

TRACKS



July/August 2012

Volume 25, No. 4

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

Mt. Baden-Powell from Dawson Saddle

By Marie Ammerman, photos Magnus Monroe

The weather on June 23 was awesome, the group was ready for adventure, and the trail did not disappoint. Twelve intrepid hikers took off from Dawson Saddle at 9 a.m., headed for Mt. Baden-Powell's 9,399 foot summit. We had a slight hitch near the beginning, trying to figure out where to go

after leaving the use trail we took up from the road, but with 6 leaders working on it, it was soon sorted out. Thanks to all! The number of leaders who came on that hike nearly outnumbered the "civilian" participants! It was certainly an experienced and safe group.

We made the junction with the PCT in very good time and had a bit of a rest there. The trail was surprisingly well-populated with runners, most likely preparing for the Angeles Crest 100, a 100-mile race held up there every year, and which is fast approaching. There were other hiking groups in evidence, too, but we still had long stretches of trail to ourselves. Well, there were a couple of surprises in store!

Our first surprise appeared on the north side of Mt. Burnham. As I led the group down a short slope, a hiker appeared coming from the opposite direction. No, those are not flesh-colored long johns he's wearing, I decided quickly. As if used to

seeing sky-clad hikers every day, I told the group that another hiker was approaching. He, in turn, used a towel he was carrying to shield a part of himself from sight, and we passed without incident. But we all agreed it was a first for each of us.

At the turn up to the summit, we

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Outdoors with GLS

By Alan Schimpff

As I'm writing this, I am on the road to pick up wilderness permits with my two backpacking buddies, Anne and Dave. We're off on a 5 day backpack to Dusy Basin. Last year, at around the same time of year, we did a week-long backpack to Miter Basin and Rock Creek.

Being out in nature, in the wilderness,
(Continued on page 3)

GLS, Starting at the Flagpole

By Eric Sas, as told to Jeff Johnson

My first contact with GLS was when I picked up some GLS literature at a pride festival. It went into a bag with a bunch of other pride stuff that went in a closet and was forgotten for a couple years. One day I was going through my closet and found the pamphlet and read about the Wednesday night hike, which sounded interesting. It said to meet by the flagpole at the ranger station in Griffith Park, so I drove by on a Wednesday but no one was there. And on following Wednesdays no one was ever there. Then one time I happened to turn my head when I was going by and noticed a second flagpole. Was that the flagpole? It turned out it was.

That was my first GLS hike, when I

(Continued on page 3)

GLS in the Desert

By Beth Epstein

When the California Desert Protection Act was under consideration in the early 90s, the GLS was one of the Sierra Club Sections that led outings to areas which were proposed for inclusion or study. We adopted the Cady Mountains Wilderness Study area as our own but led trips to many different sites. Members of the GLS got to be quite expert at open desert camping and dirt road driving during these outings. I was interested in the Rodman Mountains south of Newberry Springs, which I'd often seen looking south from the Cady Mountains. The Rodmans had a petroglyph site called Surprise Tank which was known and mapped, and an area of botanical interest with ancient creosote rings and yucca rings smack dab in the middle of an OHV

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GLS Management Committee Meeting, June 22

The meeting took place June 22. Grace, Sharon, SK and myself were in attendance.

Marie Ammerman joined during the discussion of the Harwood Lodge anniversary weekend. We discussed preparations for the event, costs and basic menu.

The board also discussed the details of the production costs and timeline for the anniversary T-shirt. We determined that there is still a need to stimulate membership for the group, and that we should create a flier/handout that leaders can offer to new participants at each hike.

The treasury report is positive—the club has \$15,000 in account. We determined that the GLS section will donate \$2,000 to the Angeles Chapter at this time.

Next meeting to be held July 17.
Sincerely, Amanda Smith

GLS 25th Anniversary Logo Design Contest

The GLS board is happy to announce that Ginger Baker is the winner of the GLS 25th anniversary logo design contest. Congratulations and sincere thanks to Ginger for her lovely design. In addition to our abundant appre-

ciation, Ginger will receive the \$100 prize money! Ginger is putting the finishing touches on the logo, which will include the text "GLS 25 Years 1987-2012 Sierra Club Angeles Chapter" and then we'll start printing T-shirts!



25th Anniversary T-Shirts Pre-Order Yours Now!

The final GLS 25th Anniversary logo will be printed on heather gray t-shirts, like the one shown in the photo. T-shirts will be \$15 each, available in unisex sizes Small/Medium/Large/X-Large. To pre-order your shirt, please make a check payable to GLS, and mail to Amanda Smith, 831 Kodak Drive, Apt. 1/2, Los Angeles, CA 90026. Please be sure to include the size of T-shirt you are requesting, along with your phone number and/or email address in case we have any questions.

If you intend to buy

a shirt but can't send a check at this time, please email your size preference as soon as possible so that we can get an idea of quantity and sizes to order. Email your preferred t-shirt size to Amanda at queenpin@earthlink.net. T-shirts will be available for pick-up or purchase at the Harwood anniversary event in October, or via board members. If you need the T-shirt shipped to you out-of-town, please send an email with the details first and we'll estimate shipping costs before you write a check.

