TRAILS MAGAZINE



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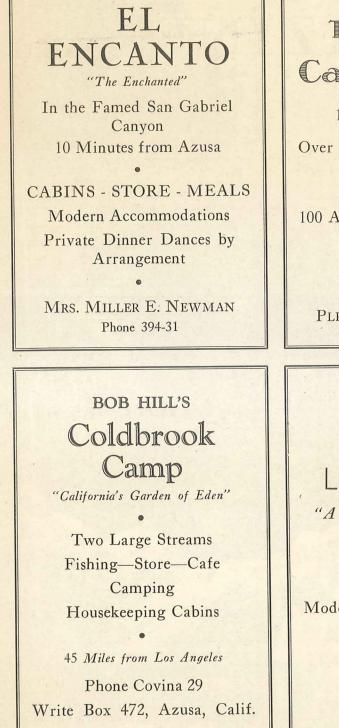


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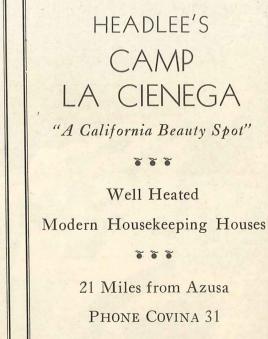


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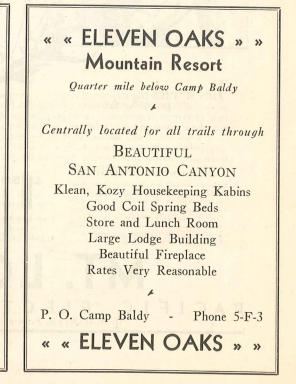
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RAILWAY

# TRAILS MAGAZINE

Trails Magazine SUMMER, 1934 NO. 3 VOL. 1 Published Quarterly by THE MOUNTAIN LEAGUE of Southern California A non-profit organization of representatives of Public Departments and Outing Clubs, formed for the purpose of stimulating the development and use of mountain trails and other facilities for outdoor recreation in Los Angeles County. Sponsored by The Los Angeles County Department of Recreation Camps and Playgrounds, JAMES K. REID, Superintendent 240 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, Calif. Phone MUTUAL 9211 STATION 2892 .Ferd E. Gramm Art Editor ... ASSOCIATE EDITORS: Clinton C. Clarke; Spence D. Turner, County Forester; Wm V. Mendenhall, Supervisor Angeles Forest; Edgar H. Hunting, L. A. Junior Chamber of Commerce.

#### Price, 10c per copy; by subscription, 40c per year.

#### Summer in the Mountains of Southern California

A wonderful opportunity right at our door to escape the dust and heat and sometimes too bright sunlight of the valley.

Cool nooks to be reached by short hikes where one may fill the lungs with soft, good air, may drink good water, may spend the heat of the day in the shade of beautiful trees, may rest tired eyes in the soft light which sifts through a natural canopy of green.

We can start in the light of early dawn for those places higher up or farther away or better still spend the night under the stars on a bed of pine needles and come back after the sun has set; and as we come down the mountain in the gathering dusk it would be a cold soul indeed that would not thrill to the sight in the valley below as the lights of City after City break out until the whole plain is a blaze of jewels from mountains foot to the blue Pacific thirty miles away.

"Afar across a City's wide expanse,

A thousand twinkling lights begin to dance; And then a thousand more, while as you gaze

The whole horizon seems to be ablaze." -Daisy C. Breeden.

#### We Court the Fate of Babylon

And still the fates have spared to Los Angeles County a part of her vast inheritance of forested hills. Many times in the big fires of the past, with the red demon running wild, it was a change of wind or a timely rain which decided the battle when all human agencies were powerless to control. Time after time we have had our warning and refused to heed.

Thousands of grand trees that had defied the storms of hundreds of years, had struggled through many dry seasons, had met and conquered almost impossible conditions that our water might be conserved and our playgrounds made more beautiful, that their strength and majesty might give character to a people and fineness to their ideals, creating hundreds of beautiful spots that as years pass would have become more beautiful, have been destroyed.

Thousands of acres of mountain slopes have been denuded of their cover of brush to be eroded by winter storms and pour their accumulations of rock, sand and debris out over our valleys and we let it happen because we would not understand.

