

# TRACKS



September/October 2012

Volume 25, No. 5

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

## McGee Creek Mule Pack, July 29-Aug 3

By Wendy T., photos Susan Campo

Quite a few times over the years, I've heard GLS'ers say some variation of: "You really ought to go on one of Susan Campo's mule pack trips. They're fabulous!" This year I finally took the challenge, and "fabulous" doesn't do it justice. Six of us signed on for the McGee Creek Canyon trip in late July, and we all agreed it's a wilderness experience in a category all by itself.

The mules carried our

camping gear five miles through a multi-hued canyon to a pine-shaded flat that we used as a base camp to go exploring for the next five days. Tim V. and I commandeered a trio of tree stumps to set up cooking gear while others staked out tent sites in the shade, on boulders, or with a view of the spectacular ridgelines, depending on their priorities. McGee Creek, complete with a scenic waterfall, roared past our tent village.

Our first night there, a celestial event provided unexpected entertainment. A full moon was scheduled to rise at almost the exact minute that

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Piute Pass Mule Pack, August 9-15

By Susan Campo, story and photos

I have not led a mule pack trip for several years, but this summer I could not stay away from the high Sierras any longer, so I organized two such trips.

Often I am asked if we ride the mules. The mules just drop our baggage in a beautiful spot which we use as a home base until the end of the trip, when the procedure is put into reverse.

The bad news is that it

RAINED every single day of our trip. However the GOOD news is that it was clear each morning and always stopped just in time for dinner and a sunset. Thank goodness, because Ms. Diane had lots of new campout menus to try! Our site above Golden Trout Lakes, over Piute Pass and only five hours from L.A., was really gorgeous. We were on a small rise and had a rock balcony facing sunset. Facing east of our camp was the spectacular Humphrey Peak. We were camped south of a cascading stream.

As a leader, I have been asked many questions about

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At the McGee Creek trailhead.



In the high country, ready to explore.

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## Southern Sierran and Schedule of Activities

Letter to Angeles Chapter leaders from Mike Sappingfield, Angeles Chapter Finance Chair, and Susan Heitman, Angeles Chapter Communications Chair, Aug. 12, 2012

As many of you know, the Angeles Chapter has changed the format and distribution of the bi-monthly Southern Sierran newsletter and the tri-yearly Schedule of Activities.

### Southern Sierran

Beginning with the July-August issue, the print version of the Southern Sierran is no longer being mailed to the entire membership, but only to those who request a mailed copy. An invitation to request the Southern Sierran by mail was enclosed in the May-June 2012 issue; to date

*(Continued on page 3)*

# GLS Management Committee Meeting, July 17

SK, Grace, Brad & Amanda were present.

Confirmed \$2,000 donation to the Angeles Chapter.

We discussed GLS Anniversary t-shirt production and quantity of t-shirts to produce. Brief review of Harwood Lodge anniversary event, in anticipation that

details will be the predominant focus of our upcoming board meeting.

Next meeting to be held September 27.

*Sincerely, Amanda Smith*

## Who Has Old, Old Issues of Tracks?

We would like to scan as many issues as possible of the first 25 years of Tracks. The editor has all the issues back through 2004. Do you have issues earlier than that? They would be scanned with OCR so that (in theory) you could search for things in all those past issues. If you have old issues of Tracks, or know someone who does, please contact Jeff Johnson, [jgj@cheerful.com](mailto:jgj@cheerful.com).

## GLS Anniversary Party Weekend

### Harwood Lodge, October 5 - 7

**More info on page 8**

*The deadline to sign up has been extended to September 15.*

*Don't miss the party!*



## 25th Anniversary GLS T-Shirts

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](mailto: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.

