

TRACKS



November/December 2012

Volume 25, No. 6



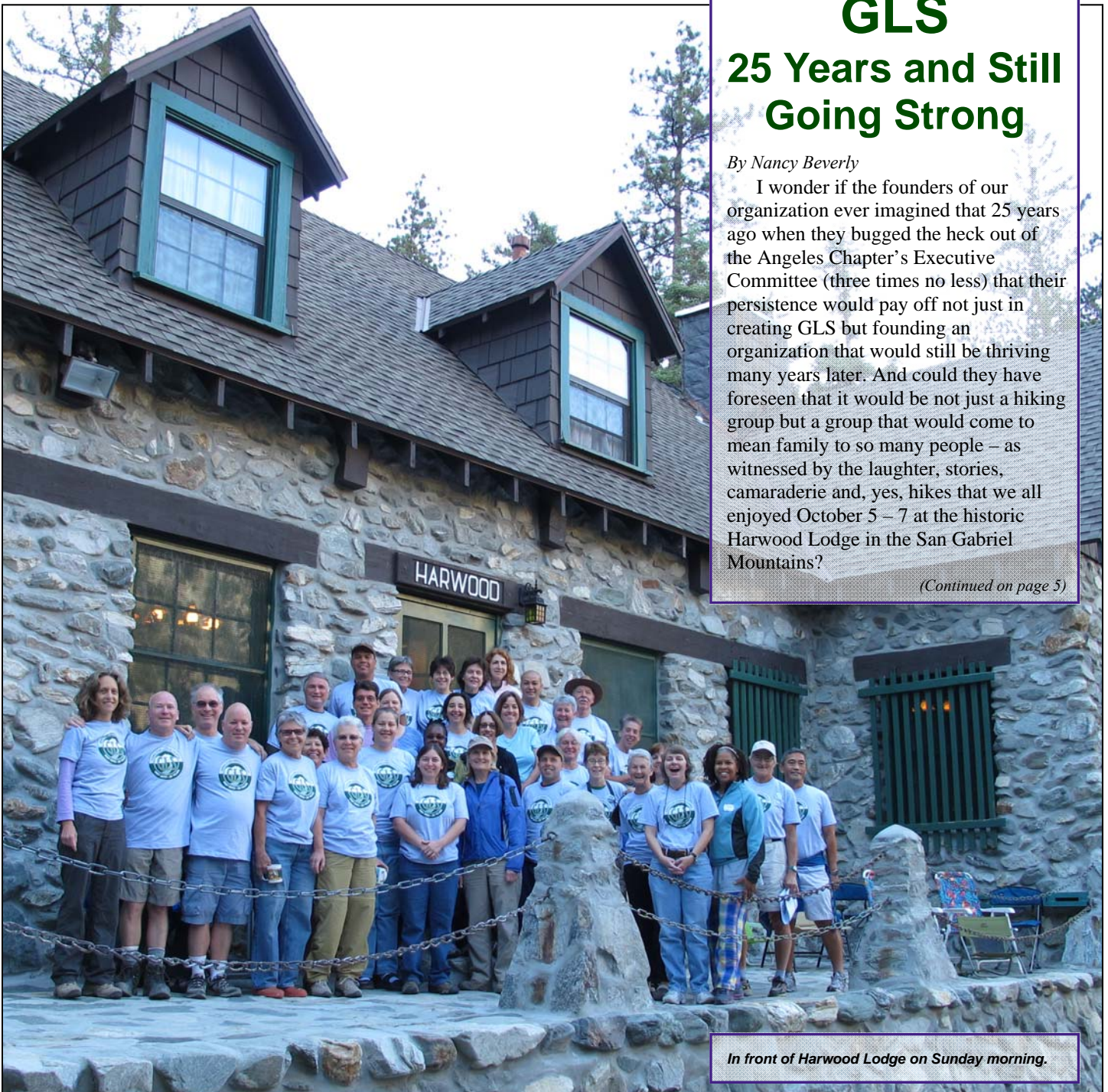
On the web: <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/gls/>

GLS 25 Years and Still Going Strong

By Nancy Beverly

I wonder if the founders of our organization ever imagined that 25 years ago when they bugged the heck out of the Angeles Chapter's Executive Committee (three times no less) that their persistence would pay off not just in creating GLS but founding an organization that would still be thriving many years later. And could they have foreseen that it would be not just a hiking group but a group that would come to mean family to so many people – as witnessed by the laughter, stories, camaraderie and, yes, hikes that we all enjoyed October 5 – 7 at the historic Harwood Lodge in the San Gabriel Mountains?

(Continued on page 5)



In front of Harwood Lodge on Sunday morning.

Management Committee Meeting Minutes

September 27, 2012

In attendance: Grace, Brad, Amanda & Sharon, with guest appearance from Marie Ammerman.

The primary focus of the 9/27 meeting was to go over preparations for the GLS Harwood anniversary event and insure all aspects were well planned & covered. As the lead organizer of the event, Marie updated the board with details on expected attendance, monies collected on behalf of GLS, meals menu, decorations, potential hikes that would be offered, and

various other Harwood related activities.

Thank you Marie, for all your efforts and hard work in organizing this wonderful event for all of GLS!

October 25, 2012

In attendance: Grace, Sharon, SK, Brad, Amanda, Barbara.

Grace reported that the Harwood Anniversary event was an overwhelming success, and also resulted in a profit of \$463 for the organization. Funds from the event have been reported to treasurer, as have proceeds

from T-shirt sales.

It was determined that the board should order at least another 24 GLS anniversary T-shirts, to have on hand for sale at the upcoming holiday party, and other events, as well as for new & future GLS leaders.

Regarding the 2 board members who's terms are ending in Dec 2012 - both Amanda Smith & Sharon Hartley volunteered to serve on the board for a second term, pending their official nomination & election process.

The board began preliminary preparations for the holiday party.

Next board meeting Nov. 15, 7pm.

Amanda Smith

25th Anniversary GLS T-Shirts!

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

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

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



GLS Holiday Party

December 8, 2 - 6 pm
at Grace and Mary's
house in Los Angeles

More information on page 8

2012 Photo Contest

It's back! Submit your pictures from GLS hikes in the past year. We'll all be looking at them at the Holiday Party on Dec. 8 and voting for our favorites then.

- Any GLS subscriber may submit up to 10 photos taken on GLS outings between Dec. 1, 2011 and Nov. 30, 2012.
- Submit photos before December 4 to: [<alanschimpff@netscape.net>](mailto:alanschimpff@netscape.net)

- Submit photos as digital files, JPEG format (.jpg). Any size is all right, but very large photos may be resized smaller to work better online.
- Photos may be of any subject relevant to the mission of GLS.
- Consider whether the people in your pictures are OK with it.
- Holiday Party attendees will vote for their favorites at the party.

