

TRACKS



May/June 2015

Volume 28, No. 3



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



Ready to leave our back country campsite on Sunday morning.

Back on the CHRT in Joshua Tree National Park

By Jeff Johnson, story and photos

Last March, Dora led a GLS backpack on the eastern half of the California Hiking and Riding Trail in Joshua Tree National Park. This year, on March 21 and 22, Dora set out with a smaller GLS group to hike the western half of the trail in the park.

Saturday morning, after shuttling cars to the exit point at the Juniper Flats trailhead near Ryan Mountain, we set off from Black Rock trailhead in perfect, sunny weather.

The first excitement of the hike and our

first wildlife sighting was a minute or two up the trail—a large rattlesnake asserting its presence. This started a desert wildlife theme that continued for through the hike.

The first section of the trail from Black Rock climbs steadily about 1200' up a long sandy wash, passing Joshua Trees, scrub oaks, and junipers on the adjacent hillsides. Once at the saddle at the top, the trail crosses into Covington Flat. From this area, we could see in the distance both San Gorgonio and San Jacinto, both still with some snow. A couple more miles and we

reached the Covington Flat back country trailhead where we rested in the shade of an enormous Joshua Tree. This area has many large Joshua Trees. A couple of dead ones appear to have been the largest of all.

From there we continued to our cache where we had earlier left several gallons of water in anticipation of a very hot weekend in the desert. One bottle had sprung a leak but, since it was much cooler than we had expected, we still had more than we needed to see us through the weekend.

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O'Melveny Park to Mission Point

by Susan Campo

On March 29 ten people showed up to hike to Mission Peak with Dora and Gina. It was a very clear day. The hills were green and promising. We did see Monkey Flowers, Phacelia, Lupines and the usual. However there was a distinct lack of Poppies this year, perhaps the results of our California drought!

WE HAVE GREAT AND KNOWLEDGEABLE LEADERS IN GLS. Even if you know all the facts about hiking in heat, if the heat hits you with palpating heart, nausea and sudden loss of energy, it is great to have understanding people around you. Heat can cause these symptoms and worse, if ignored. Gina, as

(Continued on page 6)

Message from the GLS Chair

As we all know, technology is changing our world at an astounding pace. Future generations will have access to concepts and conveniences of which we can but dream. Still, GLS is trying to keep up. To that end, we are looking for ways to use technology to our advantage.

A first step has been to have our old website, hosted on the Chapter's server, migrated to the new server held by the national Sierra Club. While the new site is still being fine-tuned, it is up for your

viewing pleasure at: <http://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/gay-lesbian-sierrans>. We invite you to take a look at it, and let us know what you think. Again, we're still working on it, with plans to add more photos, clean up old typos, and eliminate any duplication that occurred due to the move, which was accomplished by an outside entity for the Sierra Club. We will have access to service and support from the national club, as well, so it's a great thing for us.

We are also looking at the online database of Chapter activities, known as OARs. GLS has used this database to advertise our outings in the past, but only

sporadically. We hope to be more consistent in using this technology to get our schedule out to a wider audience. Of course we will still be publishing a complete list of activities for all our members as we always have; however, with all these changes, don't be surprised if Tracks, too, undergoes a remodeling and comes to you in another format one of these long days from now. Nothing's changing right now with our beloved newsletter, but it's well to be prepared. In the meantime, I hope you'll enjoy our new website, and get out there and enjoy our planet!

Marie Ammerman



GLS Mgmt. Comm. Meeting - Apr. 21, 2015

The board met on April 21st, all members were present.

The board discussed the transition of the GLS chapter web pages as it was migrated from the old Sierra Club server to the new one. The transition is complete; some updates to the GLS pages are ongoing.

In addition the board continued the discussion of the future of TRACKS and the possibility of a web edition and the possibility of setting up OARS trainings for interested GLS leaders.

The next meeting is planned for May; date & time not yet confirmed.
Kyla Hjertstedt and Tammie Barta

25th Anniversary GLS T-Shirts!

The GLS 25th Anniversary logo has been printed on heather gray T-shirts, like the ones shown in the photo. T-shirts are \$15 each, available in unisex sizes Small/Medium/Large/X-Large.

