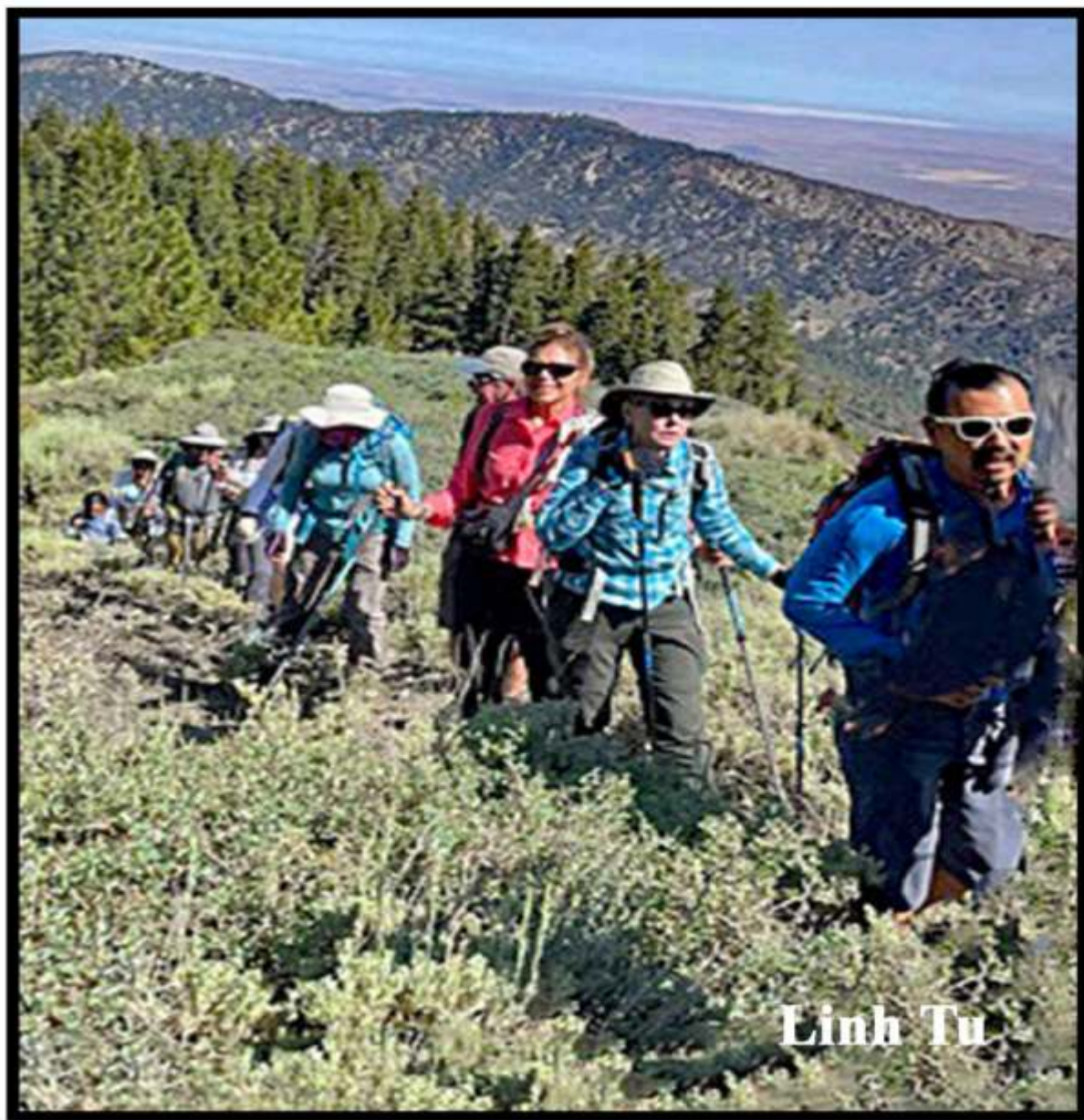


THE LOOKOUT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE HUNDRED PEAKS SECTION

V58 N5 Sept - Oct 2021



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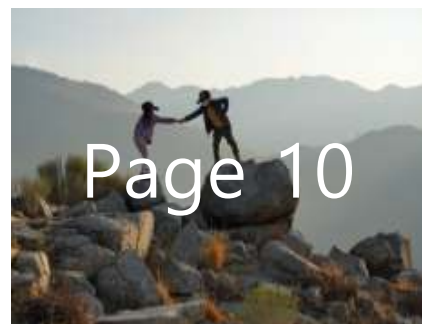
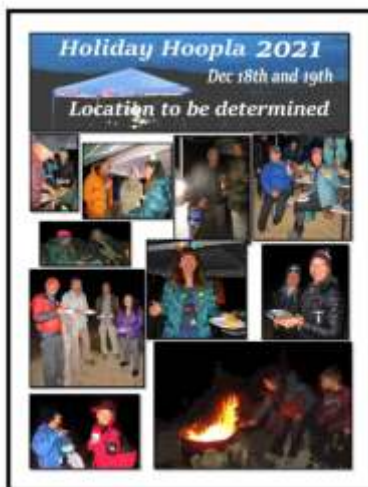
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Hundred Peaks Section (HPS) Lookout Subscription Form

(There are no prerequisites to become a subscriber)

Name (or names if household)					
Street Address					
City		State		Zip	
Phone		Email			
Sierra Club Membership No. (required for new members)					

IF YOU WISH TO BECOME A MEMBER, PLEASE SEND A LIST OF 25 PEAKS YOU HAVE HIKE THAT ARE ON THE HPS LIST, with the month and year of the peak completion. (See the HPS Website, for a list of the 275 or so HPS peaks.)

All rates are for 6 issues/year, delivered electronically.

Basic Subscription: \$9 for 1 year, \$17 for 2 years, \$24 for 3 years

Sustaining Subscription (helps to cover other section expenses): \$20 for 1 year, \$39 for 2 years, \$57 for 3 years Lifetime

Subscription: \$500

Amount enclosed \$ _____

HPS Subscription email address: lookout_membership@hundredpeaks.org

Letter from the Chair – September 2021

Greetings! I hope everyone had a good summer. As I write this letter, I know that our local national forests just reopened and the fire danger was lowered from “critical” to “extreme.” I hope we can avoid any major fires this year. It doesn’t seem very long ago when September and October were the height of wildfire sea-son. The climate crisis has certainly changed that and I support the Sierra Club’s efforts to address this issue.

In my last letter, I noted the good news that the National Club had reopened outings. Well, as is so often the case, the devil was in the details. As I will discuss, unfortunately the protocols National issued were so onerous that, as you may have noticed, new HPS outings have essentially been eliminated.

This brings me to a really important observation: the governing bodies of the Angeles Chapter and National Board have drifted away from prioritizing outings. I believe that this is both mistaken and dangerous to the Sierra Club and the environmental cause as a whole. It’s one of the reasons that I’ve decided to run for Angeles Chapter Executive Committee. More on that below.