(Continued on page 10)

Information about GLS

General questions about GLS, call Grace at 323-697-6886 or Mike at 818 399-4035.

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

Sign up for the FREE GLS email list, with a weekly email digest of GLS events, go to: [<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/news/MailingLists.asp>](http://angeles.sierraclub.org/news/MailingLists.asp). Your email address remains confidential and is not displayed to others.

Next GLS Management Comm. Meeting

The next GLS management committee meeting is scheduled for November 15.

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

You may call one of the committee members to confirm meeting time, how to call in, or ask about the agenda, or for other information.

GLS Mission

The Gay & Lesbian Sierrans Section of the Angeles Chapter fosters the purposes of the Sierra Club by making available a wide range of events for gays, lesbians, and their friends. These activities include conservation, education, hikes, bike rides, beach walks, car camps, boat trips, social gatherings and fundraising.

GLS Newsletter

The GLS newsletter, TRACKS, is published six times a year. Annual subscriptions are \$15 for issues sent by US mail, \$10 for issues sent in PDF format by email, \$25 for both. Three year subscriptions are, respectively, \$35, \$20, and \$55. Send subscription requests and related membership correspondence to: GLS, P.O. Box 1300, South Pasadena CA, 91031-1300.

Mgmt. Committee

Grace Hengst,
 Chair
Sharon Hartley,
 Co-Chair
SK Chiou,
 Treasurer
Amanda Smith,
 Secretary
Brad Keistler,
 At-Large

Other GLS Volunteers

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

Our outing volunteers are listed on page 11.

Open Thank You Note to the GLS Community

From Marie Ammerman

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped, supported, and attended the GLS 25th Anniversary Party at Harwood Lodge. I know I could not have done my own part to make the event what it was without all of that help and support, and I feel sure our Board members feel the same way. I want you all to know how much I appreciate each of you. I probably will miss someone in this article, but know you are in my heart.

The Anniversary Party at Harwood Lodge ended today. It was the culmination of nearly a year's worth of thought, discussion, and work for me and the GLS Board. I had the idea what seems like ages ago, and tested the waters on a Wednesday night hike. Folks were receptive, so I suggested it to the Board, and agreed to research the idea for them.

When I scouted Harwood Lodge this past January, I was accompanied by my

So I submitted a proposal, the Board agreed, and our work together began.

There's no point in going into all the details - we've all organized things at some point in our lives, and we know the things that can go wrong, go right, or just plain go. All I really need to say, know, or remember, is that it was a special weekend, made so for me by the people who attended, and even more so by the volunteers who helped so much. From Friday evening, when Kyla, Virginia, Grace, Dora, and Brad took turns standing out in the parking lot or by the road, in the dark, to make sure no one missed the turn; to Jo and Heather waiting inside to check in the guests; to Saturday evening dinner, when Tammie, Tim, Virginia, Kyla, Grace and so many others helped put on an awesome feast; to Sunday afternoon when an army of volunteers helped clean up the lodge, there was a mountain of support and good cheer wherever I looked. Tim was a

and they did all they could to make it work. Our chairperson, Grace, listened, pitched in, hauled food, and even managed to choose a cake everyone agreed on!

Before the event, I had other help. Amanda was a sounding board on many topics, and she coordinated the creation and distribution of a commemorative t-shirt, using Ginger's logo, that everyone loved, debuting it at the party. Jeff C. showed up at my home on Thursday night with a bag of fifty 25th Anniversary logo buttons he'd created in between other projects so everyone at the party could have one. And one person really made my day. I had really wanted to create a booklet for everyone to take home that would tell the story of the beginnings of GLS, but was overwhelmed with so many other things, both party-related and not, that I couldn't get around to it. Jeff Johnson, who has been gathering very interesting old GLS documents for a project of his own, stepped in and created a booklet using many of those documents and his own brilliance, *on*

The Anniversary Cake



Heather McNaught's photo of the cake



Photo Nancy Beverly



Photo Heather McNaught

friend Daniel, and by new GLS member Warren K. The lodge overseer that weekend was Elizabeth Ward, the scheduler for Harwood Lodge, with whom I'd already had a lot of email contact. It was rainy, cold, and snowless. We were the only three guests in the lodge. We fell in love with it. It has a homey atmosphere that can't be explained by décor alone, and I wanted my GLS family to experience it for themselves.

dynamo in the kitchen; Tammie a chef with a warrior's spirit; Virginia, our early bird, got breakfast out and coffee on. Kyla, Heather, and Jo were constant sources of support in many ways. And special thanks to Dora, too, for lighting up the sky with her glo-stick sign so no one would get lost.

Warren showed up Saturday after spending the whole day at the Leadership Training Seminar (go Warren!) and immediately started helping. Others pitched in and washed dishes - Mary P., Nancy, Susan M., Wanda, Marie B., Mike.....the list goes on. Others stepped in and did the small things that make a difference - carrying dishes to the kitchen, fetching glasses or napkins or other things; checking the TP supply and making sure there was enough. All that on-the-spot help meant so much to all of us, and the help given me by Grace, Tim, and Brad in shopping for all the food was greatly appreciated. The Board was behind this event from day one,

his vacation time. He did a truly masterful job; he also brought all the banners from Long Beach Pride, as well as many photos he had collected, to adorn the walls of the lodge. He really made the connection with GLS history, the reason we were all there, come alive for us.

I have been told so many times what a wonderful event it was, and I am glad to hear it. I enjoyed working with everyone to make this happen for you; I only wish I could have spent a lot more time with each and every one of you, hearing your stories and sharing your joy. There's never enough time. For me, the reward is embodied in the memory of Friday night; nearly everyone had arrived, the lodge living room was filled with warm light that fell on the faces of old friends chatting away; new friends playing Scrabble; others relaxing with a book or just resting after a long day and a journey. We were all together, content to be so, knowing that being together, we were at home.

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Rock Creek

By Marie Ammerman

Spread out over five days instead of the usual three or so, the Rock Creek car camping trip held over the Labor Day weekend afforded everyone ample opportunity to hike, fish, sightsee, relax, play rummy tile, and just plain enjoy themselves. Once again, Barb outdid herself. With her camping reservation savvy, she got us the Palisades Group Camp site, where we spread ourselves out among the pines, alongside rushing Rock Creek. The campsite was greatly enhanced by the work of May Y., who created a privacy booth for those using solar showers; she also brought a couple dozen solar-powered tea lights that she spread on the tables and in the bathrooms at night, which was a blessing for anyone who forgot their headlamp because the full moon was so brilliant.



On Friday, nearly all those who arrived on the previous day went to Mosquito Flats to hike the Little Lakes trail. This popular trail runs along a chain of lakes that are successively higher as you go along, but the trail is not steep. It feels like it sometimes due to the high elevation- the trailhead is just under 10,000 feet high-but the breathtaking scenery is well worth the effort. The weather was moody, with gray clouds hanging over us at times, and even a brief shower, but in the end the sun came out. We only hiked about four miles that



day in order to acclimate to the altitude, but in those four miles we saw more photo-worthy scenery than you could imagine. The gorgeous blue lakes were surrounded by green-yellow grasses, tall pines, pale granite, and soaring mountains of bare rock were spread across the horizon. It was dazzling.

