

broken but solid granite rock offered a pleasant alpine scramble with two pitches of harder climbing on the steepest part of the ridge. 1700 feet, NCCS II, F 6.

GREG MARKOV

Cascade Peak, East Ridge. On July 27, Mike Anthony and I completed a first ascent of the east ridge of the peak in beautiful weather. The climb was class 4 and 5 on very crumbly, rotten rock. Our ascent was the sixth registered ascent of the peak.

LAWRENCE NIELSON

Mount Terror, East Ridge, Picket Range, Correction. It is now obvious that the route described in the Cascade guidebooks as the southeast face of Mount Terror, credited to Charles Metzger, Charles Kirschner, Ralph and Ray Clough, was on the southerly ridge of Mount Degenhardt. The 1938 or 1939 climb was a new route from Terror Creek Basin and the second ascent of the mountain. Information gaps and incorrect lettering placement on contemporary maps led to their error in thinking they had scaled Mount Terror. The precipitous east ridge (or eastern edge of the southeast face) of Mount Terror was first climbed on July 13, 1970 by Carla and Joan Firey, David Knudson and Peter Renz. They gained access from Crescent Creek Basin to the nearly level ridge connecting Degenhardt and Terror. Four or five pitches of fourth- and fifth-class climbing on exposed but reasonably solid gneiss led directly to the pointed summit. Near the top a short strenuous pitch bore directly into a broken chimney, this being the crux of the route (F5). The route has not been reported earlier in journals because it was thought to have been a repeat of the Metzger climb.

FRED BECKEY

California—Sierra Nevada

Fuller Buttes, Songs to a Morning Star. In November, Mike Graber and I climbed a route on the east face of eastern Fuller Butte. We began climbing in cracks 20 feet right of a large, curving dihedral. The crux proved to be the second pitch which involved strenuous laybacking under a prominent arch. Easier climbing led past a pine tree. Face climbing up and left brought us to a large flake. The pitch above went up and right to a white dike which allowed us to gain a spacious, sickle-shaped ledge. Although not exceeding F6 in difficulty, this pitch was completely unprotected. Three more rope lengths led up to and around the left side of the eastern summit block. NCCS III, F10.

DAVID BLACK, *Buff Mountaineers*

Keeler Needle, East Face. In September 1973 John Weiland and I made a new route on the east face of Keeler Needle. We started on

the right side of the face and climbed six pitches all free except for 30 feet up into the base of the huge red dihedral that extends from a third to halfway up the right side of the face. From the top of the dihedral we worked left on ledges to the center of the face below the headwall. This required very steep aid climbing up several different cracks. The 14th lead put us on a good ledge above the headwall, and one more pitch up a steep crack led up the right side of the prow below the spectacular ledge of the Harding route. (The ledge appears on the cover of *Ascent*, 1972.) From here we followed the Harding route to the summit. We were disappointed to find five or six totally needless bolts on the first two leads. Fortunately they soon came to an end; the climb is only partly flawed by their presence. We carried 25 nuts and 25 pins and found we could have used more nuts, though through the upper headwall we used a number of thin pins. NCCS V, F9 or F10.

JEFF LOWE

Mount Russell, Southwest Buttress. On September 1, Gary Colliver, TM Herbert, and I climbed a steep crack in the south-facing western-most buttress of Mount Russell. Two horrifying cracks are apparent when the buttress is viewed from the western side of Whitney-Russell Col. We chose the less horrifying left-hand crack and found the climbing steep but surprisingly easy. Four pitches of F7 to F8 climbing, then easier 5th, 4th, and 3rd class leads to the summit. The first pitch is loose and requires caution if one is desirous of company on the summit. I climbed to the base of the right crack from whence Gary led a deceptively easy traverse to the bottom of the left crack. Colliver strung out the second lead well up into the F8 crack. TM led "the most enjoyable crack I've ever led" with only a minimal Herbertian F7 whimpering. The last difficult pitch is a moderate short chimney with a tricky traverse left to easy cracks on the western side of the buttress. The fourth pitch ended at the top of the vertical crack directly above our starting point. We climbed clean and hammerless. NCCS III, F8.

DON LAURIA

Sorcerer Needle, North Face. A new route was done by Greg Thomsen and me on April 21, 1973. Awkward chimney pitches from the east gully lead to the uphill (north) notch. Starting slightly west is a textbook series of parallel cracks that lead to the summit in two pitches. These begin with mostly aid placements, then gradually taper to thin, enjoyable free climbing.

FRED BECKEY

Balloon Dome. After an abortive attempt in 1971 to find Balloon Dome, I returned in 1974 with the indefatigable Black brothers, Dave