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|---|---|---|--|
| <h3 style="margin: 0;">Information about GLS</h3> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>General questions about GLS</b>, call Grace at 323-697-6886 or Mike at 818 399-4035.</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Questions about a specific event</b>, please call the leaders listed in the schedule. Contact info is inside the back page.</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Sign up for the <i>FREE</i> GLS email list</b>, with a weekly email digest of GLS events, go to: <a href="http://angeles.sierraclub.org/news/MailingLists.asp">http://angeles.sierraclub.org/news/MailingLists.asp</a>. Your email address remains confidential and is not displayed to others.</p> |   | <h3 style="margin: 0;">Next GLS Management Comm. Meeting</h3> <p style="margin: 0;">The next GLS management committee meeting is scheduled for September 27.</p> <p style="margin: 0;">GLS management committee meetings are (usually) held about every two months, on weeknight evenings, by conference call. All GLS subscribers are welcome.</p> <p style="margin: 0;">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 style="margin: 0;">The Gay &amp; 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 style="margin: 0;">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 style="margin: 0;"><b>Grace Hengst</b>,<br/>Chair</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Sharon Hartley</b>,<br/>Co-Chair</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>SK Chiou</b>,<br/>Treasurer</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Amanda Smith</b>,<br/>Secretary</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Brad Keistler</b>,<br/>At-Large</p>   | <h4 style="margin: 0;">Other GLS Volunteers</h4> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Membership</b>,<br/>Jeff Cuevas</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Conservation</b>,<br/>Tom Molloy</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Webmaster</b>,<br/>Alan Schimpff</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>TRACKS Editor</b>,<br/>Jeff Johnson</p> <p style="margin: 0;">.....</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Our outing volunteers are listed on page 11.</b></p> |

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# Supporting Angeles Chapter Now

*From a letter from Hersh Kelley, Chair of the Angeles Chapter Executive Committee, and Ron Silverman, Senior Director of the Angeles Chapter, Aug. 15, 2012*

For over 100 years, the Angeles Chapter has been a constant force in the environmental landscape. We have weathered good times and bad, flush times and lean. When tough times called for us all to pitch in for the good of the Chapter, we did. We survived through the Great Depression in the 1930s and went on to thrive and create monumental change. We were not spared by the recession of 2008. Despite increasing costs and declining donations, our Executive Committee, in partnership with our tiny, yet crackerjack staff, has been doing all it can to be financially responsible while maintaining the basics needed to run our Chapter. **But now we need your help.**

The truth is we have been having a cash flow crisis for the past year. Assistance is needed to maintain the day-to-day operations that many of you depend on for your daily activities within the Chapter. We recognize the need to provide you with the best service we can. Strides have been made – the recent launch of our new, more interactive web site is just one example (please check it out at [www.angeles.sierraclub.org](http://www.angeles.sierraclub.org)). However, in order for our Chapter to continue, we must raise funds today. **We can't do it without you.**

We understand that even the smallest gift is a struggle for some and we appreciate any and all donations, but we also recognize that for many a more substantial donation is possible. To that end we are establishing a new group of donors known as the "1000 at 100", aimed at enlisting the aid of 1,000 of our members to donate at least \$100.00 to ease our funding crunch and allow us to continue our ability to provide local

opportunities to enjoy, explore, and protect the environment. If you can't give \$100 all at once, please consider making a monthly donation of \$10. Or do both. Making a one-time and/or monthly donation is quick and easy. As a "1000 at 100" donor, you will be recognized on the website for your generosity. [Please donate \\$100 now.](#)

The idea of the Angeles Chapter closing its door is unthinkable, but sadly it is not out of the question. If having the Senior Chapter Director belt out a medley from Cabaret at our next Annual Banquet will entice you to donate, he'll even do that too. In order for that to occur, we need to ensure that there is a Banquet next year. There's nothing we won't do to keep our doors open.

Together, we will ride out this storm and once again return to calm waters.

A heartfelt thank you.

**Donation info on  
the Chapter website:  
[www.angeles.sierraclub.org](http://www.angeles.sierraclub.org)**

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## Angeles Chapter Southern Sierran & Schedule of Activities

*(Continued from the front page)*

approximately 500 people (out of a membership of 40,000) have requested printed copies.

Current plans call for mailing one issue a year to all Chapter members, with an insert containing the leader directory information now included in the Schedule of Activities (see below).

The news and announcements in the Southern Sierran are incorporated into the Chapter web site (<http://angeles.sierraclub.org>). In addition, a pdf copy of each full, printed issue will be available on the web site.

\* To subscribe to Angeles Chapter E-news, send an email with the subject "E-news" to:  
<[southern.sierran@sierraclub.org](mailto:southern.sierran@sierraclub.org)>.