Saturday and Sunday saw GLS folks spread all over the map. The main hikes of interest on Saturday were the hike to Morgan Pass, led by Mike B. and Anne M.; the hike to Ruby Lake, led by Grace H.; and a gentle hike along Rock Creek from

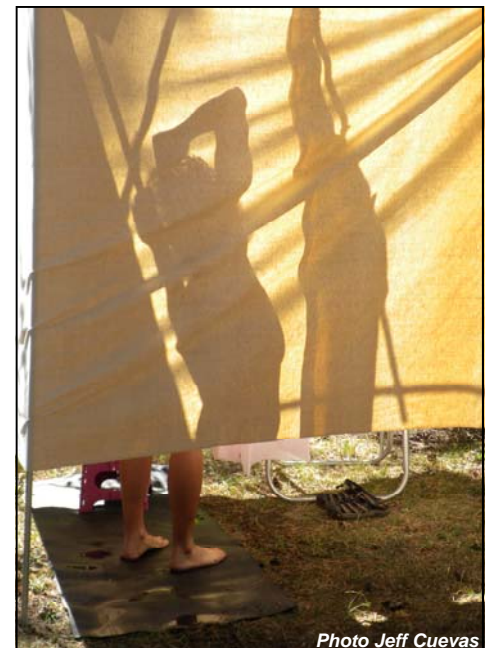


the camp ground led by Barb on both days. Also on offer was a hike to Mono Pass, led by Anne M. on Sunday, and another to Hilton Lakes, led by Anna B., also on Sunday. Along with all this hiking, there were GLS folks spread along the creeks and lakes, fishing, while others went into Bishop for the Mule Days celebration, and yet more folks went to Mammoth for the Blue Grass festival. There are really no words to describe the beauty of the scenery or the happy smiles on the faces of all the folks returning from their various outings;

we'll have to let the pictures do it justice.

Saturday night we had the traditional potluck, and what a spread it was. Grills and stoves were working overtime, turning out chicken, salmon, ribs, frittatas, grilled cheese sandwiches; there were salads of all kinds, cookies, brownies, chips- a feast. Just as everyone was settling down to enjoy it all, Tom M. noticed an uninvited guest very close by. "BEAR!" With that, there were 25 GLSers jumping up, hollering, shouting, banging pan lids, kicking the metal bear boxes, and, yes, taking pictures. The poor creature never had a chance, especially after Eileen C. turned on her car alarm and others followed suit. He fled in panic to tell the tale of the ferocity of GLS members when confronted with the loss of their potluck. He never showed his snout again.

Although the bear will probably go down in history as the main event of this car camp, it was really all magical. Spending long days climbing the heights, seeing the lakes spread out below, and quiet nights watching the stars spread out above, we had a wonderful break from our urban lives, catching up with one another, forging new bonds, and renewing old ones. Truly a trip to remember.



Some GLS Notes from Murray Aronson

The Angeles Chapter Gay and Lesbian Sierrans is celebrating its Silver Anniversary. There's one man to whom I want to pay tribute and that is Elden Hughes. Hughes died last December and his passing was noted in the world outside of the Sierra Club, including an obituary in the Los Angeles Times.

Elden Hughes was an environmentalist and conservationist, the Real McCoy. Nothing half-hearted about that. Elden Hughes was the main force behind the passing of the California Desert Protection Act. He is largely responsible for the creation of Mojave National Preserve and the expansion of Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Monuments to their present national park status. Desert tortoises, bighorn sheep, phainopeplas, roadrunners, and other critters and rocks have needed elbow room due to Elden Hughes. And at the time of his death Elden Hughes was still working to preserve and protect more precious land.

I met Elden Hughes back in 1986 when I was getting started with organizing GLS. I remember going to a Thai restaurant on Beverly Blvd between Rampart and Alvarado (the Angeles Chapter office was nearby and the restaurant is still there). I was clueless and out of my element with this Sierra Club business. Elden Hughes, a big and burly man who reminded me of Burl Ives, was friendly and encouraging. Elden Hughes felt that if gays and lesbians wanted a group, then it was the right thing

to do, it was that simple. Elden did warn me that it might take a lot of work and he was right. Elden Hughes remained a source of good counsel and for a number of people Elden's support was important.

At Elden Hughes's memorial this past January at the Whitewater Preserve, there were various testimonials and reminiscences from family, friends, and politicians, including a warm message from Dianne Feinstein. I thought of saying something, but there was a printed program and folks were getting peckish. Later I went over to Patty Carpenter Hughes, Elden's widow and comrade-in-arms, to offer my, rather our condolences saying that Gay and Lesbian Sierrans have not forgotten that Elden Hughes, environmentalist, was also a man who supported our creation. Patty said that was true and remembered Elden's support.

I am honored that I knew Elden Hughes, even a little bit. He was one of the greatest men I've ever met. May Elden Hughes always be remembered for the good things that he did in his 80-plus years.

-o-o-

A little more GLS history from 1986. I learned about the Bay Area GLS from my late great friend Elliot Klein who was visiting and staying with me with his then-boyfriend Randy Wong (Chanticleer countertenor). Actually it was Randy who told me about its creation, but didn't know anything more. Not long after I sent a postcard, not a letter, to the Bay Area

Group asking about information regarding Gay and Lesbian Sierrans.

Maybe a week later I received a phone call from one Alan Weaver. Alan worked for the Sierra Club in the publishing department and we talked for quite a while. Alan gave me the names and telephone numbers of different people, largely men, whom he thought would be interested in the formation of a Gay and Lesbian Sierra Club group in Los Angeles. One of the names given was Don Thompson. I called Don and yes he was interested. We met, probably at the French Market. We agreed that if a Gay and Lesbian Sierrans was to take off, we needed women. I asked around Beth Chayim Chadashim to see if there people who were Sierra Club members and interested in our idea. That's when Kathy Andeway and Alice Bloch got involved and contributed the names of other interested women. This was before the Southern Sierran letter and the infamous Chapter Council meeting.

-o-o-

There is now a new Gay and Lesbian Sierrans organization. It's in the Cimarron Group of the Oklahoma Chapter, i.e. Oklahoma City (on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/gl.sierrans>). One of the organizers is someone named Kristy Larson who said she hiked with the Angeles Chapter GLS back in 1990 or so and wanted to do something similar in the Sooner State capital. We wish the new GLS well. May they be like the Colorado GLS, with lots of activities and conservation work.