GLS
Anniversary
Party
Weekend

Harwood
Lodge
October
5 - 7

More
information
on page 9

<h3 style="margin: 0;">Information about GLS</h3> <p>General questions about GLS, call Grace at 323-697-6886 or Mike at 818 399-4035.</p> <p>Questions about a specific event, please call the leaders listed in the schedule. Contact info is inside the back page.</p> <p>Sign up for the FREE GLS email list, with a weekly email digest of GLS events, go to: <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/news/MailingLists.asp>. Your email address remains confidential and is not displayed to others.</p>		<h3 style="margin: 0;">Next GLS Management Comm. Meeting</h3> <p>The next GLS management committee meeting is scheduled for July 17.</p> <p>GLS management committee meetings are (usually) held about every two months, on weeknight evenings, by conference call. All GLS subscribers are welcome.</p> <p>You may call one of the committee members to confirm meeting time, how to call in, or ask about the agenda, or for other information.</p>	
<h4 style="margin: 0;">GLS Mission</h4> <p>The Gay & Lesbian Sierrans Section of the Angeles Chapter fosters the purposes of the Sierra Club by making available a wide range of events for gays, lesbians, and their friends. These activities include conservation, education, hikes, bike rides, beach walks, car camps, boat trips, social gatherings and fundraising.</p>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">GLS Newsletter</h4> <p>The GLS newsletter, TRACKS, is published six times a year. Annual subscriptions are \$15 for issues sent by US mail, \$10 for issues sent in PDF format by email, \$25 for both. Three year subscriptions are, respectively, \$35, \$20, and \$55. Send subscription requests and related membership correspondence to: GLS, P.O. Box 1300, South Pasadena CA, 91031-1300.</p>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">Mgmt. Committee</h4> <p>Grace Hengst, Chair Sharon Hartley, Co-Chair SK Chiou, Treasurer Amanda Smith, Secretary Brad Keistler, At-Large</p>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">Other GLS Volunteers</h4> <p>Membership, Jeff Cuevas Conservation, Tom Molloy Webmaster, Alan Schimpff TRACKS Editor, Jeff Johnson</p> <hr style="border: 0.5px dashed black;"/> <p>Our outing volunteers are listed on page 11.</p>

Outdoors with GLS - Alan

(Continued from the front page)

is something that I plan for as much as I can and always look forward to. It is what brings adventure to my life.

This is why GLS has become an important part of my life. I have been aware and have been a member of the Sierra Club way before I became part of GLS. But GLS has made the Sierra Club a

more personal experience for me. My partner Tom and I both lead GLS hikes in the Santa Monica Mountains. GLS provides the adventure in nature with my honey and good friends.

GLS, at the Flagpole - Eric

(Continued from the front page)

first met Grace and Will and Rick, maybe in 1997. I became a regular and, because there were not many leaders leading the Wednesday night hikes then, I soon became a leader too.

The most popular hike I led was at Malibu Creek State Park, with Teresa. It was all more rigorous in GLS back then, but there were people who didn't want to do hard hikes. So when we offered an easy

hike, just 3 miles and maybe 500 feet gain, more than 40 people showed up.

Some of the bigger outings I did that have been repeated over the years were the White Mountain outing near the bristlecone pines, and at Table Mountain for the July 4th weekend. The first time at Table Mountain, a number of GLS people camping at Rock Creek came down to join us for dinner on the fourth. There were many of the familiar hikes in the area that year, and fishing with Jude. I also did some

carcamps at Joshua Tree.

When GLS needed a new newsletter editor at one point I volunteered to do that and did it for about five years. I was on the board part of that time, and was the chair for two years. When I was doing Tracks, I updated the newsletter format and got Pagemaker, which was much easier to work with than Word. We also raised the subscription price during that time so that Tracks would not lose money. We had about 350 subscribers then.

GLS in the Desert - Beth

(Continued from the front page)

area. Bob Marshall and I led a trip there in January of 1993 cosponsored by the California and Nevada Desert Committee.

We had 15 participants, including current GLS stalwarts Barbara Edwards and Laura Rainey, and corralled a BLM archaeologist into giving us a tour of the petroglyphs on a Saturday hike, and GLS botanist Edith Read was always able to tell us about the flora. We had a potluck I don't remember much about. But I do remember waking up on a cold Sunday morning with the desert covered with snow. The photo shows Shawn Keehne, Laura Rainey and Janis Bowbeer preparing a snowball ambush

for the sleeping occupants of the truck.

It was never a real desert trip without at least one flat tire on the way out. I think it was Laura's.

One day late in 1994, I glanced at a newsstand on the way to work, and burst into tears at the L.A. Times banner headline announcing the passage of the Desert Protection Act. A lot of us had worked hard and played hard to help that bill pass, and my GLS friends will



always be part of my memories of that effort and those beautiful desert places.

This year we celebrate 25 years...

...since the 1987 hike in Ventura County that has been considered the first organized Los Angeles GLS

outing. In the next few issues of Tracks, we would love to publish your memories and stories of GLS that tell what

GLS has meant to you, recently and in earlier years — your first GLS outings, people you met, places you went, things you did with GLS that you might not have

done otherwise. Please send your stories (or your questions) to Tracks editor Jeff Johnson at jjg@cheerful.com. Pictures would be great too.



GLS at Long Beach Pride, 2012

GLS was at the Long Beach Pride festival again this year, thanks to our great volunteers.