As to the outings reopening guidelines, National staff is using the pandemic to implement a series of very stringent protocols. While some of these could maybe be justified by the pandemic (but not really), the real fear of outings leaders is that the National Club intends these to be permanent. If fully implemented as is, they would make it essentially impossible for HPS to continue to sponsor and conduct one of the best and robust outings programs in the Club. Many other chapters have expressed grave concerns regarding these policies.

In response to this pushback, National has asked that instead of just opposing the new policies, that entities present a counter proposal. MComm met just a few days ago to discuss all of this.

HPS agrees that for every peak there should be what National calls a Safety Management Plan. These can be standardized for each peak (or groups of peaks with common trailheads), approved by Safety and posted for download by leaders. These SMPs can provide guidance and specific information on what to do in case of an emergency.

HPS believes that while there is reason to strengthen the participant screening process for overnight outings (more on that below), HPS’s track record shows that there is really no reason to change protocols for day hikes. Along those lines, HPS opposes what is essentially an arbitrary and impossible to administer distinction between “front country” and “back country.”

However, HPS does agree that the dynamic for overnight trips, from a safety and COVID perspective, changes a bit. HPS would require that all participants show proof of vaccination. Further, HPS would strengthen the current screening process that every leader uses to ensure a participant’s ability to successfully complete the outing. HPS would ensure that the screening include conditioning, experience, medications/medical issues and perhaps other conditions.

One of the biggest sticking points is that the current National protocols require that each participant fill out and transmit to leaders a detailed medical form including lots of private information. Worse, the protocol in essence expects leaders to evaluate the information on the form to decide whether someone is appropriate for a trip.

HPS (and many other entities) strenuously object to this. Instead, HPS supports requiring that the medical form (either in its current form or with some edits) be filled out by each participant but not shared with the leader. The leader will confirm that each participant has filled out the form and will ask where the participant is carrying the form. The purpose of the form is to provide necessary information to first responders, EMT's and medical personnel, not to be evaluated by the outing leader.

HPS believes that with these changes, an outings program could be restarted. There are continuing efforts to persuade National to see our point of view. It's not clear to many of us how outings can be restarted without this.

This brings me to the chapter elections. I and many others believe that Angeles Chapter executive committee also does not sufficiently support outings. I am running for Executive Committee to be a voice for outings, and I hope that you will consider voting for me. The election will open in October and run through mid-November.

Finally, I want to let you know that the Hundred Peaks Section Management Committee is trying to restart our signature events, including the Holiday Hoopla and our Annual Banquet. Please stay tuned.

Please stay safe and Happy trails!

Coby King
Chair, 2021 Management Committee

2021 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

<p><u>Elected Members:</u></p> <p>Coby King - Chair (12/2021) Facebook Administrator 310-489-3280 cobyk@cobyking.com</p> <p>James Hagar, Vice Chair (12/20/21) 1621 Marion Drive, Glendale, CA 91205 Jhagar1@gmail.com</p> <p>Mark S. Allen- Secretary, (12/2022) Lookout Newsletter Editor, HPS Merchandise 11321 Foster Road Los Alamitos, CA 90720 mal1en4341@outlook.com</p> <p>Ryan B. Lynch- Member At Large (12/2022) Phone: 213-534-7357</p> <p>George Christensen (12/2021) MountainRecords,Access 12702 Grovesview Street Garden Grove, CA 92840 H:714-636-0918 g.m.christiansen@me.com</p> <p>Sunny YI- Programs, Outreach (12/2022) sunmyi125@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Appointed Members:</u></p> <p>Laura Newman, Treasurer hpstreas@gmail.com</p> <p>Mat Kelliher- Outings & Safety Chair mkelliher746@gmail.com</p> <p>Ignacia Doggett, Elections Chair peterdoggett@aol.com</p> <p>Tanya Roton, Nominations Committee tanya.roton@gmail.com</p> <p>Wayne Vollaire, The Lookout Mailer 2035 Peaceful Hills Road, Walnut, CA 91789-4009 Home: 909 327-6825 email: avollaire1@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Appointed Members:</u></p> <p>Jim Fleming, Co-Chair, Safety Adopt-a-Highway 538 Yarrow Drive Simi Valley, CA 93065-7352 Jimf333@att.net</p> <p>Joe Young, Historian 12551 Presnell Street Los Angeles, CA 90066-6730H:310-822-9676 the hikejoe@gmail.com</p>
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Photo ID: Robinson 762
Sierra Club hikers atop East San Bernardino Peak, October 1953. Back row, L to R: Bob Sheller, Owen Blackburn, Marge Gall, unidentified woman. Front row, L to R: Unidentified man, Roger Gaefke, unidentified, Bob Schmelzer, Frank Bressell, unidentified, Frank Sanburn (leader). Many of these folks, under the leadership of Sunburn, went on to found the Sierra Peaks Section in 1955.

Submitted by Bob Cates, Sierra Club Historian

- Coby King – Chair, Facebook Administrator
 - Jim Hagar - Vice Chair
 - Mark S. Allen - Secretary, Lookout Editor
 - George Christiansen - Access and Mountain Records
 - Sunny Yi – Programs Chair
 - Ryan Lynch - Member At Large
 - Mat Kelliher - Outings and Safety, Asst. Programs Chair
 - Laura Newman - Treasurer
- Meeting Call to Order: 6:06pm
- Chair's Report:
 - 2021 Chapter Awards Banquet moved to May 1, 2022. HPS Award next year at Chapter Banquet.
 - Chapter ExComm and NomComm. Announced positions open for Chapter committees.
 - Outings and Safety, Mat Kelliher. Discussed COVID hold on outings until July 4, 2021. Sierra Club National Committee authorized Pilot Outings. First Pilot Outing is scheduled for Mt. Lukens, May 29th, Leaders Bill Simpson and Jim Hagar.
 - Discussion of supplemented First Aid Training Program of Sierra Club Leaders (HPS) to expedite availability of qualified leaders.
 - Committee Report Discussions:
 - Discussion and approval of March 2021 MCOMM Minutes by Mark S. Allen, Minutes approved and sent to Karen Leverich for posting on www.hundredpeaks.org Website.
 - Treasurer, Laura Newman. Treasurers Report of March 2021, M/S/Approved.
 - Membership – No Report
 - Mountain Records / Access, George Christiansen, May 11th Report:

• **2020 FIRES – SUMMARY OF FOREST CLOSURES (reference purposes— nothing new)**

The Bobcat Closure (05-01-21-03) is in effect thru April 1, 2022 (was Order 05-01-20-11)
The Lake Fire Closure (05-01-20-09), is in effect thru June 1, 2021.
The Apple Fire Closure (05-12-53-20-05) is in effect thru August 28, 2021

The El Dorado Fire Closure (05-12-00-20-25) which was in effect thru October 8, 2021, has been superseded by 05-12-00-21-06 and modified by "Wilderness Quota System" Order 05-12-00-20-03. This order allows permitted access to the closed area,

• **UPPER SANTA YNEZ RIVER ACCESS—**

Hildreth Peak (6M) access via Route 1 in Santa Barbara County has been impacted by a major road washout between Romero Saddle and the Santa Ynez River (and the Caliente Springs Trailhead). The major washout has been repaired, but additional damage on East Camino Cielo requires repair prior to reopening. This portion of the repair is projected for completion by May 31, 2021. Confirmed on May 11, 2021 that the May 31 completion date still holds.

