

# TRACKS



January/February 2012

Volume 25, No. 1

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

## GLS Thanksgiving in Beatty

By Susan Campo



*Resting by the trail on the steep descent from Wahguyhe Peak, second highest peak in the Grapevine Mountains on the border between California and Nevada.*

The Thanksgiving GLS outing was a joyous event. We “camped out” in a funky hotel in Beatty, NV, so we could access Death Valley National Park. Susan Campo was the leader / organizer of this event. (We missed Barbara Edwards and participant Larry Conn who had serious family matters keep them from joining us.)

The Thanksgiving dinner was a great way for 14 participants to connect. We had an after dinner fast stroll. This gave us room to attend the Ice Cream Social at Eddy World, the world famous maker of the best ice cream in Nevada.

On Friday Susan lead a hike to the second highest peak in the Grapevine Mountains. The 4-wheel-drive-only access took two vehicles and eight participants to this remote trailhead. With maps and GPS it was still a challenge to arrive at Strozzi ghost ranch trailhead. We began hiking at 10:30 am and by taking a short lunch on top, we arrived directly back at 4:10 pm. Jeff Johnson was quoted as saying that it was the hardest three mile round trip hike he had ever done! We signed a notebook on the peak that Susan had left when she scouted the hike in April for this outing. There had only been a few parties on that peak in the meantime. Bravo for a new hike for our Thanksgiving outing! After five Thanksgiving outings here for GLS, Susan continues to find new and challenging trails!

Meanwhile, the rest of our GLS people found other places to enjoy that had easier access . Some went to Scotty’s Castle or did other sites. Dai managed to get up every day at 4:30 am to go do his expert photography at



*Outdoor art in Beatty*

*(Continued on page 4)*

GLS Info .....	2
Trip Reports.....	3 - 6
Conservation Notes .....	6
Outings & Events .....	7 - 9
Calendar.....	10
GLS Leader Contact Info.....	11
Important Outing Info .....	11

## First Impressions...

By Caryl Akamichi

...are so important in so many ways. I have been asked to write about my maiden voyage-hike with the GLS and the quick and dirty is these folks ROCK! I plan on joining these folks on many more outings. If meeting new and

interesting people while you are exploring the beautiful outdoors is your idea of a day well spent, I’d encourage you to join an event and see what I’m writing about.

A good friend of mine who had been on another GLS hike suggested we try this 10 mile hike in the Malibu area. The weather was a bit ominous. It had

*(Continued on page 6)*

## GLS Management Committee Meeting, Nov. 29, 2011

Amanda, Brad, Grace, Jeff J., Nancy, Sharon, and SK were on the conference call.

Brad and Grace, the nominees for the management committee, were welcomed. Most of the meeting, we discussed

preparations for the holiday party, December 11, as well as the various awards to be given at the party.

Later, we discussed plans for the GLS 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary party, to be held at the Sierra Club's Harwood Lodge the weekend

of October 5-7. Marie Ammerman is coordinating.

We discussed making a new GLS t-shirt for the anniversary. Sharon will get details from a contact in the business.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 31 at 7pm.

*Jeff Johnson*

## OARS is Coming

*From Mike Brostoff, GLS Outings Chair*

Sierra Club has introduced an Online Activity Registration System (OARS). You can think of it as the Chapter Schedule being online.

OARS offers these benefits:

- A traveling hiker can easily find outings, meetings and other activities near his destination.
- Provides the equivalent of Angeles Chapter Quick-Turnaround publication to all Chapter entities
- New activities and outings appear at the Chapter website as soon as submitted by Outings Chairs.
- Participants can register for events online instead of leaders coordinating through e-mail and phone.
- Facilitates communication amongst outing participants so they can make arrangements like carpools.

(Some of the features listed are still in development).

Starting in January, when leaders submit outings to Tracks, we will also submit to OARS. Leaders will have the option of declining publication in OARS.

Check out OARS at: <<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/outings/OARS.asp>>.

## GLS 25th Anniversary Celebration...

GLS is celebrating at Harwood Lodge near Mt. Baldy the weekend of October 5 - 7. Marie Ammerman and the GLS management committee are planning now. If you would like to get involved or to propose a particular activity, get in touch with Marie, [ammerman@yahoo.com](mailto:ammerman@yahoo.com).

## ...and T-shirt

Remember the GLS T-shirt that a few people still have in a drawer somewhere? How about a new T-shirt this year? If you have T-shirt or logo ideas appropriate for the 25th anniversary, pass them on to a management committee member.