\* To opt in to receive print versions of the Southern Sierran, send an email with the subject "Opt-in by print" to  
<[southern.sierran@sierraclub.org](mailto:southern.sierran@sierraclub.org)> and include your name and address.

Or, send a request in writing to:  
Subscriptions, Sierra Club Angeles Chapter, 3435 Wilshire Blvd #320, Los Angeles, CA 90010-1904.

## Schedule of Activities

The Schedule of Activities will no longer be produced in its current format. This was announced in the July-October 2012 issue, along with a form to request a printed, mailed list of the outings and activities portion of the Schedule. To date,

approximately 300 people (out of a membership of 40,000) have requested this printed version, which will be mailed beginning in October 2012.

The outings and activities formerly printed in the Schedule are now in the online Schedule of Activities ([http://angeles.sierraclub.org/find\\_hike\\_trip\\_event](http://angeles.sierraclub.org/find_hike_trip_event)). This new system offers much more timely information on outings and activities, as well as useful functions such as maps to trailheads and easy contact with trip leaders.

The leader directory formerly printed in the Schedule will be included in a once-a-year edition of the Southern Sierran that will be mailed to the entire membership. This is expected to be in the March-April issue.

The remainder of the information now in the Schedule is included in various sections of the chapter web site (<http://angeles.sierraclub.org>).

\* To opt in to receive print versions of the Schedule of Activities Outings, send a request in writing to: Schedule of Activities Outings, Sierra Club Angeles Chapter, 3435 Wilshire Blvd #320, Los Angeles, CA 90010-1904.

## Why was this done?

The conversion from print/mail to electronic distribution has been under discussion for some time, primarily driven by four factors: timeliness of information, the need to reach a wider and more diverse audience, cost, and the desire to reduce our environmental footprint.

In preparation, we converted our web site into a new format that is easier to read

and much easier to keep current. Working closely with the Outings Management Committee, we installed a new, online, interactive events calendar (built in a system called OARS, Online Activity Registration System, developed and maintained by the national Club and in use by chapters around the country). This events calendar – essentially the Schedule of Activities in online format – avoids the long lead time for posting outings required by a printed version; it currently has between 600 and 700 outings and events listed, with the ability to contact leaders, access maps, sort by type of trip, etc.

## Why was it done so suddenly?

By April, it had become clear that the Angeles Chapter was faced with an urgent cash flow issue. After consultation with National, the Angeles Chapter Executive Committee concluded that continuing to print and send the publications to all 40,000 members, knowing that not everyone reads them, was not financially responsible.

By dramatically curtailing the circulation of the Southern Sierran and by transferring the information in the Schedule of Activities to the chapter web site – along with an aggressive fundraising push – enough money has been saved (and raised) to keep us in the black throughout this year; and the savings will be even greater in future years.

We appreciate the patience and understanding of our membership during this transition. Change is never easy, but we think that the new web site, online interactive events calendar, and electronic newsletter will help.

## McGee Creek Mule Pack

*(Continued from the first page)*

the sun was setting. We eagerly watched the sky. The white orb popped over the ridge like a big, fat, smiling balloon and made a rapid ascent in the inky-blue heavens. It's no exaggeration to say we were all moonstruck.

We did a lot of hiking on trails and cross-country, as well as some boulder scrambling. But two day-long hikes stood out.



One was to McGee Pass, just short of 12,000 feet in elevation. We played a guessing game of "Where Is the Pass?" for a couple days beforehand. We had a panoramic view of a vast ridgeline from our camp but couldn't tell from our maps where the pass looped over the peaks and downward toward the John Muir Trail.

It turned out we all picked the wrong notches. But Susan, Diane Z., Jerry K., Dave G. and I did make the long, hot, rocky climb all the way to the pass. It gave us breathtaking views in all directions (the air \*is\* pretty thin up there). A big patch of unmelted winter snow greeted us at the top.

The second hike was to an abandoned mine and a lake perched at about 11,000

feet. The tranquil snow-fed lake was kind of eerie, because it was half dried-out. So we were crunching around on sand that is usually a lake bottom. The water was surrounded by round, dark-gray boulders that all had perfectly vertical cracks, as though someone had chiseled stripes into them.