• **ACCESS TO CROSS (2K - ROUTE 1) AND CHUCKWALLA (2L - ROUTE 2) VIA JAWBONE CANYON**

The Gate at the trailhead to these two peaks in Jawbone Canyon has recently been closed to hikers and enforced by security guards. It does not appear that they have the authority to close the immediate area to hikers since the gate is on BLM (Bureau of Land Management) property. The responsible BLM Office confirmed that BLM property is open to the public. As a private road, it can be closed to vehicles

An alternate hiking route from the gate to the peaks without crossing LADWP (Department of Water and Power) parcels is being evaluated. I propose that the following note be added to the two peak guides until this issue is resolved:

THIS ROUTE IS NOT RECOMMENDED UNTIL ACCESS ON BLM PROPERTY IS RESOLVED

• **NEW ROUTES TO SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN (22D) FOR REVIEW**

David Harris proposed two new routes and they are attached for review. Routes 4 and 5. During the Jan 12, 2021 meeting, it was suggested that both routes be checked out for confirmation by way of an independent hike.

John Radalj submitted a trip report regarding Route 5, with the only discrepancy being the total reported gain. David Harris reported gain of 3400 feet, and John Radalj reported 3800 feet.

Mountain Records Report Continued:

- **Sugarloaf Mountain, (22D)** Jim was leader on exploratory hike of route 4. M/S/Approved both routes.

• **ROSA AND VILLAGER UPDATES (30H AND 30G)**

David Harris submitted the following updates to Rosa and Villager (March 16)

I suggest that we accept these as written.

• **SAM FINK TRAIL UPDATE (28P)**

David Harris submitted the attached update (May 2) due to severe damage to the primary Route (Route1) due to the Mountain Fire.

I suggest that we accept this for inclusion in the Peak Guide based on past reliable suggestions by David, and note it as a major revision to the 2000 writeup by Joe Young.

• **McDILL ROUTE 2 (8D)**

The HPS Route 2 to McDill, although outside the Forest Closure Area is posted as closed for approximately one mile along the ridge. This was noted by Mat Kelliher and then reconfirmed recently on his followup hike.

I recommend temporary suspension of Route 2.

- **San Gorgonio Area.** George Christiansen: "I recommend we un-suspended the following peaks":

- San Gorgonio Mountain
- Allen Peak
- Birch Mountain
- Cedar Mountain
- Wilshire Peak
- M/S/Approved

- Programs, by Sunny Yi, Mat Kelliher reported progress on a restaurant for possible HPS Awards Banquet. All HPS events below are canceled:

- Spring Fling 2021 - Canceled
- Waterman Rendezvous - Canceled
- 2021 Holiday Hoopla - Canceled
- 2022 - HPS Awards Banquet - Under Review
- Outreach Report, No Report
- Merchandising Report: Mark S. Allen, Merchandising Chair. HPS Merchandise received. Inventory of HPS Merchandise forwarded to HPS Chair, Coby King.
- Meeting Adjourned 7:16pm



On Sunday June 20, 2021 Peter & Ignacia Doggett and Jin Oak Chung led a hike to Pinos, Sawmill, Grouse, and Cerro Noroeste to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Weldon Heald's emblem hike. Along with Jack Bascom, he hiked Grouse on June 20, 1946. Grouse was Heald's 100th peak. Photograph, L-R: Matt Laio, Miriam Khamis, Jae C Kim, Illwoo Suh, May Tang, Naresh Satyan, Sonia Arancibia, Mari Sakai, Ignacia & Doggett, Aryssa & Nahid Shirazi

Holiday Hoopla 2021

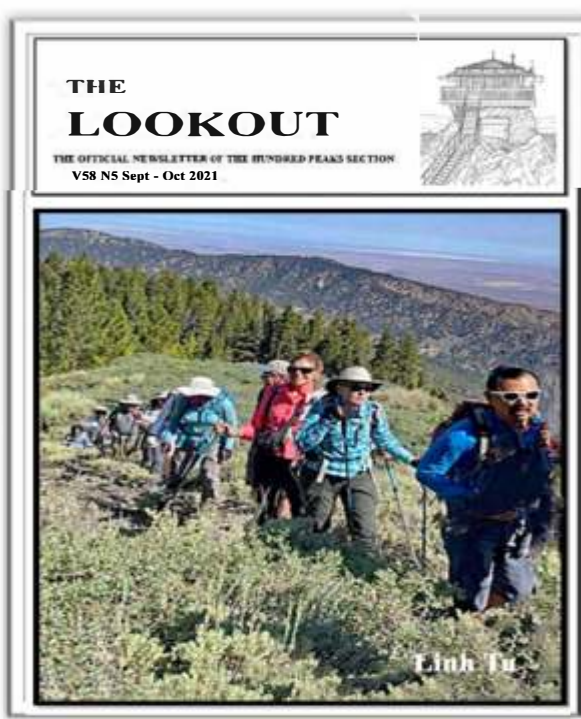
Dec 18th and 19th

Location to be determined



Summits

Photo by Eric Chu



< 8-1-21 100 Peaks Black Mtn. Lookout and Castle Rocks. Black Mountain was 100 Peaks for Todd Turner, with Kendra Heinecke and Todds daughter, Emilee. Photos: Jin Oak Chung. Todd's crown by Nancy Jones



Cover: July 17th private hike to Wright Mountain. On this day a double List Finish for Jim Hagar and George White.



Jim Hagar, Jae Kim, Heeshook Kim.
Photo: Sharon Moore



Washim Khan hiking
New Mexico



Marit Chrislock, Cristine Soskins, Ignacia Doggett during Cristine's San Jacinto Six Challenge.



8-13-21 Richard Passmore on
Libre Mountain



2017: Mat Kelliher and Bill Simpson

Jim and George's List Finishes!! By Louie Rodriguez

Despite a worldwide pandemic and no official HPS or Sierra Club outings, two well-known hikers completed the unfathomable: finishing the HPS Peak List on two peaks in the Angelus Forest on July 17, 2021.



It was a beautiful summer day that drew nearly 50 to accompany and celebrate the two list finishers. First, the group met at La Canada Rideshare. Met again at the parking lot off Hwy 2 and Blue Ridge Road. After caravanning a few miles on Blue Ridge, everyone parked at the trailhead for Wright Mountain. There, everyone geared up and climbed up the narrow trail overlooking the Mojave Desert to the north. After a short ascent, hikers cheered on George White for finishing his list after several years of hiking.



