

TRACKS



March/April 2014

Volume 27, No. 2

On the web: <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/gls/>



Lots of GLS hikers showed up for Gail's provisional hike. Photo Susan Campo.

Gail's Provisional Hike in Topanga

By Gail Wise, photos by Susan Campo

For ten years now, I have coasted on the efforts of others. Ever since I started hiking with GLS, I intended to become a leader but never got around to it until now. Each year, I asked Nancy Beverly when the next Leadership Training Course was scheduled. Each year, Nancy looked up the date and time for me, but I never signed up. Well, the tenth time is the charm. This year I finally took the course and completed all of the prerequisites for my provisional, which included (1) an open-book test on the contents of the Leadership Training

Manual (which was not as easy as you would think); (2) the LTC itself (an informative full day class with great people); (3) a basic First Aid class (this seemed more designed to keep people out of legal trouble than anything else, but taking it with the GLS crew made it enjoyable); and (4) CPR training (very useful, I recommend this for everyone).

Before I had even completed all of the requirements, Mike Brostoff, the GLS's Outings Chair, was already nudging me to select a provisional hike so he could fill a gap in the schedule on January 4, 2014. I

hadn't even thought about where I wanted to go yet, but Mike wanted the write-up within a few days. The first step was to find a co-leader. With Mike's help, I brainstormed the names of as many existing leaders as I could, and sent a mass Facebook email to all of the ones with whom I was Facebook friends. Susan Campo responded instantly.

The next step was to select a hike. Even though I am familiar with hundreds of hikes in the local mountains, my mind drew a blank. So I did what I usually do when I need quick guidance, and asked my wife, Lynne Kirste. As she so often does, she came up with a solution immediately.

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Banditos Take Mt. Hollywood! My first GLS hike

by Sylvia Sukop, photos by Nancy Beverly

I don't know Laura Rainey, but I can't wait for her weekly email updates on upcoming GLS activities. The listserv goes out under her name and the announcements are marked by two qualities I always appreciate: *enthusiasm* (the blurbs spark interest and convey a hearty esprit de corps)

and *precision* (the mileage and gain of each hike are provided, along with hyper-detailed directions guiding first-timers to off-the-beaten-path starting points).

I'm new to Sierra Club and was delighted to read, in one of the first emails that I received from Laura, about an

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Message from the GLS Chair

As I write this, Grace Hengst is probably somewhere on a beach, or camping, or walking the dog, or working in her garden. Whatever she's doing, she deserves her leisure time after serving GLS so long and so well. And we'll see her at many GLS events, so we won't have to miss her. Hooray! But now here's the kicker: You're gonna have to put up with me as GLS Chairperson. Fortunately, you will also have a great GLS Board to look to for help: Amanda S., Secretary; SK C., Treasurer; Tim V., Vice-Chair, and Dawn W., member-at-large. Together, we hope to build on all the wonderful work of past Boards, while giving GLS a wildly successful 2014.

We know we can do it, but we must wield our secret weapon: YOU. Without all our dedicated members, GLS would be nothing more than a bunch of leaders, who love to serve others, bumbling around and bumping into each other while trying to give each other a helping hand. It would be chummy, but probably infuriating. We need

you, all of you!!!

And we need your help. We need more members, and new ideas, suggestions, input. There are several things you can do to help out.

First, please continue to be your warm, welcoming selves. It's the fun and friendship that are the main reasons people keep coming back to GLS, so continue to take the time with new participants to make them feel at ease, give them information on joining GLS, and talk up not only the fun, but the safety aspect of being part of the Sierra Club. All of our leaders, of course, are trained by the Sierra Club, so let's use this to our advantage. Talk it up when you invite folks to join us. Point out that this is what makes us different from many other hiking groups.

Second, please volunteer whenever possible. The Angeles Chapter is running a series of open houses this year, and we'll need help staffing our table at these events. There may be other such events coming up as the year goes on, too. Volunteer opportunities will be published in Tracks, so keep an eye out for these.

You can also volunteer in other ways. For example, if you think you would like to

help leaders scout their hikes, or if you can help by scouting parking at trailheads around your home, please contact me or any Board member, and we will let our leaders know. Most of our members are already GLS patriots, helping out wherever they can; these suggestions are offered for those who may not have an idea of how to help.

Last, the Board is also thinking of awards already; we hope to have some new awards, as well as traditional awards, open for your nominations later in the year. We also hope to honor our "frequent hikers," so start totaling up how many outings you attend this year! And please make note of the wonderful acts of kindness, cleverness, and generosity that happen so often on our outings, performed by both leaders and participants. If any of these are particularly outstanding, let us know! We have wonderful people in GLS, and we want to celebrate that fact.

Thank you all for your continuing support of GLS and of the Board. I know I can say that all of us are looking forward to a fun-filled, interesting, and exciting 2014 with all of you.

