

TRACKS



September/October 2010

Volume 23, No. 5

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

GLS July Fourth Weekend in the Eastern Sierras



From the ridge above Green and Brown Lakes on July 3, looking west over the lakes toward the peaks along Thompson Ridge. Photo Magnus Monroe.

By Magnus Monroe

Whether it's some revenant ancestral memory or simply a semi-arboreal childhood, nature has always been home to me. So when a neighbor asks where I'm gearing up for, I tell him as much, with a little grin on my face. And while I belong to a lot of groups, GLS is more like a family, which only reinforces the sentiment as I hop in the car, turn the radio on and set out for the Sierras.

Hours later, I arrive at our campground to warm welcome and take the last spot at the

end, perfect below a pine, only feet from the hurry and bustle of Bishop Creek. Once I get set up, I slip inside my tent, unzip the window and find a perfect view of the creek frothing down rocks in the dusk and on through trees caught in the way.

Knowing there will be a lot of time for nature gazing this weekend, I run and join the Friday night festivities as we finish readying our Pot Luck. Between the savory and sweet dishes, the hugging and hellos, and hearing about the hike to Blue Lake, I'm so excited I wonder if I will sleep at all. Soon enough though, the soothing night air and a slight alpine headache send me off to tuck in.

At dawn, I slip down to the restrooms where we've stored our food, sleepily surprised someone has taken a bite out of my banana - peel and all. Fauna, I smirk, as I empty my cooler bag of its bottles and relocate the rest of my fruit, not entirely convinced the vinyl will be a deterrent. Everything else will have to fend for itself... probably not well I imagine.

A bowl of granola or two later and we

gather to go. At the trailhead, the group splits in two, one with the dogs will take the actual trail while the rest of us adventure up an old aqueduct, to join up where both meet at some switchbacks. My skepticism stepping onto the half-buried pipe is soon nothing but mirth as we wind along cliffs and tree clusters drinking in the sun, every so often hearing the water sluicing down the hollows. A mile in and higher, we come to the rendezvous, but after a while, no one has come up the trail and we begin to think they may have missed the pipe and be somewhere above, finally deciding to head

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Celebrating Heather's 70th birthday a little early, on July 2.

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Message from the GLS Chair

I had a book of quotations when I was a small tyke. One of them said, "Life ain't all beer and skittles" (presumably the European lawn game, but the brightly-

colored sugary treats could work as well...) We hikers get to enjoy our trails much of the time without having to think about their upkeep. Three times a year, GLS puts a hold on hiking and skittles and goes out to do trail maintenance in our vast forested playgrounds of Southern California.

Saturday, September 25th, we'll be

doing it again at the Pines Day Use Picnic Area. We'd love to have you join us.

Contact Anne Mullins at hike2thepeak@gmail.com for details... and heads up: we will have a delicious dessert from Porto's Bakery – much better than Skittles any day.

Nancy Beverly

Outdoor Leadership Training Oct. 2

Interested in becoming an outings leader for the Club?

Angeles Chapter is home to one of the largest outings programs on the planet – 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 by the chapter Leadership Training Committee on Saturday, October 2, at the Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center.

The class 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.

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

Applications and checks are due **September 18**.

Scholarships are available for those with financial need. Apply to LTC Chair Tina Bowman (tina@bowmandesigngroup.com).

GLS Photo Contest

Start looking for your *best pictures from GLS outings this year* for the big Photo Contest at the GLS holiday party December 11! It was a lot of fun last year. Photos of *people*, of *scenery*, or *plants* and *animals*, as well as *humorous* pictures.

Complete contest guidelines in the next issue of Tracks (basically the same as last year).

GLS Awards

Every year at the GLS holiday party we give awards to people who have done good things for the group during the year, some serious awards and some humorous awards.

Who do you think deserves an award from GLS this year?

Send your suggestions to any of the Management Committee members, listed below.

If You're a Leader...

By Nancy Beverly

Hope to see you at Trail Maintenance Saturday, September 25th – and for the leaders' meeting that will follow the potluck lunch that day. Bring your

calendars and your creative ideas for future fun outings. Sections of the Angeles Crest Hwy. will be closed until at least November – that's why you'll need to be creative as much of our usual hiking territory may continue to be unavailable for a while.

Also, tally up the number of hikes

you've led or co-led this year and send them to Marie Ammerman by the beginning of December. We're hoping to honor those who have led 100 hikes (and more!) in some way, as we did at last year's holiday party.

Information about GLS

General questions about GLS, call Grace at 323-227-6444 or Mike at 818-763-5799

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.

Next GLS Management Comm. Meeting

The next GLS management committee meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 21, 7 PM**, Committee members will meet by conference call.

GLS management committee meetings are (usually) held about every two months, on weeknight evenings. All GLS members are welcome to attend.

You may call one of the committee members to confirm meeting time or to ask about the agenda. Contact a committee member for the conference call number.

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. Committee

Nancy Beverly,
Chair
Barbara Edwards,
Co-Chair
S.K. Chiou,
Treasurer
Jeff Johnson,
Secretary
Christy Varni,
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.