25 Years and Still Going Strong

(Continued from the first page)

Marie A. outdid herself in the execution of the celebration – from the welcome notes we all had on our bunk beds, to the communal meals we shared, to the party decorations for Saturday night's big dinner. Jeff C. made festive buttons for us to pin to our shirts to mark the event, and Jeff J. put together a spiffy commemorative booklet that included stories and pictures of how GLS came to be. He also brought along banners to hang in Harwood Lodge that we use to decorate our booth at Long Beach Gay Pride every year – a big treat for those who had never seen them before. Special thanks to the GLS Board who helped make this weekend possible and to the volunteers like Tim V., Tammie B., Kyla H., Virginia C., Kiwi and Jo T. who took on extra work to make everything flow smoothly.

Hikes were the order of the day on

Saturday – from easy to strenuous. Grace led a group to San Antonio Falls, Marie and I took a group to the ski hut, yet another group made it all the way to majestic Mt. Baldy at over 10,000', and then to "top things off," Mike B. and Byron C. went Beyond Baldy to Pine Mt., racking

up 15 miles. Our reward was a delicious lasagna dinner and a lot of stories and laughs. T-shirt "supervisor" Amanda S. handed out stylish commemorative T-shirts (designed by Ginger B.). We also enjoyed Mike's "Watershed" music video from a few years ago and then his more recent video compilation of interviews from the La Jolla Canyon 15 year anniversary hike. The evening ended with some of us putting together a cool jigsaw puzzle of the Eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains that Marie A. picked up – which brought back so many memories of trips up there.

Sunday morning, Mike got out his video camera and recorded more "How I Found GLS" stories. Everyone pitched in to clean up the lodge and then a handful of us went for another hike, up Bear Canyon to Bear Flats (no bears, just ferns, so we joked the bears were British and actually had said, "I have a flat up in The Ferns.").



Amanda presents the new GLS T-shirts at dinner. Photo Nancy Beverly.

Exercise and Education in the Swish Alps

by Eva Eilenberg

Usually when I'm planning a Sierra Club outing, I consult topographic maps and wilderness resources. This time I dug into an urban walking guide book, a bunch of historical references and a couple of city mapping tools.

I'm a huge fan of Charles Fleming's *Secret Stairs: A Walking Guide to the Historic Staircases of Los Angeles*. It has inspired me and emboldened me to explore spots in our sprawling city that I never would have sought out in the past. I live in Silver Lake and I've walked around the neighborhood for well over a decade. But thanks to this book, I've discovered staircases that I never knew existed, and I've learned little tidbits of history along the way. So, when GLS asked if I had any walks I wanted to lead, I decided to come up with a challenging urban hike that would string together a few of the walks in Fleming's book and motivate me to bone up on in some GLBT history while I was at it.

The product was the September 30 GLS outing, *Stair Hike in the Swish Alps (Silver Lake)*, which Amanda Smith co-led with me. Much to my surprise, shortly after the write-up was posted, Wes Joe, a local historian and activist whose name had cropped up in a lot of my research, contacted Laura Rainey, who in turn contacted me. I couldn't believe it: Wes

offered to come out early on a Sunday morning to tell us about some of the landmarks along our route! How cool is that?

Our group of 14 intrepid walkers met up at Intelligentsia Coffee (Sunset Blvd. near Sanborn), prepared to brave the goodness-knows-how-many feet of elevation gain and 6.5 miles of urban hiking on a day when temperatures were expected to top out near 100. Our meeting spot was between the former sight of A DIFFERENT LIGHT BOOKSTORE (4014 Santa Monica), one of the earliest and pre-eminent GLBT literary establishments and community gathering spots, and THE BLACK CAT TAVERN (3909 Sunset), which was where a New Year's Eve celebration was raided by police in 1966. That horrible event, which ended in numerous beatings and arrests, subsequently launched the courageous 1967 gay-rights protests, which predated Stonewall by some 29 months. Additionally, we learned, the complex that now houses a café, cheese shop and music conservatory used to be the headquarters of ACT UP LA. Not for nothing, our meeting spot was also near one of the terminals for the trolley system that pre-dates the rise of the auto culture in our fair and congested city: SUNSET JUNCTION. Back in the day, folks walked and took trolleys—and the public stairs were built to make it easier for all these pedestrians to make their way

through the hills.

After climbing a bunch of these staircases and meandering around the western side of the Swish Alps, we headed over to the MATTACHINE (SOCIETY) STEPS, where Wes met back up with us. While we rested and lounged on the stairs, Wes gave us a terrific talk about the founding of this seminal “homophile” organization by HARRY HAY and a handful of other brave fellows in 1950. We talked about the groundbreaking Dale JENNINGS lawsuit, which helped the society grow, and learned about some of the important early organizations and publications of the GLBT rights movement. Wes also gave us some insights into how the mainstream press has covered, or failed to cover, GLBT events historically. (See the resources section, below, if you want to learn more.)

Wes brought all this history to life for us, with a ton of facts and background info and anecdotes and details about how and why the Black Cat and the Mattachine Steps came to be designated official historical landmarks. (The former Different Light location was also being considered for landmark status but was bulldozed before that could happen.) It was a rare treat to hear oral history recounted in person by one of the people who was instrumental in getting these important sites designated for posterity. Thank you, Wes, for all you have done—and continue to do—for our community.

Hike photos page 8

Resources & References

The route we took: <http://soc.li/uzUmHtG>

Books

Secret Stairs: A Walking Guide to the Historic Staircases of Los Angeles, Charles Fleming (<http://www.secretstairs-la.com/welcome.html>)

Gay L. A.: A History of Sexual Outlaws, Power Politics, And Lipstick Lesbians, Lillian Faderman and Stuart Timmons (<http://www.amazon.com/Gay-L-Politics-Lipstick-Lesbians/dp/B000WCTS3Q>)

Lavender Los Angeles (Images of America), Arcadia Publishing (<http://www.amazon.com/Lavender-Angeles-America-Arcadia-Publishing/dp/0738574902>)

The Trouble With Harry Hay: Founder of the Modern Gay Movement, Stuart Timmons (<http://www.amazon.com/Trouble-Harry-Hay-Stuart-Timmons/dp/1555831117>)

Online articles

“The Temerity of a Kiss,” from the Box Turtle Bulletin website (<http://www.boxturtlebulletin.com/2006/12/27/171>)

This terrific, short piece from 2006 was written to commemorate the Black Cat raid of 1966, which preceded Stonewall by two and a half years. In addition to giving a great description of that event and

the protest it sparked, this article provides a succinct historical context for the gay rights movement:

“It's hard to describe what it was like to be gay in Los Angeles in the 1950's and '60's. It was virtually illegal to be gay in LA, where undercover officers displayed unusual zeal to 'clean up the streets.' No place was safe, not even private homes, bars or clubs.... Entrapment was the norm and it didn't take much to get arrested. Simply arranging to meet for dinner or exchanging phone numbers with an undercover officer was often enough to trigger an arrest — and being labeled a sex offender under California Law.”