Marie Ammerman

GLS Management Committee Meeting, January 30

Our meeting took place on Jan 30 and was attended by all board members. Barb reported that she had submitted the annual financial audit for 2013 to the Angeles Chapter on schedule, and SK reported our bank accounts/funds are in good shape. The board discussed the need for a deliberate evaluation on whether

there is anything to be gained from participating in Long Beach Pride this year. We also discussed ways in which we can expand membership, and convert more of our Meetup participants into actual GLS members, by having leaders encourage signup on our mailing list after each outing, and then following up

with a "thank-you for participating" email as well. Tim is working on creating a participant survey form which can be used by leaders (separately from the official GLS waiver) for this purpose. Marie is working on a First Aid Kit Workshop for GLS members & non-members. The next meeting of the board will be held via conference call on Thursday Mar 27 @ 6:30pm. *Amanda Smith*

<h3>Information about GLS</h3> <p>General questions about GLS, call Grace at 323-697-6886 or Mike at 818 399-4035.</p> <p>Questions about a specific event, please call the leaders listed in the schedule. Contact info is inside the back page.</p> <p>Sign up for the FREE GLS email list, with a weekly email digest of GLS events, go to: <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/news/MailingLists.asp>. Your email address remains confidential and is not displayed to others.</p>		<h3>Next GLS Management Comm. Meeting</h3> <p>The next GLS management committee meeting is set for Thursday, March 27, at 6:30pm.</p> <p>GLS management committee meetings are held about every two months, on weeknight evenings, by conference call. All GLS subscribers are welcome.</p> <p>You may call one of the committee members to confirm meeting time, how to call in, or ask about the agenda, or for other information.</p>	
<h3>GLS Mission</h3> <p>The Gay & Lesbian Sierrans Section of the Angeles Chapter fosters the purposes of the Sierra Club by making available a wide range of events for gays, lesbians, and their friends. These activities include conservation, education, hikes, bike rides, beach walks, car camps, boat trips, social gatherings and fundraising.</p>	<h3>GLS Newsletter</h3> <p>The GLS newsletter, TRACKS, is published six times a year. Annual subscriptions are \$15 for issues sent by US mail, \$10 for issues sent in PDF format by email, \$25 for both. Three year subscriptions are, respectively, \$35, \$20, and \$55. Send subscription requests and related membership correspondence to: GLS, P.O. Box 1300, South Pasadena CA, 91031-1300.</p>	<h3>Mgmt. Comm. 2014</h3> <p>Marie Ammerman, Chair Tim Vo, Co-Chair Amanda Smith, Secretary SK Chiou, Treasurer Dawn Wilson, Member at Large</p>	<h3>Other GLS Volunteers</h3> <p>Membership, Jeff Cuevas Conservation, Tom Molloy Webmaster, Alan Schimpff TRACKS Editor, Jeff Johnson</p> <p>..... Our outing volunteers are listed on page 11.</p>



Raising popups and tarps for shade. Photo Heather McNaught.



Birds in camp: left, mother hummingbird and her fledgling baby, that she was feeding; above, a roadrunner. Photos Heather McNaught.



Lunch in the shade. Photo Barb Edwards.



Early morning bird walk from the visitor center. Photo Denise Hunt.



Indian Head at night, and our camp below it, from Panorama Point. Photo Jeff Johnson.



Approaching Maidenhair Falls on a hike up Hellhole Canyon. Photo Jeff Johnson.

Scenes from Anza Borrego

Barb was our organizer-in-chief for a Presidents' Day carcamp in Anza Borrego State Park. It was HOT, so some effort went into putting up tarps around camp for shade. We enjoyed some low-key hiking, a docent-led bird walk, a giant potluck on Saturday night, hummingbirds in camp, and generally relaxing. Here are pictures of some things we did over the long weekend.



Desert vegetation in a very dry springtime, with few plants blooming. Photo Denise Hunt.



Shelley and supporting cast resting in the shade. Photo Eileen Connors.



Part of the spread for the Saturday night potluck. Photo Jeff Johnson.



Camp at night, under the starry desert sky. Photo Jeff Johnson.

Gail's Provisional in Topanga

(Continued from page 1)

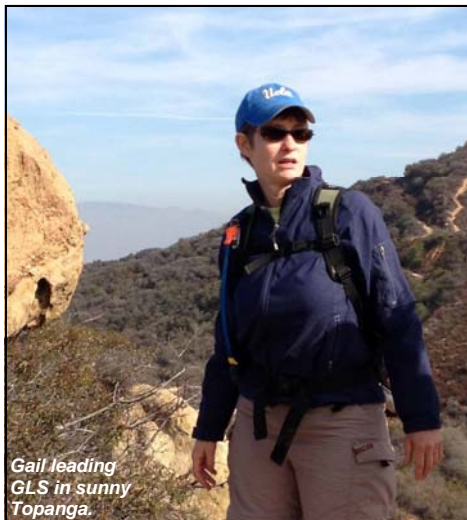
"How about Topanga?" It was the perfect idea for a provisional. GLS hadn't done any hikes there in a while, but I knew the spot was beautiful and I thought it would be popular. We could do a five-mile partial loop encompassing Eagle Rock that I knew very well. It would give us a workout but would be well within my comfort zone even if I wasn't in the best shape.

Even though I had picked a route I thought would be popular, I was concerned that I might not get the required six participants. I needn't have worried. Nancy Beverly came through again. She posted the write-up for the hike on the Meetup website, and I quickly began receiving emails and inquiries from people who wanted to participate. When I arrived at the meeting point 15 minutes early, there were already 20 people milling about. By the time we were ready to get started, 34 people were there eager to hike. About half were from Meetup, and our fellow GLS members came through, as well, by turning out in big numbers.

Now now I had a new worry. "How was I going to keep track of thirty-four people and manage all the different paces?" I thought as I was about to introduce myself and explain the hike. Then I saw Susan standing there welcoming some of the Meetup participants, and I realized that we would be fine. With her cheerful personality and extensive hiking experience, I couldn't have a more perfect co-leader to help.