Photo Dai



Mist Falls. Photo Christy



At Roaring Falls
Photo Dai



Around the
campfire,
Sheep Fire in the
distance. Photo Dai.



Kings Canyon Under Smoke

Photo Dai

As told by Christy Varni

The excitement of the GLS Kings Canyon outing started a month before the first campers arrived. On July 16, a lightning strike started the Sheep Fire above Cedar Grove in the canyon. A month later, that fire was still burning. Leaders Christy and Anna checked with the park and were told that, yes, the Canyon View group campground is open, there is no danger, the only effect is a little smoke that drifts in mornings and evenings. And when campers got there Thursday, August 16, the campground was open, the canyon was kind of smoky, and the fire was a half mile away. At night campers could see the fire in the distance, burning slowly down on a slope. Overnight, smoke settled in the canyon. The next day, a breeze picked up and thinned out the smoke by afternoon.

Friday, hikers went up the canyon along the Kings River away from the fire to Mist Falls, about 10 miles round trip. It was a leisurely hike, with lunch on the rocks by the falls. Christy had warned campers about the possibility of bears near the campground but it was rattlesnakes that surprised them on this hike. They came up on two Western Rattlesnakes by the trail, one close enough to rattle at them as they passed. Friday night was potluck dinner in camp...by firelight.

Saturday, the group decided to drive up to the Grant Grove to get out of the smoke. They took the loop trail through the grove of Giant Sequoias that includes the enormous General Grant tree, second

largest tree in the world. On this hike a moment of alarm was caused not by bears or snakes but by finding a man on the ground near a restroom. GLS leaders found he was breathing and, remembering their first aid training, called in the park rangers who took charge. Apparently he had had a motorcycle accident and was suffering some delayed effect and had passed out. So the appropriate thing was done for a hiker in distress, and no paperwork required. Saturday night was bathing in the river by the campground and potluck leftovers for dinner...still by firelight.

Sunday, hikers took a loop hike through Zumwalt Meadow by the river, where they saw wildflowers. Hikers also stopped at Roaring Falls on the south side of the canyon, which in mid-August was at less than full roar. Another firelight evening was spent in camp. Overnight, campers heard two trees falling in the burn area.

Monday, campers packed up and were in the cars on the way home when the park delivered one last, much-anticipated thrill. There by the road was the bear Christy had warned them about, just a little one but a bear nonetheless. With that, everyone could go home feeling that their Kings Canyon experience was complete.



Photo Christy

July 4th on Bishop Creek

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further up.

Ascending the switchbacks, the shade is thick with languid mosquitoes. Reaching sunny spots to rest becomes motivational, trading repellent on the move. Eventually we crest into a sunnier flat and follow the tributary where it often sieves into the meadow. At times the trail fades, yet Alan successfully guides us on the hidden steps through the marshy highlands. We cross the stream at Brown Lake, its surface mirroring the hillsides, its tawny color only visible near the shore, and all enjoy a break on its shore.

Recharged, we hoof it higher wrapping hills up through a boulder-strewn pine forest, the trees noticeably sparser, our companions still nowhere to be seen. Further on, as we loop down around some boulders, the trail drops right alongside Green Lake. It's a handsome hue of jade, soft sea foam greens muted with baleen blue deeper in. We roll along its shore, through marsh grass and more patches of pine until we find a bank to break on and celebrate with lunch. And a little skinnydipping for the terribly brave. As they splash and laugh, the ladies in the lake lend an already idyllic scene an elegant Sapphic mythos.

Susan slips away and soon we spot her high on a ridge that looks like a long rock fall from down here. With a half hour to rest, a few of us take her lead and head up the rock strewn ridge marveling at the sharp fiery flowers speckling the tumbles of grey. Jeff even gets left behind capturing them up close. We pass her coming down and she rallies us on telling us we're almost there, and soon we are. And, as any hiker will smile at, there's always another ridge.

Ahead, a long low hill of tumbled rock blanketed by a worn thin sheath of meadow rolls up, teasing with the possibility of a jaw dropping view of the beyond...or maybe one more ridge. If I know nothing more, I know that crest is much further than it looks. The path turns and drifts on faintly to my right,



Climbing the pipeline July 3 toward Brown and Green Lakes



Lunch spot at Blue Lake on July 2. Below, resting above Lake Sabrina on the way back down from Blue Lake.



all life subsiding along rock-covered trails running to the dark shot peaks on the far side of the basin.

Turning around we find a view from the roof of the world. The ridge plummets away yielding a vast and arresting range of white and barren peaks. Where even the Sierras seem small beneath the canopy of sky, the

clouds skim the peaks like rays along the reef. Currents of wind pummel away, the only sound against the disquieting silence. And it is here, where life so visibly ends, that life begins. Here where the trees surrender their climb is the river's source, from a slow thaw on rocky crags themselves driven into the clouds over unfathomable millions of years. There is nothing so dwarfing, but still my heart wants to burst. The effect is always humbling, in the loveliest of ways. There are so few times we will ever touch the sky like this, that each burns a brilliant residence inside.

