



# Rock Rendezvous



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## Summer's twilight

Summer is almost over and we have a few weekends of climbing left on the RR climbing calendar. If you haven't climbed with us yet, head over to the RR website and sign up yourself and your partner on an upcoming trip. The last campsite in T-Meadows we've booked is for the Sept. 16-17 weekend. We also have campsites booked in Yosemite Valley thru October and you can sign yourself up on the campsite that's booked for the weekend of Sept. 9-10.

You may have seen some emails flying around about trip signups and your responsibility as club members. There are reasons why we want you to be certain that you can go on a trip before you sign up, and to let everyone know a good few days ahead of time if you have to drop out - it's all about being considerate and fair to your RR buddies. Just like booking yourself on a flight - please don't book until you're absolutely certain you can attend and be prepared to pay the penalties if you can't attend, i.e., pay your trip fee if no one else is able to take your place. If you give people enough notice that you are going to un-sign yourself on a trip, there is a higher likelihood of someone taking your place so you won't have to pay.

The money we collect from dues and campsite fees go toward booking future campsites, stocking up on food and drinks for the RR Xmas party and giving back to the climbing community, such as Adopt-a-Crag events. That's why we ask you to kindly take heed of the club policies. More about this on page 3. Thanks!

-- Linda

## NOTES FROM THE AUGUST RR MEETING

*By Simon Kenney*

Well thanks to one and all for dropping by my place for the August RR meeting and sharing in some great food, great talk and a great slide show.

We pretty much ate drank talked and watched the slide show. **George Patterson presented a trip** he completed only the previous weekend so this one was really hot off the press! He described an aid route rarely climbed but familiar to us all as being part of the **Cathedral peaks (Upper) routes, in Yosemite Valley**. This is an 11 pitch route George completed with 2 friends. The route is sustained and continues up the face on a rightward traverse for all 11 pitches. They decided to overnight it (as it is slow going) and George got some great pictures. Thanks George for your effort.

Other club stuff: The news letter. Linda is doing a great job of putting together the newsletter (as you can see from this edition) and it continues to be a great read especially with your help sending in photos and articles, so keep sending in those to Linda from the humblest caption-only photos to the 20 page blow-by-blow account of your attempt on reaching the upper floor of your house...(err well maybe not that). They all go to creating the newsletter. Thanks everybody, thanks Linda. Another hero I wanted also to mention is Linda's newly wedded husband: Scott. Thanks Scott for continuing to keep us all supplied with club venues to fill our weekends with.

Anyway enough of this. Onto more practical things EVERYONE; please if you are aware of having more than one account on the website then could you tell email Noriko

and let her know. We need to pull out the dead accounts. Thanx.

And of course now onto the omnipresent reminder for Club tee shirts and sweatshirts (see photo on the next page). They are \$10 and \$20, respectively. If you want one email me, or when you are at the next meeting let me know and I will dig up one in just your color and size (as long as you like red or fawn).

**RR calling cards:** I will keep handing these out at the meetings to make sure everyone has a few. These are so that if anyone asks you about the club then you can hand them one of the cards (slick or what). It gives all the basic info about the club and where to find us on the net. We also have an on-going photo competition. The idea is to get a photo of one of these cards in an unusual place (no medical shots please): up a climb, with an awesome backdrop, on a bears paw, etc (get the picture!!).

**And a final reminder, trips:** If you want to sign up for a trip you must be a member. If you are not a member then join!! Or if you know someone in the club then they can put you down on their trip as a guest. Also if you want to add a trip to the list then let Scott know and take the club to one of your favorite venues!

OK that's enough from me for now...meeting adjourned.

*- Simon*

## THEY'RE COOL AND THEY'RE FOR SALE



Have you picked up an **RR T-shirt and sweatshirt** yet? We've got a few available so grab them before they sell out! Contact Simon at [simon.kenney@awala.net](mailto:simon.kenney@awala.net) for available color and sizes.

Tee shirts (Fawn color - \$10) and sweatshirts (red hooded - \$20).

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## THE CLUB SMALL PRINT YOU MUST READ!