Next to the lake were the ghostly ruins of a mine that produced tungsten and gold from the early 1940s to 1955. Mining equipment was strewn everywhere: rusted-



*Rise of the full moon.*



out boilers, silent engines and giant cogs, timbers charred by fire, broken pipes and tumbled-down brickwork.

A chain of lakes surrounds McGee Creek Canyon, and most of them had trout. I'm not a fisherperson, but Diane and I hiked up to Steelhead Lake to see if Diane could catch dinner for all of us.

Alas, she only caught one fish... and if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes, I don't think I would believe this fish tale. Diane was showing me how to tie on the lure and float and weights and all that. The hook end of the line slipped out of my hand while Diane was still assembling her pole.

We were standing 15 feet above the water on a rock over a deep pool, and the

hook went "Plop!" into the water. In the wink of an eye, a big fat trout snapped his jaws around the hook and started thrashing around.

We couldn't reel it in because the pole was still in pieces. So together we hauled it up hand-over-hand.

There it was, flapping around and shining in the sun on our boulder... a nice fat fish for dinner! Without even trying! And then Diane unhooked it and let it go. I can't remember why... she said something like, "I'm not ready yet."

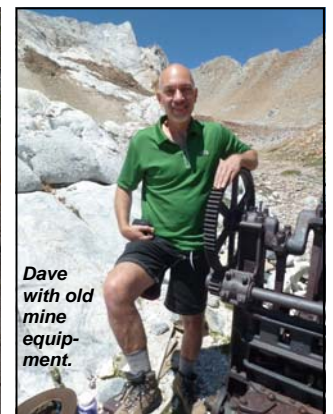
I think there must be a saying "A trout on the hook is worth 1,000 in the lake," because darn it, the whole rest of the day, she didn't get another bite.



*Jerry enjoying the view in camp.*



*Dora relaxing in camp.*



*Dave with old mine equipment.*

## Piute Pass Mule Pack

*(Continued from the first page)*

trips over the years, but never had I been asked “Where can I keep my cello during the hike?” Well, Diane made connections in the sporting goods store in Bishop. The clerk knew a local musician and called him. Sure enough, Kim had his safe spot to leave the cello in Bishop! He was carrying a concert quality cello because he had just come from Utah where it had to be taken for special repairs. After the outing we all

bumper of Jeanine’s truck at the pack station. The cello was back to safety before another storm hit and provided us with Mother Nature’s finale of a double rainbow.

During this outing, we had very wonderful hikes to numerous lakes. We explored the entire Humphrey Basin and dreamed of hiking the Humphrey Peak. In spite of my special route maps, none of us really felt UP...UP to that challenge, a STEEP 13986 feet elevation. However,



**Humphrey Peak**



**With the mule packers, looking for a camp site.**



**Rainbow over the mule pack station.**

went out for burgers; Jeanine and Dave saved the day when they stopped to change Kim’s flat tire on his rental car. Three of us went in my truck to pick up the cello before driving back to the mule pack station to wait for gear. We had the advantage of EXQUISITE music played by a Los Angeles Philharmonic player right off the

some in our group took on the Lamarck Lakes Col. Others enjoyed laying on the beach of Desolation Lake. Dave and I left the group to climb up to one of the Four Gables at 12000 feet.

Jeanine conquered her fear of heights on our longest hike across the Humphrey Basin and bouldering down some steep ledges to Puppet Lake and across to Moon Lake where we picked up a trail through French Canyon so we could eat lunch at a unnamed waterfall over 900 feet high! Of course we finished our 16 mile loop in drenching rain.

Jerry was up to his usually fun and provided a cow poncho for good laughs in the rain.

Dave entertained the group with a card game called Horse Collar. The biggest loser of the evening had to do a fashion show with the Cow Poncho AND wear it on the final day’s hike out. Yes, that was me...and I said “Mooooo” to everyone (well almost) that I met along the trail, so there!!!!