To order a T-shirt, please make a check payable to "GLS" and mail to: Amanda Smith, 831 Kodak Drive, Apt. 1/2, Los Angeles, CA 90026. Please be sure to include the size of T-

shirt you are requesting along with your phone number and/or email address in case we need to get in touch with you. If you need the T-shirt shipped to you out-of-town, please contact Amanda with the details first so we can estimate shipping costs before you write a check.

Questions? Email Amanda at amandajillsmith@gmail.com.



Information about GLS

General questions about GLS, call Marie at 818-406-3529 or Mike at 818 399-4035.

Questions about a specific event, please call the leaders listed in the schedule. Contact info is inside the back page.

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.

GLS on Meetup: www.meetup.com/GLS-Gay-and-Lesbian-Sierrans

Next GLS Management Comm. Meeting

The next GLS management committee meeting has not yet been scheduled.

GLS management committee meetings are held about every two months, on weeknight evenings, by conference call. All GLS subscribers are welcome.

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.

GLS Mission

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.

GLS Newsletter

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.

Mgmt. Comm. 2015

Marie Ammerman,
Chair
Tim Vo,
Co-Chair
Kyla Hjertstedt and
Tammie Barta,
Secretary
SK Chiou,
Treasurer
Dawn Wilson,
Member at Large

Other GLS Volunteers

Membership,
Jeff Cuevas
Conservation,
Tom Molloy
Webmaster,
Alan Schimpff
TRACKS Editor,
Jeff Johnson

.....
Our outing volunteers are listed on page 11.

Bolsa Chica

On April 5, Barb and SK took a group for a walk around Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve in Huntington Beach to see the birds. Evidently they were bristling with cameras because they came back with lots of pictures. Here are a few.



- (1) GLS hikers on a bridge at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve.
- (2) Lesser scaup, also known as a bluebill.
- (3) Female and (4) male ruddy ducks.
- (5) Willets and sandpipers.
- (6) Osprey in a tree eating a local small critter.
- (7) Great blue heron on its nest in a tree.
- (8) Nesting Forster's terns.
- (9) Snowy egret waiting patiently.
- (10) Young female willet looking for food.
- (11) Audubon's cottontail.
- (12) Canada goose nibbling among the water plants.





Rattlesnake by the trail.



Caterpillar tent in a bush.



Wren nest in a cactus.

Back on CHRT in Joshua Tree

(Continued from page 1)

Our back country camp site for Saturday night was a little farther along, a secluded and level spot on the edge of a valley where some Joshua Tree logs made a place we could all sit together. We set up camp and soon Dora was assembling her famous garbage bag salad, literally in a (clean) garbage bag, while wearing the appropriate food service gloves. Leafy greens, sweet peppers, sun dried tomatoes, ripe avocados, cheese and other ingredients all made it there in good shape in various backpacks and went into the salad bag. As the sun set behind the hills, we ate our way through the entire thing and then, to celebrate Dora's birthday, tiny



Examining a big hole in the ground by the trail to see whether there is a tortoise there.

chocolate cakes for dessert.

Though no cactus were yet in bloom, it was a good weekend for wildflowers. Near the campground, there were evening primroses, Canterbury bells, chia, phacelia, and some other flowers we couldn't name.

Sunday morning we woke to a pink sunrise in the clouds over the hills to the east. The clouds grew all day to a steady overcast layer, but never more than a couple lazy raindrops. Good hiking weather.

We had topped off every water container we had and dumped out the extra, we set off. Again the day started with a long uphill stretch, passing lots of Canterbury bells in bloom and some lupine. Our next wildlife sighting was a caterpillar tent in a bush by the trail, teeming with caterpillars. A little later, we started to see holes in the ground by the trail, large holes that we thought must have been dug by desert tortoises, though we never actually saw a tortoise. We also saw a number of packrat nests under bushes.

At the first pass of the day, the landscape changed. Immediately ahead, the trail dropped into a canyon. Way off in the distance, under the thickening clouds, we could see the Salton Sea and peaks in the Santa Rosas. The trail followed a ridge down, then climbed the other side in switchbacks toward another pass, south of

Quail Peak, which the highest point in the park. In that stretch of trail, we saw our first orange globemallow in bloom. On the wildlife department, we saw a desert wren nest in a cactus, though no wrens.