As we descend, caught with awe, lost in thought, the day has unfurled into an abundance of perfect moments.

At South Lake, we finally find the rest of our party who had ended up continuing north on the original trail past the turn off, and we all pack back.

After stealing a sun warmed shower, we gather for our Fourth on the Third celebration, a fantastic spread all prepared by our loving leaders who spent their day orchestrating it all while we hiked. Later, strung around the campfire we are treated to hilarious tales of Italian onanists and teen reefer madness, before we all head to bed.

Sunday, I watch the morning light warm a cluster of Mule Ears at the far end of camp and then head beyond them to a lower section of the creek, where the water leaps off a six or seven foot drop catching the golden rays in its plumes and mist as it races.

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Green Lake, and the peaks and ridges above it to the south, July 3



The view from the July 4th lunch spot above Saddle Rock Lake, Bishop Pass in the distance on the left.

July 4th on Bishop Creek

(Continued from previous page)

More awake, I head to the restroom to brush up and, of course, to discover my hot dog buns have been ravaged in the night. My blueberries, luckily spared, I enjoy, before some of us head back out to South Lake while others head off elsewhere.

This time we head south along the Bishop Pass Trail, all together. Not long in and we're already winding high while the moon rises along with us in the distance. We pass the trail to Treasure Lakes (would that be the Treasure Trail?) and soon work our way up another woodland rock garden. If Green Lake conjured a classical pastoral, here cliffs stained in streaks and lichen are an inspiring if accidental modernist pallet.

Higher still, the trail levels some as it rolls about and occasionally we catch a view of some jagged peaks to the east. Given the amount of snow we can see, we opt not to loop around Chocolate Peak and its lakes, continuing ahead instead and soon winding into a pure dream of a valley. Greeted by a patch of Shooting Stars, amethyst bursting from their bright green leaves, the path opens to a tree pocked meadow buffeted by snow patched knolls of pine leading us to the northern shore of Long Lake. More flowers in violet and shades of lemon ring an outcropping where we stop near its foot to enjoy the moment. As it ribbons down the valley ahead, caught are the sky and the snow white peaks below as they blur and shimmer back to sharpness along the pine-shadowed shore.

At its southern end we wind up a steep set of switchbacks cleared from a wall of rockfall spotting schools of fish far below. We pass Spearhead Lake, chatting when we are not winded and calling out loose rocks across streams. The trail ascends more slowly as we cross a snowy flat, pass Timberline Tarns and ascend the ridge to the right, along some falls thundering below the snow, where we're reminded how appearances can be deceiving and the value of always being cautious. At the top we arrive at Saddlerock

Lake, just below Bishop's Pass.

Two expanses of white ice, one reaching almost to the shore covers much of the surface, curling around barren rocky knolls breaking through. Behind it in the distance, dark traces of past avalanches trail down the snow to the last clinging pines. Up here the colors are more muted, a perfect reverence. We head up a low rocky bluff laced with coarse bushes, a few spotting red flushes, and stop just above someone's campsite on some moss dotted rocks. Crowned by stark granite peaks rising out of the sleeves of snow, we have lunch above the frozen lake on the Fourth of July at over 11,000 feet. And all I can think is, How amazing is this? I am so very thankful.

Behind us, the rocks drop away to the pools below and the valley behind. The trail loops up some ridges from where we left it, before disappearing into the flank of a staggering granite wall, emerging briefly on the ridge to the Pass before its switchbacks disappear, buried in impassible snow even now.

Finally, it is hard to leave such sanctuary, but the miles to return await.

Once again, the way back drifts by, concentrating through streams and stony paths, and swooning every now and then, too. We finally approach South Lake descending through endless waves of green, pale and shimmering, the lemon lime of aspens, the midnight of the pines. Passing some llamas (indeed) we arrive at the start, fantastic and exhausted.

Later, we make use of the leftovers, toss in a few new additions and have yet another little feast – the best addition of course being Heather's Birthday Cake as we celebrate.

Tonight, I don't last nearly as long around

the fire. I floss my teeth by headlamp again (my dentist will be ecstatic) and then I tuck in, unzipping the window, so I can watch the stars as I fall asleep. Here, they're so bright and bountiful, I can see them with my glasses off.

In the morning I get toasty around the campfire, take a last walk to the falls, then collect my things from the bathrooms and bid good tidings to the rodents in absentia.

After breaking camp I am in no real hurry to leave. After we say our goodbyes and disperse, I head out to Lake Sabrina encouraged by everyone's stories, and bring the weekend full circle. The sun dapples down through the trees as I toss my bear bells around my neck, imagining my cat would thrill at the jingle. Retracing everyone's steps, I make my way along on a bright and pensive walk. Drawing around some bends high above the far end of the lake the rumbling of heavy water draws up. I imagine the trail offers a great view of the cascade before crossing somewhere further up, but I'm shown up - the trail goes directly through the tumult along a shelf, the water raging on over a drop littered with washed away trees. There is no easy – and definitely no dry – way across and I gauge the current as it pulls at my poles. As tempting as it is to

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An almost mosquito-free evening around the campfire at the Bishop Group Camp

Conservation Notes

Tom Molloy

Websites to Help You Choose Sustainable Seafood

- **BlueOcean.org**
(includes eco friendly Sushi)
- **EDF.org**
Their Seafood selector also includes its safety and dietary value
- **MontereyBayAquarium.org**
(includes educational pamphlets by region)

Funding for Acquisition of...