“Bar still symbolic in the gay community,” *L.A. Times* article about the Black Cat protests (<http://articles.latimes.com/2008/nov/16/local/me-then16>)
Sunset Junction, Wikipedia entry

About the Mattachine Society, Harry Hay and Dale Jennings (a few of many)

“Harry Hay: Founding the Mattachine Society, 1948-1953,” on outhistory.org (http://www.outhistory.org/wiki/Harry_Hay:_Founding_the_Mattachine_Society,_1948-1953)

Mattachine Society, Wikipedia entry

Dale Jennings, Wikipedia entry

“Harry Hay and the Mattachine Society,” on [harryhay.com](http://www.harryhay.com) (http://www.harryhay.com/AH_matt.html)

“Mattachine battles police harassment,” on [workers.org](http://www.workers.org) (<http://www.workers.org/2005/us/lavender-red-43/>)

FBI records of the Mattachine Society, on vault.fbi.gov (<http://vault.fbi.gov/mattachine-society>)

About the Mattachine Steps

(some of these mention our own Wes Joe!)

“Happy Birthday Harry,” on [theeastsiderla.com](http://www.theeastsiderla.com) (<http://www.theeastsiderla.com/2012/04/happy-birthday-harry-silver-lake-honors-gay-rights-pioneer/>)

“The Mattachine Steps Dedicated at Harry Hay 100th Birthday Celebration in Silverlake,” on lgbtpov.frontiersla.com (<http://lgbtpov.frontiersla.com/2012/04/09/the-mattachine-steps-dedicated-at-harry-hay-100th-birthday-celebration-in-silver-lake-photos/>)

About the bulldozing...

...of the former site of A Different Light book-store and the redline trolley terminal building

“Silver Lake gay landmark gets bulldozed,” in [theeastsiderla.com/](http://www.theeastsiderla.com/) (<http://www.theeastsiderla.com/2011/09/silver-lake-gay-landmark-gets-bulldozed/>)

“Silver Lake's A Different Light Bookstore Bites The Dust—Literally,” in [queerty.com](http://www.queerty.com) (<http://www.queerty.com/silver-lakes-a-different-light-bookstore-bites-the-dust%E2%80%94literally-20111003/>)

Around Harwood Lodge on the GLS 25th Anniversary Weekend



Greeting committee as guests arrive



Snacks in the kitchen



Men's bunk room



Women's bunk room



Visiting with



GLS friends inside and outside at Harwood Lodge. Photos this row Nancy Beverly



Breakfast in the dining room



GLS banners and people's photos set up around the main room of the lodge



The decorating committee gets to work setting up for dinner on Saturday night.



At Saturday dinner, Laura and Mike stand up to talk about GLS and GLS history



Watching Mike's videos after dinner



After dinner on Saturday evening.



Working on a jigsaw puzzle of the eastern Sierras late, late into the night.



Harwood overseer Cia Kirchner, left, and GLS organizer Marje Ammerman, right



Mike interviewing on video



It's over. Dora removes the sign.

In the Swish Alps

(Continued from page 6)

Photos by Nancy Beverly



Thorn Point

by Jeff Johnson, story and photos

Dora led a GLS group to the Ventura County peak called Thorn Point on October 28, 2012. I had never hiked around there before, which may be because of the long drive from where I live. But it was a good hike with some unfamiliar things to see.

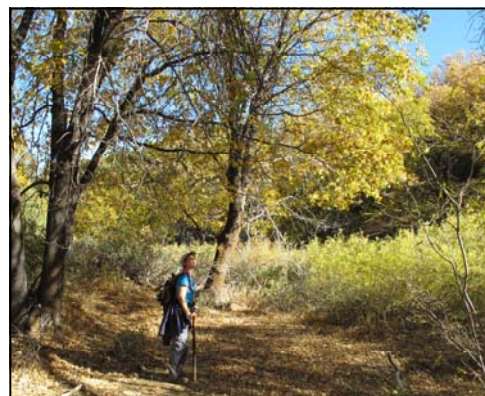
The trail from Thorn Meadows starts along a creek, entering the Sespe Wilderness of the Los Padres National Forest, climbs switchbacks across steep slopes to a prominent rocky point surrounded by cliffs, then up to a ridge, and then up to the summit where there is an old fire tower.

One of the first unfamiliar-looking things here was the oak trees that, unlike the live oaks of the coast or the scrub oaks of the coastal mountains, have lobed leaves. Could these be *Quercus kelloggii*, the black oak, or *Quercus douglasii*, the blue oak? Can't tell because it was fall foliage season around here and they were bright yellow!

Also very obvious at the start was the fire damage. We walked through many acres of dead pines, standing and down, with charcoal lying on the ground where it had fallen off burned logs. Many shrubby thickets of oaks were growing up from the roots of older oak trees killed by fire.

Another thing to notice was the rocks. The San Gabriels are mostly grey granitic rocks, but here it's layers of rocks that are sandy to the touch, and in the distance those layers are flying up at all angles, reflecting the active geology of the area. High up on steep slopes, we were surprised to find what appeared to be weathered cobbles that were not granite but, evidently, sandstone.

Along the way, we met some hunters on the trail in bright orange vests. Uh oh! It's hunting season, and what are we (and the dogs) wearing? Earth tones! But Nancy was prepared. She pulled out a red bandana to wear on her head—her cloak of visibility.



It must have been effective because she made it back to the trailhead!

When you hike to a fire tower, you never know whether you will find a fire tower or a pile of ashes. We were not disappointed here. We could actually climb up and look inside. This fire

tower was most recently used to look out for condors which were reintroduced into the wild in this area.

The closest peaks we could see from the summit were unfamiliar shapes to me. Way, way off in the distance though, did I recognize the profiles of Baldy and Baden-Powell.

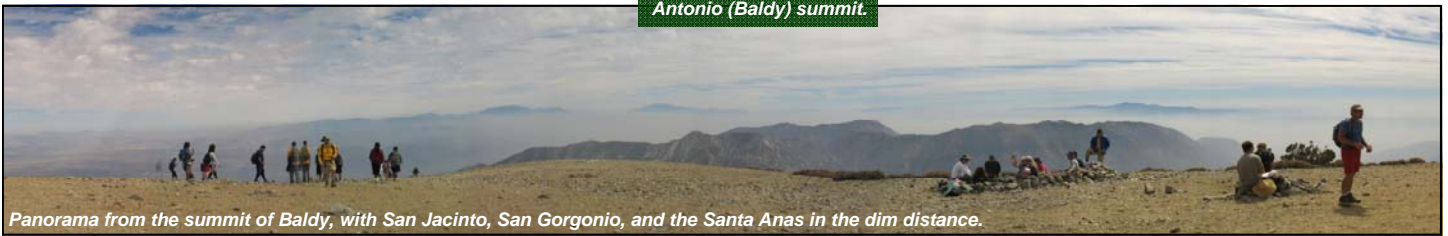
On the way in, we passed some campgrounds and discussed car camping nearby, with the possibility of climbing two of three peaks in a weekend. That may show up on the calendar at some point.