In the Mt. Lukens fire of last November and the terrible flood from those burned slopes which snuffed out 45 lives on New Year's day, we had a warning of what can happen to many of our beautiful foothill communities.

With an ill-advised program of false economy in our public schools we have curtailed or entirely eliminated those courses which train our youth to appreciate and protect our trees, plants and wild life, we have stopped training our boys and girls in things vital to the very existence of Southern California.

Our people, both young and old, must be taught an individual responsibility for their own personal playground which they will fight to protect. We must not curtail but expand every worth while program which teaches forest conservation and protection, both for adults and growing youth.

Through the mountains, mountain work and play, mountain education, they will gain a knowledge and appreciation of the problems confronting the Southwest, a respect for the rights of others, and, in environment physically, mentally and morally beneficial, a love for God's great out-of-dors.

There is only one hope for beautiful forest playgrounds for our children's children. The answer and the only answer is E'D U C A-TION.

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H. O. MARLER, Passenger Traffic Manager

# John Muir Trail Through Los Angeles County

#### By WILL H. THRALL

to Mexico, down across Washington, Oregon and the length of California, 2500 miles along the crest of those great mountain ranges which parallel the Pacific, without doubt the greatest trail through the grandest scenery in the world, has been happily named "A Wilderness Trail Through Wonderland."

But when it drops down out of the High Sierras and the Mount Whitney region and passes Tehachapi into the so-called Desert Division our "wise' ones smile and say, "what about the next 100 miles' and "the San Gabriel Range isn't much beter."

Well, let's not take the word of those who have only travelled this area on the black ribbon of desert pavement;

"Their thought is all of time and speed,

Their word of miles per gallon." but rather let's get close and intimate with this much maligned division, travel on foot its winding trails, and sleep with it under the stars: we will be surprised and delighted, many times in every day's travel, with its different and distinctive beauty and will find many interesting things not met in other divi-

sions. And We Have Called It Desert

At Tehachapi we enter the so-called Desert Division, 84 miles, but by no means desert in the true meaning of the word. There are fair to good camp grounds, good water every few miles, fine trees in many places, and at elevated points along the way many wonderful views, a wealth of semi-desert vegetation and at no place the barren sandy areas which we usually associate with desert. Around Double Mountain, across the head of Oak Creek, where we camp the first night, and on through th Tehachapi's the scenery is not so different from that farther north, but as we swing over the last divide and down the long slope to Cottonwood Creek the scene changes and spread before us is the great expanse of Majove Desert, rimmed about with mountains -dotted with dark green patches of Joshua forest, its great dry lakes showing plainly in the distance and here and there, rising like great castles from the level plain, those weird desert buttes, their perpendicular walls and flat tops constantly changing in the desert haze.

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The great John Muir Trail from Canada the desert, some 12 miles across, the hills on the farther side dotted with groves of live oak and digger pine, while in between and scattered over the plain, are great groves of Joshua or Tree Yucca, covering miles, with here and there the pear orchard or alfalfa field of some adventurous farmer.

#### The Clown of the Desert

Dropping down from this open slope into Cotonwood Canyon we follow the stream for a few miles until it finally disapears in the wider, more open bottom and here we get our first close-up of that clown of the desert, the Joshua, with its grotesque trunk and tufts of dagger-shaped leaves, apparently a relic of the vegetation of the past ages. Passing for two miles through a forest of these interesting trees we reach the Owens River Aqueduct of the City of Los Angeles and a group of buildings housing caretakers and their families and here we make camp.



#### Through Joshua Forest

The next morning we are soon out of the canyon and as we travel across the plain through typical semi-desert vegetation, mesquite, juniper and cactus, we again pass through four miles of fine Joshua forest and finally reach Fairmont Store and a chance to replenish our stock of food, clothing or anything necessary; also, if you are in the mood, chat with the store-keeper who likes to visit, is the Justice of the Peace, Notary, Postmaster and Librarian and takes an interest in those travelling his way.

Two miles from here we reach Fairmont Reservoir, a beautiful body of blue-green wa-Directly ahead on our route is an arm of ter, its surface rippling in perpetual breeze and fed by a rushing, roaring river which belches from the earth under our feet, the Owens River Aqueduct.