...286 acres at risk in Trancas and Zuma Canyon passes Appropriations.

Congressman Brad Sherman announced that funding for land acquisition, specifically 286 acres in Trancas and Zuma Canyons, has passed the all-important House Appropriations Committee. In addition to your letters to your Congressman and Senators that made this happen, Congressman Sherman brought Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar on a tour of the Area and has championed this cause in D.C. Please extend your thanks to

Congressman Sherman.

This acquisition may create a new beach-to-Ridgeline Trail beginning where Trancas Creek enters the ocean. I've contacted Mr. Sherman's office to see what more lobbying we can do to ensure this does not fall through the cracks in these tough financial times. These canyons still are still wild enough to host mountain lions, and not many years ago a wayward black bear visiting from above Ojai.

Let's make sure these 286 acres do not become hundreds of houses and roads through these wild canyons.

July 4th on Bishop Creek

(Continued from page 1)

want to go on, it would only take one slick rock to really end my trip wrong. Hiking alone offers wonderful reflection, but some things are best with a family (that's all of you!). I smile and decide this is one of them. I turn back and head up the trail towards

George Lake for a bit. The sun is shining full on and the work out is great. Far up, catching my breath, I could almost lose it again given the view. The sharp slope of the opposite shore eases into more of a roll as it rounds the southwest flank of Sabrina, thick thatches of pine woven among its rocky mounds. Here, only traces of snow line the distant balding grey ridges and peaks, though hidden lakes

and kingdoms probably lie pocketed away up there. If it all wasn't beautiful enough, I begin to spot waterfall after waterfall after waterfall and trace their flow all down to Sabrina. All I know is, I couldn't ask for more. I could sit here all week.

Then I laugh, because I probably couldn't; I'd be hiking every trail in the vicinity, eyes wide.

GLS Splash Bash

August started off with a splash for GLS — Sherry hosted nearly two dozen of us — plus several happy doggies — at her

beautiful and spacious home on August 1. The food was yummy and the pool refreshing. And what would a GLS event be without a hike? After dining and swimming, we went on a 2.7 mile walk

around the neighborhood, with a steep hill to make it seem worthwhile (or was that taxing? Frieda-the-Greyhound voted for the latter...as she's a wee bit out of shape. But she hung in there like a trooper!).



Sherry
welcomes
GLS



Outings & Events

September

Sep 3 - Sep 6, Fri – Mon

O: Morro Bay State Park

Barbara Edwards, Grace Hengst

Join us for an end of the summer, Labor Day camping trip. Morro Bay is considered to be the largest, least disturbed saltwater marsh on the California coastline. This magnificent natural area provides a haven for an extraordinary range of bird life. It is a major stop on the Pacific flyway for migratory birds, and around 70,000 birds may be seen on the bay on a given day. It is both a State and National Estuary. Morro Bay State Park is within minutes of a heron rookery, Montaña de Oro State Park, the El Moro Elfin Forest and Audubon's Sweet Springs Nature Preserve. The park is located 200 miles northwest of L.A. Some activities include: hiking at nearby Montana de Oro, kayaking or walking in estuary, birdwatching, or strolling into town for fresh seafood. We have a group campsite and hot showers are available. Per person, \$60 for 3 nights camping and all parking fees. Some RV space available. Send check (made out to GLS) and email address to: Barbara Edwards 1739 S. Sherbourne Dr. L.A. 90035.

September 12, Sunday

O: Beachwood Canyon Stair Walk + Lake Hollywood Add-On

Eva Eilenberg, Amanda Smith

Eclectic homes, a geodesic dome...*faux* castles, a fake lake...and stairs, stairs and more stairs. When not climbing public staircases, we'll be walking on windy roads, an overgrown, narrow, dirt use trail — aka Mulholland Highway — above the Hollywood Reservoir (which is book-ended by Moby's new home "Wolf's Lair" and

Madonna former LA sanctuary), and on a fire road. See the *Hollywood* sign up close and personal. Have tourists ask you to take their picture. Join us for this loopy stair walk that starts and ends in Beachwood Village. We'll meet at 8:30 am around the small fountain on the corner of N. Beachwood Dr. and Belden Dr. (near the Village Coffee Shop @ 2695 N. Beachwood Dr. 90068). Possible lunch at the coffee shop afterwards. Carpooling encouraged. No water or bathrooms along the route, though there are split break opportunities around the midway point near the lake. 4.7 miles, approximately 500 gain, with about 900 stairs and some steep sections of road. Questions? Eva at eesierraclub@gmail.com.