A word on campsite booking... It's time for the annual reminder on the mindful use of the trip signup sheet.

### **Sign-up cancellation policy**

When you sign up for a trip please note that if you cancel your place on the trip less than 3 days before the start of the trip, then you will need to pay the campsite fee for your portion (assuming we don't fill your space). OK that's the small print (it does in fact say that on the trip reservation page of the website). Please be considerate to other club members.

If people reserve places on a trips early on, on the off-chance that they may

make it then you are depriving some other willing member of a place. Please

only put your name down on a trip if you really think you can make it. If you can't make it then take your name off as soon as you know and e-mail the club so that other members get a chance to get on - it's only fair!

### **About the T-Meadows campground**

The Tuolumne Meadows campground isn't exactly high tech so we don't usually know the site number there in advance. If you check in there with a ranger on Friday, the rangers don't put the site on the list for late arrivers when they leave at the end of the day. So people who arrive after you Friday

evening or Saturday have no idea what site the club is on and there may be no one there to ask. So even if you aren't the trip leader, you need to post the site on the bulletin board. If you get there late Friday and see the site is posted at the kiosk, then the leader needs to post the site on the bulletin board for people arriving on Saturday. The rangers remove un-dated messages from the bulletin board in the morning, undoing your good deed, so put a date on the notice you put up.

**Please be considerate when sharing bear boxes**

Space in the bear boxes is usually pretty tight. Please be considerate of the other people using the site that weekend. So don't bring a bunch of food you won't eat with

you. If you have a bunch of food with you that you won't use that weekend, store it in a bear box at a trailhead or parking lot. Don't put non-food items like paper plates, big plastics boxes with a tiny bit of food, and stoves in the bear box.

The goal of the club is for everyone get a chance to go climbing and have fun. If the trip sign-ups are always full of people who don't bother to show up, or if no one can find the campsite because it's not posted, and once they get to the campsite find the bear box full, only the sado-maochists in the group are having fun.

Thanks for reading and taking note of these requests – *Simon & Scott.*

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## *September is the Access Fund Adopt-a-Crag month*

Time to give back something to the climbing community

By Em Holland

RR is not sponsoring an Adopt-a-Crag event this year, but there are plenty of other local events you can join. One of the biggest is the Yosemite Face-Lift with free camping, special events and prizes:

09/22 - 9/25, Yosemite National Park, Calif., 2nd Annual Yosemite Face-Lift and Clean-Up hosted by Yosemite Climbing Association <http://www.yosemiteclimbing.org/news>  
Contact Ken Yager, [yager@inreach.com](mailto:yager@inreach.com)

**Other Adopt-a-Crag events in Northern Calif.:**

**09/17 Los Gatos, Calif. Castle Rock State Park Adopt-a-Crag hosted by REI**  
(rei.com), Jenine Beecher, [jbeeche@rei.com](mailto:jbeeche@rei.com)



**09/22 - 9/25, Yosemite National Park, Calif., 2nd Annual Yosemite Face-Lift and Clean-Up hosted by Yosemite Climbing Association**

(<http://www.yosemiteclimbing.org/news>), Ken Yager, [yager@inreach.com](mailto:yager@inreach.com)

**09/24 Sonoma Coast State Beach, Calif., Sunset Rocks Litter & Graffiti Clean-Up** hosted by Rock, Ice, & Mountain Club, Alex Sebastian, [asebas1@pacbell.net](mailto:asebas1@pacbell.net)

**09/24 Truckee, Calif. Donner Summit Adopt-a-Crag** hosted by REI-Reno

(<http://www.rei.com/stores/reno>), James Hedges, [jhedges@rei.com](mailto:jhedges@rei.com)

For a full listing of Adopt-a-Crag events across the U.S., visit

<http://www.accessfund.org/events/aac.php>

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## NEWS FROM THE VALLEY

The following is taken from the SuperTopo Climber's Forum

[http://www.supertopo.com/climbing/thread.html?topic\\_id=92506&f=105&b=0](http://www.supertopo.com/climbing/thread.html?topic_id=92506&f=105&b=0) AND

By Lincoln Else, Yosemite climbing ranger

The season has started, complete with a Nut Cracker busted ankle and a busy Camp 4.

