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You are invited to a very special presentation by
Author and Adventurer Graham Mackintosh:

Nearer My Dog to Thee: *A Summer in Baja's Sky Island*

**Tuesday, May 18, 2004, Noon to 1 P.M.
238-543 Conference Room**

Graham Mackintosh will talk about his Baja adventures and introduce his new book – *Nearer My Dog to Thee: A Summer in Baja's Sky Island*.

In the summer of 2001, Graham spent four months camped over 8,000 feet in the Sierra San Pedro Mártir range of northern Baja California, close to Mexico's National Observatory. He was accompanied by two young street dogs – Pedro, adopted from the Baja Animal Sanctuary in Rosarito Beach, and Penny, a tiny terrier puppy, who turned up at the author's house infested with worms and ticks.

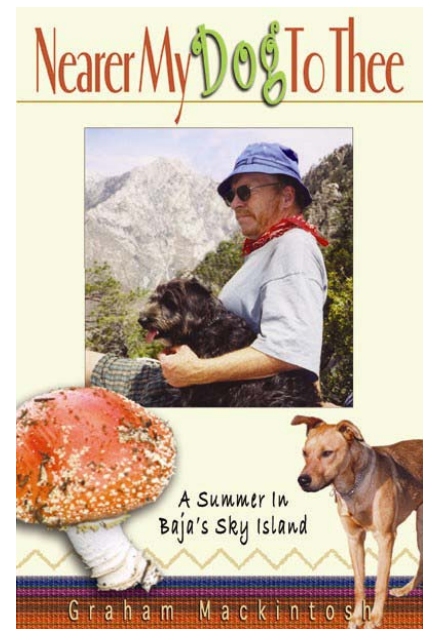
Thanks to their historical inaccessibility, the magnificent old growth forests of the San Pedro Mártir have never known widespread commercial logging or effective fire suppression. So the area has increasingly attracted the attention of fire ecologists who regard it as the last landscape-scale mixed conifer forest in North America with an unmanaged fire regime. In the park-like openness of the San Pedro Mártir, the pines and firs are much larger than their counterparts north of the border, and there is little evidence of widespread insect, mistletoe or pathogenic fungal infestation. Summer lightning fires are frequent but typically burn themselves out without doing much damage.

And the tragic mortality among California condors released into the wild in the US has brought the San Pedro Mártir into contention as an ideal place for releasing the giant birds. Five were set free in 2003 and more are destined to follow.

Graham will present a slide show on this highest mountain range in Baja – the tallest peak stands over 10,000 feet – and talk about his experiences with lightning, coyotes, dining on wild mushrooms, and the suitability of this wonderful Sky Island as a place to camp with dogs and enjoy nature at its pristine best.

Brief Biography: In 1983, Graham Mackintosh gave up his job in England to walk around the entire coastline of Baja, a two-year journey for which he received Britain's "Adventurous Traveler of the Year" award. Graham now lives in San Diego and is the author of 3 books on Baja California: *Into a Desert Place*, *Journey with a Baja Burro*, and *Nearer my Dog to Thee*.

Bring your lunch; non-members and guests especially welcome!



Hiking + Members: Please make a copy of this flyer and post on your local bulletin board. Thanks!