**Cardshark Jeanine**



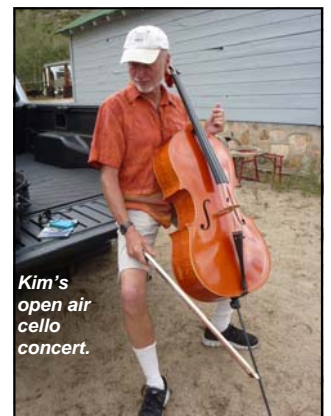
**Susan and Dave...which peak should we climb?**



**Waiting for sunset.**



**Susan, biggest loser, in the cow poncho, arrives back at the pack station.**



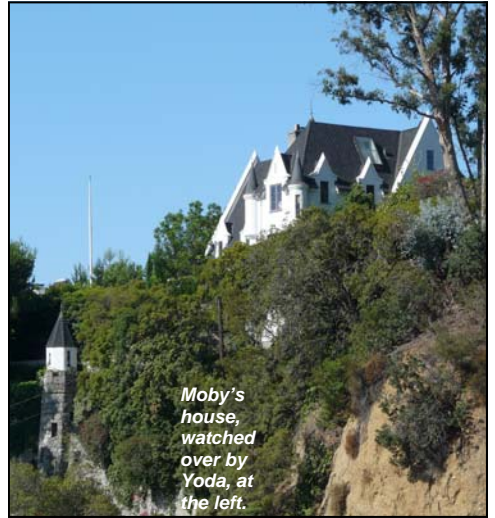
**Kim's open air cello concert.**

# Beachwood and Bronson Stair Hikes

By Nancy Beverly, story and photos

GLS took to the stairs once again, this time the Beachwood and Bronson Canyon

steps, for what added up to about a 5 mile jaunt. Luckily we got an early start and beat the heat — although knocking out 148 steps (our longest section) was still enough to make us sweat. We were also lucky enough to get some new faces in the crowd — welcome Carrie, Maria, Stacey,



Moby's house, watched over by Yoda, at the left.



Starting at the bottom...



...getting all the way to the top!



Jocelyn, and Naira! Co-leader Nina pointed out interesting architectural flourishes along the way — and the fact that the white castle on the hill (guarded by Yoda!) now belongs to the singer Moby. We'd originally planned to have lunch down in Hollywood, but a quick look at the yummy menu of the Beachwood Cafe by Nina convinced us to stay right where we were — and we weren't disappointed.

# Harwood Weekend

By Susan Campo, story and photos

August 18-19 was a super week-end that gave GLS participants lots of options.

The Saturday hike was a moderate loop hike in Ice House Canyon. It wasn't exactly "icy" but the route Dora took at 7 am kept all 8 of us comfortable through lunch.

The wildflowers were surprisingly good. We took in the sights and sounds of nature.

Some of us spent the night at Harwood Lodge. No one wanted to cook dinner so we headed to Baldy Lodge Restaurant for some good Grubbers or a nice steak dinner and camaraderie. In spite of a few plumbing glitches at Harwood, we made it to the Manker Flats trail head by 6:30 am. It was here that Dora Olea demonstrated great leadership ability. I enjoyed being the

"sweep"! She paced the group perfectly, showed wisdom in her concern for all participants and helped everyone succeed. We had lots of fun on the hike as well. The return route was across the Devil's Backbone. Dora had arranged a shuttle for the group and not a minute too soon. Jamie lost the sole of her shoe, but maintained the soul of a good adventure.



Heading up Icehouse Canyon.



A monkeyflower



At the top of Mt. Baldy.



Heading back down.



Dora at Harwood Lodge.



Heading back down.

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# Outings & Events

## September

**September 9, Sunday**

**O: Sunday at Silverwood Lake**

**Mike Brostoff, Grace Hengst**

Silverwood Lake is in the San Bernardino Mountains about 10 miles east of the Cajon Pass and interstate 15. The lake was formed by the 249-foot Cedar Springs Dam, which holds back the waters of the west fork of the Mojave River as it passes through the San Bernardino Mountains. Being at the lake feels like what what a Summer Sunday should. The Pacific Crest Trail passes around the west side perimeter of the lake. We will hike a total of 5 miles (2.5 each way) on the trail with approximately 300' gain or loss. We could do more or less depending on the mood of the group.

