun), Tahoe National Forest, Donner Summit to Devils Oven, 2B-xc**

This moderately strenuous trip traverses of a multifaceted glaciated basin that is a mix of granite and volcanic rock. Hopefully, the wild flowers on the east side of Castle Peak will be in full bloom. There is a short bit of cross country between Devils Oven Lake/Warren Lake and Paradise Lakes. Bring your mosquito nets and juice. Individual commissary. Limited to 6 trip participants. There is no fee for this trip. Leader: Anne Gorby; co-leader: Walter Melville. To sign up please contact the leader, Anne Gorby, at 415-482-9055 (5:00–8:00 pm) or email anne\_gorby@sbcglobal.net.

**July 15–20 (Sun–Fri), PCT Section J, Sonora Pass Hwy 108 to Ebbetts Pass Hwy 4 Mostly 2A (2B/3A)**

First of a series of 3 trips along PCT Section J. This section is characterized by volcanic rocks instead of the granite that is predominant in Sections H and I. 35 miles of backpacking in 5 hiking days, plus a layover day at Boulder Lake for relaxing and/or bagging Boulder Peak. Hot-water commissary for breakfast; full central commissary for dinner. Well-behaved dogs are welcome. Limit 12. For reservations and instructions, contact Dorie Stoessel at 650-941-2502 or 530-583-0382, or by sending email to duchess at casaraquel dot com (email preferred).

**Jul 21–22 (Sat–Sun), Desolation Wilderness, Wrights Lake to Lakes Lois and Schmidell, 3B**

Moderately strenuous overnight journey will takes us deep into the Desolation Wilderness's more remote sections and lakes. Bring your mosquito nets and juice. Hot water commissary for breakfast and dinner. Limited to 6 trip participants. Trip fee is \$10 per participant. Cancellation two weeks prior for full refund. Leader: Anne Gorby; co-leader: Joel Ferrill. To sign up please contact the leader, Anne Gorby, at 415-482-9055 (5:00–8:00 pm) or email anne\_gorby@sbcglobal.net.

**Jul 21–26 (Sat–Thu), PCT Section J, Ebbetts Pass Hwy 4 to Carson Pass Hwy 88, mostly 2B (2A/3B)**

Second of a series of 3 trips along PCT Section J. This section is described as having "an impressive, even sometimes surrealistic landscape" because of its volcanic flows. 33 miles of backpacking in five hiking days, plus a layover day to climb Round Top and/or Elephant's Back, or just to relax and recuperate. Hot-water commissary for breakfast; full central commissary for dinner. Well-behaved dogs are welcome. Limit 12. For reservations and instructions, contact Dorie Stoessel at 650-941-2502 or 530-583-0382, or by sending email to duchess at casaraquel dot com (email preferred).

**Jul 27–29 (Fri–Sun), PCT Section J, Carson Pass Hwy 88 to Echo Summit, Hwy 50, 1A/3A**

Third of a series of 3 trips along PCT Section J. This section crosses the beginnings of the Truckee River and offers occasional views of Lake Tahoe. 13 miles of backpacking in 2 hiking days, plus a layover day at Showers Lake to climb Little Round Top or just relax and recuperate. Well-behaved dogs are welcome. Hot-water commissary for breakfast; full central commissary for dinner. Limit 12. For reservations and instructions, contact Dorie Stoessel at 650-941-2502 or 530-583-0382, or by sending email to duchess at casaraquel dot com (email preferred).

**Aug 2-5 (Thu-Sun), Ansel Adams Wilderness, Madera Lakes Family Backpack, 2B**

Moderate-to-easy 4-day trip near the south boundary of Yosemite National Park. 3 hiking days and 1 layover day, with campsites at lakes. Suitable for children 10 and over. Group dinners. Limit 12 participants. Dan and Jo Ann Cobb, leaders dmcobb@sbcglobal.net.

**Aug 3–6 (Fri–Mon), S.E. Yosemite via Fernandez Pass, 4C-f&l,\*Date tentative\***

Ever wanted to see the remote, southeast wilderness in Yosemite? Some people fear my Fast & Light trips are too ambitious for them. Well,

[Continued on next page]

[Schedule, continued]

here's one to prove them wrong. On this out-and-back trip, there's no pressure — we'll see how far we get in two days, then come back out by the same route. We'll start out at the Clover Meadow ranger station (7,100 ft) on the southern end of the Ansel Adams Wilderness, hike toward Rutherford Lake, over Fernandez Pass (10,200 ft) and down into Yosemite

**Aug 8–16 (Wed–Thu), Cottonwood Pass to New Army Pass via Guitar Lake, with a day hike up Mt. Whitney, 3C**

A convoluted (but somewhat easier) way to reach the top of Mt. Whitney! 59 miles of backpacking in 8 days and an optional 11 mile roundtrip day hike from Guitar Lake to the top of Mt. Whitney. A bear canister sufficient to carry 9 days food is required. You must either backpack at or above 10,000 ft in the preceding 2 weeks, OR stay Mon night at the Cottonwood Lakes Trailhead campground (10,060 ft) and day hike above 10,000 ft on Tue. Hot-water commissary for breakfast; full central commissary for dinner. Limit 8. For reservations and instructions, contact Dorie Stoessel at 650-941-2502 or 530-583-0382, or by sending email to duchess at casaraquel dot com (email preferred).