Festival goers stopped by our table Saturday and Sunday to ask what GLS is all about, to pick up flyers, and to sign up for a free issue of Tracks—this year, we got 10 pages of email addresses for sample copies.

Thanks again to our Saturday volunteers SK, Tim, Sharon, Tedd,

Mary, Laura, and Karen, and our Sunday volunteers Jeff C., Mike, Dora, Margot, and (again) Karen.





GLS hikers and their dogs at the viewing tubes at Inspiration Point. Photo from Kirk Olsen.

Inspiration, Perspiration & Desperation

The 4.5 mile climb up to Inspiration Point by way of the Castle Canyon Trail promised to be warm on June 16. And it was, but everyone made it to the destination to enjoy the grand view over Los Angeles. Even the dogs made it, though some

of them had to be carried partway. At the famous Inspiration Point viewing tubes, a hiker from another group lined everyone up for photos.

Everyone had water for the climb, but coming down what had seemed like enough at the start turned out to be less than expected. Fortunately the group met some backpackers who were filtering water at a stream crossing and were willing to share. The overheated dogs

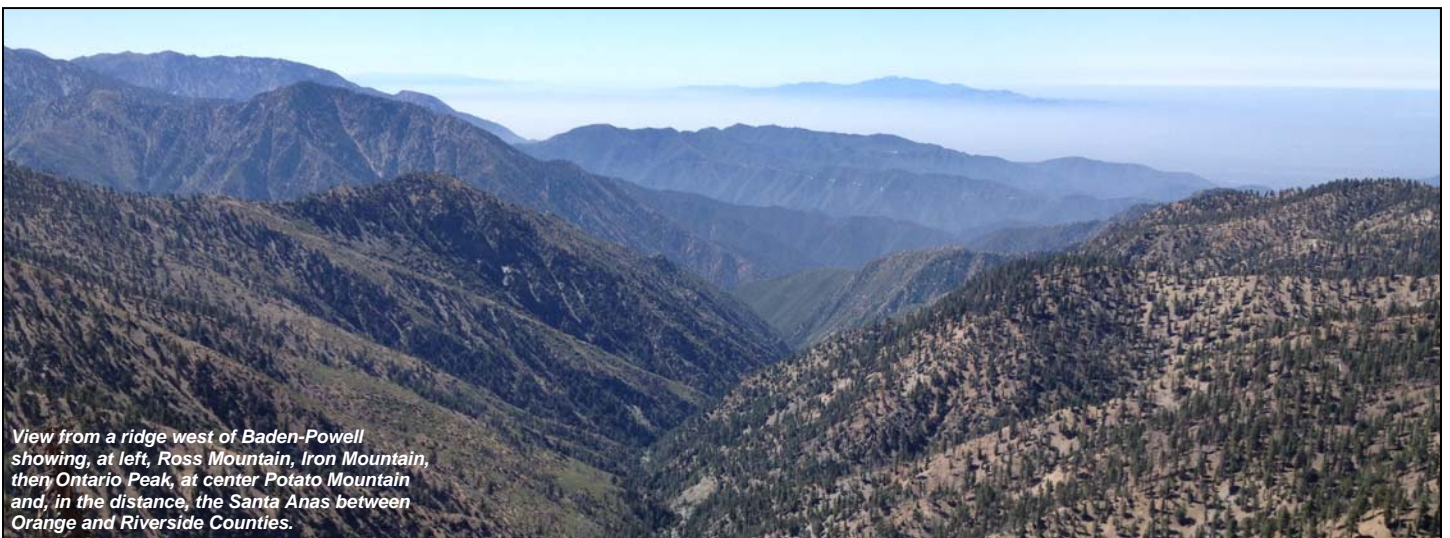
enjoyed the water even more by jumping right in.

The biggest excitement of the day came when the group was most of the way back down to Lake Ave, in sight of houses in Altadena. A helicopter suddenly flew in below the group, was seen dropping off a stretcher, and then flew away. It turned out a hiker had had an accident on a steep switchback section of the trail. Fire and rescue people who hiked in to help had decided that the hiker

couldn't be walked out. Once the hiker was prepared on the stretcher, the helicopter returned, raised the stretcher from the trail and flew off, as GLS hikers stood watching the helicopter at eye level. A reminder why we are now encouraged to bring cellphones on hikes – if there is reception when a hiker gets in trouble, a phone call can save a lot of time and trouble. And don't forget an emergency phone number on the sign-in sheet.



Evacuating an injured hiker. Photo Nancy Beverly.



View from a ridge west of Baden-Powell showing, at left, Ross Mountain, Iron Mountain, then Ontario Peak, at center Potato Mountain and, in the distance, the Santa Anas between Orange and Riverside Counties.

Baden-Powell from Dawson

(Continued from the front page)

stopped for a rest by the Wally Waldron tree, dedicated to Michael "Wally" Waldron for his services to Boy Scouting. It offered some nice shade and was a good marker for the junction. The summit was covered with hikers of all shapes, sizes, and descriptions. We looked into the register box, looked a bit at the Boy Scout monument to Mr. Baden Powell, then hiked

along a little further to sit by the trail with our lunches and enjoy the wide-angle views of Mt. Baldy and other peaks and canyons.

The hike down was lovely—largely because it was mostly all down! There were some uphill sections, though. After all, what goes up must come down. But who could complain? There was a refreshing breeze, beautiful scenery, and good company.