Swinging to the east and around the shore to the south we again take to the hills by easy grades over Portal Range to a little settlement on the shore of Lake Hughes and a campground near by. The view is fine from all high points on the trail, and if you are fortunate enough to make the trip, as we did, when the West Antelope Valley poppy fields are in bloom, they are best seen as a mass from the Portal Range.

Looking back we see most of the route of the past two days, the straight white line of the trail across the plain, the windings of Cottonwood canyon, the steep grass covered slopes above, thickly dotted with groves of pine, bare granite cliffs jutting out here and there and towering over all the bold outline and forested summit of Double Mountain.

We make a lazy start in the morning, after the long trip of the day before, as this day's hike is to be a short one. A mile east of Lake Hughes at the Munz Ranch we again turn south on a new forest road over the range and down into South Portal Canyon where a short distance after reaching the canyon floor we come to a new camp ground built especially for this trail.

Another mile down South Portal we reach San Francisquito Canyon and have a choice of road high up on the canyon wall or trail through the bottom, both passing under the great acqueduct syphon, two miles to Cherry Canyon and here take a winding road up Cherry Canyon to the Big Boquet Reservoir and around the shore of this beautiful lake to the dam. Crossing on the crest of the dam we turn back on the road around the south shore a half mile to the trail again up through a wooded canyon to Artesian Spring Camp in a beautiful grove of oaks on the Sierra Pelona Range.

#### A Geological Treasure House

The Sierra Pelona over which we will travel for the next eight miles is all that remains of a mighty range of past ages, probably the oldest and greatest mountain of Southern California, and will furnish a treat for those interested in geology. Here lie exposed some of the earliest formations of the earth's crust, Pre-Cambrian schists shot through with silica, great boulders of milk white quartz, mica

gems with the colors of the rainbow. Two and one-half miles east from camp we pass an enormous oak, the largest and oldest in Southern California, 45 feet around the smallest part of its trunk, probably 1500 to 2000 years old.

A half mile further on and just below the crest of the range is perhaps the most interesting example of pre-cambrian metamorphic schist in existance. Towering some 40 feet above the trail which passes along its base this rock has many times been reported as a petrified log, but scientists tell us that it was never wood and that its probable age is more than 500,000,000 years.

As we top the divide at an elevation of 4500 feet there at our feet lies the Sierra Pelong Valley with the famous Vasquez Rocks in plain view, along the farther side and stretching across the back of the picture the whole grond sweep of the San Gabriel Range from Newhall to the Cajon, to the east a part of Mojave Desert and in between several ranges of lower, rolling hill country. Looking back we have a panorama of our trip of the past four days with a shoulder of Double Mountain cutting off the view of Tehachapi.

As we leave this crest on the down trail we pass immdiately into the best of the micas with colors ranging from white through the yellows, reds and greens to deep blue. The trail and surrounding slopes are covered with sparkling bits and we secure some beautiful specimens.

#### We Dip Into California's Romantic Past

A hike of a few miles brings us to Vasquez Rocks, and we camp for the night under an overhanging cliff in the fabled impregnable stronghold of Vasquez the Bandit, amid surroundings which vibrate with the mystery and tradition of early California.

The next day's trip is a short one, so we have a few extra hours for exploring this historic area and the no less interesting Escondido Canyon, a two-mile gorge cut through the rocks of its south side.

Moving picture companies have long known its possibilities and many a covered wagon journey of the pioneer days has been reproduced in the wild gorges, in the caves and under the overhanging cliffs of Escondido Canvon.

Leaving this district which looked so barren and has proved so tremendously interesting, schists in white quartz which sparkle like we proceed under a towering cliff up the south

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fork of Escondido Canyon, on over a low divide and soon see, on ahead, what appears to be three enormous boulders balanced on the crest of a narrow ridge. These great masses of red sandstone and conglomerate, though over 300 feet high are small chunks of a strata of similar formation 8400 feet thick, which, overlaying this area ages ago was broken up by tremendous convulsions and upended to a 45° angle. It is the erosion of this broken, tilted strata that has made the interesting formations seen for miles along the north base of the San Gabriel range from Cajon Pass to Newhall, the best known probably Vasquez Rocks but the greatest the Devil's Punch Bowl which we will pass later on.



#### In Escondido Canyon

Our trail swinging around the head of the canyon, passes along the base of these great rocks and following a natural shelf along the face of the southermost turns through a little pass to the opposite side and down a little canyon to the Soledad.

