



Rock Rendezvous: Volume 13; Issue 8: August 2003

# Rock Rendezvous

President	Simon Kenney	(925) 279 4428	Simon.kenney@Nolte.com
Vice President	Kevin Kachadourian	(510) 336 7019	kachadourian@earthlink.net
Treasurer	Karen Christie	(650) 852 1212	kchris@genome.stanford.edu
Newsletter Editor	Carolyn Dent	(510) 222 2572	carolynldent@aol.com
Outdoor Events	Michael Brodesky	(415) 863 6578	mbrodesk@interwoven.com

## July Meeting Notes

By Kevin Kachadourian

Simon opened the July meeting of Rock Rendezvous by thanking our host, Hal Tompkins. He then explained that the slide show for the evening had been changed. Amy could not present her slide show since she had to stay home for a possible phone call from Doctors Without Borders. Hal had offered to fill the void with slides from a technical canyoneering trip in Escalante, Utah.

There were a few reports on recent trips. Carolyn reported on a trip to Tuolumne Meadows, where they were able to fit about 20 drinkers into a campsite. When not drinking, Carolyn was able to get up West Country, Golfer's Route, as well as Shagadellic (I think she was still talking about rock climbing with this one). Not satisfied with this, Carolyn also climbed at Lover's Leap (which makes sense after shagging in Tuolumne \*\*actually, it was before Tuolumne Kevin! – ed.\*\*). She climbed a 5.6 on Hogsback, where she jammed a crack containing a rattlesnake whilst on lead (does that affect the rating?). Em also reported climbing Shagadellic. She said it is a "cool route," which goes at 5.8. It is a new 3 pitch climb on Medicott – see later on in this newsletter for topo... Nate reported on an accident in the Pinnacles,

involving 2 experienced climbers, most likely the result of poor communication. The misunderstanding resulted in a leader on 'The Wet Kiss' being taken off belay when he was expecting to be lowered, resulting in a fall the full length of the pitch. Nate didn't report doing any climbing himself (or maybe I wasn't paying attention). Bruce reported on climbing in Sonora Pass, and it went like this: there were 10-12 people, mostly outsiders. A new route, named Wagon Train, was put up on the fourth buttress. It's a 5.8, crack climb, for which you'll need a #4 Camalot. There was something about 8", but I wasn't sure if Bruce was talking about the crack, or just bragging again. They also climbed Tag Team, an overhand with 1 bolt and a 5.11c finger crack finish.



The conversation turned to upcoming trips. Simon began with the planned Courtright Reservoir trip (which has happened, so look for a trip report). At the time of the meeting, there were about 18 people going. Jen is going to Banff, and was wondering where to stay. Em came to the rescue. Sabine got a group site in the Meadows for early October.

Carolyn also reported that she got a site next to some British party friends of hers, for October 18-19.

We were reminded that September 6th is the official first day of Adopt a Crag. We should think about whether we want to organize or participate in an Adopt a Crag event. Those who went to the one at Mickey's Beach last year had a great time, and did some good work as well (ed: please note that it is Adopt a Crag, and not Adapt a Crag, so leave the chisels and drills at home). \*\*There are plans developing for this, more information is in this issue of the newsletter.... – ed.\*\*

The evening finished with Hal giving a slide show from his canyoneering trip in the Hole in the Wall, classic Utah sandstone in Steve's Canyon on the Coyote River. In addition to some exciting climbing (including tree climbing), it was quite secluded. After seeing 6-8 people the first day, they saw no-one for the rest of the trip. Try finding that in Yosemite... Hals slides were stunningly inspirational, and left several of us with a yearning to go!

Thanks to Hal, both for hosting, and for the short notice slide show. Did I mention what a great cook Hal is?