**Aug 10–12 (Fri–Sun), Hoover Wilderness, Twin Lakes to Crown Lake, 3C**

This moderately strenuous trip leads to Crown Lake, sitting on the Sierra Crest, where along the way we will see some of the finest east-side scenery. At Crown Lake there are excellent views of Kettle Peak and Crown Point. On the layover day we can fish for brook and rainbow, explore the surrounding area, or bag a peak. Hot water commissary for breakfast and dinner. Limited to 6 trip participants. Trip fee is \$10 per participant. Cancellation two weeks prior for full refund. Leader: Anne Gorby; co-leader: Renee Rivera. To sign up please contact the leader, Anne Gorby, at 415-482-9055 (5:00-

National Park through Moraine Meadows, over Merced Pass (9,200 ft), and if we're doing well, into the Illilouette Creek drainage. Who knows how far we'll get? — it's only 29 miles one-way to Mono Meadows and only a couple more miles to Glacier Point!

We'll travel in through-hiker style, hiking at a pace that accommodates everyone, cooking on the trail, making 8:00 pm) or email [anne\\_gorby@sbcglobal.net](mailto:anne_gorby@sbcglobal.net).

**Aug 31–Sep 3 (Fri–Mon), Basecamp Trip, Destination TBA, 2A**

More about this trip in July after I've made scouting trips to possible destinations in June.

This is a relatively easy trip suitable for less-experienced backpackers. "Homemade" vegetarian central commissary dinner and breakfast, individual lunches. Limit 7 participants. Registration begins after trip details are announced. Trip leader: Steve Sergeant.

**September 14–16 (Fri–Sun), PCT Section L, Donner Pass to Highway 49, 5B-f&l \*Tentative\***

This 40-mile section of the Pacific Crest Trail is sometimes hiked by strong day-hikers in a single, long day, but we'll plan for two days plus a few hours on Friday evening. The route descends, primarily, with a few gentle climbs here and there. We'll pass through Castle Valley, and go by the Sierra Club's first backcountry ski hut. As the trail descends from its starting elevation of 7,190 ft to our final elevation of 4,570 ft, we'll pass through zones of different types of vegetation and geology.

We'll travel in through-hiker style, hiking 17–20 miles per day, cooking on the trail, making camp at sunset, and continuing the hike at sunrise. This is a fast & light trip with special fitness requirements and gear-weight restrictions. Individual commissary. Through-hike requiring car shuttle. Limit of 5 participants. Trip leader: Steve Sergeant.

Registration begins after trip plans are confirmed in August.

camp at sunset, and continuing the hike at sunrise. This is a fast & light trip with special fitness requirements and gear-weight restrictions. Individual commissary. Limit of 7 participants.

To register, contact the leader: Steve Sergeant, [steve.sergeant@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org](mailto:steve.sergeant@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org) or (408) 937-8116.

**Sep 15–16 (Sat–Sun), Ansel Adams Wilderness, Granite Creek to Fernandez Lakes, 3C**

This trip will take us to a lake-filled area just east of Gale and Sing Peaks, and we will be just outside the southern boundary of Yosemite. Our route will take us beyond the popular Lillian Lake loop. Hot water commissary for breakfast and dinner. Limited to 6 trip participants. Trip fee is \$10 per participant. Cancellation two weeks prior for full refund. Leader: Anne Gorby; co-leader: Sanjeev Kumar. To sign up please contact the leader, Anne Gorby, at 415-482-9055 (5:00–8:00 pm) or email [anne\\_gorby@sbcglobal.net](mailto:anne_gorby@sbcglobal.net).

**October 27–28 (Sat–Sun), Pre-Halloween Overnight, 5B-f&l**

The Skyline to the Sea trail travels through two large California state parks, Castle Rock and Big Basin. The trail descends 2,300 ft over 34.4 miles. We'll start out at the Castle Rock parking lot and hike a full day to Big Basin Park HQ, where we'll stay at Jay Camp. The next day will be a comparatively easy day through the most scenic parts of Big Basin State Park.

Some day-hiking groups regularly traverse this trail in a day, so an ultralight backpacker should be able to cover it in two!

This is a fast & light trip with special fitness requirements and gear-weight restrictions. Individual commissary. Through-hike requiring car shuttle. Limit 7 participants. To register, contact the leader: Steve Sergeant, [steve.sergeant@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org](mailto:steve.sergeant@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org) or (408) 937-8116. 🏠