## 2011 Holiday Party

The holiday party was again at Grace and Mary's house on a hillside in L.A. There were many familiar faces and several new ones as well.

The third edition of the photo contest took place with some new photographers this year. Dai Le got the two top prizes for two of his sand dune pictures taken on the Thanksgiving outing.

Many awards were given to recognize GLSers efforts and accomplishments in the last year.

\* Dora and Marie reached the 100-hikes-led mark to receive the GLS KB Milestone Award

\* Barb was named Campout Queen in recognition for her many well-attended and well-managed camping trips.

\* Grace was awarded the Back In Action Award for 2011, having recovered from her back surgery and returned to the trail.

\* Marie Baca was named the GLS 2011 Pin-Up Girl, having appeared in pictures in Tracks more times in 2011 than anyone else.

\* SK received the Wampum Watcher award for her diligent management of GLS finances.

*(Continued on page 8)*

## Information about GLS

**General questions about GLS**, call Grace at 323-697-6886 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.

## Next GLS Management Comm. Meeting

The next GLS management committee meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 31, at 7pm**. Committee members will meet by conference call.

GLS management committee meetings are (usually) 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. Committee

**Amanda Smith**  
**Brad Keistler**  
**Grace Hengst**  
**Sharon Hartley**  
**SK Chiou**, Treasurer

### Other GLS Volunteers

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

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

# 2011 GLS Photo Contest Winners

*Favorite GLS in Camp photo on page 5*



## Favorite GLS on the Trail

*Misty Ascent, Tedd Wenrick  
Santa Cruz Island trip, May*



## Overall Favorite #1

*Morning Twilight at Mesquite Flat Sand Dunes, Dai Le  
Thanksgiving trip*



## Overall Favorite #2

*Ripples, Dai Le  
Thanksgiving trip*



## Favorite Landscape and Scenery

*Moonrise on Waterman, Nancy Beverly  
Mt. Waterman Night Hike, August*



## Humor Favorite

*Ranger SK Tells Us About Woodpeckers  
Placerita Canyon outing, March*



## Overall Favorite #3

*Waiting for Sunset above Death Valley, Jeff Johnson  
Thanksgiving trip*



## Flora and Fauna Favorite

*Calochortus weedii v. intermedius  
Laguna Wilderness Park hike, June 11*



## GLS Thanksgiving in Beatty

*(Continued from the front page)*

Badwater or in the dunes. We all reconvened in the bar rather than around a campfire, but it was “very campy” just the same!

Susan had requested the return of the Enchanters for our entertainment. They had retired, but came back on Friday night just for us! The three singers brought back the old songs while Dora got the group dancing. We even managed to remember a line dance. There was time for casino play as well, but no big losses or gains were

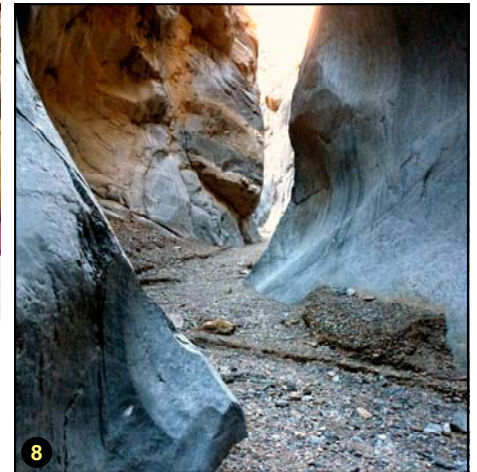
experienced.

On Saturday some of the group took a hike to Perry Peak. Susan had led this one on a former GLS trip, and it was very popular with a great view. However, this time Susan lead a new-for-GLS hike into Fall Canyon. Everyone “checked-out” before climbing over a dry waterfall to explore what has been called “the most scenic slot canyon in Death Valley.” All seven participants added this adventuresome route, and everyone returned to the trail head safely!

We continued sharing our fun and

stories with new friends and old until Sunday when our group split up for the trek home.

1. Susan navigating to Strozzi Ranch on Friday. 2. At the Strozzi Ranch trailhead for the hike to Wahguyhe Peak (photo Susan). 3. At the top of Wahguyhe Peak (photo Susan). 4. Thanksgiving dinner at Stagecoach Inn in Beatty (photo Susan). 5. Reviewing weekend hiking options after ice cream at Eddy World. 6. Jeff C. and Starla lead the charge near the start of the Mt. Perry hike on Saturday. 7. Near the end of the Mt. Perry hike, looking back to Death Valley to the left, Mt. Perry right of center. 8. In Fall Canyon on Saturday (photo Susan). 9. The Fall Canyon hiking group below the dry fall in the canyon (photo Susan).