## Yosemite Climbing Association



**A plea for action from Ken Yager – forwarded to the newsletter by Elmar**

The **Yosemite Climbing Association (YCA)** is a newly formed, non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and protecting Yosemite's rich and colorful climbing heritage. Our goal is to share the history of Yosemite Climbing with the public in Yosemite Valley, free of charge. **YCA** has gathered well over a thousand artifacts, many of them historically significant to Yosemite Climbing History. We have artifacts and information dating from 1877 to modern times and would like to acquire a building in Yosemite Valley to house them for public display. **YCA** has the blessing and support of many of Yosemite's climbing pioneers including Tom Frost, Royal Robbins, George Whitmore, Yvon Chouinard, Al Steck, Glen Denny, Steve Roper, Jim Bridwell, Lynn Hill, Peter Croft, Dean Potter etc. There are four new displays in the Curry Village Mountain Shop and they have been very popular. A site for the museum has been included in the preferred alternative in the Yosemite Valley Master Plan for Yosemite Lodge. We would have our own building near Camp IV close to the start of the Yosemite Falls Trail. The Yosemite Lodge Plan will be made public August 30<sup>th</sup> and will open for public comment during the month of September. Get involved and write a letter of support to Yosemite Planning and the Park Superintendent. Send letters to P.O. Box 577, Yosemite, California. 95389 or email them to [Yose\\_planning@nps.gov](mailto:Yose_planning@nps.gov). We cannot do this alone. **We need your help! Please write letters!** We would like to thank the 200+ people that have already written their letters of support. Because of them, we are included in the Master Plan, but it will take many more for this project to happen. If you have any questions or suggestions please contact me at [Yager@inreach.com](mailto:Yager@inreach.com). Thank you.

Sincerely yours,  
Ken Yager

# Shagadelic 5.8(PG\*\*\*)

**Topo and approach beta from Greg Barnes and Jason Leibgott  
(Communicated by Em Holland)**

Shagadelic 5.8(PG,\*\*\*) 4 pitches  
Pro to 2" including 0 TCU/blue alien, many draws  
One 50m rope, or two 50m ropes for rappelling

I spotted some cool looking easier terrain last year when we did the West Face of Medlicott, 5.8 (aka Piss Easy, 5.7). So I went back and spent some days exploring, then bolting up a killer grey water streak. After the first two and a quarter pitches I got sick of self-belaying and getting scared drilling (yeah, it's only 5.7, but YOU try hand-drilling 3/8" bolts from stance where those bolts are!), and recruited my long-time FA partner Barry to finish it. I even used a 1/4" bolt at one point (too scared to try drilling a 3/8"), and then to the relief of many leaders to come, I added a bunch of bolts once done with the pitch (or sometimes only partly done with the pitch). Yes, I did pull the 1/4", and actually moved that bolt because it was cross-loading the biner across a knob. The two middle pitches are kind of like longer versions of the Golfer's Route.

First, go to the start of the West Face route. There's an obvious major square-cut ledge heading left. Our new route starts 50' left of the West Face at a small corner 20' right of the end of the ledge. A short hand traverse with a piton (carefully positioned to not cross-load a biner), then 20' up a fun corner, a jog left on a ledge, then 40' up easy corners to a one-pin, 3-bolts plus thin cams face out left of a bushy corner (5.7 step left at the first bolt). Anchor is two bolts (there's also a cool old bolt); that's a 140' pitch (160' rap; the old bolt was from a rap anchor for the West Face and other old routes). Nice huge ledge - you can easily scramble up to finish the West Face if you like, although the best climbing on that climb is the first couple pitches. Pitch 2 is a few moves to a flake which is 10' left of a short dihedral (can place thin cams), then 10 bolts up a 130' knobby 5.7 face to a 2-bolt anchor. Pitch 3 is 10 bolts up a 140' slabby to knobby face, with a tightly-protected crux which is probably 5.8 not 5.7. Bolted anchor again. Between the 3rd and 4th bolts you'll cross "Slipstream," just left of the 4th belay on that route. Pitch 4 is 15' of 5.7 to a horizontal 0 TCU placement, then 20' of 5.6 to a trivially easy roof with good pro (1.25" cam or lots of other options). Then 20' of 5.2 and around 100' of 4th class, trending right, to the top. Last pitch is a bit dirty, but not too bad, or with 2 ropes you can rap from the top of pitch 3. Overall pro is just thin to 2".

My (highly biased) summary: Killer climbing, a straight line up the middle of a major dome, great views of Half-Dome and much of Tuolumne, and afternoon sun. As Steve Schneider said, "the first new bolted route on Medlicott in 10 years!" (then Heather reminded him about Peace).

Descent: rap with 2 ropes from pitch 3, or walk off either way from the top. I recommend going south after checking out Lake of the Domes (a short hike to the north). Heading south is open, beautiful country, you pass another lake, then descend 3rd class slabs and cut back below the immense golden wall of the Bachar-Yerian and surroundings. Watch out for the trail - it heads down into the forest about 50 yds before getting to the Bachar-Yerian (the huge black streak on the left side of the sheer golden wall).