As we crossed the pass by Quail Mountain into the Juniper Flats drainage, we passed a young woman hiking in the other direction in shorts, no hat, no map, and not much water. She said she was planning to spend a few days alone in that area of the park.



Canterbury bells

Dora asked her a few questions about her readiness for days in the desert alone, but she continued on undiscouraged. Maybe she knew what she was doing better than we could tell. I sure hope so.

Once over the pass by Quail Mountain, we could see Ryan Mountain in the distance, so the end was almost in sight. The trail that descends through Juniper Flats is level and gently downhill for the few miles to the parking lot. Once there, we drove to the Black Rock trailhead to collect the other cars, then headed for La Casita Nueva in Yucca Valley where, on a previous scouting trip, we had found that the mole was worth a return visit.

This ended up being another really good weekend hike with very pleasant company on the trail. The section of the CHRT that we hiked in these two days was just under 20 miles. The landscape was interestingly different from the half of the CHRT that we hiked last year, with some steeper slopes, and few of the rounded granite boulders that are the distinctive rocks of Joshua Tree.

Dora is already planning a return visit next year, this time near Eureka Peak.



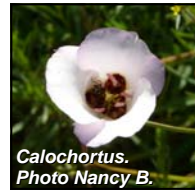
Coming over a pass into Juniper Flat. Ryan Mountain in the distance.



Spring in the Santa Monica Mountains. Photo Nancy Beverly.



The last poppies in bloom, and some morning glories. Photo Gina M.



Calochortus. Photo Nancy B.



Caterpillar phacelia. Photo Nancy B.



Chinese houses. Photo Nancy B.

Liberty Canyon

by Nancy Beverly

The wildflowers were still here! Co-leader Gina and I scouted the Liberty Canyon to Malibu Creek State Park hike several weeks before the GLS official event... and we got quite an eyeful of California poppies and lupine on our expedition. Between then and the scheduled hike on April 19, SoCal had both rain and broiling heat... what would be the flowers' fate?!

Alas, the poppies were 99% gone (we saw one handful) BUT we were visually treated to Chinese Pagodas, blue dicks, and tons of wild mustard, sage, sagebrush and caterpillar phacelia.

Ten hikers joined us on this glorious spring day filled with not just flowers but sun-capped vast grassy vistas (and, um, a lot of poison oak which we judiciously tip-toed around).



Photo Nancy B.

Descanso Gardens

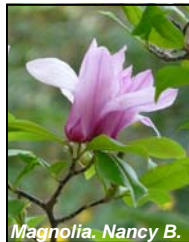
Barb and Grace led a group to Descanso Gardens again this year on March 14. Here are some pictures of things in bloom there.



California poppies. Nancy B.



Calla lily. Nancy B.



Magnolia. Nancy B.



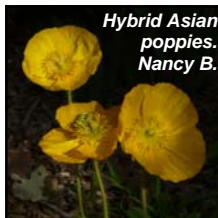
Nancy Beverly



Wisteria and (right) Nemophila. Nancy B.



Hybrid Asian poppies. Nancy B.



Tulips. Heather McN.



Conservation Notes

By Tom Molloy

President's Executive Order Creates the San Gabriel Mountain National Monument

In January, President Obama's executive order split the heavily used Angeles National Forest in two, placing one half inside a brand-new San Gabriel Mountains National Monument while leaving out the other half. Although seen by most in the environmental community as a positive development, many are calling for an expansion of the monument boundaries by Congress or the President.

Many of the areas under the heaviest use by hikers are not included in the boundary, including environmentally significant parts such as the Big Tujunga Creek, a major source of Los Angeles water. The National Forests Foundation has committed \$3 million toward improvements within the monument. The U.S. Forest Service published a list of

monument projects.