Once we got going, our large group did get strung out a bit along the trail, but I stopped at each junction so that no one got lost and the slower hikers could catch up. I was concerned that some of the stronger hikers would become impatient. To the contrary, the group seemed to enjoy the breaks to catch up with old friends and make a few new ones.

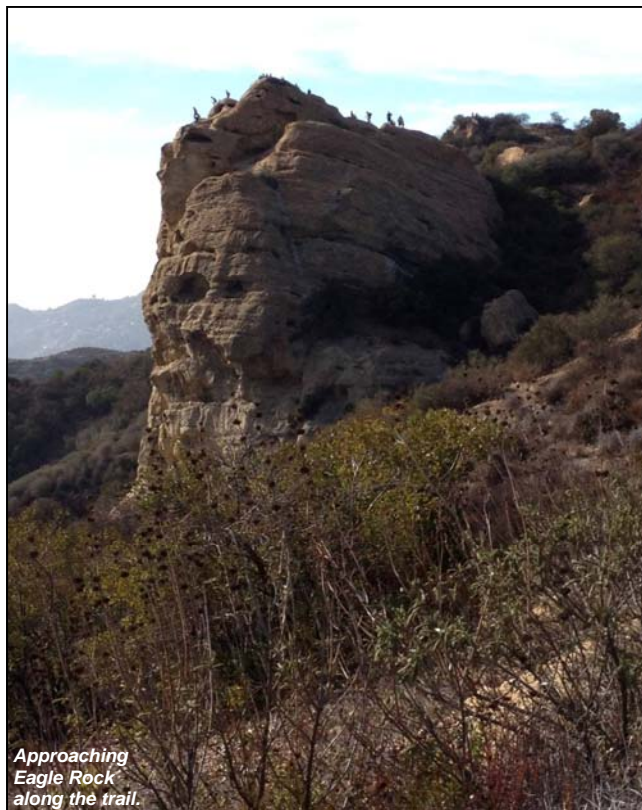
The weather cooperated, too. It was a glorious 75° sunny Southern California January day. A little bit of fog near the water made the



Gail leading GLS in sunny Topanga.



Hikers on Eagle Rock



Approaching Eagle Rock along the trail.

ocean views slightly less spectacular than they might have been, but the weather was otherwise perfect.

We had to dodge many mountain-bikers, but all was going smoothly. That gave me the opportunity to socialize a little bit. One of the pleasures of GLS hikes is that I so often encounter people with remarkable talents, skills and backgrounds. On a typical hike you might find yourself talking to award-winning journalists, master electricians, scientists of all types, globe-trotting nurses, teachers, playwrights, history scholars, doctors, public-interest lawyers, astronomers, bankers, school administrators and film curators. There is no end to the amazing conversations you can have and the things you can learn while on a GLS hike.

Indeed, our resident geologist Laura Rainey shared a bit of her knowledge with the group as we took a break on top of Eagle Rock, which juts out a couple of hundred feet above the surrounding landscape and served as an impromptu amphitheater for her. She told us how volcanoes and the ocean had shaped the landscape, how the little caves in the rock came into being and

how some lumpy round protrusions on the trail were formed. I had always wondered about them, in particular.

On the way back down, we were treated to some wildlife. Just off the trail, we saw the little deer family that likes to hang out near Trippet Ranch. Shortly thereafter, Jeff Cuevas reported that some of the members had spotted an impressive bird of prey – he thought it might have been a hawk.

We made it back without mishap. Everyone seemed to be in a good mood, so I reckoned the hike went well enough. I had enjoyed it, anyway. Susan gave me the good news that I had passed, and she wrote up her evaluation for me to give to the Sierra Club administration. Now it's official, I'm a leader. Maybe we can do a return trip to Topanga sometime.

Banditos Take Mt. Hollywood!

(Continued from page 1)

unusual “banditos” hike. I immediately penciled it in my calendar and shot an email to my friends Tanya and Nance. “Some feisty women amongst these Gay and Lesbian Sierrans! Maybe we should join their hike on Sun. Feb. 9.” I forwarded the listing and highlighted phrases infused with a virile tenderness worthy of Chavela Vargas: “Come and hike the Griffith Park lomas and veredas as the banditos did. As the banditos, we will sweat and stink but will not complain. As the banditos, we will carry our dogs...and if there is a bonita doncella in distress (give her my phone number!) we will rescue her.” My friends, avid hikers and devoted rescuers of both animals and women, wrote back: “LOVE it. Let's do this. Ariba!”

That Sunday morning, in the courtyard



Part of the group at a viewpoint near the top of Mount Hollywood.



Following Dora up a cliff to more ridges and shortcuts.