Other stuff:

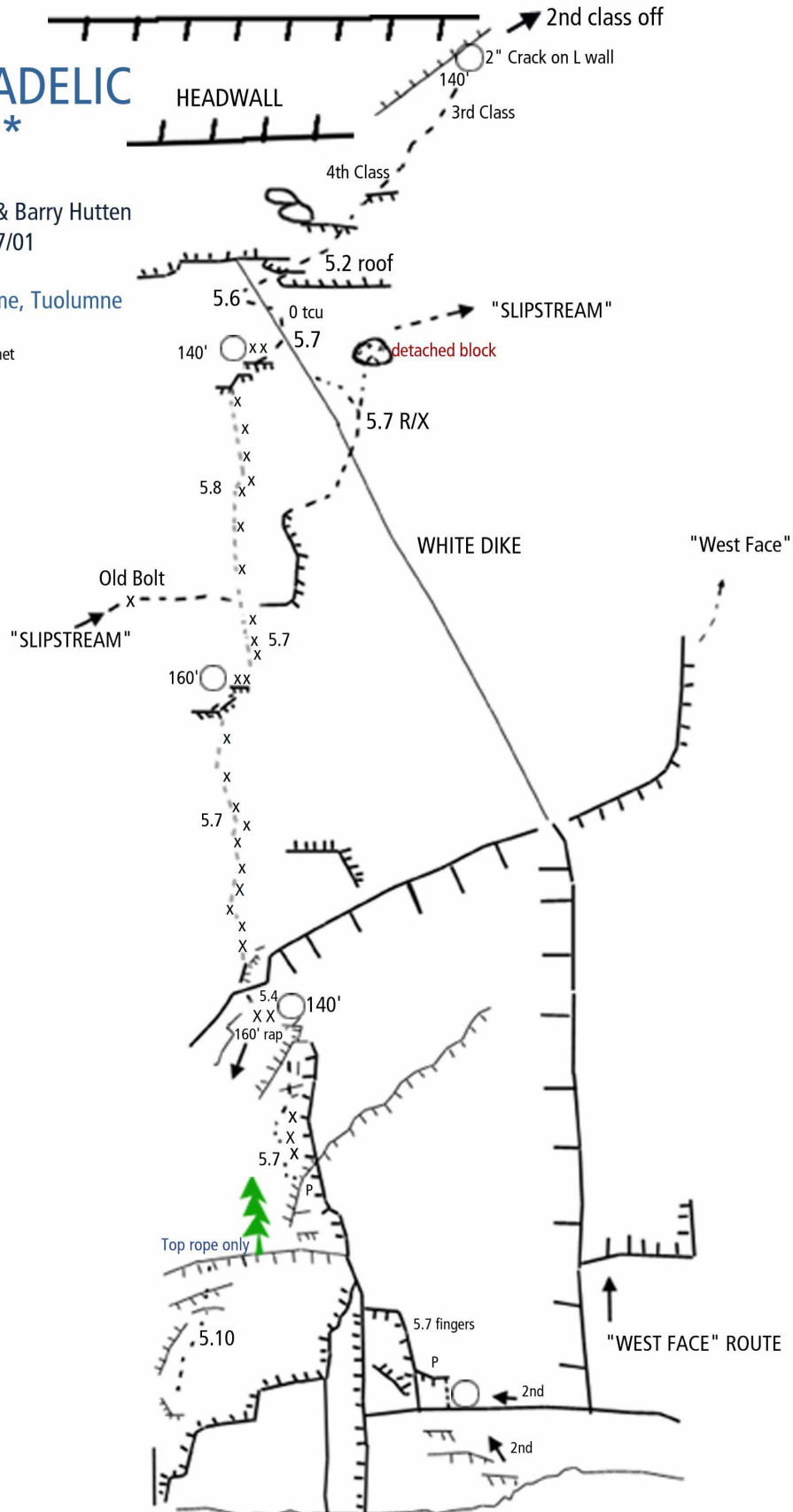
The easiest approach is to park at the normal Medlicott parking (dirt lot 200 yds north of Golfer's parking), follow the normal Medlicott approach trail, then head left on the hiking trail that you reach after 300 yds or so. Head along this until past the boulder field that you can vaguely see through the trees, then up through the big trees on deer trails. Take a look from the parking lot and try to miss the approach slab by about 50 yds, in the middle of the trees to the left.