## Cheeseborough or Shezbro?

By Jeff Johnson

That was the big question for some of us on the November 5 hike in Cheseboro and Palo Comado Canyons led by Dora. If you look on the National Parks website, it's Cheeseboro Canyon. If you look at the road directions on Google, it tells you to take Chesebro Road to Cheseboro Canyon Road. If you ask someone local, they seem to pronounce it Shezbro. Some said the spelling disparities started because CalTrans people spelled it wrong when the highway went through, but that doesn't seem to explain it all.

In any case, it was a beautiful southern California day for a hike through oak woodlands, across open grasslands, and some geology and wildlife as well.



The Baleen Wall is a geological formation at the top of the slope above the canyon that looks, to some, like baleen, which are the filters in the mouths of whales that are filter feeders.

We did smell a sulfur spring from a little way off, and the trail went right by it.



This area is popular with bikers, one of whom was Nancy Beverly, who stopped to talk.

It was a nice, scenic, low stress hike. Dora is scouting another hike in the area to lead for GLS in a few months.

## Silent Night, Holy Night

By Anna Baum

Winter Solstice is the time to go deep into the stillness at the heart of our being, absorbing in that rich and fertile darkness all the presents with which presence blesses us. Yet the urban and social world cues us to become more frenetic with shopping, driving, attending entertainments, and partying. Marie Ammerman gave us an opportunity on Saturday night, December 17<sup>th</sup>, to opt out and take a road less traveled, leading a group of seven hikers on a 3-mile roundtrip silent night hike in Stough Canyon.

We gathered soon after sundown near the Stough Canyon Nature Center. There was a light rain as we arrived, which stopped as Marie went over silent signals should we need them, and read us an excerpt from Eckhart Tolle's *Stillness Speaks*. Then we began our climb up the dark fire road. The peace was palpable as the crunch-crunch of boots on scabble, and the swish-squish of our jacket arms brushing our sides accompanied our steps. The clouds reflected city lights from the valley, so we could see fairly well.

I could feel my being exhale city stress as I looked around at the hillsides of the Verdugos and sensed the plants and animals turning inward for the night (or preparing for the hunt). We stopped in silence a few times, gazing at the dark hills around us or the city lights below, marveling at the freeways—ribbons of white and red lights snaking through the motherboard of Los Angeles.

At the top, Marie gave us 15 minutes to be still. I sat by a tree, and felt a few drops of rain blessing us—then it stopped again as we made our way back down. As we descended the last few winding turns of the road, the owls began. We heard three calling to each other from various places in the canyon. The soft hoo-hoo-hooooos—call and response—set the invisible threads between us all, canyon dwellers and visitors alike, vibrating. As Marie had read to us: "You feel a oneness with whatever you perceive in and through stillness. Feeling the oneness of yourself with all things is true love." May we all feel the love in 2012 and beyond.



### Favorite GLS in Camp

Fun After the Trail, Susan Campo  
Placerita Canyon Hike, March 2011

*More photo contest  
photos, page 3*

# Conservation Notes

Tom Molloy

## Seven Billion Celebrated !

Many of you like I were probably scratching your heads hearing the global media outlets celebrating that the planet is now crowded with seven billion people, and continues on an unsustainable trajectory. The United Nations has long predicted that global population growth would stabilize, with education and women's access to family planning. Now, the United Nations says that sadly this did not come to pass, and thus are now revising their forecasts that the population will rise to 10 billion by 2100, and still will not stabilize even then.

How alarming is this? Consider that

10,000 years ago there were 5 million people on the earth. By the birth of Christ, it had climbed to 200 million. From there to 1 billion in 1800, 2 billion in the 1920s, and 3 billion in 1960, with 6 billion in 1999, and 7 billion just this year. What previously took 10,000 years to do was just replicated in 12 years.

Instead of a call to action, the media celebrated the marvel of it all. Little to no mention was made on the impact to wildlife populations worldwide, disease, famine and human suffering, the destruction of the forests that provide our air, water quality, overfishing of the ocean, climate change, etc. Instead there were calls to avoid selfish desires for locally grown organic foods, in deference to highly mechanized food substances that with the help of massive

amounts of chemical fertilizers and pesticides may be our only hope to feed the ever increasing billions.