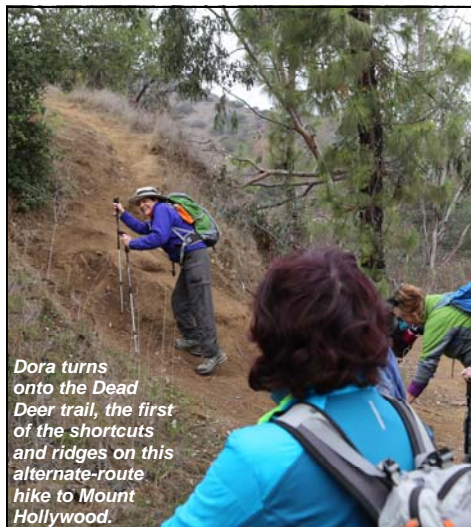
of the Griffith Park Ranger Station, the three of us joined the circle of GLS hikers (and one dog) raring to get started on our “Shortcuts and Ridges” adventure—all of us warmly welcomed by co-leaders Dora Olea and Nancy Beverly. I had never hiked the main trail to Mount Hollywood, a wide and gently inclined dirt road that winds its way up to the summit. Nor would I this day. Instead, for the most part, we hiked perpendicular to that trail, straight up the steep and often rocky slopes, bypassing the main trail except, at points, to cut across it. If the mountain were a dollar sign, we hiked its demanding vertical axis, not its lazy ‘S.’ Among the park’s weekend regulars we probably made for a curious sight—a disciplined and well-equipped mountaineering group, with our poles and daypacks and sun hats, and dauntless Dora leading the way. It was Dora, I soon

learned, who had penned the prose that persuaded my friends and me to participate.

Why do we love the outdoors and exploring it with others? I submit that it’s more than just a physical or social calling (I need to move my body, want to keep fit, want to meet new people). It taps powerfully into our imagination, our passion, our memory.

In the end, no dogs were carried on this hike, but my friends did encounter two adorable Bedlington terriers, more youthful versions of their own beloved Belle, a dog who’s now too old to hike. It transported them back to Belle’s younger days and, as they knelt to coo and cuddle with the fluffy creatures, perhaps their own younger selves as well.

Cheers to love, and to the happy surprises that can come from charting one’s own path.



Dora turns onto the Dead Deer trail, the first of the shortcuts and ridges on this alternate-route hike to Mount Hollywood.



The Hollywood sign on Mount Lee.



A large raptor surveys hikers returning to their cars.

Conservation Notes

By Tom Molloy

Recap of Semi-Annual Conservation Update

Sarah Hodgson, Director of Conservation, reports a lot of success in 2013 that Sierrans can be proud of. The Brayton Point Power Station, one of the biggest polluters in Massachusetts, became the 150th, coal plant retired since the 10 years-plus Beyond Coal Program began. The program's goal is to shut down a third of the nation's coal plants by the end of 2015. This in addition to the new proposed new carbon pollution standards for new and existing power

plants that the EPA wants to roll out.

Thanks partly to big efforts by the Sierra Club, Sarah reports, the U.S. government created five new national monuments, helping to protect those lands for years to come. The club also contributed to Minnesota's decision to pass clean energy legislation that will dramatically increase its solar power use and to develop a plan to use fossil-free electricity and transportation.

In the coming year, the Club will fight to protect the Chukchi Seas from Shell Oil, whose development in the Arctic has already been disaster-prone. The Club will push for Obama to stop the Keystone pipeline, if for no other reason than to say that the dirtiest energy sources are not the

way of the future. (Tar sands oil is more greenhouse gas-intensive than conventional oil for several reasons.)

In 2014, the Club plans to secure 500,000 acres for new national monuments and wilderness, and work to keep already protected lands free from exploitation.

Remember these successes and goals when wondering where to invest any discretionary funds you designate for donation.

These days when so many other hiking groups have sprung up not associated with environmental causes, it is gratifying to know that our Club provides the benefits of the other clubs while at the same time being committed to a greater good that we should all be proud of.

"a brief reflection on the tar pit trip"

by marie baca

toward the end of our outing on sunday, october 20, barbara edwards very politely suggested i write a note on this trip. i said "no" -- just that, no excuse or explanation. but -- in support of my ongoing hope that sometimes 'no' means 'yes', i have come to my senses and offer up this very brief tribute:

rarely am i happier on a gls event than on one of these absolutely delightful urban adventures. they seem to have everything -- brisk exercise coupled with local history, often supported with photos and other documentation. and on this outing - an added treat -- sk lectured on the history of the

tar pits, enhanced by a number of informative drawings and charts, which she prepared all by herself. the intuitive approach to colorization was not lost on me; i particularly appreciated her depiction of a yellow rabbit. (of course, only one of the many creatures of prey that succumbed to the tar.) artistic license was evident throughout this presentation, which i'm sure also included many scientifically accurate details i can't remember. (the outing was yesterday, as of this writing.)

farmer's market was both a time warp and a chance to again be a silly tourist in my home town. most of us had varying food selections for lunch, yet managed to eat together at roughly the same time. i even had extra time for 2 scoops of pumpkin ice cream -- a seasonal



Photo Cynthia Kwan

item. (you can't get this just any old time of the year. so -- carpe diem.)

on the way back to our cars we even found time to get a bit lost in the vast park la brea complex -- very well kept, yet seemingly uniform in appearance wherever we looked. we had to ask directions -- not a common occurrence on most gls outings - especially the hikes, thank goodness.

in sum, a great sunday outing - a chance to walk and talk -- catching up with old friends and making some new ones. and also - sorry this is out of sequence -- but of great importance: i forgot to mention the day started out with bagels and hazelnut flavored coffee, as these walks usually do. so - if you're planning on attending in the future -- don't be late !

Note: The editor apologizes to Marie and Barb for the delayed appearance of this article.