# SHAGADELIC 5.8 \*\*\*

First Ascent:  
Greg Barnes & Barry Hutten  
6/24/01 - 7/17/01

Melidcott Dome, Tuolumne

jason.rulestheinter.net



# Spiderman Climbs The Incredible Hulk!

Photos from The Red Dihedral route - Allen Currano



Left: The Incredible Hulk sizes up The Incredible Hulk!



Below: Even Spidey uses sticky rubber!



Left – Spidey relaxes after climbing the Red Dihedral



# Courtright Virgins!

By Lauren and Cat

Arrival at the RR campsite itself was enough to have sent us quickly back to the city. It was 7pm and all rock climbers sat around a firepit without a word passed between them...except, "Can I have that sausage? Are you gonna eat that? I want another piece of that salmon. Does anyone have another bun?" The next day, I discovered the reason for the gluttony.

Other than surprise at the amount of food (and drink) consumed, we were excited to be surrounded by such AWESOME people. We were welcomed and of course, feed and guided with (calloused) hands the entire weekend. The lot of the crew gave advice and encouragement the entire way. We

top-roped, we rapelled, we lead. It was fascinating, scary and exhausting (only in a good way as Amy says). And man did we eat! And drink. But most of all, we had a blast!

For anyone wavering about outside climbing, waver no more! It was one of the best experiences we've had to date. It will push you physically and mentally to limits hard to surpass. Fear is naturally part of rock climbing and with the support we had from RR we did things we never thought possible. We are hooked.

See you on the rock!



Left: Lauren and Cat on a more recent trip to Tuolumne  
Right: Stormy weather over the Meadows...

Photo credit: Simon and Amy

# Adopt-a-crag 2003

Castle Rock area, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2003

This year we are in the process of organizing a clean-up of Summit Rock and Indian Rock in the Castle Rocks climbing area. These areas are desperately in need of a bit of tender loving care, being littered with much broken glass and worse. This will be a joint event with volunteers from Touchstone Climbing Gyms.

Many thanks must go to Em Holland, for driving the need to do something to contribute to this annual event, and to Rebecca Stevens from the Class5 climbing gym for her tireless efforts in making this become a reality. Simon has volunteered to organize a BBQ after the clean-up!

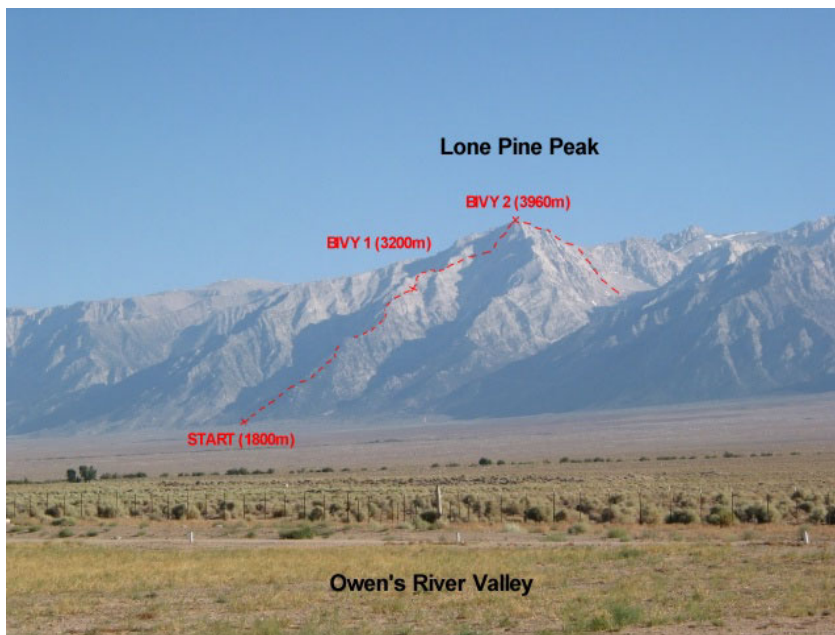
More details will be available as plans get made... e-mail Carolyn (carolynldent@aol.com) if you are interested in helping out.