But, we also learned that phosphorus reserves which gave us the recent green revolution which enabled us to feed the world's people are now depleted, and reports from the National Academy of Sciences state that corn and soybean crops in the U.S. could decline by as much as 80% by the end of the century due to global warming.

What can you do? Despite the obvious things like encouraging friends and family to have small families, please check out the population section of the Sierra Club at <http://www.sierraclub.org/population/> where you can learn how to help and get involved.

## First Impressions

(Continued from the front page)

rained steadily the night before (my plants are happy) and when we left Long Beach, it was slightly overcast. However, as we headed up the coast, the sun broke through and at 9:30AM, it was promising to be ideal hiking weather.

The leader for this hike, Alan, explained how with the Sierra Club hikes there is always a leader who keeps us on track and pace and a sweep to make sure no one gets left behind. The goal was pretty much to get back before it got too dark. Being a newbie, I had some reservations about my ability to keep up. Ten miles is nothing to take lightly. Of course you *could* do it in tennis shoes, but if you plan on being even a casual hiker, INVEST in a pair of GOOD SHOES! Your feet, ankles and knees will thank you for it.

The hike had most of the climbing during the first five miles. The trail wound up into the hills and fortunately was mostly in the shade. Poison oak was pointed out and I'd say we'd become pretty good at spotting the stuff by the end of the hike. There was some talk of a rattlesnake sighting on previous hikes but s/he never appeared to validate the story. Honestly, if I were a snake and I felt the tramping of 10

pairs of feet coming my way, I'd go slither somewhere inconspicuous too.

Every so often we'd stop and admire the scenery (or use it as an excuse to catch our breath) and rotate formation which naturally led everyone to have time to converse with a different person in the group. We found out that half the group was from Long Beach! A nice break came at our lunch stop.

In the middle of what seemed like nowhere, there were a couple of picnic tables! Alan herded us in the general direction and we pulled out 'lunch'.



On the high prominent point above the coastline, before beginning the descent.

Maybe it's a newbie thing, but it reminded me of childhood lunchtime; you were eyeballing what the other kids had in their lunch boxes. I had put stuff together the night before, which were two Egg-McMuffin clones, not knowing what was apropos for trail dining. Alan brought out Boursin cheese (yes, this IS GLS) and invited everyone to sample it with sliced apple. I was chuckling inside, but it was so right. Oh yes, the hiking. After the initial ascent into the hills, we got to an

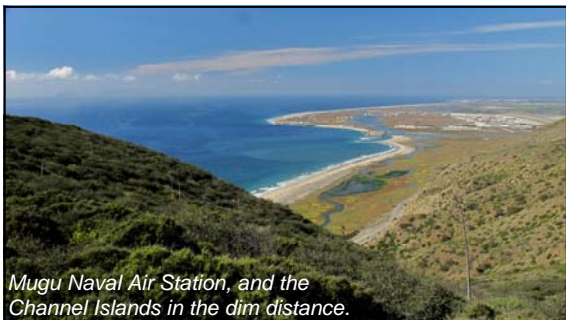


La Jolla Valley, and Boney Ridge in the distance.

area that followed the ocean. I was thinking how beautiful it was to have the view of the Pacific as you're walking this trail. It dropped down into a meadow-like area for a mile where we stopped for lunch. After lunch, the trail resumed up into the hills with that spectacular view of the ocean. There was no need for concern about the time because by 3pm, it was all downhill. We did a number of switchbacks and finally ended back at the parking lot. I was soooo looking forward to a hot bath, Motrin and a glass of wine.

I also have to add that I had numerous wonderful chats with the other hikers. Everyone I talked to had great things to say about the GLS and the past activities and also threw in some tidbits about their own outdoor adventures. Hiking, or any outdoor activity for that matter, I think naturally leads us to conversation and interaction because of shared past experiences or even the current experience (like, 'Ow, my knees are hurting. How are yours?').

I'm looking forward to the Xmas party to reconnect with my new found friends and to meet new ones. Yes, I definitely had a positive first impression.



Mugu Naval Air Station, and the Channel Islands in the dim distance.