Sep 18 - Sep 19, Sat – Sun

O: Backpacking to Bishop Pass

Dora's O2 Provisional

Dora Olea, Marie Ammerman

Twenty miles west of Bishop sits South Lake, the starting point for this adventure. Our overnight backpacking will begin there. The trailhead starts at 9800 ft., hiking and winding through beautiful alpine scenery. In about three miles and 1000 ft. elevation gain, Long Lake will come into view. That is where we will be camping on Saturday, an absolutely gorgeous spot surrounded by magnificent mountain peaks. From there, it is another three miles to the summit, on Sunday, at 12,000 ft. with Kings Canyon on the other side. Total elevation gain 2,200 ft. and 12 miles round trip back to the trailhead. Meet at 9 AM at the trailhead. More details at the reservation time -RSVP to doraolea@yahoo.com.

September 25, Saturday

O: All GLS Trail Maintenance Day

Anne Mullins, Mike Brostoff

Here's a chance to give back to the environment, have fun with the rest of the GLS, and find something good to eat, too!

All members are encouraged to come out and help. There will be a range of activities available, from picking up trash to hard digging; there's something for everyone. A potluck lunch follows, with a special treat from Porto's Bakery to be provided (please don't bring a dessert!) We hope to add an even deeper sense of purpose to the GLS section, so please take this opportunity to come out and make a difference. What to bring: work gloves (if you have them), water, lug soles, potluck item. We will be doing trail maintenance at the Pines Area off the Angeles Crest Highway. We will be meeting at the La Canada rideshare point at 8:30 am, then carpool to our spot. Adventure Passes not needed to park at Pines Day Use Area. Clean up starts at 9:00 and continues for 2 -3 hours, followed by the potluck, and then a leaders meeting. RSVP to Anne Mullins, 323 -522-6640, so she can tell the ranger how many are attending. From the 210 intersection with Hwy 2, Angeles Crest Highway, go 9 miles north to intersection of Angeles Crest Highway and Angeles Forest Highway. Left onto Angeles Forest Highway, 1/4 mile to Pines Day Use Area, on the left.

October

October 2, Saturday

O: Kathy Brizzard Griffith Park Bench Dedication

Mary Conte, Jeff Cuevas

Everyone is invited to attend. Several activities have been planned and participation is welcome for any part of the day. 8:30 a.m., meet at the Griffith Park Ranger Station flag pole (regular Wed. night meeting place; plenty of parking in the back of the Ranger Station or OLD zoo parking). We will walk less than a mile to the site of the bench dedication with Councilman Tom LaBonge, 9:00 a.m. at the bench. 9 30 a.m. approx., after
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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, 5 miles, 1145' gain/loss. This is a great mid-week workout. Lugsoled 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 PM
Dogs are welcome; bring a leash and extra water. Rain cancels.

When: Every Wednesday, (except holidays) 7 PM sharp, end by 9:30 PM

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.

Outings and Events

the dedication, Grace Hengst will lead the traditional "Wed. night conditioning hike" to the top of Mt. Hollywood in honor of Kathy starting at the bench site (less than 5 mi. RT, 1145' gain/loss). 10:00 a.m. through to 1:00 p.m., potluck brunch, at the picnic tables by the old zoo, non-hikers welcome to relax with friends at the tables before the hikers return. Bring a camp chair as benches are limited. Questions, call Mary 213-810-3939.

Oct 9 - Oct 10, Sat - Sun

**O: Mt. Islip/Little Jimmy Campground
Easy Backpack Robin's O2 provisional
Robin Ridinger, Marie Ammerman**

Easy overnight backpack. Meet 8 AM Saturday, October 9 at trailhead in the San Gabriel Mountains, off the Angeles Crest Highway. RSVP to Robin at ridinger@gmail.com, or (310) 293-2446 for sign-up, driving directions, and rideshare information. Adventure Pass required for those who drive up. Stunning views of the San Gabriels, Mojave Desert, LA (all the way to the ocean) and Crystal Lake. We'll offer a 1950' gain peak climb from Little Jimmy camp to Mt. Islip (summit is 8250'). Other hikes as the group decides. Little Jimmy Campground is only 2 miles from the trailhead, but it is steep and we will hike it in 2 hours. A bear can is a MUST for participation. Marie Ammerman saw a bear cub here last year. There is a spring ¼ mile from camp and the water should be treated. Pit toilets in camp.

October 17, Sunday

**O: Leo Carillo State Pk to Nicholas Flats
Tom Molloy, Alan Schimpff**

This panoramic hike starts at PCH heads up to Nicolas Flats and Nicholas Pond, and then descends part way into the valley on the other



Grace crossing a creek on the way up to Blue Lake on July 2

side. On the return, the hike descends a different hillside overlooking the ocean offering one of the best sweeping views of the ocean. The descent is steep and can be slippery. Be prepared to fall on your butt a couple of times. 10

miles, 1800' We'll go through chaparral plus a beautiful oak forest at the top. This trip requires a car shuttle. Meet at 10 AM at the Sycamore grove along PCH, right past the Decker Canyon Road intersection with PCH. This is directly across the street from the house at 33148 Pacific Coast Highway. From there we'll carpool shuttle one mile down the road to our starting point at Leo Carillo. Bring two or more quarts water, lunch, good lug sole hiking boots, plenty of endurance. Trekking poles recommended but optional. RSVP to tomsmolloy@yahoo.com.