Here for a short distance we tread the path of that desert hero of '49, William Lewis Manley, the Jayhawkers and the Bennett Death Valley Party, and at Indian Canyon enter the San Gabriel Range where a hike of two miles brings us to a campground for the night.

As we sit and talk under the stars we ask each other "what of the desert", we didn't find it; instead we have had many interesting experiences, have seen many interesting and beautiful things and as we roll up in our blankets to sleep it is with eager anticipation of the 90 miles of mountains which lie ahead. (To Be Concluded in the Autumn Number)

## God's Country

I love to away from the "roaring town," Far from its stress and strife, To another world, a wonderful world,

To the hills and a simpler life. To follow the trail 'long a canyon stream,

Make camp in a ferny dell, To search out the meadow the mule deer love Or the glade where the blue-jays dwell.

To watch the squirrel unravel a cone At the top of some lofty tree, Or where the yucca blooms on the mountain slope, Study the butterfly and bee.

I love to travel a forest trail Through a fragrant tunnel of green, Or the path that clings to a towering cliff Hanging heaven and earth between.

Over upland meadows on springy sod, 'Tween banks of fern like lacy walls, Through rocky gorge whose cliffs resound With the music of water-falls.

Along open, rolling mountain side Aglow with gorgeous flowers, Through elfin forest with scented bloom To rival fairy bowers.

I love the light of the glowing camp-fire As seen flickering through the trees, The call of the owl or the coyotes howl As they float in on the breeze.

To watch for the stars through the pine tree tops

As the curtain of night unfurls, To fling wide my arms to the force of the wind

That blows over the top of the world.

To lay my head on a pine needle bed On some wooded mountain height, And greet the sun when the night is done From the loftiest point in sight.

For there's character and majesty

To be gained from a love of trees, There's more wonderful scents than of the Orient Afloat on a mountain breeze.

There's physical, mental and moral strength To be found on a mountain peak, A wealth of health and happiness All there for those who seek.

It's good to know of the wonderful life That springs from the lowly sod, Where mid scenes of master artistry You're living close to God.

-WILL H. THRALL.

### Our Cover Picture

Here is a spot which few of you know, but which is well worthy of your attention. The beautiful gorge of the San Gabriel, where for eight miles, from Prairie Fork to Devil Gulch, the river has cut through the mightiest mountains in Southern California.

# Fire Protection of the Angeles Forest

WM. V. MENDENHALL, Forest Supv.

The forest problem of Los Angeles County is primarily water conservation and flood control with game and recreation in close relation.

Of the 3,880 square miles in the County 1,072 lie within the Angeles National Forest, and in this are found all the principal drainage areas. These areas are vital to the future of Southern California, and it is these the Federal Forestry Department is protecting to the extent of its ability.

In order to make this protection as complete as possible, the department, after years of study, has planned and is now building a system of roads, trails, firebreaks, telephone lines and lookout stations which will, so far as is humanly possible, keep mountain fires to the minimum. This system is still in the making and, though materially helped by the Federal Relief program of the past year, will take several years to complete.

Through studies of accurate and complete reports of many fires over many years, we are able to anticipate what may happen in any given area under changing conditions, to designate the zones of forest in which the various classes of fires are most likely to occur, whether camper, smoker, lightning, or railroad, and to plan protection accordingly. Visibility studies of the present and proposed lookout stations show the portions of the forest that are under the eyes of our observers and determine those areas which must have the most intensive patrol.

In patrolling the mountain trails, particularly along popular streams, we often find little burned dots indicating the starting of fires in forbidden places by campers or smokers, and when the humidity is under 10 and the temperature around 100 the thought of those little careless fires creates anything but an easy feeling.

Sometimes changing temperature conditions will, within a few hours, make an ordinarily safe area an extremely hazardous one, and its immediate closing to public use, for a brief period, becomes necessary. We plan ultimately the development and fireproofing of every area in the National Forest that is used for camping, and if possible, the centralizing of camping in areas of low fire hazard.

In the final analysis it is the cooperation and understanding of those who use them which will do most to reduce the mountain fire hazard. It requires publicity and public relations work such as we are now receiving from many organizations and publications to so educate those who are using the mountains that each and every one will be an individual fire prevention agency.