# Outings & Events

## January

**January 7, Saturday**

**O: Laguna Coast Wilderness Cardio Hike  
Nina's Provisional!**

**Nina Burokas, Jeff Johnson**

Join us for a moderately-paced but strenuous (calf/quad-burning in sections) hike through the southern section of this 7,000 acre coastal canyon. Our route: Laguna Bowl Road to Boomer Ridge Road across Old Emerald Trail to the ocean end of Emerald Canyon Road and back. 8.5 mi, 1,000' gain. Meet 9 AM at the Laguna Bowl Trailhead (660 Laguna Cyn Road, next to tennis courts). Parking: free + meter, one option is in the Public Parking area off-street on the south side of Laguna Canyon Road. From 405: exit CA-133S toward Laguna Beach, 8.5 miles to trailhead. From 73: 2.9 mi S of El Toro Rd. From PCH: 1/2 mi N on Broadway/133/ Laguna Cyn Rd. Bring sturdy shoes/boots, water (2 qts+), snacks and \$ for optional apres-hike lunch and/or wine-tasting at Laguna Culinary Institute. Rain cancels. Recent rains may alter route. Long Beach carpool? Contact Jeff, 562-434-8473. Questions? Email Nina at nina.burokas@gmail.com or call Nina at 949-226-4316.

**January 14, Saturday**

**O: Skirball Cultural Center  
Nancy Beverly, Anna Baum**

Join us at the Skirball for their groundbreaking exhibit *Women Hold Up Half the Sky*. It features photographs, visual arts, sound installations and interactive opportunities as it addresses the

oppression of women worldwide. This is a joint outing between GLS and WCLA (Women's Center of Los Angeles), and we'll all meet at 12 noon at the Admission Desk in the main lobby, buy our tickets, tour the exhibit, then at 2:30 hear a representative from the humanitarian organization Peace Over Violence give a first-hand account of what the group is doing to improve conditions for women. Tickets are \$10, which covers the lecture as well; if you have time, join us in the café afterwards to chat. Parking is free. The Skirball is located at 2701 N. Sepulveda, Los Angeles, CA 90049, located in the Sepulveda Pass, 2.5 miles south of the 101 Freeway. Traveling north or south on the 405, take the Skirball Center / Mulholland Drive exit. Turn into the main driveway (Skirball Center Drive), bear right to follow the curve, pass the Skirball's main entrance on your left, and drive underground to the garage (North Lot). Here's the link with a map and even more details: <<http://www.skirball.org/general-info/directions-and-parking>>. Questions? Contact Nancy at 818-681-5192.

**January 22, Sunday**

**O: Las Virgenes Cyn Figure-8 Loops Hike  
Dora Olea, Grace Hengst**

The canyon is an Open Space Preserve area as an unspoiled landscape in the Simi Hills that straddles the Los Angeles-Ventura county line. The canyon was the domain of the Native American Chumash people, later it was used as filming high-profile movies including *Gone with the Wind*, *Duel in the Sun*, *They Died With Their Boots On*, as well as dozen of TV shows and commercials. In 2004, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy made the

land an open space preserve, open to the public, and protecting several endangered or sensitive species of plant and animals such as the red-legged frog. The bucolic pastoral open space contains nine miles of seasonal streams that form the headwaters of Malibu Creek. Chaparral-dotted hills encompass live oak, cottonwoods, sycamores and walnut trees. The area is an important wildlife corridor connecting the Santa Susana Mountains with the Santa Monica Mountains. We will follow a creek bed through a gorgeous oak woodland, then gently winds through rolling grasslands with distant views. En route, the trail crosses a saddle and drops into a lush, forested canyon. The trail then connects with the adjacent loop to the eastern canyon encircled by Laskey Mesa and a broad plateau. A moderate pace hike with approx. 7 miles round trip. 400 ft. elev. gain/loss. K-9 welcome. Wear layers, bring water, lug soles, sunscreen, and a potluck-lunch item to share. Meet 9 am along the curb. From Ventura Freeway/highway 101 in Calabasas, exit on Las Virgenes Rd. Drive 1.5 miles north to the posted trailhead at the end of the road. Park along the curb. Heavy rain cancels. Questions at Grace Hengst (323)697-6886, or Dora doraolea@yahoo.com

**January 29, Sunday**

**O: Zuma Loop Trail  
Alan Schimpff, Tom Molloy**

This a great strenuous work out rewarded by beautiful scenery. The trail includes two major ascents, a descent into Zuma Canyon crossing a stream and a transverse along a ridge with beautiful ocean views. Round-trip: 11 miles, 2800 elevation gain and loss. Bring at least 2 quarts of water and the 10

*(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, 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) If driving north on I-5, 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 Riverside Drive, which becomes 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) Driving on Fwy 134 going west, exit at I-5 south toward Los Angeles. Exit I-5 at Los Feliz Blvd West toward Hollywood. Proceed to Signal light and turn right at Riverside Drive. Proceed as in (2) and (1) above to Ranger Station

parking lot.