Our second surprise showed up near the end of our hike. Those of us in front were

interested and startled to realize that the hikers in front of us were nuns—in full habit, no less. In spite of their long black veils and brown wool robes, they seemed unfazed by the warm sun and kept just ahead of us as we reached the parking lot, chatting merrily as they went. Nice to see them, and everyone—boy scouts, grownups, and naked hikers, all enjoying a day in the high country, in harmony with each other and the planet.

Pismo Beach

By Marie Ammerman, photos Denise Hunt

Once again GLS converged upon the Oceano Campground to soak up the beach scene around Pismo Beach. We hadn't been there in a while, so it was a novelty for some of the newer folks to see cars and trucks driving up and down the beach. It was also a bit of a hazard if you weren't watchful. I can tell you it makes flying a kite on the beach a bit of an adventure!

The weather was clear, but hot on Thursday, cold and windy on Friday, and then it was just about right. Some folks walked the two miles along the beach from the campground to the town of Pismo and explored there; others lounged around the campground in the sun, playing Rummy Tile; some walked around the lagoon that borders the campground. Dogs had a fine time on walks along the beach, too, and enjoyed the evening campfires.

Friday night the whole group went to Me and Z's Mexican Restaurant in the nearby town of Grover Beach. They treated us royally, with a long table in the party room, good food, and excellent service. Anyone who serves me ice cream without my having to ask is getting a thumbs up in my book!

The following day a group of intrepid souls braved the dangerous walk to the Point San Luis Lighthouse. We were shepherded over land owned by Pacific Gas and Electric by trail docents along the

Pecho Coast Trail. Our docents were incredibly well-informed about the history of the area and overflowed with plant and geology information, too. The waiver we had to sign beforehand had us all envisioning edging along cliffsides, holding our breath so we'd be thin enough to stay on the path, and trying desperately not to brush up against forests of poison oak. Well, not a bit of it! The poison oak was there, but easily avoided, and the paths, though close to the steep drops down the hillside, are fairly wide and well-maintained. It was a hot, dry hike, however, and we felt the sea breeze with gratitude once we reached the lighthouse. The lighthouse itself was fascinating. We had a talk and tour with a volunteer from a group called The Lighthouse Keepers, who restore and maintain old lighthouses. We looked at the old light that had been in the tower; saw the new one, very tiny, being turned electronically on top of a roof; toured the beautiful old Victorian house that the lighthouse keeper had lived in with his family, and some of us even climbed up into the old lighthouse tower and had a good look around. The Lighthouse Keepers have begun to give trolley rides up to the lighthouse on Saturdays for folks who can't hike, so everyone can enjoy this wonderful place.

Later that night we had our usual



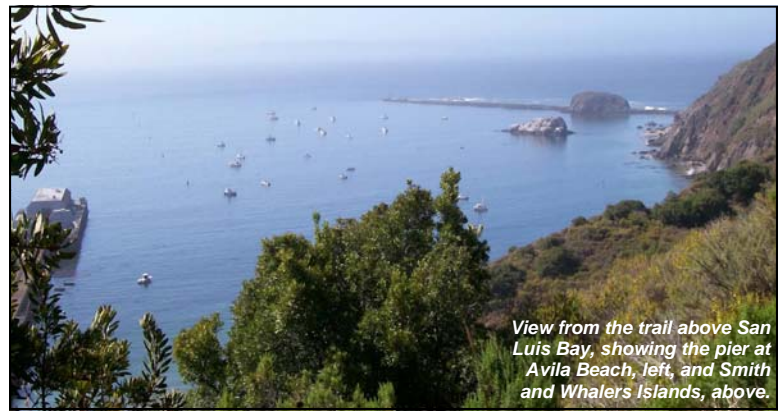
Point San Luis Lighthouse

fabulous potluck dinner. There were salads, salmon, vegetarian dishes, sausages, ribs, and desserts. It was announced that Ginger Baker had won the contest for designing the logo for the 25th Anniversary of GLS—way to go, Ginger! The logo will come out soon for all of you who want to see it. We also celebrated the birthday of our lovely Mary A. with a birthday cake and song. Wishing you many more beautiful birthdays!

Sunday morning was packing up time. Leisurely goodbyes were said, and there was, as always, talk of next time. Thanks for another great trip, Barb! And special thanks to her co-leaders, Grace and Jude, who helped make it an event to remember.



On the trail to the lighthouse with the docent.



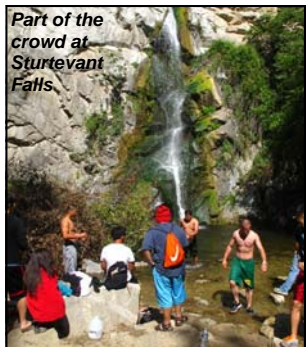
View from the trail above San Luis Bay, showing the pier at Avila Beach, left, and Smith and Whalers Islands, above.

Chantry Flat

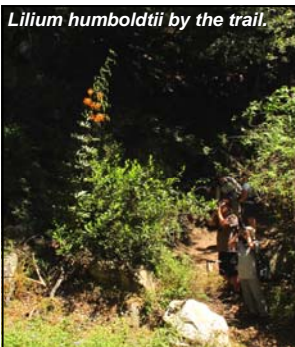
On June 2, GLS hikers started at Chantry Flat, looped past Sturtevant Falls, up to Mt. Zion.