Afterwards, there will be an optional scenic drive on the 138 towards Lake Arrowhead through a beautiful pine forest. Be aware the temperatures might be warm this time of year but we will be near the water. Bring water, sun protection, layers, lunch, 10 essentials. Hike starts at 11:30 AM. For more information and to RSVP, contact Mike Brostoff. mbros4162@yahoo.com or (818) 399-4035

**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. We will end with a stroll on the beach and lunch at the Annenberg Beach Club (<http://www.annenbergbeachhouse.com>), which is the former home of Marion Davies and William Randolph Hearst. We will plan for a free docent-led tour of Marion's private guest house. 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. Plan on bringing lunch or \$ for the pricey café at the Annenberg. Please be advised that dogs are NOT permitted on the beach portion of the walk. Don't forget water, hat, sunscreen, and good walking shoes. Heavy rain and/or excessive heat cancels.

**September 23, Sunday**

**O: Echo Mountain via Sam Merrill Trail**

**Grace Hengst, Dora Olea**

Moderately paced historic hike to the ruins of two old hotels (Echo Mountain House and The Chalet), and the old Echo Mountain Railway. To beat the heat, this 5mi rt, 1400' gain/loss hike starts at 8am

sharp. Dogs OK. Meet in front of the iron gate of the Cobb Estate at the top of Lake Ave. Allow enough time for parking along Lake Ave. Directions: From the Foothill Freeway (210) in Pasadena, exit on Lake Ave. and travel north 3 ½ miles to its end at Loma Alta Drive. Bring 2 liters of water, snacks, sunscreen. Lugsoles recommended. Rain may cancel. Questions? Contact leaders; Grace, 323-697-6886.

**September 30, Sunday**

**O: Stair Hike in the Swish Alps (Silver Lake)**

**Eva Eilenberg, Amanda Smith**

Many people don't know where A Different Light bookstore used to be or why the former Black Cat made a mark in the LGBT history books. And many of us weren't even crawling back when Silver Lake was called, either with derision or with pride, the Swish Alps. On this rigorous stair walk, we'll note some addresses that have earned Silver Lake a place in history, and we'll celebrate the newly designated Mattachine Steps near the reservoir. Please wear good walking shoes, bring water and be prepared to sweat. On this urban hike, we'll be climbing up and down many of the public staircases in the neighborhood, as well as traipsing up and down a number of steep hills. You'll feel it. Well-behaved, fit dogs are okay. Between 7-8 miles.

Approximately 1200 gain. Meet promptly

*(Continued next page)*

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## Weekly Griffith Park Conditioning Hikes

**What:** Every Wednesday night, join us for a moderate (strenuous if you are out of shape) hike to Mt. Hollywood, 6 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

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## Signal Hill Conditioning Walks

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

even strenuous if you are out of shape. Walking on pavement and gravel. Sensible walking shoes, water, layers for cool evening

breezes. Drizzle goes, rain cancels. Questions? Call Jeff 562-434-8473.

**When:** Every *last* Wednesday of the month (except holidays), at 7:00 pm. We aim to be back at

the cars by 8:30 pm.

**Where:** Meet on Industry, west of Redondo, in Signal Hill. Park in the street.

## Outings and Events

at 8 am at Intelligentsia Coffee, 3922 West Sunset Boulevard, just east of Sanborn Ave. Note: this is another Carmageddon weekend, so plan your weekend accordingly)

## October

**Oct 5 - Oct 7, Fri – Sun**

**O: GLS 25th Anniversary Bash!  
Marie Ammerman, Grace Hengst; co-host Sharon Hartley**

**SIGN-UP DEADLINE EXTENDED TO SEPT. 15**

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 Sept.

Check in: Friday evening at 7 pm.  
Check out: Sunday afternoon at 2 pm. In



*Hiking up into the Tye  
Lakes, site of the GLS  
backpack August 25-26.*

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 until September 15th. 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.