(4) 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

## Outings and Events

essentials. Meet at 9:30 AM at the trailhead. If taking the 101 west, turn left on Kanan Road and head over the mountain until PCH. On PCH, head North West for about ½ mile (or two stoplights) until you reach Busch road. Turn right on Busch and follow it to the end of the road which is the trailhead, park there. If taking PCH West, pass Kanan Road until you come to Busch Road about ½ mile (or two stoplights) later. Turn right on Busch and follow it to the end of the road which is the trailhead, park there. Questions? Call leaders at 310-589-9125.

## February

### February 4, Saturday

#### O: Bedford Peak

#### Jeff Johnson, Kirk Olsen

Bedford Peak is in the central Santa Ana Mountains, 3800 ft. elevation. Our moderately-paced hike will be 7 mi. RT, 2000 foot gain and loss, on old fire road now closed to traffic. From the ridges, views northern to the San Gabriel, San Bernardino, and San Jacinto mountain ranges, under winter snow. Our route is low enough that it is rarely snowy. Possible stream crossing to reach the trailhead. Meet 9 AM at the end of Silverado Canyon Road, at the locked gate. If the gate is open, you can drive 200 yards further, cross the stream, to the trailhead on the left. Bring water, lunch, layers for weather possibilities, trail footwear, water shoes might be good if we do ford the stream on foot. You must contact Jeff before the outing -- weather conditions may lead to last minute road closures and diverting the hike to an alternate trailhead. Carpooling possible from Long Beach rideshare. Questions? Call Jeff, 562-434-8473.

### February 12, Sunday

#### O: Griffith Park, Mt Lee

#### Grace Hengst, Dora Olea

This 6-8 mile, about 1300' gain/loss hike by day is a variation from our usual Wed Night Hikes. We'll take trails, fire roads, and paved roads to the top of Mt Lee above the Hollywood sign. There are gorgeous views of the surrounding cities, mountains, valleys, ocean, and Lake Hollywood. If the trail is clear, we'll hike from there to Cahuenga Peak, our planned lunch spot. There should be late winter flowers in bloom, lots of birds and other creatures that we don't usually get to see on our night hikes. Bring a potluck item to share and 2 liters of water. Wear lug soles or other shoes with a good grip, suitable clothing, and bring a hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen. Dogs welcome. Heavy rains may cancel. Meet at 9 am at the Crystal Springs Griffith Park HQ/Visitors Center, 4730 Crystal Springs Drive, LA, at the picnic tables by the flagpole near the vending machines. Call leaders with questions: Grace at 323-697-6886, Dora at 213-200-0239.

### Feb 17 - Feb 20, Fri - Mon

#### O: Anza Borrego State Park

#### Barbara Edwards, Grace Hengst, Judy Demarah

Come celebrate Presidents Day with 3 nights of camping in the beautiful desert. Anza-Borrego Desert State Park is the largest state park in California. The park features washes, wildflowers, palm groves, cacti and sweeping vistas. We may have the chance to see roadrunners, golden eagles, kit foxes, mule deer and bighorn sheep as well as iguanas, chuckwallas and the red diamond rattlesnake. Average temps are low 70s daytime and night mid 40s. Activities will include plenty of nature walks and hiking. Hot showers available. Well-behaved dogs permitted in

campground but not on trails. Cost is \$48 per person for 3 nights of camping and all parking fees. We have 2 group sites. Some RV sites available. Please send check and email address to: Barbara Edwards, 1739 S. Sherbourne Dr., L.A. 90035. Questions? Email Barb at greyhound@sbcglobal.net.

### February 19, Sunday

#### O: Snowshoe hike, Mt. San Jacinto

#### Kirk Olsen, Dora Olea

Join us for a leisurely snowshoe hike on groomed trails near the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway Mountain Station (elevation 8,516 ft.). Meet at the Valley Station at 10:30 am with snowshoes in hand - they can be rented at any good sports shop if you do not own them. Please allow time to park and ride the bus. We will purchase our tickets and ride up together. Once situated we will hike for approximately 3 hours and then eat a warm meal at the Mountain Station cafeteria. Distance and elevation gain will depend on our speed - approx. 3 miles and 500 ft. Ticket, weather and cafeteria information available at [www.pstramway.com](http://www.pstramway.com). *Note:* We have learned though experience that renting snowshoes at the top is not a viable option. Dress appropriately and bring water, snacks, snowshoes and money for the tram & cafeteria. RSVP to Dora (213) 200-0239 or [doraolea@yahoo.com](mailto:doraolea@yahoo.com) so we know to expect you.

