

by a fun party generously hosted by Sarah and Fred Glover at their nearby home.

The Section continued to sponsor the year-round free climber's coffee, held every Sunday morning in Yosemite with the Climbing Rangers, where members interact with other climbers and spread the good word about the AAC. Further, Section member and AAC Yosemite Committee Chair Linda McMillan continued to lead the free Saturday evening slideshow series in Yosemite as part of the climber's interpretive program, which generates further goodwill and exposure for the AAC.

On the conservation front, in September our members again represented the AAC at the Yosemite Facelift clean-up week organized by the Yosemite Climbers Association. The Section underwrote commemorative AAC/Facelift bandanas that were given away to all the Facelift volunteers.

The year ended with our Holiday Dinner, highlighted by AAC past president Jim Donini, who presented an outstanding slideshow of his four-decade long career pioneering hard alpine climbing and first ascents in Patagonia, Alaska, and the Karakoram. We had a record turnout for the event, due in no small part to Jim's prolific postings on Supertopo.

TOM BURCH, *CHAIR*

*Southwest Section.* We had three events in 2010, finishing strongly with a successful winter dinner after a climbing day in April at Malibu and a bit of climbing in Palos Verdes. On April 17 six climbers met at Malibu Creek State Park and hiked to the Power Wall. The Wall sits right above a stream with a variety of climbs and a diversity of pocketed terrain with some overhanging bits. Other climbers were already on the Wall but were happy to share the routes. We did some enjoyable sports climbing, sharing the camaraderie and lovely setting. After the climbing, several of us adjourned to Ted Vaill's house for a potluck dinner. The group enjoyed good food, more camaraderie, and to finish the day some of Ted's interesting videos of Tibet and trekking to Everest through Nepal. Thanks to Ted for hosting us and to Mary Tomkins for her excellent help.

On November 7 Brian Cox hosted a visit to a "secret" climbing spot in Rancho Palos Verdes near his home. There were a few fun super-short top ropes and assorted boulders right on the ocean. Ted Vaill, Jim Pinter-Lucke, and Mike and Mary Tomkins joined Brian for a pleasant seaside afternoon which was topped off by a beautiful sunset. Thanks, Brian!

The Section held its first holiday dinner in many years on December 5. It was a resounding success with 55 attendees with new, old, and prospective members. While the food and drinks were good, the two highlights were the considerable camaraderie and Phil Power's presentation and slideshow. Thank you all for coming and helping to contribute to the dinner's warm atmosphere. Special thanks to Tony Yearry for helping with the planning and to Phil for speaking at our dinner.

JIM PINTER-LUCKE, *CHAIR*

*Northern Rockies Section.* The Northern Rockies Section started out the year with its 2nd annual Sun Valley Dinner on January 7 at The Cellars Pub. Jamie Laidlaw, a Hans Sari Grant Recipient, presented a show of his most recent exploratory trip to Western Nepal. It was a fascinating story, more about exploration than skiing, but there now is the potential to open up some new territory for future exploration. There were about 20 people present including local Sun Valley area members Dick Dorworth, David Stelling, Bob Rosso, Greg Wilson, Clark Gerhardt, Marc Hanselman, Tim Ball, Wolf Riehle, Wick Warrick and AAC Board Member Doug Colwell. During brief technical difficulties, resident Aussie, Tim Ball, entertained the crowd with sheep jokes. A good night was had by all, members were