#### AHazardous Year in the Forest

By Spencer D. TURNER, Forester Los Angeles County Forestry Department

We all know or should realize that not only California but a great part of the entire United States has entered a period of fire control conditions of the most hazardous type that we have had in many years. Life as well as property and water supplies will be at stake until the winter rains come. We are sitting on a powder keg and it will not pay to light a match. The grass and brush is as dry now as it usually is in August, and because of this, as well as low humidities and high temperatures, we are entering the worst period of fire hazard that Los Angeles County has had since 1924 and 25 when there were over 500 fires costing approximately \$200,000.00 to extinguish and with values destroyed running into millions.

In order to get prompt action on large fires, cut down losses and avoid loss of life in their control, the Forestry Department is depending on S.E.R.A., C.C.C. and other fire road construction camps for extra labor. If the regular forces are unable to control a major fire these camps will be called out. This will provide a reservoir of available trained man power in the event of such a major disaster. They have been given proper instructions in fire fighting methods, organized into small crews in charge of experienced fire suppression foremen and all of them given instructions in how to take care of themselves under hazardous conditions. With such trained men under adequate leadership the danger to the fire fighters is reduced to a minimum. By using this reservoir of trained man power there will be little need for hiring other fire fighters and no persons will be so hired. This policy will aid greatly in eliminating incendiary fires set to get jobs fighting them and far more important, will eliminate the hazard of inexperienced men on the fire line.

# Outing Club News

## Roamer Hiking Club

The activities of the ROAMER HIKING CLUB are attracting attention among lovers of out door recreation. Our guest list has become quite large and our membership is steadily increasing. We welcome guests on our events as it has been proven that a satisfied guest is our best advertisement.

Our hike to Mt. San Gorgonio (Greyback) over the week end of July 14th and 15th proved to be a real he-man trip. Spending Saturday night at Elkhorn Inn on Barton Flats, we got an early start Sunday morning and hiked to Dollar Lake. Several spent the day at this beautiful spot, while the more ambitious continued on to the Summit, Elevation 11,485 feet.

During the summer months we turn to the beaches. A moonlight beach party is sceduled for July 28th, Saturday night. We spend the day, Sunday, August 5th, at Long Beach. A dancing party at one of the beach ballrooms takes place August 11th. Another day at the beach August 19th. This time at Manhattan Beach. We have scheduled a Friday night trip to the Mt. Wilson observatories, to enjoy one of the world famous "Friday Night Lectures", and a view of the stars thru the 60-inch telescope, third largest in the world.

The grand finale on the present schedule is a three-day trip to Catalina Island over Labor Day, Sept. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. We will take the Saturday boats, spend Saturday night at Avalon, hike to Mt. Orizaba Sunday and Monday, enjoy the many attractions at Avalon, returning home on the Monday evening boat.

## Glendale Community Hikers

The Glendale Community Hikers have just issued their quarterly schedule for the months of July, August and September. This schedule lists many interesting events, among which are Moonlight hikes, Sunset hikes, early Sunday morning hikes followed by breakfast cooked in the open; all day hikes and overnight camp, and hikes including Old Baldy and Palomar Mountain. Also a Saturday afternoon and evening Beach party and a gettogether frolic and dancing party.

what during the summer months, it is nevertheless surprising and at the same time most gratifying, to note the interest and enthusiasm that prevails and to see the number of persons taking advantage of these outings.

Everyone, young and old alike, is welcome, and if interested, a copy of the schedule may be had by writing or telephoning to R. W. Haight, General Chairman, 420 So. Lincoln Avenue, Glendale.

## **Junior Section of the Southern** California Chapter of the Sierra Club

#### By DICK M. JONES, Chairman

Perhaps the most outstanding events of the Junior Section's hikes and climbs since the first of the year are the climbs up and down the sheer northwest face of Eagle Rock, and the "rope downs" over the northeast face of Bee Rock, which overlooks Griffith Park Zoo. Those of us-boys and girls of high school and college age-who have climbed or "roped down" the sheer faces of these rocks know that such a stunt is not foolishness, for we have experienced keen fun and thrills with perfect safety. Our attacks on the steepest sides of these huge rocks have been pre-planned with the help and advice of experienced mountain climbers, young men who have made first ascents and have found new routes up important peaks in the High Sierra during the past several summers.