### February 25, Saturday

#### O: Loop de Doo Hike

#### Susan Campo, Diane Zaepfel

This is not your typical hike in Griffith Park. Everyone who attends will see something new on this hike even if you have already hiked in Griffith Park for many years! It will be a moderate paced hike, 10 miles R.T. We will walk 3 mi. of flat trail, plus 7 mi. of varied levels of up and down which will connect to three



## Holiday Party

(Continued from page 2)

\* Teddy was named the 2011 GLS mascot, recognizing also the part played by his faithful driver Sherry Thomas.

\* Mike and Jeff C. were given Good Buddies Awards, recognizing how important it is to hike with a buddy, and how glad we are that they did that.

\* Dora received the Fill 'Er Up Award, having led more hikes than anyone in the last year, including many hikes that were new to GLS.

\* Also, Nancy, stepping down as chair of GLS, received in appreciation a replacement chair that she can sit in whenever she goes camping.

As ever, people brought many good things to eat and some unexpected things to buy at the silent auction.

Toward the end, Nancy showed a trailer she had brought for a new documentary film, *Love Thy Nature*, by Sylvie Rokab, about people's connection to nature, and awakening that connection.

Thank you Mary and Grace!



Checking out the silent auction items.

## Outings and Events

historic sets of stairs in Hollywoodland . How many times will we see the Hollywood sign from different angles? We will climb the highest point in the park (Cahuenga Peak, 1820 ft.). Great views! Have you ever signed the official register at the Wonder View tree? You should bring lunch, water, lug soles and hiking poles if you use them. You should not be intimidated by steep up hill or steep downhill sections. Meet at 9 AM. Send leader e-mail by Friday prior if planning to attend. Directions: . Turn off of Barham Blvd onto Lake Hollywood Blvd. There is a light at that intersection. Drive up-hill and over to Lake Hollywood and continue along the fenced lake to meeting place at the intersection with Tahoe Blvd. Park in beginning of residential area. Questions? Call Susan at 626-688-8642.

## Future Outings

**March 3, Saturday**

**O: Placerita Canyon**

**Dora Olea, Grace Hengst, Judy Demarah**

Come and help us celebrate the March/April 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 I-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 free parking. Meet at the Nature Center. Questions? doraolea@yahoo.com.

**March 17, Saturday**

**O: Inspiration Pt., St. Patrick's Day Hike**

**Dora Olea, Grace Hengst**

More info in upcoming Tracks.

**March 25, Sunday**

**O: O'Melveny Park**

**Dora Olea, Jeff Johnson**

The second-largest park in L.A. County yielding 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 a potluck-lunch item to share. 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.

**April 15, Sunday**

**O: Mt. Lukens**

**Grace Hengst, Dora Olea**

More info in upcoming Tracks.

**Jul 29 - Aug 3, Sun - Fri**

**O: Sierra Mule Pack Trip**

**Susan Campo, TBA**

Mule drop on McGee Creek out of McGee Creek pack station. 5 hrs drive from LA. We can have a fire, and do lots of day hikes etc. OK for beginners. More info in upcoming Tracks.

**Aug 10 - Aug 15, Fri - Wed**

**O: Sierra Mule Pack Trip**

**Susan Campo, TBA**

Dunnage drop over Piute Pass out of North Lake (Bishop area). No fires allowed, but lots of side hikes to Humphrey Basin. Desolation Lake and much more from our base camp. More info in upcoming Tracks.

**Aug 18 - Aug 19, Sat - Sun**

**O: . Baldy Loop and Ice House Cyn. local hikes (with optional Harwood Lodge)**

**Dora Olea, Susan Campo**

Stop thinking that it is too hard! Yes, you can hike up Mt. Baldy!! On Sunday we will hike Baldy at a moderate pace. 8.5 mi. rt., 3900' gain/lost. You can attend either hike or both that week-end and stay in the area at Sierra Club's economical Harwood Lodge on Saturday night for standard overnight fee (\$12/\$15), payable at the lodge. Hot shower, kitchen, and bunk beds are available. You MUST bring your own food to cook and a sleeping bag for the dorm. Weekend Hikes: (1) Sat. at 10 am meet at Ice House Canyon trailhead, just off the Mt. Baldy road . USFS parking pass required. We will do a moderate hike, only 6.5 miles loop on the Icehouse/Chapman trails, 2500 ft. gain. Then depart or follow us to the Lodge. (2) Sun.