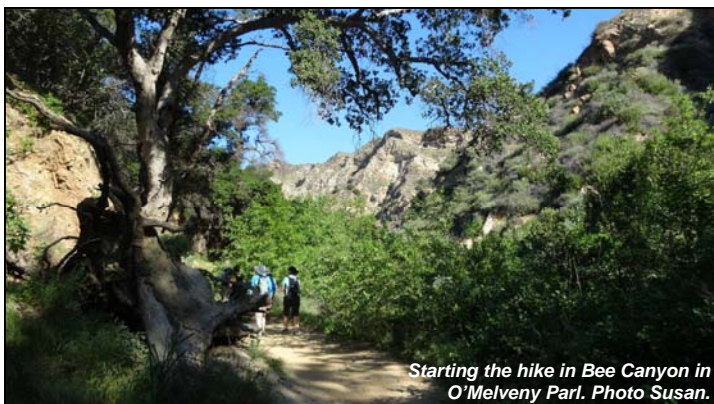
The 161,000 acres torched by the 2009 Station Fire, the largest fire in Los Angeles County history, where subsequent heavy rains created destructive mud slides are not included in the area. There is some talk of the proposed Rim of the Valley National Recreation Area that could create a unit of the U.S. National Park Service that would include the omitted portions of the Angeles above Pasadena, Glendale and the eastern San Fernando Valley, as well as the Santa Susanna and Verdugo mountains. Representative Chu who plans to re-introduce her San Gabriel National Recreation Area bill, which could supersede the president's proclamation and potentially include these and other omitted areas — if adopted by Congress and signed by the President.

The entire Angeles National Forest area sees an astounding four million visitors a year. Ten million people are within an hour's drive of the San Gabriel Mountains. So why is the declaration as a National Monument Important?

Currently the cash-strapped U.S. Forest Service tries to manage the mountains. Picnic sites and trail heads are often strewn with trash. People illegally barbecue in the middle of rivers, pitch tents alongside narrow roads, and leave graffiti behind. Under national monument designation, the Forest Service gives priority to recreation, garbage and graffiti removal, traffic, signage, hiking trails and education programs.

The new status also provides more protection for wildlife and curtails mining and other activities. The beleaguered San Gabriel Mountains are home to rare and endangered species, including mountain lions, Nelson's bighorn sheep, mountain yellow-legged frogs, Santa Ana suckers and Pacific pond turtles, bob cats, and more.

As an example of the Mountain ranges overuse and abuse, the Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps has removed about 9 tons of trash, 2,182 graffiti tags and 161 illegal fire rings from the Angeles National Forest over the last year.



Starting the hike in Bee Canyon in O'Melveny Park. Photo Susan.



At Mission Point. Photo Susan.

O'Melveny Park to Mission Point

(Continued from page 1)

assistant leader, knew just what to say and do when my pulse went up and my blood pressure down due to heat. She said, "Take some more electrolytes in your water; have a few bites of tangerine or energy food, even if you had a good breakfast just a few hours ago. Lighten your pack; pace yourself slowly; wet your bandana....and you will enjoy the rest of the day!" Knowing my tendency for heat problems, I did as was suggested. I even put up my sun umbrella to everyone's surprise so I could carry my "shade" with me. We did enjoy the rest of the hike!

The views from the top of Mission Peak were awesome. Then

we all descended through the green rolling hills and back to O'Melveny Park where the fruit orchard was full of ripening grapefruits. A joy to behold!

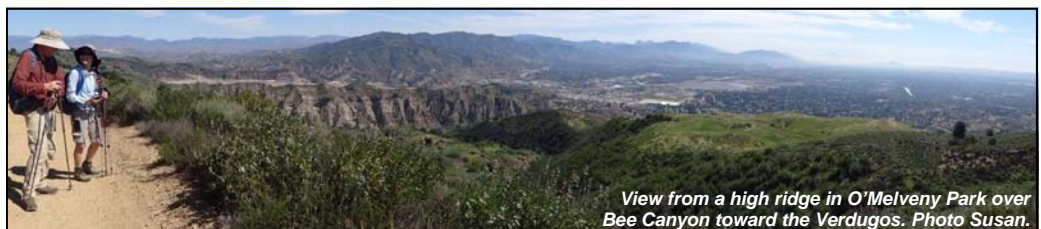
I was so grateful to our wonderful GLS leaders that day. I hope anyone who is hiking in heat this spring or summer will consider this as a good lesson for all.



O'Melveny Park grapefruit trees. Photo Susan.



Sticky monkey flower. Photo Susan.



View from a high ridge in O'Melveny Park over Bee Canyon toward the Verdugos. Photo Susan.

Outings & Events

May

May 2, 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 5-6 miles roundtrip, with 1300' gain/loss, this is a moderate hike (but can seem taxing if you're out of shape, as 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.