It takes real skill and a knowledge of climbing technique to achieve the top of a nearly vertical wall. In climbing the face of Eagle Rock, some 150 feet up, the climber is disqualified if he or she intentionally makes use of the "belay rope" which is tied around the climber's waist to prevent a fall in case he should slip. While climbing, the person is "belaved," that is, the slack of the rope is taken up by a second person who is so located on top of the rock as to have absolute control of the rope at all times.

The next rock climb is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, September 30th, at Bee Rock, in Griffith Park, back of the Zoo.

"Roping down" over this sixty foot overhang is somewhat similar to parachute jump-Although interest in hiking wanes some- ing, the difference being that in "roping down" one may stop in mid-air at one's will.

Other week-end events of the Junior Section, both recreational and social, may be found in the Schedule of the Southern California Chapter of the Sierra Club. Such events are open to all who are interested.

# The Sierra Club

#### By SAMUEL MERRILL

Chairman Southern California Chapter There is no better way to know your Southern California than by joining and taking the weekly trips of the Sierra Club. Membership also entitles you to join on that wonderful annual outing, the High Sierras trip.

John Muir, founder and first president, said: "I care to live only to entice our people to look at nature's loveliness," and himself led many a trip through that most magnificent scenery in the world.

The club maintains two comfortable wellfurnished mountain lodges: Muir Lodge at Sturtevant Falls and Harwood Lodge on Manker Flat on the slope of Mount San Antonio, both of which are open at all times to members and their friends. In addition to communing with nature in agreeable company, these outings have a delightful social side and lead to many life-long friendships.

We welcome visitors and prospective members to the Friday Evening Dinners of the club at Clifton's Cafeteria, 618 South Olive Street, where you may meet and know the officers and members.

#### The San Antonio Club

The August outing of the San Antonians will be an easy week-end, the 11th and 12th, at Big Spruce Cabin, the club's mountain headquarters.

The biggest trip of the Club year will come over Labor Day, September 1, 2, 3, and instead of the usual "Top-O-The-World" hike to some peak of over 10,000 feet elevation they will, this year, go to Buckhorn Flat.

They anticipate a wonderful time in that beautiful forest area and among hikes planned are the triangle trip east through Cedar Springs to the head of Little Rock Creek, down that stream to Cooper Canyon and back to Buckhorn, also a hike to the summit of Mt. Waterman.

City headquarters of the Club are at 400 So. Garfield Avenue, Alhambra, Calif.

### A Few of the Many

From Colton, California-

"As a resident of Southern California for 27 years, a member of the Sierra Club, who has hiked the Sierra Madres for 20 years, who has climbed most of the peaks of Southern California and several of the High Sierras, I most heartily endorse your little magazine. More power to you. I enclose a check for 5 copies to distribute among my friends.

"H. R. STURDEVANT."

"Everyone who sees my TRAILS MAGAZINE wants it; here are 5 more subscriptions. (He has sent in ten.) Your magazine has answered our greatest problem 100 percent. No Scout Leader or any person interested in the wide open spaces should be without it. The best is, you give us the information we need of the mountains in which we are most interested, the San Gabriel Range.

"KENNETH WALKER, Scout Leader."

From Chattanooga, Tenn.-

"Please let me thank you for your handsome little magazine. I should like to have it for the Club regularly. With greetings and best wishes from the Cumberland Hiking "ROBERT SPARKS WALKER, Pres. Club. '(Author-Naturalist. Organizer of 40 hiking clubs in the Cumberlands.)"

"This is a much needed work for those of us who like to get back to what of nature is "Weldon F. Heald." left to us.

"Please send 40 copies each of Spring and Winter numbers, as we want them for our "GEORGE BERGSTROM, Scoutmasters.

"Scout Executive San Fernando Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America."

From Nature Magazine-

"Much interested in TRAILS MAGAZINE; section devoted to information on Trail Trips immensely valuable, and that devoted to activities of Outing Clubs equally important. "RICHARD W. WESTWOOD, Editor."

"The Los Angeles County Library acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the TRAILS MAGAZINE. In cooperating thus with the Library's efforts to preserve and make readily available for reference use all such materials, members of various County departments, as well as the public at large, may receive a valuable service."

"HELEN E. VOGLESON, "County Librarian."

## Los Angeles County A Geological Wonderland

Attracts Attention of Scientists.