Out Hiking on the GLS 25th Anniversary Weekend at Harwood



Hike to Mount San Antonio (Baldy) summit.

Photo Jeff Cuevas



Panorama from the summit of Baldy, with San Jacinto, San Gorgonio, and the Santa Anas in the dim distance.



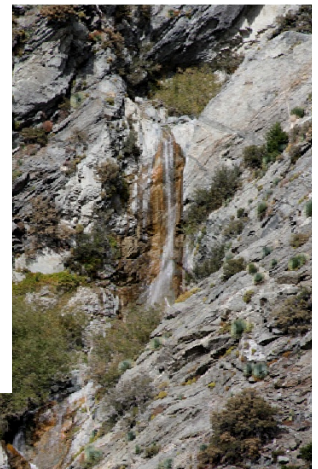
Hike to Keller Ski Hut. Photos Nancy Beverly.



Hike to Bear Flats, and "the world's largest Bigcone Douglas Fir." Photos Nancy Beverly.



Photo Sandy Biehler



People walked up the road to San Antonio Falls a number of times. Some people went as far as the overlook, some went down to the falls, and some went right into the water.

Photo Heather McNaught



Photo Nancy Beverly

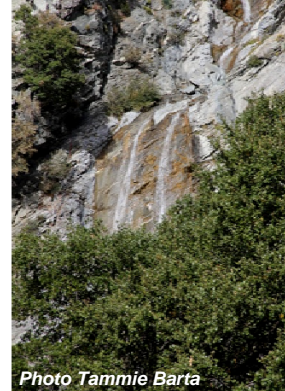


Photo Tammie Barta



Photo Sandy Biehler

GLS 2012 Election

Our Bylaws provide that the management of the affairs and activities of the GLS Section is in the hands of the GLS Management Committee. The committee consists of five members elected by the members of the Section for terms of two years

each, three to be elected in odd-numbered years, and two in even-numbered years.

This year we need to elect two members to serve with Brad, Grace, and SK, who were elected last year, to form a new GLS Management Committee.

Election result will be announced at the GLS holiday party, December 8, and will be published in the January/February 2012 issue of TRACKS.

The ballot is printed on the reverse side of this page. Voting members can vote by sending in this ballot, or can vote by email, as described on the ballot.

Rustic Canyon and Beach Hike

by Nancy Beverly, story and photos

Another excellent outing by tour guide extraordinaire, Barb Edwards! Barb started us off on the bluffs of Santa Monica's Ocean Avenue, fittingly, overlooking the ocean. Soon we were walking and taking in "historic" homes -- that is to say, gay and lesbian historic homes, belonging to the likes of Christopher Isherwood and his partner Don Bachardy. After navigating a few steep sets of stairs, we found ourselves in Rustic Canyon at the Uplifter's Ranch, founded by H.R. "Bob" Haldeman's grandfather. A shady oasis -- but an exclusive one for only well-to-do men back in the earlier part of the 20th century. We made our way out of the shade and under Pacific Coast Highway to the sunny beach and our next stop: Marion Davies' guest house. Davies, paramour of media tycoon William Randolph Hearst, was both an

actress and quite the party hostess, as we learned from our docent-led hour-long tour of her beachside home. The Santa Monica Conservancy sponsors the tours, which are free, and anyone can come and hang out at the house just to enjoy the view and the ambiance. We then lunched right outside of Marion's place and were treated to a performance art group rehearsing for their upcoming adventure -- which included twirling red parasols and (not simultaneously) singing Irving Berlin's "How Deep Is the Ocean." Apres lunch, it was back to the Barb Tour. The beachside residences we ogled included those of silent star Harold Lloyd, Mae West and Mary Pickford. One last steep set of stairs brought us over PCH and back to the bluffs. As the marine layer started to roll in, we leaned over the bluff rails trying to spot Mae's house down below.



Trying to find Mae West's house down there



In front of a John Byers-designed house



Marion Davies' beach house



Inside Marion Davies' beach house



Norma Shearer & Irving Thalberg's beach cottage

Photo Contest Guidelines

(Continued from page 2)

- Submit each photo with:
 - * **Your name**
 - * **Name and date of the GLS outing when you took the picture**
 - * **Optional title for the picture**
 - * **Optional description, up to 50 words long**
 - * **Optional contest category (or categories) for each picture**

- Voters will vote for their favorites overall and in these categories:
 - * **GLS people**
 - * **On the trail**
 - * **In camp**
 - * **Flora (plants and trees)**
 - * **Fauna (animals)**
 - * **Landscape and scenery**
 - * **Humor**
- GLS will provide a slide show of submissions at the Holiday Party, so

- we can view them there before voting.
- Photos will be posted for viewing online at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/43971315@N03/> without your name but with the descriptive info you provide and with an identifying number. The Flickr address will be posted on our website, angeles.sierraclub.org/gls
- In case of questions, GLS mgmt comm members will decide how to proceed.

GLS 2012 Ballot

These persons have been nominated:

Sharon Hartley **Amanda Smith**

Write in a candidate:

Voting instructions: Please vote for two and return your ballot to be received by December 5.

By postal mail: circle or write in names to the left, then cut out this ballot and mail to:

GLS Election
P.O. Box 1300
South Pasadena, CA 91031-1300

By email: Send your votes in an email message to Jeff Johnson at: jgj@cheerful.com

Who can vote? Only voting members can cast a ballot. A voting member is a member of the Sierra Club who subscribes to the GLS newsletter, TRACKS.

More election info on the reverse side

Outings & Events

November 2012

November 3, Sat., 9:30 am - 3:00 pm
Annual Angeles Chapter Outings Assembly

**Eaton Canyon Nature Center,
1750 N Altadena Dr, Pasadena, CA**

All Sierra Club members are invited, especially Angeles Chapter outings chairs, outings leaders, provisional leaders and all those with an interest in the Angeles Chapter outings program. Keynote speaker will be Stacy Bare, Director of Mission Outdoors for the Sierra Club. We will also demonstrate the latest updates and enhancements to OARS (including how to publish co-sponsored outings), and there will be a presentation on using social media and other avenues for publicizing your outings. Delegates will elect Outings Representatives to the Outings Management, Safety and Leadership Training Committees. Limited parking available at the Nature Center; additional parking at the nearby Equestrian Lot. Light breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please bring your own reusable cup. For more information or to obtain a copy of the complete agenda, contact the leaders: Melody Anderson, 310-738-0841, melodygrace1@gmail.com; Donna Specht, 714-963-6345, donnaspecht@juno.com.