Photo Barb Edwards

Outings & Events

March 2014

March 8 - 9, Sat – Sun

O: Backpack: CHRT, Joshua Tree National Park

Dora Olea, Jeff Johnson; and Susan Campo supporting

Backpacking at Joshua Tree on the California Riding and Hiking Trail is our next adventure. This time we will hike about 16.5 miles in two days. It is a beautiful experience that you cannot miss. Saturday we will pack in about 6.5 miles and set up the camp in the middle of nowhere. Sunday, we will hike out around 10 miles. This trip requires backpacking experience and involves a car shuttle. Optional Mexican Feast on Sunday. Space is limited. Cost is only \$20 per person. This includes camping fees on Friday and other group expenses. For more info and RSVP contact Dora at 213-200-0239, or chamacasister@gmail.com.

March 15, Saturday

O: O'Melveny Park

Dora Olea, Jeff Johnson

The second-largest park in L.A. County, second only to the expanses of Griffith Park on the opposite site of the Valley, offers the best view of the San Fernando Valley. We will take a stroll along citrus groves, grassy fields, and a riparian canyon in this tranquil park situated in Granada Hills. The first 0.9 mile explores the initial section of the well-maintained lawns shaded by oaks and

eucalyptus trees extended over a quarter-mile into Bee Canyon Trail. For a better view of the Valley and a good workout we will hike up the challenging Mission Point Trail that climbs over 1,000 ft in 1.5 miles. A moderate pace hike with approx. 4 miles round trip. 1,400 ft. elev. gain/loss. Short car shuttle. Bathrooms and water at the trailhead. K-9 welcome. Bring water, lug soles, sunscreen, and your lunch. Meet 9 am. From CA 118, exit at Balboa Blvd. and head north 2.3 miles to Sesnon Blvd. Make a left on Sesnon, following it for just over 0.5 miles to the entrance of O'Melveny Park on the right. Free parking, carpooling is recommended. Questions Dora at 213-200-0239 or chamacasister@gmail.com.

Saturday, March 22, 10:00 am

La Jolla Canyon Loop: Rebirth

Teresa Nick, Amanda Smith

7.5 miles, 1200' gain, moderate pace. La Jolla Canyon burned in the Springs Fire last year. It's still somewhat surreal with blackened-stick bushes all around and a few patches that didn't burn. It's starting to come back. My favorites are the yucca bombs - they're still black but have green shoots coming out of the top. It's really neat. There are all kinds of little plants that may not do well with the heavier plant cover. This is your chance to see ecological succession in progress. We'll start up La Jolla Canyon with its dry waterfall and returning wildlife, including lizards. Then there's a fire road with views for miles. You are on the roof of Malibu. Lastly, we head down the gorgeous Ray Miller Trail, with views of the Pacific with every step. If you're up for it, we'll all

rendezvous at Neptune's Net biker restaurant after. Bring at least 2 liters of water, lug soles, sun glasses, and sun screen. There is a pay parking lot at the trailhead or you can try to park on PCH and walk in (allow extra time). RSVP to leader at teresa.nick@me.com, 612-384-0421 or amandajillsmith@gmail.com, 323-646-0771. Rain cancels.

March 30 Sunday

Los Angeles Arboretum and Botanical Garden

Barbara Edwards, S.K Chiou

Please join us in a very special birthday celebration for our own Grace Hengst. Occupying the heart of the historic Rancho Santa Anita, the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden is a unique 127 acre botanical garden and historical site. Home to plant collections from all over the world, including many rare and endangered species, the Arboretum also houses outdoor historical landmarks that include Native American, Rancho Period, and late 19th century treasures. The Arboretum is also an animal sanctuary. In addition to the Arboretum's famous peacocks, visitors will see species of resident and migratory birds, aquatic creatures, as well as numerous species of small reptiles and mammals. Plan on a 3 mile stroll with 200 ft. gain. We will return to our cars for an early picnic, birthday cake, and then continue on our walk. If we are lucky, we will see the Pink trumpet tree, a South American native that produces its brilliant display of color in early spring

(Continued next page)

Weekly Griffith Park Conditioning Hikes

What: Every Wednesday night, join us for a moderate (strenuous if you are out of shape) hike to Mt. Hollywood, 6 miles, 1145' gain/loss. This is a great mid-week workout. Lug-soled boots are best for traction, but some hikers wear sneakers. Bring a quart of water, snacks if you like, and a flashlight if not used to hiking in the dark. We have a few tiny breaks on the way up, stop at the top, gawk at the city lights until we get a chill, and then

return to our cars by approx. 9:30 p.m. Dogs are welcome; bring a leash and extra water. Rain cancels.

When: Every Wednesday, (except holidays) 7 p.m. sharp, end by 9:30 p.m.

Where: By the flagpole near the vending machines at the Crystal Springs Griffith Park HQ/Visitors Center, 4730 Crystal Springs Drive, LA.. (Note: Mapquest, Google Maps, etc. may be misleading.)

Directions: (1) From I-5 north,

exit at Griffith Park exit, 0.25 mi. beyond Los Feliz Bl. Make a right turn at the 3-way stop sign. Proceed 0.6 mi. and turn in the driveway just before the Ranger Station. If you miss the driveway, proceed 0.1 mi, turn right at the stop sign, drive 0.15 mi. to the parking lot. (2) From Los Feliz Bl., turn north on Crystal Springs Dr. Proceed 0.5 mi. to the 3-way stop sign, go straight, and then follow (1) above directions to the Ranger Station. (3) From Fwy. 134 East, exit Victory Bl. Turn right at the stop sign, then

immediately left onto Zoo Dr. Wind around about 2 miles and turn onto Crystal Springs Dr. south. There may be detours. Proceed approx 1 mi. Turn left at the 4-way stop sign at the Ranger Sta./Crystal Springs area. Drive 0.15 mi and park. (4) From Fwy. 134 West, keep to your right coming out of Glendale. Exit at Zoo Dr, just past San Fernando Rd. Wind around past the Western Heritage Museum to Crystal Springs Dr. Turn left, and proceed as in (3) above.