It is not only the forests of our mountain slopes, the wonderful gorges of our mountain streams and the beautiful wild flowers to be found in profusion in certain spots and at certain times which make our trails so attractive, but the beauty and mystery of the exposed shell of this old planet we call the Earth. Exposed by fault shifts and cut by erosion, stratas which were once 10,000 to 20,000 feet below are now on the surface, and at many points along the trails the Earth's past for hundreds of thousands of years lies before our eyes.

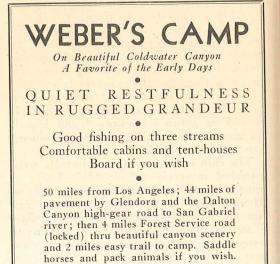
## Angeles Forest - Our Greatest Mountain Playground

The mountains of Southern California have become the greatest playground in the world and the number who visit them annually runs into millions. They are exercise, relaxation, health to a multitude of people; a great, wonderful playground in Summer's heat or Winter's snows. They have a lure all their own and as a hikers paradise are supreme.

Of all our mountain area the Angeles National Forest draws the strongest and more people visit the mountains of Los Angeles County than all the National Parks of California combined. From July 1, 1932, to December 30, 1933, 2,411,463 persons visited

this area either to hike, picnic, occupy their cabins, or camp for a while. This does not include those just passing through on the highways which, if it were added, would double the total.

Registered visitors to the County Parks of Big Pines and Crystal Lake for May, 1934, numbered 33,741, or more than double those of May, 1933.



Ask the Forest Ranger to unlock the gate to paradise

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W. E. HIVELY, Manager GLENDORA, CALIFORNIA

BIG PINES and

CRYSTAL LAKE

For Summer Recreation

SWIMMING - FISHING

HIKING - HORSEBACK RIDING

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Free Picnic Grounds

For information call at Los Angeles County Department of Recreation Camps and Playgrounds, 240 South Broadway, Los Angeles, or phone MUTUAL 9211, Station 2829.

Service Charge 25c per day.

## Our Trail Resorts Must Be Maintained

Mountain and canyon resorts in the back country have a vital part in our forest protection system as they supplement our fire lookout stations with many vitally interested observers, furnish canyon telephone stations, and have a general restraining and beneficial effect on those who travel their way. They are the front line emergency stations in case of fire or accident and the base of many a searching party.

You will eliminate the hardship and add greatly to the pleasure of many a hiking trip if you patronize the Trail Resorts.

## Hiking Correctly

From the National Recreation Association Bulletin, with some additions by the Editor.

There's a knack in this walking business that means a lot on nature trips. Watch the good walker with his even stride and how he elevates himself on the balls of his toes. Notice, too, that he swings forward the shoulder opposite the advancing steps as he makes each step.

A regulation hiking pace under all conditions is unknown in club circles and probably always will be. After all, a wilderness hike is not a walking marathon.

It is best to take a steep hill or mountain at a slow even pace as though stepping to slow music. You will soon acquire a sense of rhythm, and then the all-essential measured tread. If unaccustomed to climbing, a twominute rest every ten minutes will prove desirable. Two short steps are preferable to one long step, and this also applies to the later descent.

How often we hikers hear "the climbing gets my wind, but it's the down-grade that makes me lame for days after a trip." There is a right and wrong way to hike down-grade, and if the right way is used, you won't be crippled in hip and knee joints the next day. If you take no longer steps in going down than in going up, your foot will strike the ground at the same angle, your body balance will be a little ahead of your step, your knee a trifle bent as the other foot swings ahead and with that slight angle at hip and knee your muscles instead of your joints take the strain and eliminate the jar. It takes practice for perfection but it works.



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LOS ANGELES COUNTY RECREATION PARKS

# Trail Trips

Big Tujunga Narrows—I Day From Flood Control Dam

Drive Big Tujunga Canyon road to parking place near the dam and leave auto. Hike trail up east (right) slope around the dam and reservoir, dropping to stream level at Josephine Creek, 2½ miles, then follow trail up canyon to Edison Road crossing, 2 miles, and if intending to use fire, lunch here. If carrying cold lunch go on to Big Tujunga Narrows, 1 mile, and lunch here. Return by same route. Secure fire permit at Tujunga Ranger Station on road in. Water most of the way. Josephine Falls one-tenth mile east of trail on Josephine Creek, 150 foot sheer drop, in high water one of most beautiful in Southern California. Total hiking distance, 10 miles.