May 9, Saturday

O: Red Box to Strawberry Potrero and return via Colby Canyon

Susan Campo, Diane Zaepfel

This is an all day local hike. 10 mile loop, dependent on a car shuttle return. Moderate 1500 foot gain and loss. We will take our time and enjoy the scenery! Bring lunch, boots, 2 liters of water, poles if you use them. Meet at 8:30 am at the La Canada car pool point. Don't forget your parking Adventure Pass. Please RSVP at least 24 hours before the trip and tell leader if you are willing to drive in a short car shuttle. Hiking **DOGS** with leash and extra water will be allowed. Questions? Contact Susan at susanlucillecampo@yahoo.com.

May 23, Saturday

O: The Getty Museum

Nancy Beverly, Jeff Johnson

Join us on another of Jeff and Nancy's periodic trips to the Getty for an art mash-up like no other. This time it's to look at Light, Paper, Process: Reinventing Photography; Molten Color: Glassmaking in Antiquity; and the paintings of J.M.W. Turner (sixty key oil paintings and watercolors, this exhibition is "the first to focus on the unfettered creativity of Turner's final years"). The museum opens @ 10 a.m. Be parking your car at that moment and getting on the shuttle up the hill so we can meet at the top of the steps before the museum entrance at 10:15 to beat the crowds. Location: 1200 N. Sepulveda, L.A. Entrance is free, parking is \$15. Bring water, snacks, lunch money if you like and your camera for the outdoor views and flowers. Contact Jeff (jgj@cheerful.com) or Nancy (nancybeverly@sbcglobal.net) about carpooling from either Long Beach or the Valley.

Echo Mountain Sunset Hike

May 30, Saturday, 5:30 pm to 10 pm

Gina Masequesmay, Gail Wise

Join co-leaders Gina and Gail on this 5.5 miles hike to Echo Mountain (3176') on the Sam Merrill Trail. This is a moderate hike with 1500 ft. of elevation gain at an easy pace. The hike up and down is about 3 to 3.5 hours. Dogs are welcome. We will meet at 5:30 pm at the trailhead, at the intersection of Lake Avenue and East Loma Alta Drive in Altadena. We will

begin hiking at 5:45 pm after orientation. We should be at the hotel ruins by 7:15 pm if not by 7:30 pm to play before the enjoying the sunset at 7:58 pm. We will then hike down around 8:15 pm. Please bring 10 hiking essentials including headlamp or flashlight with preferably red light option, trekking poles for help in the dark, layers for a possible cold night, shoes with good traction, snacks and at least 2 liters of water. Questions? Contact Gina at 818.835.1059 or masequesmay.gina@yahoo.com or Gail Wise at gailwise2@gmail.com..

June

June 7, Sunday

O: Bolsa Chica Wetlands

Nancy Beverly, Jeff Johnson, Jennifer Minett (bird and photo expert)

It's Very Special Springtime at the Bolsa Chica Wetlands! April - June is nesting and hatching time for the endangered Snowy Plover as well as Blue and Green Herons. And of course bunnies! Join us on an easy 1.5 mile walk, led by local expert Jennifer Minett. In addition to bird fun facts, Jennifer will share some cool history stories of the area (and how the Sierra Club helped save the area!). Bring water, sunscreen and a shady hat (binoculars and cameras optional). After the hike, there's an optional lunch at Woodie's Diner, 16371 Pacific Coast Hwy, Sunset Beach. Sorry no bicycles or dogs on the trail due to the nesting. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the

(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: The Crystal Springs Griffith Park HQ/Visitors Center/Ranger Station, 4730 Crystal Springs Drive, LA. (Note: Mapquest, Google Maps, etc. may be misleading.)

Directions:

(1) From Los Feliz Blvd. (which

you can reach from I-5 or coming from Hollywood), turn north on Crystal Springs Dr. Proceed 0.5 mi. to the 3-way stop sign, go straight, and proceed 0.6 mi. and turn right in the driveway just after the Ranger Station. Drive around behind the Ranger Station to Park. Then meet us in the courtyard in the center of the buildings (picnic tables, soda machine, big tree). (2) From Fwy. 134 East, exit Victory, turn right at bottom of ramp. Make immediate left onto Zoo Drive. Drive through

the park, passing the zoo on your right and the Gene Autry Museum on your left. Curve around and pass the golf course. You'll come to a stop sign at Griffith Park Drive & Crystal Springs Road (which is the road you're on now, it changes names). Proceed one more block to the next stop sign at the Ranger Station and turn left. Drive all the way around behind the Ranger Station to park. Then meet us in the courtyard in the center of the buildings (picnic tables, soda machine, big tree).