Signal Hill Conditioning Walks

What: Up, over and around Signal Hill. 3-4 miles, 500-750 ft. gain/loss. Easy if you are in good shape, moderate and

maybe even strenuous if you are out of shape. Walking on pavement and gravel. Sensible walking shoes,

water, layers for cool evening breezes. Drizzle goes, rain cancels. Questions? Call Jeff 562-434-8473.

When: Every *last* Wednesday of the month (except

holidays), at 7:00 pm. Back at the cars around 8:30 pm.

Where: Meet on Industry, just west of intersection with Redondo, in Signal Hill. Plenty of street parking.

Outings and Events

through early summer. Meet at 9:30 am at the entrance. Bring lunch or money for the cafe. Rain or excessive heat cancels outing. Admission \$9 adults, \$6 seniors. Free parking. From the 210 heading east, Exit Baldwin, turn right (south); go for 1/4 mile. The Arboretum will be on the right, across from the Santa Anita Race Track, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, CA, 91007. <http://www.arboretum.org/>. Please RSVP to leader if possible, in case of last minute changes greyhound@sbcglobal.net.

April 2014

April 11 - 14, Friday – Monday

**O: "Big O" Birthdays Celebration at Joshua Tree - carcamp
Dora Olea, Grace Hengst**

Join us on this 4-day adventure about hiking and celebrating all the birthdays that fall in a "Big O" number such as 20's, 30's, 40's, 50's, 60's, 70's 80's etc. Do not tell Grace but we will celebrate her "Big 70" with carne asada and her favorite glass of wine. Each day we will hike around the park or if you chose just to read or catch up with your needlework this is the trip for you. The campsite has a limited space for participants and parking; therefore, carpooling is recommended. Cost and more details will be provided at the RSVP. Contact Ltd: Dora ASAP at chamacasister@gmail.com. The campsites are first come, first served. Please let Grace know if you are willing and able to drive to Joshua Tree and camp a couple days early, say on Thurs or even Wed to help hold sites at Ryan Campground. If so, call Grace at 323-697-6886.

April 19, Saturday

**O: Mount Waterman
Gail Wise, Nancy Beverly**

Come hike under the pines and cedars and enjoy gorgeous views along a ridge as we hike up to Mt. Waterman and back. At five miles roundtrip, with 1300' gain/loss, this is a moderate hike (but can seem taxing if you're out of shape – Mt. Waterman is over 8000'). Bring layers, snacks and water. Well-mannered dogs are welcome but MUST be on leash at all times. Meet at the La Canada rideshare point at 9 a.m. Questions? Contact Gail at 310-433-2298 or gailwise2@gmail.com.

April 26, Saturday

**O: Puerco Canyon
Anna Baum, Jeff Johnson**

Puerco Canyon Road is a tiny residential street of Malibu mansions that deadends into a fire road. The fire road weaves up the mountain providing amazing ocean views. The road eventually connects with the Backbone Trail, which leads to a well-known rock outcropping. We will have lunch at the rock outcropping and return the same way we came and revel in the beauty. On a clear day, you can see the ocean between Long Beach and the Orange County coastline. Round-trip: 10 miles, 2500' elevation gain. Bring at least 2 quarts of water, lunch, and the 10 essentials. Meet at 9:00 AM at the parking area for Malibu Seafood which is located on PCH, 1.8 miles north of Malibu Canyon Road. Malibu Seafood is the sign that has the sun bathing and sun burned lobster. Rain cancels. Questions? Contact Anna at ambaum@dslextrême.com.

Future Outings

May 3, Saturday

**O: Channel Island Day Hike
Mike Brostoff, Amanda Smith**

NOTE: The starting time is an hour later than in previous years

The Channel Island day hike has now become an annual GLS tradition, attracting over two dozen participants each time. We will be taking a ferry to Santa Cruz Island where we will be offering a variety of hikes for different levels. There is no drinking water or food on the island, so pack your pack like a normal outing. After returning to the mainland, we will head over to a nearby restaurant (optional.) We will meet at Island Packers 1691 Spinnaker Drive Ventura Harbor 93001 at 8:15 AM. 805-642-1393. The boat leaves at 9:00 AM. The ride is an hour and we should return to Ventura Harbor by 6:30 PM. The cost for the trip is \$65.00. Most of the fee pays for the ferry, the extra will be sent to Sierra Club conservation. Send a check made payable to GLS by April 17th to: Mike Brostoff, 11220 Moorpark #110, Studio City CA 91602. After April 17th, please contact Mike to check for availability. Please include a note indicating whether you are interested in dinner afterwards, your e-mail address and the best phone number to reach you at. If you do not have e-mail then please include a SASE. Bring minimum 2 quart water, lugsole hiking boots, snacks, & 10 Essentials. Note: in the rare case that weather may be poor, call 805-642-1393 after 5:30AM on the day of the trip. A recording will indicate whether the boat is canceled.