### YOSEMITE FACE LIFT:

Sept. 22 to 25: Ken Yager, myself, and a variety of others are pulling together the second annual "Yosemite Face Lift." In short, it's a huge four day volunteer clean up effort; no holds barred, everywhere and everything. Free camping for those who contact Ken (or myself) while supplies last. Huge bash on Sunday night with free gear to give away from Patagonia, Black Diamond, Access Fund, Metolius, and others. T-shirts, Cliff Bars, and all the psych you could want. The idea is to give the whole Valley a once-over: roads, pullouts, trails, approaches, descents, riverbanks, routes, parking lots, campsites, everywhere. Stay tuned for more details, and contact Ken or myself to line up a free campsite (and park entry pass) for the event: "yager at inreach dot com", or "lincoln\_else at nps dot gov."

### CAMP 4 COFFEE:

It's back. After a fun Tuolumne "mid season" in the Meadows store parking lot, Camp 4 coffee will be back in it's original home starting this week. Sunday morning, 9:00, coffee, hot chocolate, tea, and all the beta you'll ever need. Bring your questions, concerns, ideas, and whatever else.



### **CAMP 4 PARKING:**

The dirt lot next to Camp 4 is (and will continue to be) a construction staging area, so parking is tight. To alleviate some of the squeeze we've opened one of the bus lots across the street for registered Camp 4 guests to use overnight. Here's my post from last month with the details:

Starting now, registered Camp 4 guests can park in "Bus Lot B" overnight from 6:00 PM to 8:30 AM. Parking is tight everywhere in the Valley, and this lot is needed for bus parking during the day. At night, however, it can serve as an overflow parking area for Camp 4 visitors. This is good news for Camp 4 folks, but it comes with some caveats:

The lot is for legitimate Camp 4 registered guests only. This is NOT the place to scam a parking space; if you don't have a legit car tag you'll get cited and/or towed. Yes, the NPS will be checking tags, so whether you're in the Camp 4 lot or the new overflow space, display your tag clearly. Not to sound like a broken record, but don't screw this up for everyone else.

We need to be out of the lot by 8:30, no questions, no excuses. If you're not heading out on huge adventures early in the morning and need to park your car for the day use day use parking. If you want to leave your car for the duration of your stay (and you can't find a space in Camp 4), best bet is the Curry Orchard lot.

### **EVENING PROGRAMS:**

Every Saturday night the American Alpine Club and the NPS sponsor a climbing program at the Lodge Amphitheater. Check the climbing info board in front of Camp 4 for upcoming speakers/shows. This week Royal Robbins will be giving his slide show, and Tom Frost will be coming next week. If you haven't seen their shows (or even if you have), don't miss them. Stay tuned for more events as the fall unfolds. Yes, I'll try to get the Hubers back for another family oriented show about "zee space beneez my pants."

### **MEMORIAL GATHERING FOR ERICA KUTCHER:**

More details soon. A variety of Yosemite friends are organizing a memorial event for Erica in late September (likely on Saturday, Sept. 24). We'll post more information here when the details are solid, but spread the word to all those who would like to participate.

### **ACCIDENT REPORTS ON THE FRIENDS OF YOSAR PAGE:**

Many climbers read "Accidents in North American Mountaineering" (which, coincidentally, should be out for last year quite soon), and its value as an educational tool is immeasurable. Unfortunately, it is published up to a year after some accidents, and dependable timely accident reports can be hard to track down immediately after an incident. I have often posted climbing accident details here on Supertopo, but these are sporadic at best.