Calochortus plummerae by the trail.



Part of the crowd at Sturtevant Falls.



Lilium humboldtii by the trail.



In the shady woods, with slightly annoying flying bugs.

Conservation Notes

By Tom Molloy

Urge the President to Create More National Monument Designations

Recently President Obama used his authority to protect Fort Ord in California as the nation's newest National Monument.

From 1902 to 1994, Fort Ord served as a unit garrison site and basic training base for Army soldiers who served in America's conflicts from the Spanish-American War to the Vietnam War. Fort Ord's public lands contain 86 miles of trails through some of the last remaining open space in the

Monterey Bay area. Fort Ord now joins the Grand Canyon, California's Big Sequoia forests, Mount St. Helens, and many other national treasures that have gained permanent protection as National Monuments by a sitting President. However, many special areas still lack permanent protection.

President Obama can act to defend these wild places by designating them as National Monuments to protect their many and diverse ecological and economic benefits. Other areas worthy of National Monument designations reach across the country, from Arizona's Grand Canyon Watershed, to Utah's Canyonlands, to New Mexico's Otero Mesa, to Alaska's Arctic

Wildlife Refuge.

Now is the time to act. President Obama has the opportunity to create a wild lands and a National Monument legacy as enduring as Teddy Roosevelt's. Please contact the President at:

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Urge the President to protect: Berryessa Snow Mountain in California, Greater Canyonlands in Utah, Organ Mountain Desert Peaks in New Mexico, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska.

Email the White House at:
<<http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/submit-questions-and-comments>>



Descending El Montanon toward Smugglers Cove, Anacapa Island in the distance



Trailhead talk after landing



Island fox looking for scraps by the tables. Photo Tedd Wenrick



Some leaping dolphins. Photo Tedd Wenrick

Santa Cruz Island

By Jeff Johnson

Mike Brostoff has run a GLS day trip to Santa Cruz Island for several years, making it a GLS tradition by now. Again this year, it was a great day out.

Each year during the boat ride we look for sea life, starting right at Ventura harbor. This year we saw whales on the way out, a mother and calf. The boat men were not sure what kind of whale.

After landing on the island at Scorpion Ranch and hearing the orientation talk from the National Park Service, we set off on various hikes, some easy and some hard. I went with the group that climbed El Montañon and then descended to Smugglers Cove. The surprise for me on that hike was that the hardest part was coming down a grassy slope. The ground under the grass was very lumpy, but the lumps were hidden so I was never sure where or if my steps would fall.

While we waited for the boat, we saw the famous island foxes snuffling around the picnic tables for lunch leftovers.

On the boat ride back to Ventura, we passed through hundreds of cavorting dolphins, tearing up the water on all sides.

Until next year!

Bronson Caves

GLS hikers visited Bronson Caves in Griffith Park on May 12, led by Dora and Nancy.



Photo Heather McNaught



Photo Heather McNaught

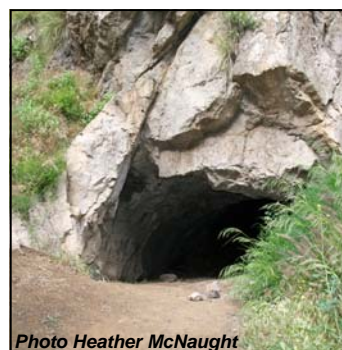


Photo Heather McNaught



Photo Nancy Beverly

Outings & Events

July

July 7, Saturday

O: Marathon Beach Bike Ride & Activities

Mike Brostoff, Anna Baum

A 45 mile round-trip bike ride along the coast from the Palisades to Palos Verdes. This trip is a series of beach activities strung together by biking. We will meet at 8:00 AM in the Palisades. We will bike for one mile and eat a leisurely breakfast at Back to the Beach, a restaurant with tables outside on the sand. We will then bike 20 miles through many beach communities until we reach Torrance where we will relax, lay out in the sun, swim, or whatever. Afterwards we will turn back and head to El Segundo where we will catch a 2:30 matinee at the Old Town Music Hall. The Old Town Music Hall is like walking into a movie theater from the 1930s. They have a Wurlitzer Organ complete with a wall full of neon pipes and other instruments. The movie is usually preceded by a sing-a-long and a Laurel and Hardy short. After the film, we will head to Venice for dinner at the C&O Trattoria. Following dinner, we will ride the Ferris Wheel on the Santa Monica pier in memory of Kathy Brizzard who suggested adding this event to the journey. We will complete our final leg of the journey returning to the Palisades with a magnificent view of the sunset over the Pacific. Bring: a bike; bike lock; spare tire and/or patch kit; bike pump; helmet; headlight; bathing suit and change of clothes if you plan to swim; beach towel; water (we can refill along the way); money

for breakfast (about \$12.00), movie (\$8.00), dinner (about \$15.00) and extra for snacks along the way; library books you want to return (we pass the Marina Del Rey Public Library). For more information and to reserve a spot, contact Mike Brostoff, 818 399-4035.

July 15, Sunday

O: GLS Splash Bash Potluck!

