



Rock Rendezvous



President	Ricardo Lagos	lagos_ricardo@hotmail.com
Vice President	Simon Kenney	sc_kenney@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Noriko Sekikawa	sekikno@earthlink.com
Outdoor Events	Scott Johnston	kinetic043@yahoo.com
Webmaster	Tom Lambert	tom@lambert.net
Asst. Webmaster	Geraldine Murphy	germurphymail.yahoo.com
Newsletter Editor	Linda Leung	llhleung@hotmail.com

Welcome to 2005!

You've had your fill of ham and egg nog, you've spent your REI gift card on that titanium camping cookware you've had your eye on, and now you're ready to get back on the rock. What are your climbing goals for 2005? Some of you have written in with your climbing plans for this year – and your memorable moments from 2004. Read all about them on page 4.

In this issue, we also bring you the best moments from our Thanksgiving trip to Joshua Tree and the Holiday party at Simon Kenney's house. If you didn't go to J-Tree, don't rub your eyes when you see the pictures – yes that really is snow... but the beautiful full moon, good food and great company more than made up for the white stuff under our feet.

There are lots of changes in the club this year; we have a new president – Ricardo Lagos. Simon Kenney is still very much active in the club as vice president. Noriko Sekikawa is our new treasurer; the Web site is mastered by Tom Lambert, with assistance from Geraldine Murphy; and yours truly is newsletter editor.

We hope you enjoy the first issue of the Rock Rendezvous newsletter of 2005. As always,

please think of us when you're on your next trip. Send us a trip report and pictures and let us share your stories. This year, there are many other ways you can contribute to the newsletter:

Climber of the Month: Each month we profile an RR member – check your email I could be sending a profile questionnaire your way!

Reader Opinion Column: Get something climbing-related off your chest.

Buy/Sell: Are you looking to offload something or are in search of something – please send in your details.

Q&A: Want to ask members a question? Write with your question and we'll invite responses from readers in open forum.

Upcoming Events: In addition to club-planned events, please let us know about trips you're planning and we'll include those in our upcoming trips list.

Please let me know if there is anything else you want to see in your newsletter. Thanks for reading! – Linda (llhleung@hotmail.com)

THANKSGIVING ROCKS!

We heard that a small group of RR members went for a quiet weekend in Joshua Tree!



Scott on 29Bombs (*pic: Ricardo Lagos*)



Vanessa on Blacktide (*pic: Ricardo Lagos*)



Above: Food glorious food; Below: Not a beach



Sleep tight (*pic: Misha Logvinov*)



A drink with your dinner, sir? (*pic: Ricardo Lagos*)

Thanks to all who made J-Tree Thanksgiving 2004 another great RR event!

Holiday Party 2004

Thanks to Simon Kenney and his wife, Amy for hosting the RR Holiday Party! Special thanks to Bruce for his delicious sushi creations!



CLIMBER OF THE MONTH

This month's climber of the month is Geraldine Murphy, who is also our assistant Webmaster!



Name/ nickname:

Geraldine/ Ger

No. of years climbing: 3 years

RR member: 3 years (since the 2002 Lassen trip)

First climb: Cornwall 13 years ago, Pinnacles 3 years ago

Favorite climbing

destination: Joshua Tree

Favorite post-climb eatery: The Circus Pub, Kensington, East Bay (great beer and burgers)

Favorite climbing gym: Ironworks

Ski or snowboard?: Ski

Other outdoor pursuits: Whitewater kayaking, backpacking, triathlons

Favorite travel destination: Bolivia

Person most like to be stuck on a ledge with: MacGuyver

Favorite climbing read: Yosar's climb safety guide

<http://www.nps.gov/yose/sar/climbsafe.htm>

Earliest childhood memory: Feeding geese with my grand uncle

Climbing motto: Gotta keep moving

Climbing hero: Conrad Anker

CLIMBING GOALS FOR 2005/ BEST OF 2004

Thanks for those who wrote in with their climbing goals for 2005 and their memorable moments of 2004. (I'll be expecting trip reports from the '05 climbs! – Ed.)

FROM KENT RICHARDS:

Climbing goals:

- Thailand in August
- Lead 5.10 trad
- Whitney
- Shasta

Thailand: I'll probably climb the big area, Raylee Beach and around there - but perhaps other places; I'd like to explore the country. Shasta: I guess it will be class 3 with some snow & ice - I want to do it when it's not all melted. Whitney: I want to do a technical route. I want to hike it, too, but more interested in doing a class 5 route.

Best piece of gear dropped in '04: Pocket knife (not open, thankfully) while near the top of Cathedral Peak.

FROM MISHA LOGVINOV:

My climbing goals for 2005 are pretty ambitious, mostly involving technical Alpine climbing. Two most notable trips that I plan for next summer are:

- Mt. Sill to Middle Palisade traverse (V-VI, 5.9) in Eastern Sierra

- Grand Traverse of the Tetons (V, 5.8) in Wyoming

In general, I am getting more and more obsessed with technical alpine traverses. I am sure that I will revisit Matthes Crest next year (this time the entire ridge and not just to North Summit). I also plan a first ascent or two in Eastern Sierra as soon as the snow melts. Lines have been picked out already.