In a new effort to get solid up-to-date information out to the interested public as soon as possible, myself and others on Yosemite's rescue team are publishing accident reports on the "Friends of YOSAR" web site. These reports are modeled on the ANAM style write-ups, but in the busy season they are often quite "quick and dirty." The goal is to get accident info out to as many people as possible as soon as possible. Take a look, and stay tuned for more reports as the system



gets up and running (it's a work in progress). Huge thanks to Nate Knight for getting the web end of this off the ground:

<http://www.friendsofyosar.org/rescues/rescues1.html>

### **RIVER DEATHS:**

Two people died in water related accidents this week in Yosemite. The first was a hiker who drowned above Nevada Fall last Friday (no, the hiker did not go over the fall). The second was a hiker who fell off Upper Yosemite Fall on Monday afternoon. Check the FOYOSAR site for more detailed accident reports on these incidents soon, and always treat Yosemite's waterways with the utmost caution. Ironically, low water seems to cause more accidents than raging high water; it's not nearly as intimidating and we forget how dangerous it truly can be.

### **CRAP BAGS TOSSED OFF EL CAP:**

More than a few climbers have complained to me recently about parties tossing trash off El Cap routes (including crap bags). Not to be too harsh, but this is absolutely pathetic. Spread the word: if you toss your waste off a wall in Yosemite you are hurting the entire climbing community. You will get cited for doing so, and if we as a community have any self respect, you will be shunned, mocked, disgraced, and publicly humiliated for being a disrespectful selfish moron. This issue is so last year ... let's move on.

### **ACCESS FUND GRANT FOR BEAR BOXES AT CLIMBING AREAS:**

On a more positive note: thanks to a generous grant from the Access Fund Yosemite's most popular big wall trail heads will have bear box food storage lockers by the end of September. Stay tuned for details (and volunteer opportunities putting them in ... they're darn heavy). El Cap, Leaning Tower, and Washington Column (the Ahwahnee parking lot) should all be equipped with lockers soon.

### **LEANING TOWER TRAIL WORK:**

Last of all, if anyone feels like building some karma next month (before the Yosemite Face Lift), Chris Van Leuven and myself are organizing a small trail eradication/clean-up effort in the Leaning Tower area. The idea is to get rid of the multiple eroded trails that head up toward the base and clearly mark one good route for all to use. Contact me ahead of time if you're interested (it shouldn't take too many people), or just show up for coffee on Sunday, September 11th ready for an afternoon of work.

That's all for the moment. Thanks for taking the time to read this, and I'll see you at Coffee (I'll be in TM till then, but I'll respond to posts [to the SuperTopo Climber's Forum] by Sunday night).

Climb safe, climb clean, climb hard,  
-Link



## Climber of the Month



**Name/ nickname:** Paul Manangan/@\$\$hole to those who know me well

**No. of years climbing:** 6 or 7 give or take a season

**RR member since:** 2003

**First climb:** Plastic: Joe Rockheads, Toronto Canada

**Trad:** Knapsack Crack, Lovers Leap

**Favorite climbing destination:** Red Rocks, Vegas Baby! For the proximity to cheap hotels, showers and gambling not the desert approaches.

**Favorite post-climb eatery:** Bellagio buffet, Vegas or that Tacqueria in Oakdale next to the supermarket.

**Favorite climbing gym:** Berkeley Ironworks even though I spend all my time at Mission Cliffs, SF.

**Ski or snowboard?:** Telemark or mono board? Just kidding, SNOWBOARD!

**Other outdoor pursuits:** Snowboarding!  
Drinking by the grill.

**Favorite travel destination:** Haven't found it yet.

**Person most like to be stuck on a ledge with:** I would most like to be stuck on a ledge with Kate Beckinsale but I likely would be stuck on a ledge with one of my many newbie partners who didn't realize that the 'rope gun' title was said in jest.

**Favorite climbing read:** Into Thin Air, gotta love Krakauer

**Earliest childhood memory:** Freaky looking red worm inching along a glass pane, I threw a pair of pliers at it that were the same colour as the worm and of course shattered the window, I think I got cut so I wasn't punished for throwing stuff in the house.

**Climbing motto:** Why risk a fall when you can yell 'take' and blame it on your rotator cuff injury.

**Climbing hero:** Ricardo Lagos, if he drags my ass up some big stone this season or Josune Bereziartu, as girls who climb hard, intimidate me and excite me.