After descending to the cars, a food fest broke out on impromptu tables under some nice shady pines. Champagne corks popped, and drinks were flowing. The first feast was just an hour, then revelers cleaned-up like nothing ever happened. Next, they headed off to the second peak, Pinyon Ridge, a bit down Hwy 2, and then on a rough dirt road for a few miles as well.

Jim led many hikes the last few years, greatly assisting many to advance on their own lists. After high fives and many congrats being given, another feast appeared under limited shade near the dry summit of Pinyon Ridge. Some new homemade goodies came out on this after several other beverages and food like before. It was quite a day in the mountains with lots of hikers visiting each other, many who hadn't seen each other in some cases over a year.

Congrats to Jim and George on this great feat on their feet!!



Morris Trip Report– August 22, 2021 by John Sheehe



On a smoky Sunday, a pair of +50 year olds and 7 year old twins headed up early to Walker Pass off the 178 in the Owens Peak Wilderness for a hike to Morris Peak. Despite the haze, smoke, and minimal shade, it was an extremely enjoyable hike. We started early enough (6:30a) that the heat (lower 80s) didn't hit us until we were coming down. Joshua trees dotted the landscape as we ascended the relatively mild

mild incline and we stopped at a convenient rock outcropping about 1.5 miles in for a water break and to remove jackets that were no longer needed.

We continued the hike, most of which was on the PCT, and took several switchbacks that eventually



led to shade on the western side of the trail. Smoke from the fires up north was clearly visible, creeping into the valley below. Masks and face gaiters assisted in minimizing the smell. We reached a saddle and took another break as we prepped for the final ascent. The saddle looked well worn and is used by overnights and thru hikers as a convenient camping spot.

We took our time after the rest as we were now in the sun, off the PCT, and on a use trail leading to the peak. The trail was easy to follow and, though sandy/rocky in some spots, wasn't much of a challenge for the +50 year olds and the 7 year olds.

The views from the peak were surprisingly nice considering the smoky air. Mount Jenkins and Mount Owens seemed a stone's throw away while Lookout Mountain and Bald Mountain could be made out in the distance. We signed our names in the summit registry, enjoyed a snack and drank more water then headed down.

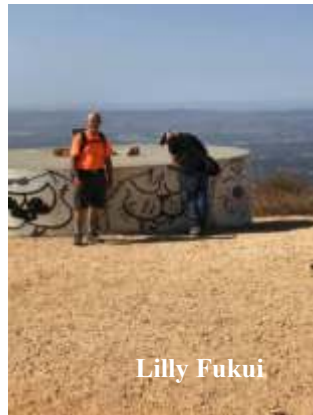


The hike seemed much less than 9.4 miles/2000 ft elevation gain, mostly due to the mild incline of the trail. This would be a great hike in the winter with or without snow (preferably with!). I'd even mercy hike this peak (that's how much I enjoyed it) and will probably take the same route to Jenkins later this season.



Summits

Photo by Eric Chu



Potato Mountain



Please feel free to include in the lookout.

Thanks

Jesse Glick

(Grizzly Bear, Grand Tetons National Park. August, 2021)



8-12-21. Shurovi M RT on Bell Mountain



8-20-21 Stoddard Trail.

THE NAVIGATION CORNER: THEMATIC MAPPING

By Bob Myers, LTC Navigation Chair

“The map may provoke, delight, inspire, frustrate,
or anger people.” – Kenneth Fields

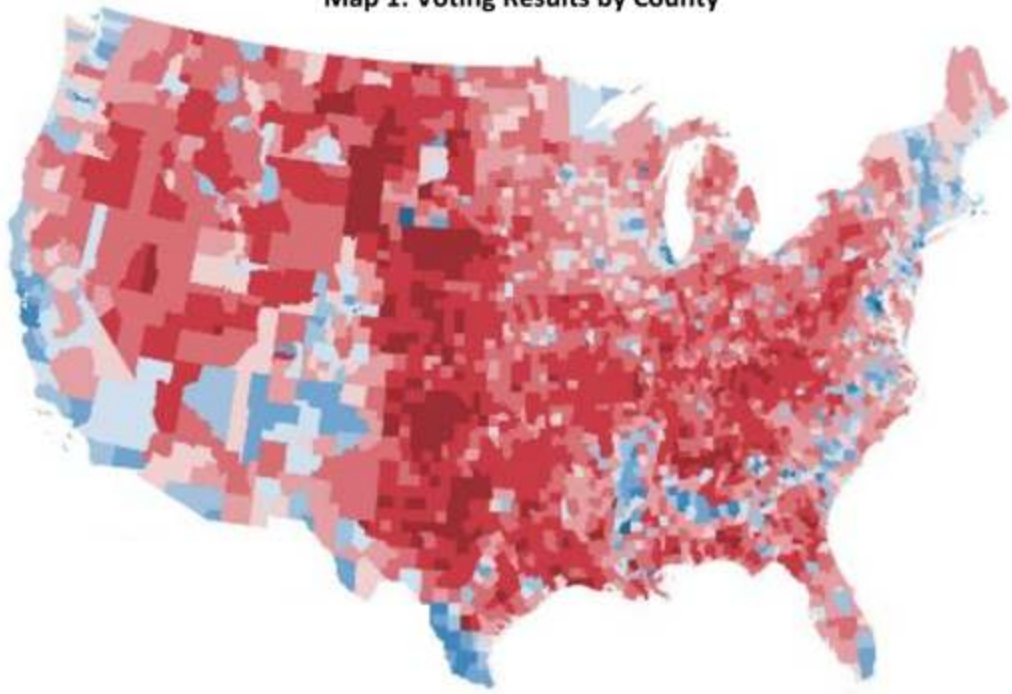
Maps are regularly used to illustrate data. Although often represented as authoritative, maps do not necessarily convey the truth. Indeed, every map has some level of distortion of reality because of the process of representing the three-dimensional world on a piece of paper (or video monitor). As Mark Monmonier noted in *How to Lie with Maps* (2d ed. 1996), “to present a useful and truthful picture, an accurate map must tell [small] lies.” Just as a map can tell small lies, it can also tell big lies. It is important to “appreciate the map’s power as a tool of deliberate falsification and subtle propaganda.” With modern technology and the ability to readily make and alter maps, “serious cartographic lies can appear respectable and accurate.”