Host: Sherry Thomas

(hike leaders: Mike Brostoff, Jeff Johnson)

GLS member Sherry Thomas is hosting a pool party at her Thousand Oaks home. Please bring bathing suits, towel, flip flops and a dish to pass. There may be an easy-to-moderate 3-mile loop hike in Sherry's neighborhood. Two miles on pavement, one on dirt, sneakers with tread are fine or hiking boots if you need them. Dogs welcome at party, must be on leash for hike (coyotes are in the 'hood). 2:00PM - 8:00PM. Mark your calendar. Contact Sherry Thomas for more info. <DRSherryThomas@yahoo.com>, 818-766-9881.

July 25, Wednesday

O: Signal Hill Walk

Jeff Johnson, Kirk Olsen

3-4 miles, 500-750 feet gain/loss. Meet on Industry at Redondo, in Signal Hill, 7pm, we aim to be back at the cars by 8:30. Walking on pavement and gravel. Sensible walking shoes, water, layers for cool evening breezes. Rain cancels, drizzle goes. Questions? Call Jeff 562-434-8473

July 28, Saturday

O: Beachwood & Bronson Stair Walk

Nancy Beverly, Nina Burokas

Two!... Two!... Two mints in one! Okay, it's two walks in one. Part One is the Beachwood Canyon Stair Walk, at 2.6 miles, with 861 stair steps, which will take us about 90 minutes give or take. Then if you'd like still more climbing action and interesting architecture, stay for Part Two, the Bronson Canyon Stairs, 2.5 miles, 272 stair steps, and another 60 - 90 minutes. Meet at 8 a.m. off of Franklin in the Hollywood Hills at 2695 N. Beachwood Drive, the Beachwood Café (formerly the Village Coffee Shop). Give yourself some time to find parking and then join us at the café, which sits in the cluster of commercial buildings in this otherwise residential neighborhood. Bring a snack, walking shoes, a hat, sunscreen and two liters of water (it could be hot out). If you'd like coffee from the café or lunch afterwards, bring money for that as well. Dogs welcome but must be on a leash at all times (the stairs are steep and narrow, so make sure this is a good fit for your dog). For a preview of Part One (.pdf download) check out: <http://secretstairs-la.com/pdf/SECRET_STAIRS_WEBWALKS3.pdf>. Those who are interested in art and craft beer, join us at District 13 for a post-walk beer & bite: District 13, 1556 N. Cahuenga Blvd (Hollywood) <www.d13la.com/>. Questions? Nancy at 818-379-9940.

Jul 29 - Aug 3, Sun - Fri

O: McGee Creek, Sierra Mule Pack Trip
Susan Campo, Diane Zaepfel

If you want to be kind to your back, but would like to have a "backpacking type" experience in the Sierra Wilderness, this trip is perfect. It begins Sunday afternoon July 29 at 4:30 pm when we drop off our

(Continued next page)

Weekly Griffith Park Conditioning Hikes

What: Every Wednesday night, join us for a moderate (strenuous if you are out of shape) hike to Mt. Hollywood, 6 miles, 1145' gain/loss. This is a great mid-week workout. Lugged 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

camping gear at the pack station for McGee Creek, about 5 hours north of LA. We then proceed to McGee Creek Lodge to get our comfortable overnight accommodations at 7000 feet elevation. We enjoy each others company at a local eatery and have a restful night adjusting to altitude. Monday (not too early) we hike in to a site chosen for our group. You carry only your day pack. The mules take in the rest. We go about 5 miles, 1425 feet gain (easy pace). Our gear will be waiting so that we can make a cozy camp. During the week our camp stays put and you have the next few days to explore marvelous sights, short, easy or long, hard hikes are available. Also enjoy the mountain wildflowers, possible fishing or just relax by one of several nearby lakes. On Friday by noon we pack up our gear which will be carried out by the Packer while we stroll back to the cars. Total cost of \$285 includes the first night in a hotel and mule drop both in and back. What a deal! Limited number of participants preserves the wilderness experience. Therefore, email leader SOON with questions, and then send your check immediately to reserve. Questions? <susanlucillecampo@yahoo.com>



On Signal Hill, June 27

August 2012

Aug 9 - Aug 15, Thu - Wed

**O: Piute Pass, Sierra Mule Pack Trip
Susan Campo, Diane Zaepfel**

Experience the alpine mountain wilderness while not needing a “backpack”. We will have our camping gear dropped by mules over Piute Pass, in the Sierra Nevada near Bishop, CA (about 5 hours from LA). You hike in and out with only your day pack. The hike on trail to our base camp is 6 miles, 2078 ft. gain, “moderately hard” since the elevation at Piute Pass is 11423 ft. We will do a slow, steady pace to enjoy our first full day of hiking and arrive ready to make camp. From our base camp, the opportunity for other interesting hikes is almost unlimited. You can explore

Humphrey Basin, Desolation Lake, Golden Trout Lakes and others. Take in the “world class” scenery while you hike, fish, identify alpine flowers or just relax. The pack station will allow us to sleep in our cars or camp on their grounds on AUGUST 9, Thursday night. This will help you acclimatize a bit, but also they require that our packed gear be ready on their docks by 7 AM on Aug. 10. Since each packer–outfitter has his own method and prices, the total cost for this trip is \$325. The number of participants is limited so you need to contact the leader immediately with any questions. Your check paid in full is your reservation for the trip of a lifetime! Questions? <susanlucillecampo@yahoo.com>

