

# Rock Rendezvous



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## Welcome to the new climbing year

We're hitting the ground running as we enter the New Year. Scott has been busy over the past couple of months reserving sites in the Valley for the spring and early summer. See page 11 for the full dates. As usual, the sites will be available on the website about a month before the trip date for you to sign up. The dates are published in the newsletter for your planning purposes.

In this issue of the newsletter, we have pictures from the RR Christmas Party at the home of Kevin Kachadourian, who was also celebrating his birthday. Amy Moses is the first of this year's Climber of the Month who has the dubious honor of answering this year's new and more personal questions!

There's also a pre-trip report by George Patterson about the spring Friendship Beyond Borders expedition, and some photos from Scott and my trip to southern Thailand. I want to thank Peter Monks who answered my plea for trip reports, and allowed me to take articles and photos from his website. But there's an overwhelming amount of material there that I don't think I could do it justice by just pulling an article from it. So I urge you to visit his site – <http://www.geocities.com/yosemite/4455/> -- particularly if you're planning a trip to Australia.

We also have photos of the wedding celebrations of RR alumni Jane Brennan.

Thanks to all who contributed to this month's newsletter. As always, when you're out on the road, think about writing it up for the RR newsletter.

Cheers! --- *Linda*

# January Meeting Notes

By Ricardo Lagos

The first meeting of the year was held on the 2nd week of January. A decent group managed to find their way to Jovie Havard's house (Thank you Jovie!). We started off the evening by sampling the appetizers that Jovie had prepared and the other food that was brought in. Not to mention that there was the usual amount of wine and beer.

The club's business got underway by announcing the winner of the 2005 Photo contest: none other than our gracious host Jovie Havard. She received a \$50 REI gift certificate. We then moved on to announcing the upcoming plans for 2006 for Rock Rendezvous. I am proud to announce that we already have a lot of sites reserved for the beginning of the season, and what promises to be another successful group outing to Red Rocks in the spring. Look for formal announcements, and a sign up page to go up on the website. The dates for the Red Rocks trip is the weekend when March ends and April begins. We have several sites in the valley in late April, and may.

We had some new faces at the January meeting, Farah and Ryan went to Cal Poly and found the club via the Internet, way to go guys! – they shared their climbing tales from a recent trip to

JTree. Larry is a semi-newcomer, he joined the club at the end of last year, and finally managed to make a meeting. Amy Moses also made her first appearance at a RR meeting (although rumor has it that she's been hanging out with the RR crew in 2005). She was still brushing off the sand from a recent trip to Thailand.

Now is the time when I remind everyone that your dues are, well, due again. The camping fees for 2006 will remain unchanged at \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members per night, so in order to take advantage of the lower price (and be able to sign up on the website for a trip) you need to get your \$15 to Noriko ([sekikno@earthlink.net](mailto:sekikno@earthlink.net)).

Finally after much groveling with Kevin's computer and all the other gizmos that Jovie had lying around her living room, we managed to get the slideshow up on the big screen TV. And we were treated to an exceptional set of slides from Kevin's recent trip to Armenia.

Make sure you check out the dates for the upcoming trips at the back of the newsletter. Next months meeting will be held on Feb. 7, and our host will be Torger Johnson's house in the East Bay.

## Christmas 2005 Party Pix

A jolly time was had by all at the 2005 RR Xmas party at Kevin K.'s house in Oakland. It was also Kevin's birthday so we were in for a double celebration. Everyone enjoyed lots of good food and reminisced about the past year's climbing.



Simon K., Chris & John Kerr



Ricardo, Ger, Sarah



Scott, Linda, Kevin



## Climber of the Month



**Name/nickname:** Amy  
**No. of years climbing:** ~11  
**RR member since:** May 2005  
**First climb:** Somewhere in the Tetons in 1987 (see photo below).

**Climbing goal for this year:** Rest long enough to let my finger injury heal. (Easier said than done.)







**Favorite climbing destination:** Ton Sai, Thailand

**Favorite post-climbing eatery:** In and Out Burger

**Favorite climbing gym:** Mission Cliffs

**I want to climb like:** Chris Sharma

**Best thing that your climbing partner could say:** Nice lead

**Worse thing that your climbing partner could say:** "A yellow jacket just flew up my shirt." (What Sam said while I was leading in Tuolumne.)

**What does your family say about your climbing:** My mom says, "I just don't think about it so I won't worry."

**Person most like to be stuck on a ledge with:** Ricardo, of course.

**Favorite travel destination:** Latin America

**Non-climbing interests:** Salsa dancing, snowboarding...studying for the LSATs

**Climbing motto:** No takes.

**Advice to new climbers:** Be prepared to give up your life as you know it.





## Congratulations Jane and Ben!

RR alumni Jane Brennan got married to Ben last December in Edinburgh. Jane was an active member of RR when she lived in SF and participated in many RR events. We were all sad when she left last summer but we are very glad to see that she is doing well! RRers Sarah Elson and Carolyn Dent were guests at the wedding. Congrats Jane & Ben! *Photos courtesy of Bill Burt*



Jane, Carolyn, Ben



Jane, Sarah, Carolyn

## TRIP REPORTS:

# Spring 2006 Friendship Beyond Borders expedition to Cho Oyu



**Cho Oyu – the Turquoise Goddess**

This Spring 2006 the Friendship Beyond Borders Team heads to China to help Nawang Sherpa



become the first amputee to climb two of the world's highest mountains, and further raise awareness of the potential of amputees to change the world in very positive ways. I will be on that team along with Nawang Sherpa, Tom McMillan, Pete Lardy, Nima Gombu Sherpa, and Nawang's brother, Ang Dawa Sherpa. Tom McMillan is the expedition leader. Both Tom and Nawang reached the summit of Mt. Everest in the Spring of 2004.