A new book by Kenneth Fields entitled ***Thematic Mapping: 101 Inspiring Ways to Visualize Empirical Data*** adds to our understanding of the cartographic choices made by map makers. Released on August 31, 2021 (Esri Press, e-ISBN 9781589485587), ***Thematic Mapping*** is available on Kindle or Nook. I follow Fields on Twitter (@kennethfield) and have attended a number of mapping workshops featuring his insightful and witty presentations. His books and articles are a must read for cartographers and his newly released ***Thematic Mapping*** book provides valuable insights for both map makers and map consumers. As Fields observes:

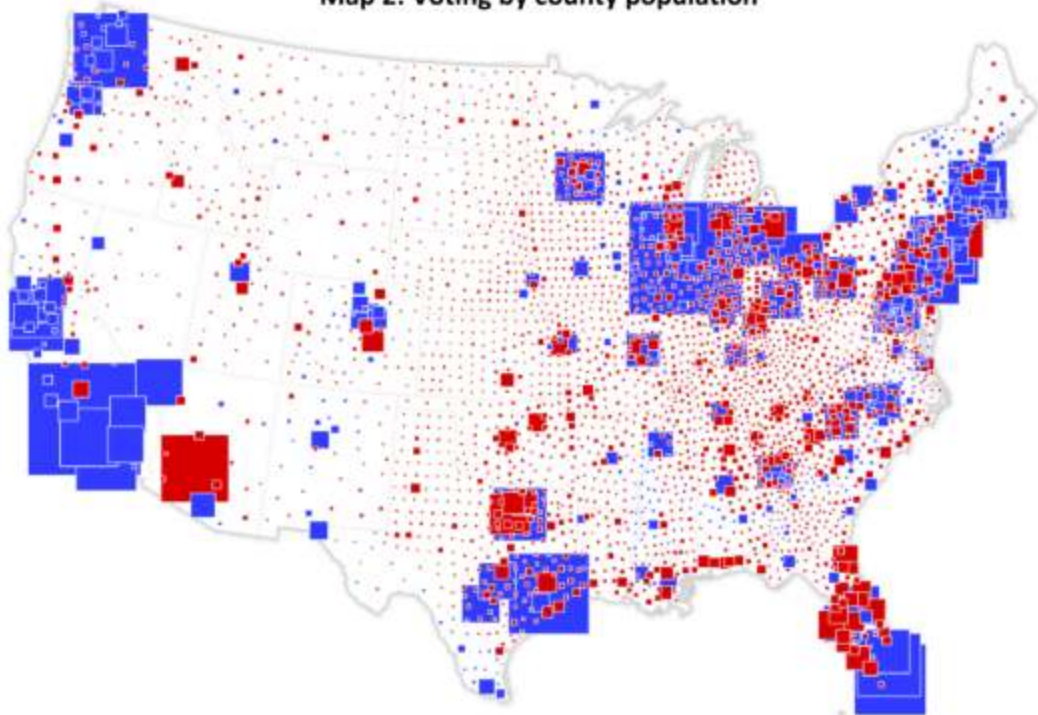
Maps are ubiquitous, yet maps are not made equally. They are not read equally either. They are constructs of many decisions, opportunities, constraints, the people who make them, and the people who read them. Yet maps are one of the most often used and trusted mechanisms for displaying data that has a people component, and by that, I mean data in which people are on the map. This might be population density, levels of poverty or income, or any pattern of human activity. Data collects what we do, how we do it, and, crucially, where we do it. This might be through routine census surveys, market research, or to show the outcome of how we vote in elections. Data about us is plotted every day in official publications, atlases, and news media. In fact, we forever are looking at maps in which we are part of the map.
(p. xiv)

With over 100 different maps, Fields uses 2016 presidential election data to drive home the point that the same data can be presented in a number of ways. What follows are three examples from the book that effectively illustrate this proposition. The first map represents red and blue counties and emphasizes land area. The second map emphasizes population using proportional symbols. The third map contains one dot per voter, with 65,844,610 blue dots and 62,979,636 red dots. All of the maps use the same data and all tell a different story.

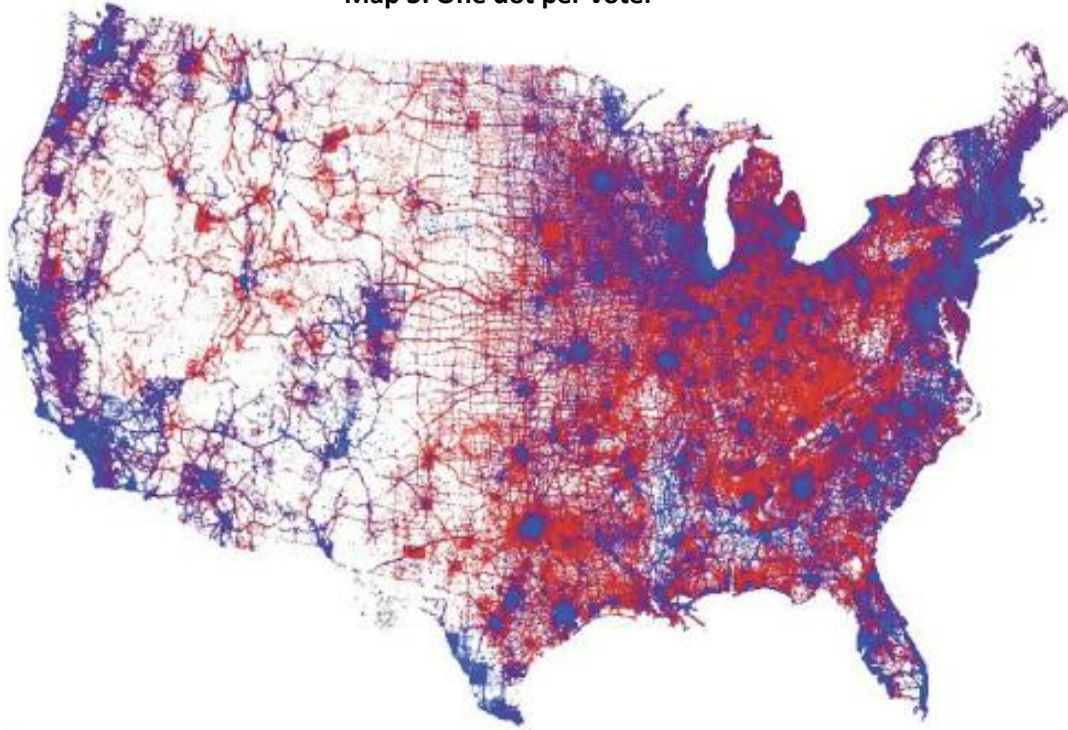
Map 1: Voting Results by County



Map 2: Voting by county population



Map 3: One dot per voter



I strongly recommend ***Thematic Mapping*** for those interested in understanding the maps used to convey information about the world around us. Of particular note is the book's extensive appendix providing "the history and lineage of the techniques and points to some of the major milestones in the history of thematic cartography and data visualisation more widely" (p. 245). After reading this book, you will be amazed by the different ways data can be mapped.

Upcoming Navigation Events

We have in-person navigation noodles scheduled on September 26, 2021, at Mt. Pinos and on November 13-14 at the Mission Creek Preserve.

Navigation Questions

I welcome your navigation questions. Contact me at rmmyers@ix.netcom.com.