May 17, Saturday (tentative)

**First Aid Kit Class
Marie Ammerman, TBA**

May 24 - May 26, Sat - Mon

**O: Telescope Peak
Susan Campo, TBA**

THERE IS STILL ROOM ON THIS TRIP BUT ONLY FOR SOMEONE WITH A 4X4 WHO IS WILLING TO HELP GET OTHERS TO THE CAMPSITE.

This wonderful hike in DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK will not be hot like the rest of the park at this time. Hopefully all snow has just melted off the peaks and nights will be cold. Only experienced hikers should apply. Trip is limited to 10 and mostly determined by your means of transportation. Mahogany Flats (8,100 feet elev.) campground is 1.5 miles up a very steep gravel road past the Charcoal Kilns and is accessible ONLY by 4x4 , high clearance vehicles (strong trucks). Mahogany Flats has no water so you must be prepared for wilderness camping. Thursday, we will drive up and save campsites in case you need to come on Friday night. Friday we will stretch our legs on Wildrose Peak about 10 miles, 2,200 ft gain. Saturday will be a rest and acclimatization day. Bring some fun games. Sunday we climb Telescope Peak, 14 miles RT, 3000 ft gain. NOTE: The Leader Susan reserves the right to change the day of the hike to Sat. due to weather. Monday morning we depart for home. This hike was first led by Susan in the early years of GLS; then led yearly by Steve Green for several years, making it a historic GLS hike. This is the leader's favorite hike in Southern California because from the top you can see the highest peak in the USA, Whitney, AND the lowest point in the USA, Badwater! If you wish to reserve, you MUST send leader your info. AND hiking experience AND the type of vehicle you will be driving AND if you are willing to take any passengers. Even parking space is limited up there.

Jun 5 - Jun 8, Thu - Sun

**O: Pismo Beach
Barbara Edwards, TBA**

June 7, Saturday

**O: East Fork San Gabriel River
Dora Olea, TBA**

June 14, Saturday

**O: Mount San Antonio Mt. Baldy (10,064') and West Baldy (9,988')
Dora Olea, Sharon Kirk**

Outings and Events

Join us for a steep and strenuous but moderately paced hike to one of our favorite local peaks. We'll start at Manker Flats with a brief stop at the SC San Antonio Ski Hut, arriving at the top of Mt. Baldy, 9 mi rt, 4000' gain/loss. If time and energy permit we'll walk over to West Baldy (9,988', not an official HPS peak) before returning the way we came to the TH. Meet at 7:00 am at the Manker Flats TH (at locked gate to the Baldy fire road) or 5:30 am at the Tustin rideshare (R side of Stater Bros). Bring 10 essentials including 3 liters water, lunch/snacks, lug-soled boots, hat, sunscreen, layers, rain gear. Rain cancels. Leaders: Dora Olea, chamacasister@gmail.com, and Sharon Kirk, sl.kirk@sbcglobal.net.

Jul 19 - Jul 20, Sat - Sun
O: Backpacking to San Jacinto
Dora Olea, TBA

Dare to Lead!! Leadership Training Seminar April 12, 2014

Becoming a Sierra Club outings leader starts with curiosity and a love of the outdoors. What better way to step up and lead than by taking advantage of the training opportunities that the Angeles Chapter's Leadership Training Committee provides each year.

As home to one of the largest outings programs on the planet, the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter's many groups, sections and committees sponsor thousands of trips ranging from beach barbecues to mountaineering expeditions. You can take the first step toward becoming a leader by attending a class offered on Saturday, April 12 at Eaton Canyon Nature Center in Pasadena.

The seminar covers all the basics of leadership. Experienced leaders will tell you how to plan a trip, prevent problems on the

trail and make sure that everyone – including you – has a great time. They'll also explain good conservation and safety practices. And they'll give you tips for getting your "O" rating quickly and then, if you choose, pursuing more advanced ratings.

The all-day class costs \$25. The application is online at angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc. At this same site, you can pore over more of LTC's upcoming offerings, which are also on the Schedule of Activities page.

Mail the application and check, payable to Sierra Club, to Steve Botan, LTC Registrar, 18816 Thornwood Circle, Huntington Beach 92646. You also can reach Steve by email (lctr registrar@hundredpeaks.org) or by phone (714-321-1296).

Applications and checks are due March 29, 2014.

Scholarships are available for those with financial need. Apply to LTC Chair Anne Marie Richardson (AMLeadership@gmail.com).

Heritage Square Museum

As you drive up the Arroyo Parkway, heading for Pasadena,

you may have noticed a number of picturesque old buildings on the east side of the arroyo. That is the Heritage Square Museum, where Laura and Karen took a group of GLS walkers on February 2.

Heritage Square Museum was started as a way for the City's Cultural Heritage Board to save significant old Los Angeles buildings facing destruction under the development pressures of the 1960s. The city leased this patch of unused parkland by the arroyo to the museum in 1969. With no city funding, the museum started to move buildings in and restore them as it was able to raise the money.

Today, eight buildings are on the site. Some of these buildings had been divided into rooming houses. Some had been plastered over outside. Some were neglected for years. Today, none are in pristine Williamsburg conditions, and visitors' fees make an important contribution to the ongoing restoration work at the museum. Visitors are shown around by guides in period dress (more or less), as at other living history museums.

This picture shows GLS and other visitors in front of the William Hayes Perry mansion, built in 1876 in Boyle Heights. It's the largest house at the museum today and may have been the fanciest house in Los Angeles when it was built. In eastern cities, a house of this era and this style would have been built of stone or brick. In California, with more lumber than labor, it's all wood above the foundation.