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

Wetlands Interpretive Center, 3842 Warner Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92649, at the SE corner of Warner and Pacific Coast Highway. One way of getting there: take the 405, exit Studebaker, turn right (south) to 2nd St. Turn right (west) on 2nd St to PCH. Turn left (south) on PCH and the entrance is 4.3 miles SE of 2nd St. on PCH @ 3842 Warner Avenue. Another way: take the Bolsa Chica Rd. exit off the 405/22 freeways and head south to Warner Ave. Turn right on Warner, then left into the wetlands parking area just before PCH. The lot easily fills up so plan to arrive early. Also, there is parking on PCH or west of PCH. Questions? Contact Nancy at nancybeverly@sbcglobal.net.



Probably the biggest Joshua Tree we saw on the Mar. 21-22 backpack in Joshua Tree N.P.

June 5 – June 7, Fri – Sun
O: Marion Mountain camp, San Jacinto (10,804') day hike
Dora Olea, Grace Hengst, Teresa Nick

San Jacinto is considered a strenuous hike because of its altitude (10,804') and length, about 18 miles rt. We will trek at a moderate pace to its summit. However, if you prefer to stay in the camp and relax, you are welcome to do so. On Friday, we will acclimate in the camp with a delicious meal of your own. On Saturday, we will hike up to conquer the mountain and return to camp for happy hour, dinner, and a good night's sleep. On Sunday, we will break up the camp and leave. The campsite has limited space for participants and parking. Cost doesn't exceed \$25.00 dollars per person for 3 days and 2 night or partial

time. Carpooling is strongly recommended. Space is limited, for more info and RSVP, contact Dora at chamacasister@gmail.com.

June 13, Saturday
O: Mt. Baldy (10064')
Dora Olea, Kirk Olsen

Yes, we are hiking up Mt. Baldy!! We will hike at a moderate pace, 8.5 mi. rt., 3900' gain/loss. We will go from Manker Flat trailhead to summit via the Sierra Club Ski Hut and return via the Backbone Trail to Baldy Notch and the fire road under the ski lift. Optional descent from Baldy Notch uses the ski lift (\$15). If you are hiking Kearsarge Pass with us on June 19, please consider to enjoy this hike for acclimation purposes. Meet 7:20 am at Manker Flats TH to start the hike promptly at 7:30 am. Bring 10 essentials, 3 qts. water (more if it's hot out), lunch, snacks, lugsoles, sunscreen, hiking poles. USFS Adventure Pass required for parking. Bathrooms are at the trailhead. Directions: 210 E. exit on Baseline Rd. Turn left, next light turn right on Padua Av., right onto Mt. Baldy Rd. Go past Mt. Baldy Village 2 mi. and stay on Mt. Baldy Rd. as it curves left at Icehouse Cyn. Rd. Continue driving 2 mi. to Manker Flat trailhead on your left-hand-side. Questions? Contact Dora at chamacasister@gmail.com.



Evening primroses in Joshua Tree N. P.

Jun 18 - Jun 21, Thu - Sun
O: Kearsarge Pass (11,660') Onion Valley (9,200') carcamp
Dora Olea, Heather Sargeant

A busy 3 or 4 day carcamping trip. However, if sites permitted and you just want to enjoy the view and relax in the fabulous Onion Valley, camp tell the leader. We will arrive on Thursday to get acclimated (optional but strongly recommended). On Friday, we will hike up to Flower Lake (10,498') for a picnic and acclimation purposes. On Saturday, we will aim for the daunting heights of Kearsarge Pass (11,660'). On Sunday, we will hike up to Robin Lake (10,498'), break camp and

leave. Get acclimated before the trip so you can really enjoy it. Mt. Baldy (10,064') hike on June 13th is strongly recommended. Cost not exceed \$50.00 dollars per person for 4 days and 3 night or partial time. Carpooling is strongly recommended. Space is limited. For more info and RSVP, contact Dora at chamacasister@gmail.com.