## Lone Pine Peak

From Peter Monks

Here's a topo of where Sue Edwards and I spent July 5th, 6th and half of the 7th - the North East Ridge (not to be confused with the vastly more popular and documented North Ridge) of Lone Pine Peak (near Mt Whitney). I haven't written a TR for it yet, but I could summarise it by saying something like:

"The hardest thing I've ever done in my entire life. The ridge is over 5kms long and 2kms high, and while the dozen or so pitches of roped climbing only reached 5.7 or so in difficulty, these sections were by far the easiest part of the whole undertaking. If this route was a very mild taste of what mountaineering is all about, then mountaineers are even more deranged and masochistic than I'd thought!"



## 2003 – Proposed Trips

Updated trip list... As it currently stands, many of the trips on this list are not yet definite. It will take interest, organization and enthusiasm on the part of the organizer and Rock Rendezvous members to ensure trips will indeed happen...

If you wish to help out with any of the proposed trips, or have opinions on the locations and suggested times that trips should run, then please do e-mail me ([carolynldent@aol.com](mailto:carolynldent@aol.com)) or one of the organizers listed. I can also help put you in touch with the organizer if you do not know their e-mail. If you wish to organize a trip to an additional location please contact me, with a proposed time (this does not need to be exact) and I can add it to the list. Suggested locations include...a Desert Towers trip, the Grotto, the Balls, Fresno Dome, Needles, CA, Goat Rock, Mt. Diablo, Consumnes River, Devil's Tower, Castle Rock, Mickey's Beach, Mt. Tamalpais, Indian Rocks, Golden Gate Wall, Pinnacles National Monument, and Mt. St. Helena, Napa Valley... The possibilities seem to be endless!!!

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Organizer/Trip Leader</b>
August 8 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Tuolomne Meadows</b> (Campsite Booked)	Adan
August 22 <sup>nd</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Tuolumne Meadows</b> (Campsite booked)	Adan
September 12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Tuolomne Meadows</b> (Campsite booked)	
September 19 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup>	Campsite booked (Meadows or Yosemite?)	
October 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup>	Campsite booked (Yosemite?)	
18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Joint HMC/RR Valley trip</b> , with UK visitors from the Hertforshire Mountaineering Club: <a href="http://www.thehmc.co.uk">http://www.thehmc.co.uk</a>	Carolyn
October/November	<b>RED ROCKS</b> , Nevada	Carolyn
November - Thanksgiving	<b>Joshua Tree</b>	join the feast!
<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Organizer</b>



## Next Meeting: Tuesday August 5th, 2003, 7pm

We will be holding our next RR meeting next Tuesday (August 5th) at Chris Kerr's house in Montclair - East Bay.

The meeting starts around 7.00 and Allen Currano will be running the slideshow this month Remember to bring more food and alcohol then you could possibly ever consume!! Look for 3132 Oak Knoll Drive on the left side of the street. (up the hill a very short way)

3960 Waterhouse Road  
Oakland, CA 94602  
510-482-8322

From SF, Marin and West Berkeley:

Take I-580 towards Hayward and Stockton. Go past Downtown Oakland and continue to the Fruitvale exit. Take the exit and turn left under the Highway at the lights. Continue on Fruitvale towards the hills, cross MacArthur, go past the Safeway and continue on Lyman straight up the hill. (Fruitvale turns right, you go straight). At the top of the hill take the left fork on to Waterhouse and the house is the first on the right. Yellow with lots of bougainvillea.

From East Berkeley and the other side of the Caldecott tunnel:

Take 13 south to Park Boulevard. Turn right towards the bay at the exit and travel about a half mile to a set of lights. Turn left and go across the Leimert Bridge. At the five-way stop sign go straight and down the hill. At the next stop sign turn right on to Waterhouse. Continue a quarter mile to a stop sign (Hanley). Keep left and the house is second on the left after the stop sign.

From the South:

Take I-580 north to 13 north. Exit on Park Boulevard. Go across the highway towards the bay and follow the instructions from East Berkeley above.



### Warning/Disclaimer

San Francisco Rock Rendezvous is not a teaching organization and does not endorse or insure rock climbing. Trips advertised in the newsletter are private and are only listed to allow for the co-ordination of car pooling and camping. Each participant on a trip is solely responsible for his or her safety during the entire trip, including the transportation to and from the climbing area and site, and any necessary insurance.