

## Rock Rendezvous April Newsletter

### The Masthead

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### April Meeting

**Tuesday, April 7 @ 7 pm**

Craig Boyak has kindly offered his home in Albany for the next meeting.

#### *Directions:*

From the east end of the Bay Bridge, go north on Hwy. 80 to Albany Exit. Take the exit towards the Berkeley Hills. Turn left at the first light (Jackson Street). Go one block to stop sign and turn right onto Solano Ave. Go through the light at San Pablo and turn left at the third street past the light onto Cornell. The post office is on the corner. Park. His home is 834 Cornell and it is a white house with blue trim on the west side of the street. Call 510/524-1838 if you get lost.

### March Meeting Notes

If you missed the March meeting you'll have to attend April's meeting to find out what happened because the notes didn't make it into the newsletter. One bit of gossip is that you might want to dig out that dress and/or suit because wedding bells are ringing! Look for the notes on the website or next month's newsletter.

### Upcoming Events

Finally, the weather is cooperating and the park service has a reservation system. Members have been madly making reservations. Here's the list of upcoming trips:

**April 17 & 18**

2 sites; 1 Upper Pines, 1 North Pines  
Trip leader: [Michael Brodesky](#) 415-553-6459

**May 1 & 2**

1 site for Upper Pines, Yosemite Valley  
Trip leader: [Kevin K.](#) 510/644-9770

**May 8 & 9**

2 sites, Upper Pines  
Trip leader: [Mitchell Yee](#), 415/334-8032

**May 22, 23, & 24**

1 site, North Pines  
Trip leader: none so far

**June 5 & 6**

1 site Upper Pines  
Trip leader: [Inez](#), 510/643-9948

**June 12 & 13**

2 sites, North Pines  
Trip leader: none so far



*Jen handley and partner*

## Trippin '

Looking to go somewhere new? Ever been to the Needles? How about Calaveras Dome? Eagle Creek Canyon? Consumnes Gorge? Tahquitz & Suicide Rock? Wishing somebody would organize a trip to one of these places or someplace else that you haven't been? Instead of sitting back and waiting for somebody else to do it, why don't you do it yourself? If there's someplace you've been wanting to check out solicit information from other members. Use the meetings or Rock Rendezvous mailing list as a way to get beta and find out who else might be interested in a trip. Then, make an announcement at an upcoming meeting and/or contact one of the Masthead members to have your trip put in the newsletter and on the website. It's certainly a great way to

meet other members of the club and expand your climbing horizons. And, as trip leader, if there are any camping fees you get to stay for free. Such a deal!

Confused Climbers Events

### **IMAX Everest movie**

Slide <Slide@wco.com>, Mike <ZeroLimit@aol.com>, Angela <Angela\_Wemyss@rsco.com> and others want to see the new IMAX Everest movie filmed by David Breshears and company. Anyone know where it is showing? We hope to get a decent sized group to go and perhaps can get a discount.

### **Mellow Mtn Biking or Day Hikes.**

Daniela <cfscdg@aol.com.> is interested in going on mellow mountain bike rides or local day hikes.

### **Sometime During a Full Moon Moonlight Sea Kayaking**

Jon <H 650-994-6413 or cycle9@ix.netcom.com> has gotten more info about Sea Kayaking. This will be done either in the SF Bay or Tomales Bay. He'll hook up with either ETC, Bay Area Sea Kayaking, UCSF's Outdoors Unlimited, or Bluewater Guides.

### **Last weeked May**

#### **Mt Shasta**

Mike <ZeroLimit@aol.com> & Jose are climbing the Casaval Ridge route of Mt Shasta. We have a climbing party of three already, but if you want to coordinate and meet on the mountain, let us know.

### **Sometime in the Summer**

#### **Mt Rainer**

Mike <ZeroLimit@aol.com> & Jose are hooking up with a guide to climb Rainer in Washington. We have a climbing party of three already, but if you wantto coordinate and meet on the mountain, let us know.

Below are the results of the Rock Rendezvous website survey results. We had 21 respondents out of about 70 people who were sent the survey, so we're not far off national voter apathy rates for presidential elections. I believe you will find some of the answers and comments interesting.

What was also interesting was to see the various combinations of answers. For instance, one person said they were uncomfortable with their personal information on the website, and not only had they used the online member listing themselves to access phone numbers & addresses, but ranked it as one of the top three items of importance. Personally, I feel the survey has provided some valuable feedback.

During the next month I will attempt to address the concerns of those who have expressed unease with the online member listing. However, if I cannot satisfactorily address these concerns then I will be happy to have the listing removed from the website. Online privacy is certainly a real concern, and one that should be taken seriously.

Please note that while there were 21 people who responded, the number of answers does not always add up to 21. Some questions were intended to have multiple answers, and some questions were not answered by everyone. So, without further ado, here be the results...

## **Web Site Survey** *by Pat McLaughlin*

### Rock Rendezvous Website Survey Results

#### **1. Have you visited the RR website?**

19 Yes  
2 No

#### **2. If not, why?**

1 No web access (only e-mail)  
\_\_\_ No time  
\_\_\_ No interest  
1 Other (comments)

I assume anything of interest or significance comes over the email just not my style

#### **3. If so, how often have you gone to the website?**

7 A couple times total  
6 Less than once a month  
1 Once or twice a month  
4 Maybe once a week  
1 More than once a week

#### **4. What portions of the website have you used? Check all that apply.**

14 Upcoming meeting info  
12 News/trip announcements  
7 Member list  
10 Stories/trip reports  
10 Member profiles  
10 Photo gallery  
5 Discussion forum  
6 Links to member home pages

8 Links to other climbing websites

**5. Of these, which three would you consider the most important to have on the website?  
(in order of priority)**

Topic	Votes		
	#1 Priority	#2 Priority	#3 Priority
Upcoming meeting info	10	1	0
News/trip announcements	4	6	2
Member list	0	2	3
Stories/trip reports	1	4	3
Member profiles	0	0	1
Photo gallery	1	1	3
Discussion forum	0	1	0
Links to member home pages	0	1	0
Links to other climbing websites	0	0	2

**6. If the newsletter were available on the website and you were automatically notified of its availability by e-mail would you prefer to (pick only one):**

- 9 Read it on the web
- 2 Print it off the web and then read it
- 9 Still receive a copy of the newsletter in the mail

Online newsletter saves money for club and potentially better graphics.  
Send webpage containing newsletter via email.