October 23, Saturday

O: Millard Canyon

Marie Ammerman, Nancy Beverly

Millard Canyon is an old fav — great for those who like shade, stream crossings and boulder hopping. It's a moderate hike, 5.6 miles roundtrip with approximately 1400' elevation gain/loss. There's at least one spot where you have to use your hands to hoist yourself up and over some boulders and tree roots. Bring lugsoles, two liters of water, snacks, and hiking poles for balance if you like them. Well-behaved dogs on leash are welcome. Directions: From the 210 freeway in Altadena, take the Lincoln Ave. exit and drive 2 miles north. Turn right on Loma Alta Drive. Go approximately 0.6 mile east and park at the intersection of Loma Alta Drive & Chaney Trail (at the flashing yellow light), where we will meet at 8:30 a.m. to carpool on up the road (trailhead parking is limited; it also requires an Adventure Pass). Rain cancels. Questions? Contact nancybeverly@sbcglobal.net.

October 30, Saturday

O: Vasquez Rocks

Grace Hengst, Dora Olea

Amazing what "25 million years of earthquake activity" can do! A beautiful out



Heather leading GLS hikers into the high country on July 4

cropping landscape of rocks' history that began in prehistoric times when the sandstone rocks were uplifted at a picturesque angle, showing their jagged red features. In 1874 Tiburcio Vasquez, one of California's most notorious bandits, used these rocks to elude capture by law enforcement. It has been a popular filming location for movies, television shows and commercials. Less than four miles with 100ft elevation gain. Lovely stream lined with sycamores along the rocky banks where we will stop for lunch break. Great opportunities for taking pictures as well as identify many species of flora and perhaps fauna. K-9 welcome. Bring lug soles, lunch, sunscreen, hat and sunglasses as well as plenty of water. Meet 9 am. From the Antelope Freeway (14) near Canyon Country, exit on Agua Dulce Road. Head north 1.5 miles. Agua Dulce swings west and you join Escondido Canyon Road, proceeding 0.25 miles to the signed Vasquez Rocks County Park entrance on your right. Rain cancels. Questions? Call Grace 323-227-6444.

Future Outings

November 6, Saturday

O: Mount La Tuna

Marie Ammerman, Nancy Beverly

It's not on any lists, but it does exist: Mt. La Tuna here we come! Join us for an up-and-down hike that rolls along the Verdugo hills and enjoy good company and great views of the San Fernando Valley, Griffith Park, and even the ocean if we're lucky. We'll start at 9 a.m. Bring lugsoles or good trail runners, snacks, 2 liters water, lunch, and clothes for any weather. Approx. 6.5 miles RT, 1800' gain/loss. Please RSVP to leader Marie Ammerman to sign up and get meeting point, other information. Her e-mail:

(Continued next page)

Outings and Events

ammermanm@yahoo.com. Well-behaved dogs are welcome; local regulations require leashes at all times. Rain cancels.

November 13, Saturday

O: Mt. Pinos to Mt. Abel (aka Cerro Noroeste) and Back

Tom Molloy, Alan Schimpff

Hike is above 8000 ft. elevation the whole time. Dress for all weather conditions. 12 miles roundtrip. 3800 ft. elevation gain. Bring 10 essentials, lunch and 2 liters of water. We'll meet at the Sylmar carpool point at 8:00 am. Rain or snow cancels. RSVP tomsmolloy@yahoo.com.

Nov 25 - Nov 28, Thu – Sun

O: Thanksgiving Outing

Susan Lucille Campo, Alan Schimpff

This trip is now full. Both hotel and camp sites are spoken for. However, until all the checks are in some changes may occur so you may still put your name on the waiting list by e-mailing Susan susanlucillecampo@yahoo.com.

Enjoy Thanksgiving weekend, 3 nights at Panamint Springs, a private resort located near Death Valley National Park. We will begin our outing with a traditional buffet at noon on Thursday, turkey, all the trimmings and homemade pumpkin or apple pie. The first organized walk will be short but help our tummies. Susan has scouted and planned all new hikes for GLS for every day, including Sunday. All hikes are rated I (off trail), but only require the ability to walk 6 miles with less than 1000 ft. gain/loss. The group will be doing similar hikes with 2 levels offered...a total of an easy 6 miles per day or the 7- 9 mile moderate option. Most participants will be leaving on Sunday morning, but there will be a final strenuous level hike on Sunday, 16 miles, 2200 foot gain/loss offered to those capable and willing to drive home to LA later that day. Unlike Susan's past trips, this time we will try two cost options. If you go under the "hotel option", you will be in a room with private bath for two thru Sunday morning. There is a restaurant on the premises. For those wanting the "camping option" you will sleep in your van or tent. You can economize by bringing all your own food except for the Thanksgiving buffet which is for everyone. There is a gas station and store on the premises, but the supplies of healthy food are not dependable. It is 50 miles to Olancho and farther to a good grocery store. While daytime temps can be very enjoyable, if you chose to camp, you must have the equipment needed to stay warm and dry on cold nights. Remember daylight hours are short in Nov., but on a happy note, the campground has heated showers with indoor restrooms. In the evenings Susan has planned for both GLS

campers and hotel guests to socialize together. Prices (check made out to GLS and sent to the leader) are: Hotel option \$190 each or Camping option \$42 each. Both include your lodging fees and Thanksgiving dinner. If you are 90% sure you want to attend and know which option you prefer, email Susan now to be put on the list. Full payment for everyone due Oct.1. Full refund given until Nov. 1.