**October 14, Sunday**

**O: Mt Lukens  
Dora Olea, Grace Hengst**

Mt. Lukens, aka Sister Elsie, offering spectacular views, is a challenging peak in the front range of the San Gabriel Mountains. At the top, you stand at the highest point in the city of Los Angeles, and peer over the vast urban plain. The view to the north and east is across the various ridges and peaks of the San Gabriels. We plan on moderately placed hike on a route that takes us 6 ½ miles round trip, 3000' gain and loss. The "Station Fire" of a couple years ago left the trails in bad condition, so, after we scout this area again, we may change the route, so please pay attention to possible changes listed in the weekly updates from Laura Rainey! Dogs welcome. Please bring at

least 2 liters water (more if it is a hot day), a potluck lunch item to share, sunscreen, clothing to match the weather. Lug soles recommended. Meet promptly at 8am. Directions to trailhead: From 210 freeway in La Crescenta, take the Pennsylvania Ave exit N. to Foothill Blvd. Turn left (west) on Foothill Blvd. To New York Ave. Turn right (north) on New York Ave., then left on Markridge, then turn right into the George Deukmejian Wilderness Park (city of Glendale), 3429 Markridge Rd., between New York and Frederic. Plenty of parking in a large parking area. Heavy rain cancels.

**October 20, Saturday**

**O: Mugu Peak -- La Jolla Valley  
Tom Molloy, Alan Schimpff**

A comprehensive trek through the western quadrant of Pt. Mugu State Park. The hike begins in La Jolla Canyon, then crosses a field to ascend Mugu Peak. The trail then descends into La Jolla Valley, a large grassy meadow, and then joins up with a well-graded and scenic trek along the ridge dividing La Jolla Cyn and Big Sycamore Cyn. Curving down the rounded slopes east of La Jolla Canyon, the trail takes in sweeping views of the Pt. Mugu coastline and the distant Channel Islands. Round-trip: 10 miles, 1950' elevation gain. Bring at least 2 quarts of water, lunch, and the 10 essentials. Meet at 9:30 AM at the parking area for the Ray Miller Trailhead. Drive north on PCH about 35 miles past Santa Monica. Take the first turn off to the right after passing the Big Sycamore Campground and "the great sand dune." Parking fee. Usually free parking can be found on PCH. Call leaders to RSVP, 310-589-9125. Rain cancels

**October 28, Sunday**

**O: Thorn Point  
Dora Olea, Jeff Johnson**

Join us for a slow to moderate-paced hike to Thorn Point, 6935', in the Sespe Wilderness, Los Padres N.F., near Frazier Park. 8 miles round trip, 2000' gain/loss on trail. Trail through woodland, up switchbacks, along ridges, great views in all directions. The fire tower at the summit, now abandoned but still climbable, was also once used as a condor lookout. Bring lug soles, dress in layers, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, three liters of water and a potluck lunch item to share. Dogs must bring their own water. Meet Sylmar rideshare point, leave at 8:00am sharp. (Encinitas Av, S of Roxford St; Roxford exit from I-5). Can also stop to meet hikers at Frazier Park on the way in. High

## Outings and Events

clearance vehicles best for the road in. Rain cancels. Adventure Pass required for trailhead parking. Please contact Dora ahead of time, [doraolea@yahoo.com](mailto:doraolea@yahoo.com).

## Future Outings

### November 3, Saturday Angeles Chapter Outing Assembly Eaton Canyon Nature Center

The annual Outings Assembly will be held this year on Saturday, November 3, from 9:30am to 3pm, at Eaton Canyon Nature Center in Pasadena. Details to follow, but please save the date!

### November 4, Sunday O: Long Beach Museum of Art and Historic District Walking Tour Karen Lovett, Laura Rainey

Come join us at the beautiful Long Beach Museum of Art, located in historic Bluff Park. The Museum campus includes the historic Elizabeth Milbank Anderson house and carriage house, now called the Miller Education Center (built in 1912), oceanfront gardens, and a new pavilion with two floors of expansive gallery space for changing exhibitions. The museum's particular strength lies in 300 years of ceramics, early 20th century European art, California Modernism and contemporary art of California. In addition to the prized permanent collection, we will also have the opportunity to see "Twelve Miles to the Horizon: Sunrise and Sunsets" by the amazingly talented photographer Catherine Opie. Through her work, she has investigated aspects of community, making portraits of many groups including LGBT community; surfers; and most recently high school football players. We will meet in front of the museum at 11:00am and after we are finished (12:30), we'll proceed on a brief walking tour of some of Long Beach's historical neighborhoods, including Bluff Park, Carroll Park, and Rose Park (3-4 miles, less than 100 feet gain). The Museum is located at 2300 East Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach. Free parking is available in the Museum parking lot on Ocean Blvd., one block west of the main entrance. For more info about the museum, please see: <http://www.lbma.org/visit.html>. Questions? Call leaders at 562-438-3418.