**7. For those that have used the online member list what did you use it for? (check all that apply)**

- 4 Get addresses
- 5 Get phone numbers
- 5 Get e-mail addresses
- 1 Find partners
- 5 Read interests of members
- \_\_\_ Trying to get a date (Come on, 'fess up!)
- Other (comments)

I forgot the password, so I haven't been able to look at the list  
Just trying to get some info on members, be it for climbing  
compatibility or other purposes (such as "trying to get a date")

**8. Regarding the online member list, some members have expressed a possible concern regarding privacy. This is a concern that certainly does not pertain only to those with web access. We have tried to provide some measure of security around the member list, but realize that this is not foolproof. How would rate your concern about having member information on the website?**

6 Not concerned at all

6 Not concerned as long as it's password protected

2 Concerned about having phone numbers on the website

3 Concerned about having addresses on the website

7 Concerned about the combination of name, address & phone

**From Webmaster** Try [four11](#) or [switchboard](#) You would be amazed at how many of you are already on someones phone listing.

Other (comments)

I do not want my e-mail address and physical address linked on the web. The password protection seems to be little more than initial protection. **From Webmaster** If you don't have the password your not getting to the file.

I think hardcopy would be better for this one.

Concerned that the list may be accessed and used by spam mailers

**From Webmaster** Our majordomo mailing list is more a target then a list that is password protected.

**9. Any things you would like to see added to the website?**

More trip reports

More stories and articles

Photos from other members who don't have the gear to scan on their own

Climbing topos not currently available

Variety, new stuff

Member profiles----not enough, many stories missing

Photo gallery---way old--need new pics and captions

Route info and topos we have published, like the Arrowhead Arete and Bruce's topos

**10. Any things you would like removed from the website?**

That horrible member list.

I really don't like having name/number/address stuff on the web.

The old pics

Access to addresses names and phone numbers of club members

#### **11. Additional comments:**

The discussion forum does not seem very useful.

The photo gallery is great.

My thanks to Tuan and Brodesky for a great job.

I think it's a terrific idea to put the newsletter on the web and would gladly give up my hardcopy.

Even though I don't really use the website, I may sometime. I think that it's a good idea.

Give us feedback on this survey and perhaps let us post to the website as comments.

I think we also need to be clear why we have a web site and what we want to use it for. Is it to encourage new members, interest for current members, a toy or what?

Basically I view the website as a source of information about the club, mainly for members. However, it is definitely a useful place to put access information and perhaps printable form letters. Others might use them. Trip reports/photos serve as an inducement to lure the visitor/an alternative newsletter.

I look forward to receiving the newsletter, it's a monthly event!

This is a great questionnaire, a good way to gather opinion, achieve consensus and create policy. A tremendous, politically astute, presidential maneuver. I would recommend using this technique for future discussion of issues. Maybe get a few interns to help you...

I think it's a lot of effort expended and of questionable value for me, when time is my most precious commodity.

Would really like to see RR News online.

Member profiles need to be updated.

Would like to see more discussion, trip reports, etc.

I like having the photos on a separate page (saves time), but when checking out the gallery, the photos load much too slowly, and there is no caption/information.

Thanks for doing a great job.

## **Harness Recall**

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Misty Mountain Threadworks Inc. of Banner Elk, N.C., is recalling about 5,000 climbing harnesses with a front entry sleeve system. If attached incorrectly, the climber's swami belt can be held by only a small piece of elastic behind the sleeve. Climbers who don't realize this mistake create a dangerous situation where the belay/rappel loop tears through the elastic webbing, potentially causing the climber to flip backwards, possibly causing injury. Misty Mountain Threadworks is aware of at least three incidents where climbers have ripped the elastic webbing, but there have been no injuries reported. The front entry sleeve is used in four different harness styles by the company -- Arete, Finesse, Quantum and Cadllac Big Wall. All the harnesses have black nylon webbing with various additional color and design combination features. The tag on the harness reads, "Misty Mountain Threadworks." A label on the harness shows the manufacture date. The recalled harnesses were manufactured from August 1996 through September 1997. The harness comes

in a blue box showing a photo of a mountain labeled Dhulagiri from Pun Hill, Nepal. Outdoor and climbing shops, climbing gear catalogs and Misty Mountain Threadworks sold these harnesses from August 1996 through March 1998 for about \$42 to \$80, depending on the model. Climbers who have a Misty Mountain Threadworks harness with a front entry sleeve should stop using the harness and immediately return it to Misty Mountain Threadworks. The harness will be repaired and returned promptly. Send your harness for repair to Misty Mountain Threadworks, 718 Burma Road, Banner Elk, NC 28604. For more information, call Misty Mountain Threadworks collect at (704) 963-6688 between 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST Monday through Friday. You may also contact them by electronic mail at [info@mistymountain.com](mailto:info@mistymountain.com).