December 4, Saturday

O: Sycamore Canyon to Overlook Trail Mountain Bike Loop

Tom Molloy, Alan Schimpff

This is an intermediate mountain bike loop, approx 12 miles with 1500 feet elevation gain. We'll ascend sycamore canyon, then Wood Cyn cutting up to the Overlook Trail via the Guadaluca Trail. Spectacular views of the canyons, Boney Ridge, the La Jolla Valley, ocean and, if clear, the Channel Islands. A helmet is required, you will not be able to ride without a helmet. Bring a sand chair and lunch for a meal on the beach after the ride. Bring 10 essentials, a liter of water, lunch. Rain cancels. RSVP tomsmolloy@yahoo.com.

December 11, Saturday

O: Holiday Party

Grace Hengst, Mary Adair

Mark your calendars! Potluck, raffle, photo contest, awards, old friends and new!

January 23, Sunday

O: Mugu Peak -- La Jolla Valley

Tom Molloy, Alan Schimpff

A comprehensive trek through the western quadrant of Pt. Mugu State Park. The hike begins in La Jolla Canyon, then crosses a field to ascend Mugu Peak. The trail then descends into La Jolla Valley, a large grassy meadow, and then joins up with a well graded and scenic trek along the ridge dividing La Jolla Cyn and Big Sycamore Cyn. Curving down the rounded slopes east of La Jolla Canyon, the trail takes in sweeping views of the Pt Mugu coastline and the distant Channel Islands. Round-trip: 10 miles, 1950' elevation gain. Bring at least 2 quarts of water, lunch, and the 10 essentials. Call leader to RSVP. Meet at 9:30 AM at the parking area for the Ray Miller Trailhead. Drive north on PCH about 35 miles past Santa Monica. Take the first turn off to the right after passing the Big Sycamore Campground and "the great sand dune." Parking fee \$4 per car. Usually free parking can be found on PCH. Rain Cancels. RSVP tomsmolloy@yahoo.com.

February 26, Saturday

O: Pt. Dume, Whale Watch, Tide Pool Walk, Giant Coreopsis Extravaganza, Brunch

Tom Molloy, Alan Schimpff

This year, I'm doing this popular event as a conservation fundraiser which includes

Brunch at the Paradise Cove Beach Café, please join us in this 4 mile hike to help our club to wage the many battles to preserve our wildlands. This years event coincides with the probable new designation of our entire route as a State Marine Preserve. We will meet in front of the Sunset Restaurant on Westward Beach Road in Malibu at 9:00 am. We'll hike at low tide along the beach, then ascend Point Dume to take in the annual Giant Coreopsis display (this time during its peak bloom season). From the viewing platform, we'll hopefully also take in the California Gray Whale migration back to Alaska. From there, we'll descend down the other side by staircase to the Point Dume State Beach tidepools, to experience the kaleidoscope of marine life. We'll then walk several more coves until we get to the Paradise Cove Beach Cafe where we'll have brunch from the breakfast menu. On our way back from the restaurant, we'll return the way we came, but this time, we'll linger at the tidepools and whale viewing platform, and fully take in the Coreopsis bloom. Reserve your spot by sending a \$45.00 (brunch included in the contribution) check payable to GLS to Tom Molloy at P.O. Box 2210 Port Hueneme CA 93044. RSVP by phone or email up to day of hike, a check can be sent in advance, or brought on the day of the hike. Rain does not cancel, we're walking on sand. RSVP tomsmolloy@yahoo.com.

March 5, Saturday

O: Placerita Canyon

Dora Olea, Judy Demarah

Come and help us celebrate the March Birthdays at Placerita Canyon in Santa Clarita Valley. Explore the broad, expansive oak woodlands and chaparral covered hillsides making the canyon a popular hiking destination. The canyon trail follows the creek to Walker Ranch and then to Placerita Falls. Watch out for wildlife! Approx. 5.20 miles round trip. 400 ft elev. gain/loss. Bathrooms and water on trail. K-9 welcome. Bring water, lug soles, sunscreen, and a potluck-lunch item to share upon return to picnic area at trailhead. Meet 9 am. From Freeway (5) North to Antelope Freeway (14) towards Palmdale, exit onto the Placerita Canyon Rd. and turn right. About two miles the Placerita County Park is on your right hand side. Plenty of free parking. Meet at the Nature Center .