March and April 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MAR 2	3	4	5 Griffith Park Dora, Gail	6	7	MAR 1 8 Joshua Tree Backpack Dora, Jeff, Susan
9	10	11	12 Griffith Park Anne, Dora	13	14	15 O'Melveny Park Dora, Jeff J.
16 <small>full moon</small> 	17	18	19 Griffith Park Teresa, Dora	20 	21	22 La Jolla Canyon Teresa, Amanda
23	24	25	26 Griffith Park Dora, Mike Signal Hill	27 GLS Mgmt Comm conference call See page 2 for info	28	29
30 LA Arboretum and Botanical Garden Barb, SK	31	APR 1	2 Griffith Park Nancy, Gail	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Griffith Park Teresa, Dora	10	11 Big 0 Birthdays at Joshua Tree Dora, Grace <i>Through Monday</i>	12
13	14 <i>End Joshua Tree birthday celebrations</i>	15 <small>full moon</small> 	16 Griffith Park Nancy, Dora	17	18	19 Mt. Waterman Nancy, Gail
20	21	22	23 Griffith Park Teresa, Dora	24	25	26 Puerco Canyon Anna, Jeff J.
27	28	29	30 Griffith Park Nancy, Dora Signal Hill	MAY 1	2	3 Channel Island Day Hike Mike, Amanda

GLS Leader Contact Information

Please call after 9 AM and before 9 PM

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Tom Molloy	310-589-9125	tomsmolloy@yahoo.com

GLS Outings Volunteers

Mike Brostoff, Outings Schedule
Contact Mike about scheduling outings, to check for available dates, and to submit write-ups.

Dawn Wilson, Outings Liaison to Angeles Chapter
Contact Dawn about questions of leadership requirements and Sierra Club

Outings Policy. Dawn is the primary person to read the communications from the Angeles Chapter regarding outings and inform the other leaders.

Laura Rainey, Weekly Reminder
Laura sends out the weekly email announcing upcoming events. If an event must be altered or canceled after publication, e-mail Laura and cc Mike.



Important Outing Information

Waiver

To participate in a Sierra Club outing, you must sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver before the outing, go to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/>, or call 415-977-5630.

Rating Codes

These codes indicate the technical difficulty, not the strenuousness.

O Applies to uncomplicated outings such as hikes on trails or the equivalent (with minimal navigation skills).

I Includes outings that involve cross-country travel where navigation is necessary. Rougher ground than "O" outings may be traversed, and use of hands for balance may be necessary. Climbing level: 2nd class terrain.

C Events under external

control of a non-Sierra Club entity, (i.e. ranger, guide, concessionaire).

Outing Reservations

Reservation fees of from \$5-\$15 are refunded only when you show up and if they aren't needed to offset costs.

Cancellation policy on more expensive trips is as follows: Cancellation within 30 days, no refund without replacement. If your spot is filled, 90% will be refunded. This policy is in effect unless the leader states otherwise in writing. Always send two SASEs, contact and drive/carpool information. Make checks payable to "GLS".

Dogs

For most people, the presence of a well-behaved dog can be entertaining, or at worst a mild annoyance. However, this is not true for everyone. Some people suffer from various

levels of fear of dogs. Because of this, and the potential intrusion on wildlife, the Sierra Club policy is that dogs are not allowed on Club outings unless the write-up states DOGS OK. Make sure you bring adequate food, water, a bowl, and a long leash.

Seller of Travel Notice

CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

Adventure Pass

National Forests in Southern California (Los Padres, San Gabriel, San Bernardino, and Cleveland) require parked cars to display an Adventure Pass. The pass is available from ranger stations, sporting goods stores, and other local merchants and costs \$5 per day or \$30 per year. Plan on getting it before your outing, as most outlets do not open early. Many Sierra Club members dispute this user fee and

protest it by not buying a pass, possibly incurring a ticket. The choice is yours.

Carpooling

To facilitate the travel logistics for outings, participants often make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride-sharing, or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

Rideshare Points

Directions to all rideshare points in the Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activities or at: http://angeles2.sierraclub.org/get_outdoors/know_you_go/rideshare_meeting_places

La Canada Rideshare Point

Exit 210 at Rte 2 / Angeles Crest Hwy. Go N (uphill) 1/4 mi on Rte 2, park at curb on right, on long uphill.

TRACKS

SIERRA CLUB/GLS

P.O. BOX 1300

SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91031-1300

TRACKS

Subscribe to TRACKS, the GLS newsletter, and find out about all the GLS outings and events every month. You do not need to be a Sierra Club member to subscribe.

Name: _____

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Fill in this form and send it with a check made out to GLS to:
GLS

P.O. Box 1300

South Pasadena, CA 91031-1300



Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible; they support our effective citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Of your dues, \$7.50 goes for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine, and \$1 for your chapter newsletter.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Category:	Individual	Joint	Mail to:
Introductory	\$25		Sierra Club
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Supporting	\$75	\$100	P.O. Box 52968
Contributing	\$150	\$175	Boulder, CO 80322
Life	\$1000	\$1250	
Senior	\$24	\$32	
Student	\$24	\$32	
Limited Income	\$24	\$32	

When you join the Sierra Club, please use this form. The FRIP no. on the form brings part of your membership dues to GLS

FRIP#
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