August 11, Saturday

**O: Vincent Gap to Prairie Fork
Jeff Johnson, Kirk Olsen**

From Vincent Gap (6600’) below Baden-Powell we descend Vincent Gulch, through Sheep Mountain Wilderness, to the Prairie Fork (4500’), at the heart of the upper East Fork of the San Gabriel River. After a break at the water, we return the same way. About 8 miles round trip, 2100’ descent/ ascent. Much of the way in shade, partly down the middle of the drainage, usually dry most of the way. Parts of this trail may be rough. We may see lilies, we could see sheep. Expect the ascent to be warm, bring plenty of water, sun protection, layers, lunch, 10 essentials. No dogs, please. Meet at La Canada rideshare point at 7:30 am for the 50 mile drive to Vincent Gap. Adventure Pass required to park at Vincent Gap. Questions? Call Jeff at 562-434-8473.

Aug 18 - Aug 19, Sat - Sun

**O: Ice House Cyn. Loop and Mt. Baldy Hikes (with optional Harwood Lodge)
Dora Olea, Susan Campo**

NOTE: MEETING TIMES HAVE CHANGED FROM PRIOR PUBLICATIONS

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 weekend 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:

Sat. at 7 am meet at Icehouse Canyon Trail Head, just off the Mt. Baldy Road. USFS

Adventure 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. meet 6 am at Manker Flats to hike Mt. Baldy. USFS Adventure 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 lefthand side. Questions? Contact Dora at <doraolea@yahoo.com>.

Aug 25 - Aug 26, Sat - Sun

**O: Tyee Lakes Backpacking Trip
Dora Olea, Kirk Olsen**

Tyee Lakes is a beautiful four-lake chain – an experience that you cannot miss! Friday night we will car camp near the trailhead on Bishop Creek Road. Saturday morning we will pack in about 3 miles and set up camp alongside the lakes. That afternoon we will sightsee, swim and dine. If time permits on Sunday we will do a short hike before we pack out to Sabrina Lake trailhead. 7 miles total with 2,300 ft. gain/loss. Space is limited and nominal fees apply for the campground and wilderness permit. Contact Dora at <doraolea@yahoo.com> for more info and RSVP.

August 29, Wednesday

**O: Signal Hill Walk
Jeff Johnson, Laura Rainey**

3-4 miles, 500-750 feet gain/loss. Meet on Industry at Redondo, in Signal Hill, 7pm, we aim to be back at the cars by 8:30. Walking on pavement and gravel. Sensible walking shoes, water, layers for cool evening breezes. Rain cancels, drizzle goes. Questions? Call Jeff 562- 434-8473.

Aug 30 - Sep 3, Thu - Mon

**O: Rock Creek
Barbara Edwards, Judith Demarah,
Grace Hengst**

Outings and Events

Palisades Group Campground lies along Rock Creek in Inyo National Forest, 15 miles south of Mammoth Lakes. The campground sits at an elevation of 8,800 feet, at the bottom of a steep canyon adjacent to Rock Creek and amidst the shaded aspen and lodgepole pine trees. The area is home to abundant wildlife, including black bear, mountain lions, mule deer, pine martin, pika and many species of fish and birds. Hiking, scenic driving, photography, wildlife viewing and fishing opportunities abound, with local lakes and streams within walking and driving distance. Catch from the creek may include brook, brown, rainbow and stocked Alpers trout. There are numerous hiking trails in and around Rock Creek Canyon, some of which meander around high-elevation alpine lakes. Flush toilets and potable water at site. Showers nearby. **THIS IS BEAR COUNTRY.** All food and toiletries must be stored in bear lockers. \$28 per person for 4 nights of camping. Space is limited. Send check made out to GLS to: Barbara Edwards, 1739 S. Sherbourne, Dr., L.A. 90035. Questions? <greyhound@sbcglobal.net>.



On Signal Hill, May 30

Future Outings

September 16, Sunday

O: Santa Monica and Rustic Canyons Urban Walk

Barbara Edwards, S.K. Chiou

Beat the heat and join us for a 4-5 mile walk through shady Rustic and Santa Monica Canyons. We will encounter ocean views, historic mansions, architectural masterpieces, secret stairways and numerous former homes of "Golden Era" celebrities. Elev. gain 500 ft. Meet in Santa Monica, at the northern end of Palisades Park on the bluff (corner of San Vicente Blvd and Ocean Ave), at 9:30 am for bagels and coffee. Ample free parking is available in the neighborhood. Walk starts at 10:00 am. and will be finished before 3pm. Please bring lunch. Don't forget water, hat, sunscreen, and good walking shoes. Heavy

rain and/or excessive heat cancels. Questions? <greyhound@sbcglobal.net>.

Oct 5 - Oct 7, Fri - Sun

O: GLS 25th Anniversary Bash! Marie Ammerman, Grace Hengst, with Sharon Hartley co-host, and GLS volunteers

GLS turns a quarter-century old this year, and we're having a big ol' party to celebrate. All GLS members are welcome to join us at the Sierra Club's Harwood Lodge for a weekend of fun and friendship. Long-time members can reminisce; new members can learn about GLS history and get in on the plans and dreams for the next 25 years. The Lodge is located on the slopes of Mt. Baldy, only a 1.5 hour drive from the L.A. area. It has dormitory sleeping arrangements with showers, a fireplace, and a gorgeous mountain setting. Bring sleeping bag or bed linens, towel, a chair for sitting on the front deck, any other personal items and hiking equipment if you plan to hike. All meals will be provided; please bring your own snacks and beverages (Lodge has potable tap water). We will do our best, within reason, to accommodate special dietary requirements, so please be sure to mention those when you sign up. Driving directions and other details will go out to attendees in September.