September and October 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			SEPT 1 Griffith Park Amanda, Dora	2	3 Morro Bay State Park Barb, Grace <i>through Monday</i>	4
5	6 <i>end Morro Bay</i>	7	8 Griffith Park Marie, Amanda	9	10	11
12 Beachwood Canyon Stair Walk Eva, Amanda	13	14	15 Griffith Park Nancy, Grace	16	17	18 Backpacking to Bishop Pass Dora, Marie <i>through Sunday</i>
19 <i>end Bishop Pass backpack</i>	20	21	22 Griffith Park Dora, Nancy	23 full moon ☉	24	25 GLS Trail Maintenance Day Anne, Mike
26	27	28	29 Griffith Park Marie, Grace	30	OCT 1	2 Kathy Brizzard Griffith Park Bench Dedication Mary, Jeff C.
3	4	5	6 Griffith Park Nancy, Ginger	7	8	9 Mt. Islip/Little Jimmy Easy Backpack Robin, Marie <i>through Sunday</i>
10 <i>end Mt. Islip/Little Jimmy backpack</i>	11	12	13 Griffith Park Marie, Dora	14	15	16
17 Leo Carillo St. Pk. to Nicholas Flat Tom, Alan	18	19	20 Griffith Park Dora, Ginger	21	22 full moon ☉	23 Millard Canyon Marie, Nancy
24	25	26	27 Griffith Park Marie, Grace	28	29	30 Vasquez Rocks Grace, Dora
31						

Dora's O2
provisional

Robin's O2
provisional

GLS Leader Contact Information

Please call after 9 AM and before 9 PM

Alan Schimpff	310-589-9125	alanschimpff@netscape.net
Amanda Smith	323-646-0771	queenpin@earthlink.net
Anna Baum	310-990-0610	ambaum@dslextreme.com
Anne Mullins	323-522-6640	hike2thepeak@gmail.com
Asher Waxman	323-876-2889	amuirman@yahoo.com
Barbara Edwards	310-839-0593	greyhound@sbcglobal.net
Beth Epstein	562-439-0646	b.epstein@verizon.net
Christy Varni	562-489-4599	cvarni2001@yahoo.com
Dawn Wilson	612-384-0180	wilson-dawn@comcast.net
Diane Ru	626-578-1909	
Dora Olea	818-765-7297	chamaca1954@att.net
Eric Sas	323-221-9909	sas_ea@yahoo.com
Eva Eilenberg	323-803-0457	eesierraclub@gmail.com
Grace Hengst	323-227-6444	gracehikes@roadrunner.com
Heather Sargeant	909-336-2836	heathercsoo@aol.com
Jeff Bates	310-452-4929	jbatesla@aol.com
Jeff Cuevas	626-644-9879	cuevasj@wellsfargo.com
Jeff Johnson	562-434-8473	jgj@cheerful.com
Judith Demarah	818-451-8403	demarah1@hotmail.com
Judy Holloway	818-996-4891	judith.holloway@att.net
Karen Lovett	562-438-3418	klovett2000@hotmail.com
Kirk Olsen	562-434-8675	kso@kirkolsen.com
Laura Rainey	562-438-3418	geowmn@verizon.net
Lisa Ludovici	310-864-4679	l.ludovici@yahoo.com
Marie Ammerman	818-842-6401	ammermanm@yahoo.com
Mike Brostoff	818-763-5799	mbros4162@yahoo.com
Murray Aronson	323-656-8134	operafan101@hotmail.com

Nancy Beverly	818-379-9940	nancybeverly@sbcglobal.net
Patty Kline	310-455-1956	patriciakline@aol.com
Pete Geissler	626-824-6778	dtmquest@yahoo.com
Rick Mitchell	626-797-6707	rbmitchell2001@yahoo.com
Robin Ridinger	310-293-2446	rridinger@gmail.com
S. K. Chiou	714-554-9513	skchiou@yahoo.com
Susan Campo	626-578-1909	susanlucillecampo@yahoo.com
Teresa Nick	612-384-0421	nickx002@tc.umn.edu
Tom Molloy	310-589-9125	tomsmolloy@yahoo.com
Will McWhinney	323-221-0202	willmcw@gmail.com

GLS Outings Volunteers

Mike Brostoff, Outings Schedule

Contact Mike about scheduling outings, to check for available dates, and to submit writeups

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 rest of the leaders.

Laura Rainey, Weekly Reminder

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

Dave Benson, Outings

Submission to Angeles Chapter

Outings to be published in the Angeles Chapter Schedule must adhere to Chapter formatting guidelines. Mike B. forwards outings for the chapter schedule to Dave, who ensures that they meet these guidelines before sending them to the Chapter.

Anne Mullins, Trail

Maintenance/Leader Meetings

Three times a year, we volunteer for trail maintenance for one of the local parks. Afterward, we hold a potluck followed by a leaders meeting. Anne coordinates the trail maintenance work and the potluck. Mike facilitates the leaders meeting.

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/>](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/ carpool points in the Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activities or at: [<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/pvsb/pages/rideshare.html>](http://angeles.sierraclub.org/pvsb/pages/rideshare.html)

La Canada Rideshare Point

Exit 210 at Rte 2 / Angeles Crest Hwy. Go N 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