Suicide Rock, 8-28-21



Lilly Rock, 8-29-21

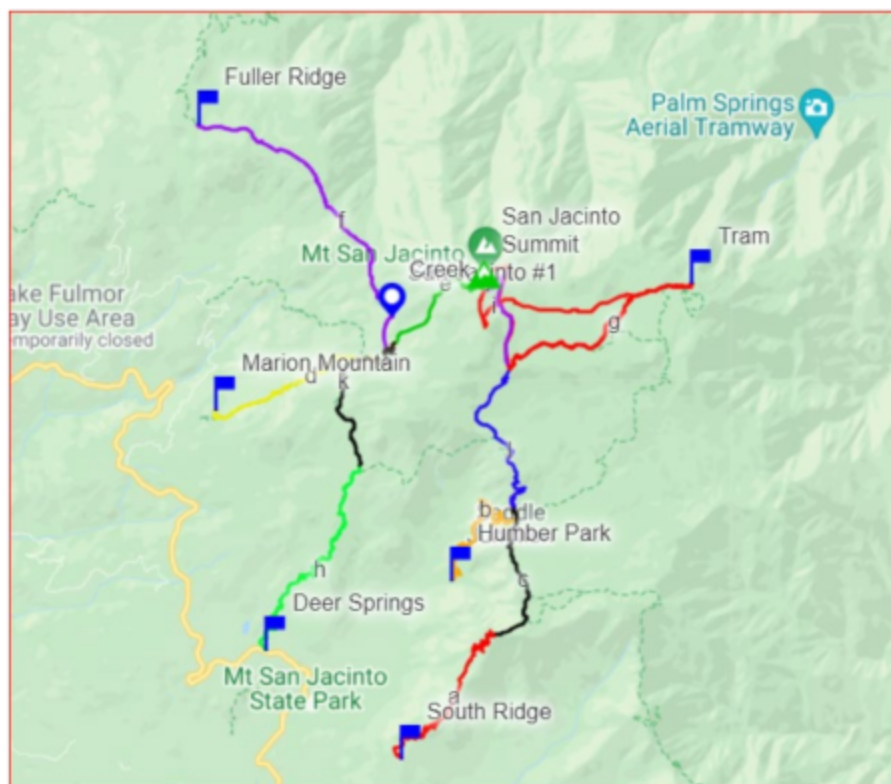
Another San Jacinto Six

August 20-21, 2021

by Christine Soskins

The Marion Mountain trail intersects the PCT at 33.80075, -116.70505. Head resting on knuckles, resting on hiking poles, it was there around 5:45am on August 21, 2021 that I sat down for ten minutes, ultimately steeled myself to continue hiking. If I could just make it until the sun had fully risen, that alone would energize me to continue.

The road to that junction was long—three years in one sense, 24 hours in another. After completing a longer variation of the 54-mile Silver Moccasin Trail, which starts at Vincent Gap and traditionally ends at Chantry Flats, I wanted to design a new project. I'd already done challenges in the Baldy and Gorgonio ranges—so my new goal had to be around San Jacinto. Looking at the map, the idea of a continuous hike summiting San Jacinto from different trailheads emerged. An initial sketch of the routes to San Jacinto from seven trailheads (Marion Mountain, Seven Pines, Fuller Ridge, Tram, South Ridge, Devil's Slide, and Deer Springs) came in at 110 miles—significantly longer than anything I'd done before but not unattainable.



And so the journey began. While I had a strong base from years of hiking and was generally familiar with the trails, I wanted to become more acquainted with them. My training plan was uncomplicated—do a smattering of resistance training and cardio during the week and progressively increase hiking mileage on weekends. Initial scouting of the Seven Pines trail in 2019 was dismal—the trail was nearly impossible to follow, and the hike became a 96.4-mile pursuit as a result. During summer 2019, I hiked a lot in the San Jacinto area. I felt strong during an August 16, 2019 attempt, but an IT band issue from April 2019 stymied my efforts. After four summits, 55 miles, and much limping, I quit.

2020 started similarly—meandering miles over a months, mirrored on what I had done in 2019. When I tried it on July 31, 2020, I was mentally not in the game, and it was hot, and...excuses...excuses...I started the day knowing I probably would not finish, but intending to try to get five summits. I quit after just two and swore I wouldn't waste my time attempting it again.

But, we all know how often such promises are kept. Whether due to the sunk cost fallacy or my persistently obsessive nature, I couldn't let it go: In 2021, I again repeatedly crisscrossed the trails beneath San Jacinto. I'd found a planning spreadsheet which helped me concretize my schedule, based on distance and pace:

Total Mileage	Section Dist.	3 miles an hour				2.5 miles per hour				2 miles an hour			
		Milestone	Time of Day (est.)	Split	Stopwatch	Milestone	Time of Day (est.)	Split	Stopwatch	Milestone	Time of Day (est.)	Split	Stopwatch
		Start (Marion)	8/20/2021 5:30:00		0:00:00	Start (Marion)	8/20/2021 5:30:00		0:00:00	Start (Marion)	8/20/2021 5:30:00		0:00:00
5.6	5.6	Summit	8/20/2021 7:22:00	1:52	1:52:00	Summit	8/20/2021 7:44:24	2:14	2:14:24	Summit	8/20/2021 8:18:00	2:48	2:48:00
11.9	6.3	To Tram	8/20/2021 9:33:00	2:06	4:03:00	To Tram	8/20/2021 10:20:36	2:31	4:50:36	To Tram	8/20/2021 11:32:00	3:09	6:02:00
18.2	6.3	Summit	8/20/2021 11:44:00	2:06	6:14:00	Summit	8/20/2021 12:56:48	2:31	7:26:48	Summit	8/20/2021 14:46:00	3:09	9:16:00
26.3	6.1	To Devils Slide	8/20/2021 14:31:00	2:42	9:01:00	To Devils Slide	8/20/2021 16:16:12	3:14	10:46:12	To Devils Slide	8/20/2021 18:54:00	4:03	13:24:00
34.4	6.1	Summit	8/20/2021 17:18:00	2:42	11:48:00	Summit	8/20/2021 19:35:36	3:14	14:05:36	Summit	8/20/2021 23:02:00	4:03	17:32:00
42.0	7.6	To Fuller Ridge	8/20/2021 19:55:00	2:32	14:25:00	To Fuller Ridge	8/20/2021 22:43:00	3:02	17:13:00	To Fuller Ridge	8/21/2021 2:55:00	3:48	21:25:00
49.6	7.6	Summit	8/20/2021 22:32:00	2:32	17:02:00	Summit	8/21/2021 1:50:24	3:02	20:20:24	Summit	8/21/2021 6:48:00	3:48	25:18:00
59.1	9.5	To Deer Springs	8/21/2021 1:47:00	3:10	20:17:00	To Deer Springs	8/21/2021 5:43:24	3:48	24:13:24	To Deer Springs	8/21/2021 11:38:00	4:45	30:06:00
68.6	9.5	Summit	8/21/2021 5:02:00	3:10	23:32:00	Summit	8/21/2021 9:36:24	3:48	28:06:24	Summit	8/21/2021 16:28:00	4:45	34:58:00
79.6	11.0	To South Ridge	8/21/2021 8:47:00	3:40	27:17:00	To South Ridge	8/21/2021 14:05:24	4:24	32:35:24	To South Ridge	8/21/2021 22:03:00	5:30	40:33:00
90.6	11.0	Summit	8/21/2021 12:32:00	3:40	31:02:00	Summit	8/21/2021 18:34:24	4:24	37:04:24	Summit	8/22/2021 3:38:00	5:30	46:06:00
96.2	5.6	To Marion	8/21/2021 14:29:00	1:52	32:59:00	To Marion	8/21/2021 20:53:48	2:14	39:23:48	To Marion	8/22/2021 6:31:00	2:48	49:01:00

