



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

BACKPACK SECTION, LOMA PRIETA CHAPTER

Inside VOL. 52, NO. 10, DECEMBER 2007

PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS NEEDED
 What ideas do you have? (Reprint)..... 2

SIERRA CLUB CALENDARS
 Buy them at the Section holiday meeting..... 3

LIGHTWEIGHT BACKPACKING
 Starting April 5, 2008..... 3

MEETING MINUTES
 November 2007 3

JOHN MUIR QUOTE
 Yosemite in winter: Scenery, visitors in 1872, dead horses, and brown bears..... 4

ACTIVITIES AND TRIPS 4

SUBMISSIONS 4

MEMBERSHIP FORM..... 4

Section members and public are invited. Directions are on page 2.



HOLIDAY PARTY

Potluck, officer elections

**Join us on Monday, December 11, 2007
at 7:30 PM in the Peregrine Room**

Come to the Backpack Section meeting and bring sweet or savory holiday treats to share! We'll have plenty of time for socializing and reconnecting with last summer's backpacking companions, plus there'll be a short "mystery" on an environmental topic. Marj Ottenberg will be selling Sierra Club calendars.

The more who attend, the merrier, so please be there! Remember that if you're a member, your presence will help ensure that there's a quorum for voting on Section officers!

Backpack Section
Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter
3921 E. Bayshore Road, Suite 204
Palo Alto, CA 94303

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

Vice Chair/Equipment Manager

Matt Hahne, (408) 749-9968

Secretary/Living It Up! Editor

Jean Higham-Sergeant, (408) 937-8116
jean@effable.com

Treasurer

Karen Keller, (408) 531-0261
karen_e_keller@yahoo.com

Outings Chair

Steve Stearns, stearns@ieec.org

Conservation

Marjorie Ottenberg (408) 867-4576
marjott@yahoo.com

Membership

Renee Rivera (408) 525-8599
reneemaririvera@yahoo.com

Programs Coordinator

Vacant

Webmaster

Steve Sergeant (408) 937-8116
steve.sergeant@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org

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

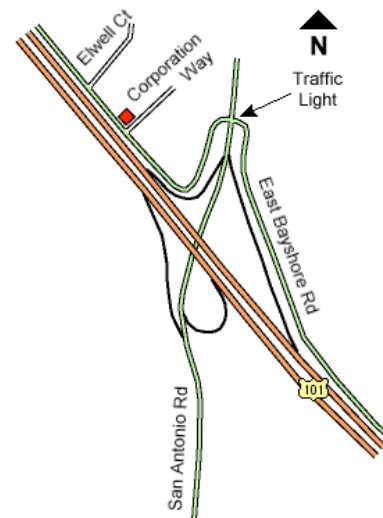
Members and nonmembers are invited to attend Section meetings. Meetings are held at 7:30 PM at Acterra in the Peninsula Conservation Center on the second Monday of every month except July and August. The evening's program is followed by a refreshment break, then Section business, conservation issues, 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 coordinator, 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 or at (408) 937-8116. 📍

SIERRA CLUB CALENDARS—“A MARVELOUS WINDOW ON THE WORLD”

Buy calendars at the Section holiday meeting in December

As she always does at this time of year, Marj Ottenberg is selling Sierra Club calendars. She'll have them with her at the December holiday meeting.

As Marj says, the calendars are “a marvelous window on the world” for anyone working in a cubicle environment. The calendars also make

nice gifts, and the proceeds support the Sierra Club.

Desk calendars are \$14 and wall calendars are \$13.

The Loma Prieta Chapter's Backpack Section Presents:

Lightweight Backpacking

A class in advanced skills and gear for low-impact, long-distance wilderness travel.
Starting April 5th, 2008

Imagine backpacking, and feeling like a you're on a day-hike. How much farther could you go? How much more could you see?

If you're an experienced backpacker, find out in our class on lightweight and ultralight backpacking skills, gear, and techniques.

12 hours of classroom sessions will be held in one intensive weekend starting April 5th.

Topics covered include:

- Philosophy and style.
- What's in your pack?
- Clothing as a system.
- Lightweight systems: shelters, packs, and sleeping gear.
- Home-made gear.
- Tarp skills.
- Safety and preparedness.
- Trip planning.

A local, overnight outing will follow, tentatively scheduled for the weekend of April 26th, covering about 10 miles per day.

A \$40 fee will be charged to defray the costs of the class. Please contact the instructor for details and to register:

Steve Sergeant
(408) 937-8116
steve.sergeant@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org

MEETING MINUTES *submitted by Suzanne Schleck*

November 2007

No trips are planned until March 2008. Winter activities are snow camping and ski touring.

Anne Gorby filled in as leader for Steve Sergeant on the Skyline to the Sea trip in October. She led backpackers 18 miles on the first day and 14 on the second day. The route was from Saratoga Gap to Castle Rock, Big Basin, and Waddell Creek at Highway 1.

The Backpack Section elections committee reported that the following four Section officer positions are open: chair, vice chair, secretary, and treasurer. Elections will be held at the December meeting. The following appointed positions also need to be filled: programs coordinator and newsletter editor.

In addition to the elections, our holiday potluck will be held at the

December meeting. The January meeting will be held jointly with the Ski Touring Section. The March meeting will be a trip planning for the upcoming backpack season.

Unless there is a lot of interest in participating in leadership training for 2008, the next leadership training will be in 2009. Two meeting attendees were interested in taking the training.