June 28, Sunday
O: Verdugos in a Loop
Dora Olea, Gina Masesquesmay

Come on out for a local hike in the Verdugos and enjoy a potluck among the trees while looking at Griffith Park from a different perspective. A moderate challenge from the south end to the north. About 6 miles with 1700' feet elevation gain. Approx time 4 hrs. After going up on a challenging steep winding uphill we will take a break to for the potluck and enjoy the magnificent San Gabriel Mountains to the right, and the Griffith Park to the left. We then go on a moderate fire road downhill and back down to the Stough Canyon Nature Center. Wait!, we are not there yet! We need to go around and between the bottom of the canyon and the golf course before we can reach the cars. Bring lugsole shoes, 3 liters of water, something to eat to share, trekking poles, and a hat. Dogs must bring their own water. Because of the heat, we will meet at the trail head at 8:30 a.m. at the Wildwood Canyon Park on Harvard Rd. in Burbank. From the I-5, take Alameda Avenue exit east and follow to Sunset Canyon Blvd. Left on Sunset Canyon, then about a mile to a right on Harvard Rd.; park is on your right about a quarter mile up. Park in the large lot along the road. Rain cancels. Questions? Contact Dora at chamacasister@gmail.com.

Future Outings

Jun 28 - Jul 4, Sun - Sat
O: New Mexico: North of Taos
Mike Brostoff, Grace Hengst



Globemallow in bloom in Joshua Tree N.P.

Outings and Events

Spend a week in Northern New Mexico at Takoja Retreats. Nestled on 40 acres, 28 miles north of Taos, the Takoja Retreat Center is surrounded by tall mountains and wide expanses of sage and cedar. There are many activities to suit everyone from exploring unlimited hiking trails and mountains, (including Wheeler Peak, the highest mountain in New Mexico standing at over 13,000 feet) to Taos with its pueblo and diverse artist scene. The mountains offer much more wildlife viewing than we are



Last signpost on the California Hiking and Riding Trail in Joshua Tree N.P. before arriving at the Juniper Flat trailhead.

accustomed to in California. Bighorn sheep, black bears, and marmots are common, with an occasional mountain lion or porcupine sighting for the off-trail adventurer, and don't forget, the coyotes will sing you to sleep every star-filled night. There will be a few group activities, but most of the week is left free to spend the time as you wish. You have your option of camping on the

property or staying in the two Adobe domes complete with kitchen, bathrooms and showers. They've added authentic New Mexico cuisine to complement the full buffet breakfasts served every day. In addition, there are three complete evening dinners and one supper of gourmet leftovers. Price for the trip varies depending on the accommodations you choose:

- Dome: Two person loft with private bathroom: \$410 (per person)
- Dome: Communal sleeping area: \$375
- Camping: \$325

Since the acoustics of the domes can generate a lot of noise, we are encouraging people to camp. Campers will have access to the bathrooms and showers. Please send check payable to GLS, phone number, address and email address to Mike Brostoff 11220 Moorpark #110 North Hollywood, 91602. If interested in the loft, please contact Mike first to check for availability. The trip is open as of April 30.

Jul 11 - Jul 12, Sat - Sun
O: Backpack to Twin Peaks: Eastern Twin (7761'), Western Peak (7596')
Dora Olea, Grace Hengst

This strenuous overnight backpack will be

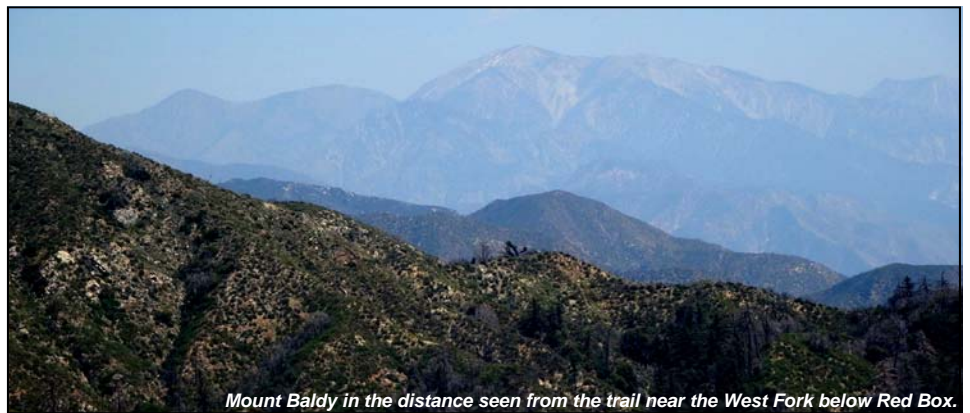
hiked at a moderate pace. Around 12 miles RT, 3200' gain/loss. On Saturday, we will hike out around 3 miles and then with empty backpacks, we will go for one mile RT to cache water. Bring a day pack for the summits on Sunday. This trip requires backpacking experience. We will carpool, leaving La Canada rideshare at 8:30 a.m. on Sat. Limited group size. 10 essentials required. Cost doesn't exceed \$5.00 dollars per person. Carpooling is strongly recommended. Space is limited, for more info and RSVP, contact Dora at chamacasister@gmail.com.