*Anne Mullins on her provisional hike to Echo Mountain on December 3.*

meet 8 am at Manker Flats to hike Mt. Baldy. USFS parking pass required. Bathrooms are at the trailhead. 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 road under the ski lift. Optional descent from Baldy Notch uses the ski lift (\$10). Bring 10 essentials, 3 qts water (more if it's hot out), lunch, snacks, lugsoles, sunscreen, hiking poles. 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 2mi. turning left at Icehouse Cyn. (or right if you are meeting us on Sat.) If you are meeting us at Harwood Lodge, it shares a driveway with Zen Center across from Snow Crest. Or for Sunday's Baldy hike, keep driving 2 mi. to Manker Flat trailhead on your left-hand-side. Questions to Dora, doraolea@yahoo.com.

**Aug 30 - Sep 3, Thu - Mon**

**O: Rock Creek**

**Barbara Edwards, Judith Demarah**

Rock Creek, Palisades Group site, elev 8500 ft. Carcamp, south of Mammoth. More info in upcoming Tracks.

**Oct 5 - Oct 7, Fri - Sun**

**O: GLS 25th Anniversary at Harwood Marie Ammerman, TBA**

In 2012, GLS celebrates its 25th anniversary in many ways, one of which will be a fabulous weekend party at the Sierra Club's Harwood Lodge, near Mt. Baldy, on the weekend of October 5-7. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details. To volunteer to help with this event, please contact Marie Ammerman at ammermanm@yahoo.com or 818-842-6401. **SAVE THE DATE!**

# January and February 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>JAN 1</b>	<b>2</b> <i>end Grand Canyon outing</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Griffith Park Nancy, Anne	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Laguna Coast Wilderness Cardio Nina, Jeff J. <i>Nina's provisional</i>
<b>8</b> <small>full moon</small> 	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Griffith Park Amanda, Marie	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Skirball Cultural Center Nancy, Anna
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Griffith Park Dora, Grace	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Las Virgenes Canyon Dora, Grace	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Griffith Park Eva, Nancy	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Zuma Loop Trail Alan, Tom	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 2	<b>FEB 1</b> Griffith Park Marie, Anne	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Bedford Peak Jeff J., Kirk
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <small>full moon</small> 	<b>8</b> Griffith Park Amanda, Dora	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Griffith Park, Mt. Lee Grace, Dora	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Griffith Park Eva, Grace	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Anza Borrego Barb, Grace, Jude <i>through Monday</i>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Snowshoe, Mt. San Jacinto Kirk, Dora	<b>20</b> <i>end Anza Borrego</i>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Griffith Park Dora, Anne	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Loop de Doo, Griffith Park Susan, Diane
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Griffith Park Marie, Grace	<b>MAR 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Placerita Canyon Dora, Grace

# 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	dawnxwilson@gmail.com
Diane Ru	626-688-8642	zappydz@excite.com
Dora Olea	818-765-7297	doraolea@yahoo.com
Eva Eilenberg	323-803-0457	eesierraclub@gmail.com
Grace Hengst	323-697-6886	gracehikes@roadrunner.com
Heather Sargeant	909-336-2836	heathercsoo@aol.com
Jeff Bates	310-452-4929	jbatesla@aol.com
Jeff Cuevas	626-644-9879	cuevas777999@yahoo.com
Jeff Johnson	562-434-8473	jgj@cheerful.com
Judith Demarah	818-451-8403	
Karen Lovett	562-438-3418	klovett2000@hotmail.com
Kirk Olsen	562-434-8675	kso@kirkolsen.com
Laura Rainey	562-438-3418	geowmn@verizon.net

Marie Ammerman	818-842-6401	ammermanm@yahoo.com
Mike Brostoff	818 399-4035	mbros4162@yahoo.com
Nancy Beverly	818-379-9940	nancybeverly@sbcglobal.net
Robin Ridinger	310-293-2446	rridinger@gmail.com
S. K. Chiou	714-554-9513	skchiou@yahoo.com
Susan Campo	626-688-8642	susanlucillecampo@yahoo.com
Teresa Nick	612-384-0421	nickx002@tc.umn.edu
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 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/>, 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/pvsvb/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