OTP HIKE FOR OCT 19, 2011

HIKE LEADER: Jim Spotts

START TIME: 9:30 AM (some may want to start early, see later note)

DESCRIPTION: Dawson Saddle to Mt. Baden-Powell and return. Round trip mileage is approximately 9 miles. Elevation gain is approximately 2400 ft. (Beware; some of this gain is on the way back)

TRAILHEAD: Dawson Saddle is at mileage paddle 69.59, 45.2 miles from 210 freeway turnoff (a little more than 1 hour driving time). Parking is on the North side of Angeles Crest Hwy.

HIKE DETAILS: Starts at approximately 7900 ft. elev. You take Dawson Saddle Trail approximately 1.8 miles to its intersection with the PCT (approx. 8800 ft. elev.). This first stretch is through a pine and fir forest. Turn left (NE) at the intersection and go 2.5 miles on the PCT to the summit of Baden-Powell, (the last part is a rather steep few hundred feet to the top of the 9399 ft. peak). Lunch at the top and return the same way.

VARIATIONS ON THE STANDARD HIKE: Throop Peak (9138 ft. elev.) is near the intersection of the Dawson Saddle and PCT trails. To find the trail, turn right at the intersection and look to the right within a 1/4 mile. This can be an added 350 ft. climb either on the way up or back for the ambitious or a final destination for those desiring a shorter hike (this would make an approximate 4.5 mile round trip, 1300 ft. elev. gain hike). Those wanting a short hike but not wanting to climb Throop could just turn right at the PCT junction and walk a little distance on a relatively flat part of the PCT; eat lunch at a convenient place and return the way they came.

LIKE TO START EARLY? Actually, when we last did this hike almost everyone did. Not exactly very organized but definitely approved by the leader since it is a relatively long hike which is more enjoyable if you can sort of pick your own pace.

One request, though. If you leave before I get there, leave a note under your windshield wiper letting me know who has started. Thanks.