****Schedule****

The difference this year was my support team. When hiking partner and friend Marit Chrislock offered to fly in from North Carolina to crew me, I was not keen to take her up on the offer—it felt self-indulgent and silly to have someone do that. But, after her persistent offers and commenting “Do you really want to do this?”, I acquiesced (and felt more than a little cowed). While we were at dinner with Peter and Ignacia Doggett in mid-July, the project came up and they too offered to help; thus, the road to success was set.

After meeting up with Ignacia to firm up details for the next few days, Marit and I turned in for an early night on August 19, 2021 at the Marion Mountain campground. After starting up Marion Mountain trailhead at 5:06am on August 20, I felt strong and set a good pace, hitting the summit for the first time (7:28am) and down to the tram (9:05am) ahead of schedule. After immediately turning around to re hike the trail I had just descended, I felt empowered climbing back up to San Jacinto. Greeting me with an enormous smile at the hut below the summit, Marit bagged the summit with me for the second time (11:06am) and started towards Humber Park, via the Devil's Slide Trail, where Peter and Ignacia would meet us.

Our hike down to Humber Park was pleasant—it was a beautiful and temperate afternoon. I saw Peter's flashy neon shirt on the final portion of the trail. He and Ignacia greeted us warmly (1:56pm), as I gulped down soda and inhaled bread. Marit got a ride back to camp; Ignacia and I planned to meet up at the Fuller Ridge trailhead, a 45-minute drive for her and 15 trail miles for me. I hit the summit for the third time via Devil's Slide (5:06pm), appreciating the fact that daylight would be waning, but hopeful that I would meet up with Ignacia at Fuller Ridge trailhead before needing my headlamp.

Summer 2021 has been very dry, and the trip down the Fuller Ridge trail highlighted that. About a half mile north from where the PCT and Deer Springs trail split, the North Fork of the San Jacinto River had been flowing strongly very recently—and it had been flowing well in my prior years' attempts. Having Marit, Ignacia, and Peter there for me this year providing cold drinks, food, and general support and encouragement was critical—I was not able to filter water from streams; aside from a few seeps, they were all dry.

I resisted taking out my headlamp on my descent to Fuller Ridge, hoping that by doing so, I could will the sun to stay out longer and make myself hike faster. Eventually succumbing to the emerging darkness, I took it out for the last half hour or so. I was excited to see the glow of Ignacia's headlights as I traipsed down the final section of trail, arriving at 8:02 pm. As I (again) gulped down soda and inhaled bread, she opened her car door for me and held up lights while encouraging me by saying I had been moving well.

Climbing back out of Fuller Ridge presented the first challenge of the project. In the interest of conserving battery, I left my headlamp on a low setting. However, this cost me some time and effort when I got off track on some tree covered switchbacks. Once I realized I had (a) sufficient battery power; and (b) a crew awaiting me with extra headlamps if needed, I turned up the lumens and my pace increased proportionately. Simply put—if you can't see, you can't hike. At 11:59pm, on August 20, I reached the summit of San Jacinto for the fourth time, feeling exhausted, but excited, as I'd tied my prior number of ascents from 2019. The emotional high of reaching the summit inspired belief that I would complete the challenge.

I plodded down slowly in the dark, eventually rejoining the PCT, and heading south towards the Deer Springs trailhead. Something started to feel amiss--the steep descent and lower altitude. When I looked at my watch and saw I was around 7200 feet, I pulled out the map. I was confused to see that a junction I was anticipating was at 8000 feet—clearly I'd missed it, but I could not fathom how. Then I consulted my GPS and realized that instead of continuing south on the PCT, I had turned west towards the Marion Mountain trailhead, and I was about a half mile from camp. It was 2:45am and I knew that Marit was planning to get to the Deer Springs trailhead at 3:00am. Using this misstep as an excuse to quit was tempting, but I moved quickly (well, as quickly as I could on the punishing Marion Mountain Trail in the dark after 21.5 hours hiking) and fortunately, caught Marit at our campsite just as she was about to leave. She gave me a ride over to Deer Springs. With a mixture of excitement and anticipation, I left the car as quickly as possible.

Hiking up from Deer Springs was defeating. Feeling like the challenge was compromised, I started swaying on my feet—I was exhausted, having covered more miles and been on my feet for longer than I ever had been in the past. I strongly considered turning west at the Marion Mountain trail junction (again) and calling it quits. But, I persuaded myself that once it got light, it would be better. After lifting my head from my knuckles I hoisted myself up with my poles and kept moving past the junction. The climb up to the summit from Little Round Valley is tedious under normal circumstances, but it was extremely rough that morning. Thankfully the new dawn arrived, as did the summit. After tagging San Jacinto for the fifth time (8:03a on August 21, 2021), I was already longing Marit and Ignacia at the South Ridge trailhead, which was 11 miles away. I was hoping to get there in about four hours, but I knew that was ambitious and unlikely given my fatigue. Marit would hike with me from South Ridge to the summit and then back to camp—the final 17 miles.