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 11, Sunday
O: Malibu Creek State Park
Grace Hengst, Alan Schimpff

In honor of this Veteran's Day, us 2 real veterans will lead an easy 4 1/2 mi 500' elevation gain/loss hike to the site of the filming of the M*A*S*H Movie and TV Series showing the

staff of an army hospital during the Korean War. This spectacular landscape of rock outcroppings, jagged mountains, and deep gorges developed 2-15 million years ago during a period of dramatic geologic changes. Those forces continue today. Optional 1 mi hike to the Rock Pool, site of many films including "South Pacific", and the Visitor Center. The park is located 4mi south of Highway 101 on Las Virgenes/Malibu Canyon Road. Latitude/Longitude:34.1033/-118.7331. Meet at 9:30 am at the day parking lot near the bathrooms. Bring 2 quarts of water, lunch, \$ for parking. No dogs allowed on the trails. Rain cancels. Call Grace at 323-697-6886 with questions.

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.

(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. 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

Signal Hill Conditioning Walks

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

maybe even strenuous if you are out of shape. Walking on pavement and gravel. Sensible walking shoes,

water, layers for cool evening breezes. Drizzle goes, rain cancels. Questions? Call Jeff 562-434-8473.
When: Every *last* Wednesday of the month (except

holidays), at 7:00 pm. Back at the cars around 8:30 pm.
Where: Meet on Industry, just west of intersection with Redondo, in Signal Hill. Plenty of street parking.

Outings and Events

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

November 24, Saturday

O: Zuma Loop Trail

Alan Schimpff, Tom Molloy

This a great strenuous work out rewarded by beautiful scenery. The trail includes two major ascents, a descent into Zuma Canyon, crossing a stream, and a transverse along a ridge with beautiful ocean views. Round-trip: 11 miles, 2800 elevation gain and loss. Bring at least 2 quarts of water and the 10 essentials. Meet at 9:30 AM at the trailhead. If taking the 101 west, turn left on Kanan Road and head over the mountain until PCH. On PCH, head NW for about ½ mile (or two stoplights) until you reach Busch road. Turn right on Busch and follow it to the end of the road which is the trailhead, park there. If taking PCH West, pass Kanan Road until you come to Busch Road about ½ mile (or two stoplights) later. Turn right on Busch and follow it to the end of the road, which is the trailhead.

December 2012

December 2, Sunday

O: Glendale, Verdugo Mountains - Beaudry Loop

Eva Eilenberg, Amanda Smith

This nearby hike offers a short but sweet work out, topped with spectacular views just before sunset (we hope). We'll be on fire roads for most of the time, as we steadily climb and then descend approximately 1500 ft in a loop that is just under 6 miles long. Water, good hiking shoes, a jacket and the usual day-hiking essentials are recommended. Note that a part of our descent will be around dusk. Well-behaved and leashed dogs okay. Meet at 3 pm at the fire gate near 3110 Beaudry Terrace, Glendale. Street parking is available in this residential neighborhood. Severe storms cancel.

December 8, Saturday

O: Holiday Party

Grace Hengst, Mary Adair

This year the GLS Holiday Party is again at Grace and Mary's Mount Washington home. This is a time to talk with other GLS members and just have fun sharing the holiday spirit! The festivities start at 2pm and finish at 6pm. Please bring a potluck item to share, and let Grace know what item you plan on bringing. GLS provides beverages, plates, silverware, and lasagna (vegetarian and meat).

There will be 2 door prizes, a "Half & Half" raffle in which there will be 30% to first winner, 20% to second winner, and half goes to the GLS treasury.

There will also be a silent auction, so please bring a new or used hiking/camping/other item, in good condition, to the party. The proceeds go to GLS. Please reclaim any unsold items at the end of the auction. Also, view and vote on photos submitted for the GLS photo contest.

We will count the ballots for the election to the GLS Mgmt Committee and announce the new board members at the party.

Send a check to "GLS" for the admission charge of \$5.00. Send to: Grace Hengst, 1717 Burnell Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90065. Enclose SASE if you need directions to the house. Caution: Mapquest can get you lost in this area, so call Grace at 323-697-6886 in the days before the party if you need clarification. Parking: you may need to park on the surrounding streets, as parking is quite restricted on Burnell by Grace's house.

December 16, Sunday

O: DeVore Trail to West Fork Campground

Nancy Beverly, Mike Brostoff

A new hike for GLS! But a trail that's been around for years – you'll learn all about the man for which the trail is named, Kenyon DeVore. This hike starts near Mt. Wilson, heading down the DeVore Trail through a forest of Jeffrey and sugar pines, incense cedar, big-cone spruce and many oaks. The Station Fire wiped out a bit of it, but there is still plenty of shade before and after that section. There are also some stream crossings and sandy, narrow cliffs, so bring your hiking poles. Also bring a big lunch, snacks and 3+ liters of water, it's a long, strenuous hike – between 10 and 12 miles, depending on whether we stop at West Fork Campground or continue on down Strayns Creek to the old DeVore Trail camp. Please note: the hike is all downhill at the start and all uphill on the way back and takes six+ hours round-trip. Meet at the La Canada rideshare point at 8 a.m. Adventure Pass needed to park at trailhead. Bring layers to accommodate the weather. Sorry, no dogs on this one – poison oak is growing on the edges of the trail – which humans can avoid but the dogs could easily get into, and then brush up against their two-footed friends. Rain, snow, or forest fires cancel. Questions? Contact Nancy @ 818-681-5192.

December 22, Saturday

O: Gold Canyon

Susan Campo, Diane Zaepfel

Meet at 9 am sharp and let's burn off a few more Holiday calories. Plus if it has rained earlier, the views can be spectacular! Will do a moderate 10 mile loop hike with 2,500 gain/loss. From the 210 freeway in Pacoima, exit on Osborne Street. Head north and it becomes Little Tujunga Cyn. Road. Go 4 miles to Gold Creek Rd. Turn rt. And wind down the paved road for about a mile to the Oak Springs trailhead and Parking on your right. You need an Adventure Pass to park here. Bring lunch, water, appropriate weather clothing, lug boots, hiking poles if you use them. Please email the leader with your phone number the day prior to

hike if you expect to be there. Well behaved dogs OK with leash. Rain cancels or may shorten the route!

Future Outings

January 5, Saturday

O: Jones Peak

Susan Lucille Campo, Diane Zaepfel

Do a moderate calorie burner to a local peak. Moderate 6.6 miles RT with 2275 feet elevation gain/loss. Won't take all day, maybe 4 hours! Meet at Baily Park parking lot at 9 AM; 451 W. Carter Ave, Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Location north of the 210 freeway, exit Baldwin Blvd and go North. Turn left at end on Carter Street. Parking lot on right before dead end. Bring lunch, water, appropriate weather clothing, boots, poles if you use them. Well behaved dogs on leash OK. Please email leader with phone number the day prior if you intend to be there.