## Come to the inaugural Rock Rugsrats trip!

*And you don't even have to have kids to go on the trip! Ben and Liana Smith and friends want to invite you to join them at the inaugural Rock Rugsrats trip to South Lake Tahoe. A fun time of climbing, hiking, etc., for all the family*



**By Ben Smith**

Just a reminder regarding the inaugural South Lake Tahoe / Rock Rugsrats climbing trip **9/23-9/25** at our cabin in South Lake Tahoe (take a shower after a hot day of climbing - what a novel thought!).

Signups were just added to the website. Space is limited to 12 adults and **UNLIMITED** rugsrats under 12-years-old. **ALL** climbers are welcome not just those with kids.

All South Lake Tahoe climbing areas are easily accessible including Pie Shop, Lovers Leap, 90 Foot Wall etc. Contact me if you would like more information.

See you on the rock,

*Ben Smith*

[bensmith@pacbell.net](mailto:bensmith@pacbell.net)

*TRIP REPORTS:*

## Inspiring photographs from the Misha Logvinov collection



This photo is taken near the summit of Mt. Sill. My partner is checking our descent path down the West face, which turned out to be more adventurous than the climb since it was covered with fresh snow and ice. In the background is the Palisades crest.



Tuolumne Meadows





Tuolumne Meadows





Tuolumne Meadows



# British migratory climbers

**Words and pics: Em Holland**

For friends who know Carolyn but didn't get a chance to see her during her recent visit to California:

A rare sighting of British migratory climbers was reported this August in Tilden Park: Amy Segal, Simon Kenney, Carolyn Dent and partner Bill Burt.



Former RR newsletter editor Carolyn Dent paid a visit to the West Coast to help celebrate Scott and Linda's wedding.



## UPCOMING TRIPS:

There are only a few weeks left this year of climbing with the rest of the RR gang at RR-booked campsites, so if you've not climbed with us yet, sign up and we'll see you there.

Don't forget to save the dates for the annual RR Thanksgiving trip to J-Tree. Also, please join Ben and Liana Smith and friends at RR's inaugural Rock Rugrats trip to South Lake Tahoe. More details on page 9 of this newsletter.

In the grid below, I've marked in asterix the dates that are available to sign up for on the Web site.

As always, if you have an upcoming trip you'd like to open up to other club members, or if you'd like to organize another outing for the club, please drop me a line, thanks – Linda ([llhleung@hotmail.com](mailto:llhleung@hotmail.com)).

<i>DATES</i>	<i>TRIP VENUE</i>
<b>11/23 – 11/27</b>	Indian Cove, Joshua Tree Thanksgiving Trip
<b>9/9 - 9/10 *</b> <b>9/30 - 10/1</b> <b>10/7 – 10/8</b> <b>10/14 – 10/15</b>	Upper Pines, Yosemite Valley
<b>9/16 – 9/17 *</b>	Tuolumne Meadows
<b>9/23 – 9/25 * (Inaugural Rock Rugrats trip – kid-friendly!)</b>	South Lake Tahoe for climbing, eating, hiking with your fellow Rock Rugrats.



## NEXT ROCK RENDEZVOUS MEETING:

**When:** Tuesday, Sept. 13 @ 6:30 p.m.

**Where:** 214 Shrader Street, San Francisco (Ricardo Lagos' new pad), tel: 415-939-8473

**Why:** For meeting your fellow RR members and to see Gus Benner's slideshow of his recent climb of the East Ridge of Denali

**What to bring:** You, your friends and food/drinks to share. BBQ will be fired up at 6:30 p.m. – BYOM (bring your own meat).

Description by Gus:

The climb was the first ascent of the east ridge of Denali, in 1969, written up as the Catacomb and East Ridges of MtMcKinley in the 1970 American Alpine Journal, (and hasn't been repeated, to my knowledge). 7 climbers, 5 weeks. A classic old non-alpine style ascent, with fixed ropes and multiple camps. Of some interest in that this was the route that Frederic Cook claimed to have made the first ascent of McKinley in 1905 in a few days. Approach was via the Ruth Glacier, with some great views of Mt. Huntington and the Rooster Comb.

### 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.*