Sept 5 - 7, Sat - Mon
O: Backpack: Starlight Point (666'), Catalina Island
Dora Olea, Heather Sargeant

Backpacking at Catalina Island is like a dream come true; surrounded by boats, trails, dust, sleeping on the beach, jumping in the ocean around seagulls and seals, with eagles flying and pooping over your head, buffalo burgers, and summit the "end" (666 ft.) of the island. If you can hike from 6 miles (1st day), 10miles (2nd day) and 6 miles last day, you are welcome in this trip. Backpacking experience is not required but you must bring all your backpack gear. It is an awesome experience that you cannot miss. Space is limited. For more info, cost, RSVP, contact Dora, chamacasister@gmail.com.

Short Cut Canyon

Susan and Kyla led a GLS group on April 11 through Short Cut Canyon to the West Fork of the San Gabriel River and up to Red Box. Here are some pictures of the hike, taken by Susan.



Mount Baldy in the distance seen from the trail near the West Fork below Red Box.



Indian paintbrush



Swallowtail visiting blue clicks



Bush poppies



Canterbury bells

May and June 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 full moon	4	5	6 Griffith Park Gail, Mike	7	1 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 8	2 Mt. Waterman Gail, Nancy <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 9 Strawberry Potrero Susan, Diane
10	11	12	13 Griffith Park Anne, Nancy	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Griffith Park Dora, Gina	21	22	23 Getty Museum Nancy, Jeff J.
24	25	26	27 Griffith Park Nancy, Dora Signal Hill	28	29	30 Echo Mountain Sunset Hike Gina, Gail
31	JUN 1	2 full moon	3 Griffith Park Gail, Mike	4	5 Marion Mountain Carcamp Dora, Grace, Teresa <i>Through Sunday</i>	6
7 Bolsa Chica Wetlands Nancy, Jeff J., with Jennifer Minett <i>End Marion Mtn.</i>	8	9	10 Griffith Park Nancy, Jan	11	12	13 Mount Baldy Dora, Kirk
14	15	16	17 Griffith Park Nancy, Kyla	18 Kearsarge Pass, Onion Valley Dora, Heather <i>Through Sunday</i>	19	20
21 <i>End Kearsarge Pass</i> <i>Onion Valley</i>	22	23	24 Griffith Park Signal Hill	25	26	27
28 Verdugos in a Loop Dora, Gina New Mexico Mike, Grace <i>Through July 4th</i>	29	30	JUL 1 full moon	2	3	4 <i>End New Mexico</i>
			Griffith Park TBD			

GLS Leader Contact Information

Please call after 9 AM and before 9 PM

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Asher Waxman	323-876-2889	amuirman@yahoo.com
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Teresa Nick	612-384-0421	teresa.nick@me.com
Tom Molloy	310-589-9125	tomsmolloy@yahoo.com

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.

Leaders

Are you listed here the way you want to be listed?

If you should be removed from this list, please let me know.

If you are not listed here and should be, let me know.

If you are not sure of your leadership status, get in touch with the Leadership Training Committee to find out.

Jeff Johnson

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: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

- New Renewal Gift Change of Address
- Send print TRACKS by US mail \$15 - 1 yr; \$35 - 3 yr
- Send email TRACKS (pdf file) \$10 - 1 yr; \$20 - 3 yr
- Send print and email TRACKS \$25 - 1 yr; \$55 - 3 yr

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
Regular	\$39	\$47	Membership Dept.
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#
F94QW04721