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 the stream 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 National Park

Barbara Edwards, Judith Demarah

Join us President's Day weekend at the Black Rock Canyon campground (elev 4000), located in the northwest corner of the park, just 5 miles from Yucca Valley. Campsites are dispersed on the hillside at the mouth of the canyon, and surrounded by Joshua trees, junipers, cholla cacti, and desert shrubs. Trailheads to scenic hiking trails in the hills are easily accessible from the campground. They take hikers to ridgelines overlooking the snowy peaks of San Jacinto and San Gorgonio via Eureka Peak, Panorama Loop, and Warren Peak trails. If you get tired of scenic hikes, you can head into town... Yucca Valley offers restaurants, and shopping. Flush toilets and water are available

Outings and Events

at the campground. Showers nearby. Expect daytime temperatures in the mid 60's and nighttime temps to dip into the 30's. Dogs permitted in campground, but not on most trails. Cost is \$32 per person for 3 nights camping. A few RV sites (no hook-ups) are available. Please send check and email address to: Barbara Edwards, 1739 S. Sherbourne Dr., L.A. 90035.

February 23, Saturday **O: Snowshoe Outing** **Dora Olea, Kirk Olsen**

Contact the leaders for more information.

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 213-200-0039.

June 8 - 9, Sat - Sun **O: Backpack, Altadena - Idlehour Trail Camp** **Dora Olea, Grace Hengst**

Details in future TRACKS.

Next Year in Northern New Mexico: Aunt Judith's Questa Ranch

by Mike Brostoff

In 1980, my Aunt Judith bought a ranch in the high plateau, mountainous region of northern New Mexico near Questa and not far from the Colorado border. In the late '80s, she developed it into a retreat center called Tajoka Institute. Aunt Judith's ranch is still a vibrant destination for those seeking a spiritual sanctuary or a threshold to the intense, natural beauty of Northern New Mexico's Sangre de Cristo mountains, the southern tail of the Rocky Mountain range.

How did a Jewish, middle-class, Pittsburgh-born woman end up in the Southwest? Like many creative people in the late 1940s, a turbulent and oppressive parental relationship forced my then young Aunt Judith westward to what she herself called "God's Country," the native lands of the American Southwest. In addition to her artistic soul, Aunt Judith's psychosomatic asthma healed considerably in the Southwest.

As she describes Takoja: "Nestled on 40 acres 28 miles north of Taos at Ranchos Mesclados in Northern New Mexico, the Takoja Retreat Center is surrounded by magnificent landscape. Abundant recreational facilities provide many opportunities for fishing and hiking. Within a short distance of the ranch are the Taos Red River, Kit Carson National Forest, Cabresto Park, Sulphur Springs, Rio Grande Gorge Park, Latier Lakes, and the grandeur of the Villa Vidal.

"The unique Domes of the Retreat Center are sculptured in form and sacred dimension, an

artist's delight. Wildlife share their home with those who take time to listen and observe. A 360 degree view calms the soul and causes you to revel in the miracle of life. At first light, when the sun crests the Sangre de Cristo peaks, the valley is flooded with a soft, golden ambiance, gently awakening the spirit within. Each evening, the sunsets captivate the visual senses, a place of safety and comfort."

I first visited Takoja in 1992 and returned several times throughout the '90s. Since joining GLS, I thought it would be a great destination

There are so many activities to suit everyone in northern New Mexico. There are unlimited hiking trails and mountains to explore, including Wheeler Peak, the highest mountain in New Mexico standing at over 13,000 feet. The mountains of New Mexico offer much more wildlife viewing than we are accustomed to in California. Bighorn sheep, black bears and marmots are common, with an occasional mountain lion or porcupine sighting for the off-trail adventurer. We saw Big Horn Sheep on several of our outings. Additionally, the Rio Grande River is nearby and offers river activities such as whitewater rafting and hot springs. In addition to the Taos Pueblo, the ranch is not far from several other native pueblos, historic Anasazi ruins and petroglyphs. For those who don't mind a drive, the Santa Fe area offers both outdoor adventure and tourist activities including 10,000 Waves, a world-class Japanese style spa, and the famous Canyon Road, an artist's haven in the Southwest.

Our accommodations at Tajoka Ranch will include the option of sleeping dormitory-style in the Domes or setting up a tent nearby in the high desert landscape. There will be bathrooms with showers and breakfast every morning with a few evening meals. Price hasn't been finalized yet but should range between \$350 - \$450. A maximum of 15 participants. More details about the trip should be available in the March/April newsletter where we expect to open up registration. If this sounds like something you might want to do, mark your calendars for June 29th - July 7th.



for an outing. At the end of July, Grace, Dawn, her nephew, another friend and I spent a week at Takoja. Aunt Judith is now 82 years old, therefore her daughter, my cousin Michelle, hosted us in the domes. Michelle and her daughter Tisha, a wonderful cook, prepared breakfast every morning and a few evening meals. We hiked the surrounding forests and mountains with elevations of 10,000' - 13,000', visited Native American pueblos and Taos. Since we had a great time, we decided to lead an official GLS trip next summer for the week of July 4th.



Michelle
and
Tisha

November and December 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
OCT 28	29 <small>full moon</small>	30	31 No Griffith Park hike Signal Hill	NOV 1	2	3 Angeles Chapter Outings Assembly at Eaton Canyon Nature Center
4 Long Beach Museum and Walking Tour Karen, Laura	5	6	7 Griffith Park Amanda, Marie	8	9	10
11 Malibu Creek State Park Grace, Alan	12	13	14 Griffith Park Anne, Dora	15 GLS Management Committee Meeting	16	17
18 Mount Wilson Dora, Robin	19	20	21 Griffith Park Nancy, Grace	22	23	24 Zuma Loop Trail Alan, Tom
25	26	27	28 <small>full moon</small>	29	30	1
2 Glendale Verdugo Beaudry Loop Eva, Amanda	3	4	5 Griffith Park Marie, Grace	6	7	8 Holiday Party Grace, Mary
9	10	11	12 Griffith Park Amanda, Nancy	13	14	15
16 DeVore Trail to West Fork Nancy, Mike	17	18	19 Griffith Park Eva, Dora	20	21	22 Gold Canyon Susan, Diane
23 <hr style="width: 100%;"/>	24 <hr style="width: 100%;"/>	25	26 Griffith Park Dora, Nancy Signal Hill	27	28 <small>full moon</small>	29
30	31					

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
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Anne Mullins	323-522-6640	hike2thepeak@gmail.com
Asher Waxman	323-876-2889	amuirman@yahoo.com
Barbara Edwards	310-839-0593	greyhound@sbcglobal.net
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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

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.

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- New Renewal Gift Change of Address
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- 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 Membership Dept. P.O. Box 52968 Boulder, CO 80322
Regular	\$39	\$47	
Supporting	\$75	\$100	
Contributing	\$150	\$175	
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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