We plan to arrive in Lhasa, Tibet on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2006, for acclimatization, and a final shopping spree before we are driven by truck 780 km. passing through the town of Xigeze and



**George Patterson**



Tingri county to Chinese Base Camp at 4950 m. By April 11<sup>th</sup> we should be at Advanced Base Camp, 5800 m. Above ABC are Camp I, 20,600ft (6,400m); Camp II, 23,600ft (7,000m); Camp III, 24,500ft (7,500m); Summit, 26,906ft (8,201m). The possibility for summit days will be between April 25<sup>th</sup> and May 11<sup>th</sup>. Our final departure from Lhasa is to be May 23<sup>rd</sup>.



Pete Lardy

Cho Oyu, the “Turquoise Goddess” is only 12 miles from Everest. In climbing Cho Oyu, Nawang will be the first amputee ever to climb two 8000 m. peaks. It is a great privilege for me to accompany Nawang, Tom, and Pete on this climb. This will be my first climb over 8000 m. Please look at the Friendship Beyond Borders Expedition web site and consider becoming a sponsor.

<http://www.friendshipbeyondborders.com/>

*Article by George Patterson*

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## Christmas in Thailand

**By Linda Leung**

Scott Johnston and I spent Christmas climbing in Railay and Ton Sai beaches in southern Thailand. We joined Amy Moses and Sam McGeehan who had arrived there a week before us and had already acclimated to the weather and the hot and sweaty climbing conditions.

On climbing days, we'd climb in the morning, break for a pad-thai or curry lunch at a local resort restaurant, wait for the food to digest by walking along the beach or taking a dip in the clear water, and then hit another climb in the afternoon. A tough life indeed!

Below are some pictures from our trip. You will see more pictures and hear all about climbing in Thailand at a slideshow that Amy and Scott will present at a future RR meeting. Details soon!



Even Santa climbs in Thailand.



Long-tail boats are the mode of transport in Railay





Ton Sai Wall

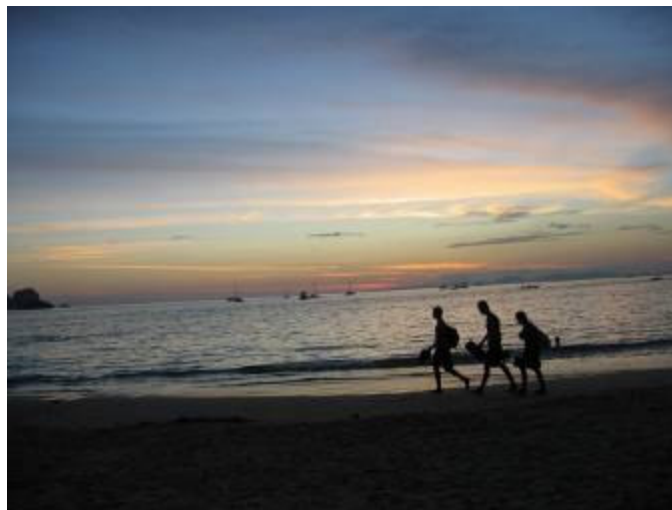


Scott on Risenbaby, Ton Sai Wall





Scott on a route on Firewall. To his right is the popular Groove Tube, which your's truly climbed in the dark (the line was long and by the time the line had cleared, the sun was setting. Thankfully I had my headlamp and Sam was above to watch my steps!)



Obligatory sunset shot, West Railay Beach





## *UPCOMING TRIPS:*

Scott has been busy booking sites in the Valley for this spring and early summer. We'll make the sites available on the RR website about a month before trip date and you'll be able to reserve your spot then.

Rock Rugrats has also booked a site in Yosemite for its spring trip. Details below. Everyone is welcome on the Rock Rugrats trip, but please reserve the parking spaces for the kids and their grown-ups – thanks.

<i><b>DATES</b></i>	<i><b>TRIP VENUE</b></i>
<b>3/30 – 4/1</b>	Red Rocks
<b>4/14 – 4/15</b>	Upper Pines, Yosemite
<b>4/28 – 4/29</b>	Upper Pines, Yosemite
<b>4/28 – 4/29</b>	Lower Pines, site #13, Yosemite with Rock Rugrats
<b>5/5 – 5/6</b>	Upper Pines, Yosemite
<b>5/12 – 5/13</b>	Upper Pines, Yosemite
<b>5/19 – 5/20</b>	Upper Pines, Yosemite
<b>5/26 – 5/28 Memorial w/e</b>	Upper Pines, Yosemite
<b>6/2 – 6/3</b>	Upper Pines, Yosemite
<b>6/9 - 6/10</b>	Upper Pines, Yosemite







## ***NEXT ROCK RENDEZVOUS MEETING:***

***FEBRUARY 7, 2005***

The next meeting will be held at Torger Johnson's house in the East Bay. Venue and slideshow details will be sent in an email via the RR Yahoo Groups email system.

### **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.*