FROM SIMON KENNEY:

Best weekend of '04 must be the trip I did with Scott, Carolyn, and Ryan McClain. Day One: Royal Arches (Yosemite Valley). Day 2: Tenaya Peak (Toulomne Meadows). Day 3 Matthes Crest to the Notch and then home just in time for Pizza and a beer in Pine Grove! (Awesome).

Next best trip is also my scariest trip as well as my first serious attempt at back country skiing. Tolumne Meadows for Christmas!! (With Chris and John Kerr). 16miles of breaking trail getting in and I lost both my toenails to my new "Themafit Liners" (Yuk)!! The most beautiful and desolate skiing I have done. Not to mention on the way out we were hit by a blizzard at the saddle and staggered into Tioga Pass Resort some 10 hours after setting out from the lodge (a distance of about 8 miles).

Best Camp food; Well J-Tree of course!!

TRIP REPORT:

A Lost World of Inspiration

By Mei Xi

I spent Saturday afternoon at Lost World -- a cragging area on Highway 108 -- climbing with Slate and Eric. It was overcast and drizzled a little, so we ran laps on the first pitch of Peaceful Warrior (5.10d, thin crack) and Green Monster (5.12a, sport, I had to hang on this one) that are on an overhanging wall sheltered from the rain.

I returned to Lost World again with Allen on Sunday. We, swinging leads, started on the 4 pitch sport climb Pangaea (5.10c). There are 19 and 17 bolts in the first two long pitches (~180' each). This climb would be classic even by Yosemite standards. After we came down, Allen ran laps on Peaceful Warrior and Green Monster and I top roped them. That's all the climbing I did over the weekend, but my trip report isn't really about climbing -- It's about a friend of ours, Melissa.

All about Melissa

She was planning to go climbing on Sunday with a friend of hers, but that friend had to bail last minute. Not wanting to stay in the house, she called Allen and me when we were on our way to Lost World. I gave her directions to the climbing area, but wasn't sure if we would see her there because even with the help of the guidebook and my directions, the approach is still not that easy to find. So I was really impressed when I heard her from below while I was leading the 2nd pitch of Pangaea.

By the time we finished the climb and rappelled down to the ground, she had been waiting for almost two hours. She cheerfully dismissed my sorrow for her long wait by saying that she was having a good time reading her book and playing with her dog.

We then found out that she got in a car accident on her way up. Nobody was hurt, but her headlights were damaged. Because of that she had to leave early so that she could get back home (1 hour drive) in daylight. She described this situation to us with a smile. After Allen led Peaceful Warrior, she top roped it. Unfortunately, before she even reached the top, it was already time for her to leave due to the steep hike out. She came down without finishing the climb.

I felt extremely sorry for her that she drove a long way to get here, got in an accident, damaged her car, and only got chance to do two-thirds of a climb. However, she was very relaxed about it and the whole time when she was with us, she was being nothing but fun. Her cheerful and relaxed attitude earned my great admiration. Not many people, men or women, can be so cool about what life has to offer! People, myself included, sometimes get so caught up in our losses and gains. If the gain does not justify our losses, we get regretful and depressed and drag everyone around down with us. I just hope that by writing this down, I'll remember Melissa next time when I find myself in such a situation.

UPCOMING TRIPS:

There are 365 climbing days this year! If you have an upcoming trip you'd like to open up to other club members, or if you'd like to organize an outing for the club, please drop me a line. Scott will be making the usual bookings for the summer RR trips to The Valley, Tuolumne Meadows and more – thanks, Linda – llhleung@hotmail.com

PROPOSED DATES (dates in bold are confirmed trips)	TRIP VENUE	ORGANIZER
1/15 – 1/16	Ice climbing at Lee Vining (beginners welcome)	Scott Johnston kinetic043@yahoo.com

NEXT ROCK RENDEZVOUS MEETING:

BY RICARDO LAGOS

The next RR meeting will be held next Tuesday, Jan. 11.

Come and share with us whatever adventure you took during the holidays, or just come and unwind after the holiday rush. Bring your favorite beer or dish to share.

Meeting will be held at my place in San Francisco. (I got lazy during the holidays and forgot to take volunteers for the next meeting.)

We're looking for a volunteer to do a slide show, so if you have something you'd like to share, please contact me.

When:
Tuesday Jan 11th, 7 pm

Where:
1082 Pennsylvania Ave, #301
San Francisco

How to get there:

From the South Bay:

101 North
280 North
Exit at Cesar Chavez
Straight through off-ramp onto Pennsylvania
1082 is on your left after stop sign

From the East Bay:

Cross bay bridge
Stay on 101
Exit at Cesar Chavez East
Left at Pennsylvania (as the road goes under the 280)
1082 is on your left.

Dial #0301 to get the door opened up.

We've got a bunch of new volunteers for the Rock-Rendezvous masthead, so come on by and share a beer or two with us.

-- Ricardo

PAY UP!

YOUR DUES ARE DUE!

It's the beginning of the year, which means only one thing: we need your membership dues. As you know, the membership fee is \$15 (\$7 after mid-year), which covers the cost of camp fees, backcountry permits, and our annual Christmas party in December. In the past, we have also donated money to worthy causes. Such expenditures are not incurred without membership approval.

For details about how to pay, please contact our treasurer, Noriko Sekikawa (sekikno@earthlink.com).

Thank-you for your continued support!

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.