My mindset swung wildly on the way down to South Ridge—At one moment, I was ecstatic and knew I would finish; at the next, I hoped Marit would tell me she was too tired to hike and that would give me an excuse to stop. My pace had slowed considerably; from starting off at a near 3 mph pace, I was crawling close to 2 mph in sections and was very frustrated with myself for slowing down (and then frustrated at myself for not enjoying my time and appreciating where I was at). Marit periodically sent me encouraging messages via inReach, which would buoy my spirits for a time. It was a bit toasty coming off the mountain, but the views were nice, and I appreciated the way certain parts of the trail

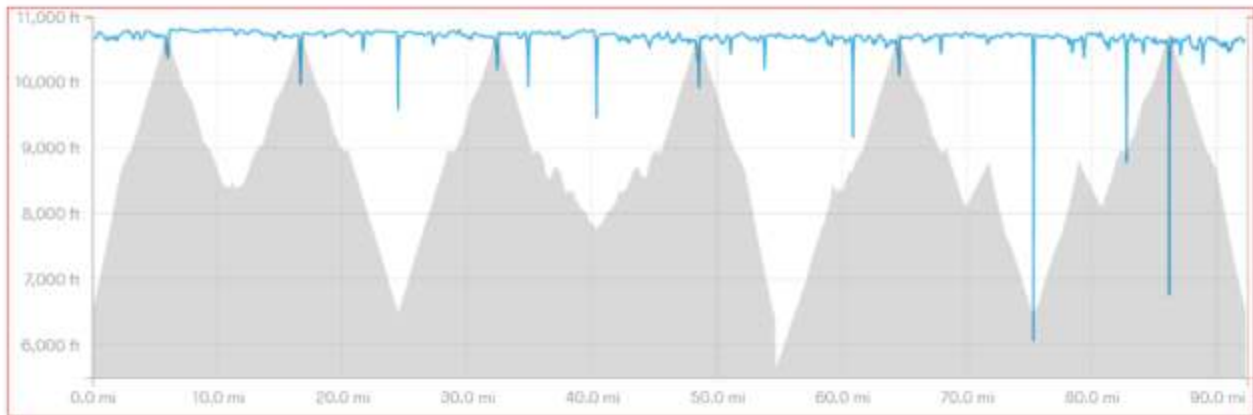
were recovering from recent fires. About two miles out from the South Ridge trailhead, a woman in a group ascending the trail asked me if I was doing 96 miles and she said they had something for me. Another hiker pulled a can of soda out of his hip pocket, and I knew I could not quit—not with friends who would send my favorite Diet Wild Cherry Pepsi up the trail with total strangers for me. At that point, I was committed—regardless of how long it took.

Seeing Marit and Ignacia at South Ridge (1:45pm) was both exhilarating and a relief. We spent about a half hour together, regrouping and planning for the final push. Taking the burden off me, Marit and Ignacia had made plans for communication, including inReach updates and potential bailout options should I need to quit. It was so touching to see how committed they were to helping me, that they had given up their own weekends—driving across Southern California on bad dirt roads or flying cross-country the weekend before starting graduate school-- I knew that I am blessed to have their kindness and friendship in my life.

Marit’s patience with me up to the summit was legendary. Sitting side by side on a log, we had a long, rejuvenating break where the PCT turned west. When she asked me what I was looking forward to eating, I responded with a peanut butter bagel. She promptly pulled one from her pack. We laughed as I devoured it. I’ve missed spending hours on the trail with her since she moved to the east coast, but we do our best to meet up every few months for hiking adventures. My final climb to the summit was exhausting, bordering on out of body and surreal. It had been three years and hundreds of miles in the making, but it was actually happening. At 6:01pm, we reached the summit. I breathed deeply; Marit teared up. We took a few photos, savored 15 minutes together, and carefully picked our way down from the summit block.

The hike down to camp was laborious and slow. When we got to the junction towards camp (where I’d mistakenly headed west 17 hours earlier), I was comforted to see that the natural curve of the trail was (arguably) towards the Marion Mountain trailhead. Marit agreed. We inhaled a lot of dirt, as I did my best to resist checking our progress every .1 miles. There was nothing to do other than put one foot in front of the other. We watched the moon rise and looked for any sign of headlights or things that you would normally see at camp, but saw nothing due to the steep sidehill. Concentrating on the trail was difficult, but eventually we crossed pipes and a tank that signaled we were close. At 10:13pm on August 21, 2021, we arrived at the Marion Mountain campground. Exhausted, I collapsed in my tent and fell asleep to the hiss of Marit’s stove. With the assistance of her and the Doggetts, I could never have gotten to that point. After breaking camp the next morning, we grabbed coffee and pastries in Idyllwild and drove home.





****Elevation Profile****

The final stats clocked in at 92.41 miles; 26,420 feet of gain; 25,114 feet of loss. It's been a few weeks since I completed this project, and I've had a bit of time to decompress. Overall, this was one of the most challenging accomplishments—both physically and mentally. At some point during the hike, Marit and I discussed all of the things that could ensure success. They included training and fitness level, good weather, trail conditions, a dedicated crew – but also luck. I did my best to plan and prepare, keeping my body and mind fit. And thankfully, the cooler-than-usual weather (highs in the 70s rather than 90s, with no thunderstorms) also played a part. But I was also fortunate with my luck – I didn't get injured, Marit was still at Marion Mountain when I took my wrong turn, Ignacia was able to drive to every trailhead in spite of rutted backroads, a complete stranger found me and gave me soda – those were all lucky things that made my attempt a little easier, if not possible. I'm grateful to have completed this, and thankful for an amazing crew of friends who were invested in helping me achieve my goals.

As for what's next, who knows? I expect I'll pick up a map one of these days and be struck by an idea I can't shake. Whatever it ends up being-- I know that I have the physical and mental capability, good friends who will support me, and endless possibilities for the future.

Key resources: (1) Google Docs template to set up schedule: (https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1v0vqIfyKLpg0_mQOmyBN59E1vFrpyMtc9DK5wxS8XUY/edit); (2) inReach subscription to communicate while out of cell phone range; (3) sanjacjon.com website to get current information on trail and water conditions; (4) unseasonably cool weather; and (5) most importantly, friends to encourage me.



Marit Chrislock, Cristine Soskins, with Peter Doggett during Cristine's San Jacinto Six Challenge.

Hiking Photography

By Jin Oak Chung



Photo: Mary Varalyay



Chaparrosa Peak (5541'). Peter and Ignacia Doggett. Heesook,



Castle Rocks, Jin Oak Chung, Sunny Yi, Jason Park, and Lawrence Lee for taking photographs, and for helping lead several sections of this private outing. [Tower group photo, L-R: standing, Kendra Heinecke, Todd Turner, Sunny Yi, Roger Lim; sitting, Gary Frank, Nancy Jones, Scott Bodger, Emilee Turner, Tracy, Ella Pennington, Peter & Ignacia Doggett, Mary Varalyay, Illwoo Suh, Lawrence Lee, Tao Zhang; in front, Jason Park holding cell phone (photo by Jin Oak Chung)]



The Hundred Peaks Section is an Activity Section of the Sierra Club - Angeles Chapter

Our newsletter, The Lookout, is published six times a year.

Final dates for receipt of material have changed to accommodate our membership: They are January 2nd for the January-February issue, March 2nd, for the March-April issue, May 2nd, for the May-June issue, July 2nd, for the July-August issue, September 2nd, for September-October issue, and November 2nd for the November-December issue.

The Lookout Newsletter is the property of the Hundred Peaks Section.

If you send photos, please include your name. Please, also identify the location and each subject in all photographs, When taking photos, please ask participants to remove hats and sunglasses, and wear face mask for safety.

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Wolf and Karen Leverich maintain The Hundred Peaks Website. It can be accessed at:
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