### November 18, Sunday O: Mt. Wilson Dora Olea, Robin Ridinger

In 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 213-200-0239

### February 9, Saturday O: Bedford Peak Jeff Johnson, Laura Rainey

Bedford Peak is in the central Santa Ana Mountains, 3800 ft. elevation. Our very 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, often under winter snow in February. Our route is low enough that it is rarely snowy. Geological information about this historic mining district from Laura Rainey. Possible stream crossing (on road) 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, trailhead parking just beyond on the left, Adventure Pass required. Bring water, lunch, layers for

weather possibilities, trail footwear. You must contact Jeff before the outing – weather conditions may lead to last minute diversion to an alternate trailhead, though that has not happened for several years. Carpooling possible from Long Beach rideshare. Questions? Call Jeff, 562-434-8473.

### Feb 15 - Feb 18, Fri – Mon O: Joshua Tree Barbara Edwards, TBA

More information next issue.

### February 23, Saturday O: Snowshoe Dora Olea, Kirk Olsen

More information next issue.

### March 16, Saturday O: O'Melveny Park Dora Olea, Jeff Johnson

The second-largest park in L.A. County, smaller only than 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.



*On Table Mountain, above Tyee Lakes, site of the GLS backpack August 25-26.*

# September and October 2012

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday   |
|---|--|-----------|--|---|--|--|
| <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b><br>Griffith Park<br>Amanda, Dora                | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>   | <b>SEPT 1</b>  |
| <b>9</b><br>Silverwood Lake<br>Mike, Grace                              | <b>10</b>  | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b><br>Griffith Park<br>Marie, Amanda              | <b>13</b>   | <b>14</b>  | <b>15</b>  |
| <b>16</b><br>Santa Monica &<br>Rustic Canyon,<br>Urban Walk<br>Barb, SK | <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b><br>Griffith Park<br>Anne, Grace                | <b>20</b>   | <b>21</b>  | <b>22</b>  |
| <b>23</b><br>Echo Mountain via<br>Sam Merrill Trail<br>Grace, Dora      | <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b><br>Griffith Park<br>Dora, Anne<br>Signal Hill  | <b>27</b><br>GLS Management<br>Committee<br>Meeting | <b>28</b>  | <b>29</b> <small>full moon</small>  |
| <b>30</b><br>Stair Hike in the<br>Swish Alps<br>Eva, Amanda             | <b>OCT 1</b>   | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b><br>Griffith Park<br>Nancy, Eva                  | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b><br>GLS 25th<br>Anniversary Bash!<br>Marie, Grace, Sharon<br><i>Through Sunday</i> | <b>6</b>   |
| <b>7</b><br><i>end anniversary bash</i>                                 | <b>8</b>   | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b><br>Griffith Park<br>Anne, Nancy                | <b>11</b>   | <b>12</b>  | <b>13</b>  |
| <b>14</b><br>Mount Lukens<br>Dora, Grace                                | <b>15</b>  | <b>16</b> | <b>17</b><br>Griffith Park<br>Grace, Marie               | <b>18</b>   | <b>19</b>  | <b>20</b><br>Mugu Peak—<br>La Jolla Valley<br>Tom, Alan  |
| <b>21</b><br><i>end Icehouse<br/>and Baldy</i>                          | <b>22</b>  | <b>23</b> | <b>24</b><br>Griffith Park<br>Eva, Grace                 | <b>25</b>   | <b>26</b>  | <b>27</b>  |
| <b>28</b><br>Thorn Point<br>Dora, Jeff J.                               | <b>29</b> <small>full moon</small>  | <b>30</b> | <b>31</b><br>Griffith Park<br>Marie, Dora<br>Signal Hill | <b>NOV 1</b>  | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b>   |

# 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 |
| 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       |

|                |              |                             |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Mary Conte     | 213-810-3939 | maconte@hotmail.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 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](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: \_\_\_\_\_

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