Check in: Friday evening at 7 pm.
Check out: Sunday afternoon at 2 pm. In between, you can choose from hikes, games, reading or lounging on the front deck or in the Lodge living room. If it's cold, we'll have a fire in the huge fireplace. The Lodge committee provides overseers who will be in the Lodge the entire time, so you can leave your luggage and go off hiking without worrying. Saturday evening we'll have our Anniversary Dinner, the main event of the weekend.

If you'd like to volunteer to help make this event as special and fabulous as possible, please contact Marie. We need help with prepping food, setting up, decorating, leading hikes or other activities, minor housekeeping, signing in guests, creating displays, final cleanup, and more. It will be a fun way to give back to GLS for all it's given you over the years. Thanks in advance!

Sign up runs from August 1st to September 5th. Cost is 60.00 per person, which includes two continental breakfasts, lunch fixings for Saturday, dinner Saturday evening, and a pick-up lunch on Sunday; also includes Lodge fees. Information about local restaurants for Friday night dinner for anyone interested will be provided. To sign up, send name, phone & email, Sierra Club member number if you have one, and a check payable to GLS to Marie Ammerman, 423 E. Elmwood Ave., Apt. F, Burbank CA 91501. Questions or volunteer offers: email Marie at <ammermanm@yahoo.com> or call 818-842-6401. No pets at the Lodge at any time; cell service is limited and there is only one landline, for emergencies, which connects only to the local police station—please make plans accordingly.

November 18, Sunday

O: Mt. Wilson

Dora Olea, Robin Ridinger

At a moderate pace, we will trek Mt. Wilson trail up Little Santa Anita Canyon via Orchard Camp. 15mi. rt., 4500 ft. gain/loss with some steep up and down sections. Enjoy its historical trails and crystalline streams where you can lean against an old oak, cool your heels in the rushing water, relax and watch the river flow. At the peak, if time permits, we will visit the observatory, communication towers and solar camera tower. Bring money for food and soft drinks at the Cosmic Café at the top where we will have our lunch. Bring lug soles, dress in layers, extra pair of socks, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, and three liters of water. Dogs must bring their own water. Bathrooms at the trailhead and at the top. Meet at Miramonte Ave. near the junction of Mt. Wilson Trail Rd. at 9am. Driving Directions: from the Foothill Freeway (210) in Arcadia, exit on Baldwin Ave. and head north. Turn right on Miramonte Ave. near the junction of Mt. Wilson Trail Road, which is on your left. The trail begins 150 yards up this road and is marked by a large wooden sign. After passing some homes, the trail shortly intersects the main trail. Rain cancels. Questions? Contact Dora at <doraolea@yahoo.com>.

February 23, Saturday

O: Snowshoe

Dora Olea, Kirk Olsen

More info to come later.

July and August 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JUL 1	2	3 <small>full moon</small> 	4 No Griffith Park hike today	5	6	7 Marathon Bike Ride Mike, Anna
8	9	10	11 Griffith Park Marie, Eva	12	13	14
15 GLS Splash Bash Potluck Host, Sherry	16	17	18 Griffith Park Amanda, Marie	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Griffith Park Dora, Eva Signal Hill Jeff J., Kirk	26	27	28 Beechwood and Bronson Stairwalk Nancy, Nina
29 McGee Creek Mule Pack Susan, Diane <i>through Friday</i>	30	31	AUG 1 <small>full moon</small> 	2	3 <i>end mule pack trip</i>	4
5	6	7	8 Griffith Park Nancy, Marie	9 Piute Pass Mule Pack Susan, Diane <i>through Wednesday</i>	10	11 Vincent Gap to Prairie Fork Jeff, J. Kirk
12	13	14	15 Griffith Park Dora, Nancy <i>end mule pack trip</i>	16	17	18 Icehouse Canyon, Mt. Baldy Dora, Susan <i>through Sunday</i>
19 <i>end Icehouse and Baldy</i>	20	21	22 Griffith Park Anne, Amanda	23	24	25 Tyee Lake Backpack Dora, Kirk <i>through Sunday</i>
26 <i>end Tyee Lake Backpack</i>	27	28	29 Griffith Park Anne, Grace Signal Hill Jeff J., Laura	30	31 <small>full moon</small> 	SEPT 1

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
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Diane Ru	626-688-8642	zappydz@excite.com
Dora Olea	818-765-7297	doraolea@yahoo.com
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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 leaders' meetings.

Important Outing Information

Waiver

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

Rating Codes

These codes indicate the technical difficulty, not the strenuousness.

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

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

C Events under external

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

Outing Reservations

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

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

Dogs

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

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

Seller of Travel Notice

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

Adventure Pass

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

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

Carpooling

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

Rideshare Points

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

La Canada Rideshare Point

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

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Fill in this form and send it with a check made out to GLS to:
GLS
P.O. Box 1300
South Pasadena, CA 91031-1300



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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Category:	Individual	Joint	Mail to:
Introductory	\$25		Sierra Club
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#
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