Bear Canyon-Arroyo Seco Forks from Mt. Lowe Tavern—I Day

Pacific Electric Cars to Mt. Lowe Tavern; 200 yards above Tavern take Bear Canyon trail leading around the mountain to west (left) to stream in Bear Canyon, 3 miles, then trail down the canyon (left) to forks of the Arroyo Seco, 2 miles, and have lunch. Return by same route. No water between Mt. Lowe Tavern and Bear Canyon. Secure fire permit before starting as no Ranger Station on this trip. This is an easy and beautiful hike. Total hiking distance, 10 miles.

Bear Canyon-Big Spruce Camp Ground Same as above to Forestry Camp Ground opposite San Antonio Club headquarters on Bear Canyon. Total hiking distance,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

Eaton Canyon from Mt. Lowe Tavern-I Day

Hike trail starting from Inspiration Point trail at Proposal Arbor to Eaton Canyon, 3 miles, then down stream to Rocky Flat Camp ground, 34 mile, or on down to Sugar Bowl Camp Ground at the head of the gorge, 1 mile. Return by same route. Water at convenient intervals. Total hiking distance, 10 miles.

Big Santa Anita Canyon from Arcadia—I Day

This canyon, untouched by fire, has kept its forests and streams, its freshness, and was never so beautiful as now. A day or a week may be enjoyably spent there. Take Santa Anita Avenue north from Arcadia and the new mountain road to a parking circle at the end. Hike  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile on trail to First Water Camp and either up or down the stream for several miles is equally fine.

Pine Mountain from Camp Rincon—I Day Hike the Rincon Trail starting up Rincon Canyon to junction with trail to Monrovia, 4½ miles, then west (right) to summit of Pine Mountain, elevation 4541 feet, ½ mile, and have cold lunch. Return by same route. Sometimes water at spring near junction of Rincon-Monrovia trails but best to carry it from Camp Rincon. No fires allowed in this area. Total hiking distance, 10 miles.

Bear Creek and Return

from Cold Brook Camp—I Day Hike west from near Cold Brook Ranger Station over Smith Mountain divide to Bear Creek, 5 miles, and have cold lunch. Good views from the divide and Bear Creek Canyon worth while. Return by

same route. Usually water at spring 11/2 miles be-

fore reaching Bear Creek, but should carry from Cold Brook. No fires allowed in this area. Total hiking distance, 10 miles.

Crystal Lake by Soldier Creek Trail-I Day By road from Azusa, up San Gabriel Canyon to Camp Cold Brook and park auto. Hike up Soldier Creek trail to County Park on Crystal Lake Flat and follow trail to Spring Camp picnic ground at extreme east end of flat and stop for lunch. After lunch follow trail west across flat to Crystal Lake, go to right around Lake and at extreme west end follow trail west over low divide to Wawona Basin. Returning to Lake go on around half way of south side to trail leading south (right) over rocky ridge and down to road in South Flat. Follow this road to right, 1/4 mile, to trail to Soldier Creek and back to auto on Soldier Creek trail. This is an easy and beautiful hike. Water most of the way. Fire permit at Cold Brook Ranger Station. Total hiking distance, 10 miles.

Cedar Canyon from Camp Baldy— $\frac{1}{2}$  Day Hike or drive to Ice House Canyon,  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles, hike Ice House trail, 1 mile, and turn north (left) through Cedar Flat to the big spring, 1 mile. Here go over the low ridge to the east (right) into a beautiful forested area and up through this to the head of the canyon,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile. No trail after passing the spring, but so little brush one is not necessary. This is an interesting half-day trip. Total hiking distance, from Camp Baldy, 8 miles; from mouth of Ice House, 5 miles.

Mt. San Antonio-Elevation 10,080 ft.

Up by Devil's Backbone, Down by the Narrows and Bear Flat-I Day

Drive up San Antonio Canyon road to Bear Canvon Ranger Station near Camp Baldy and park auto. Hike either road or trail to Manker Flat, 31/2 miles; then by trail to summit of San Antonio-Lytle Creek divide, 21/2 miles, and stop for lunch at the spring at the old cabin site near by. After lunch take trail north (left) up the ridge and across the Devil's Backbone to the summit of Mt. San Antonio (Old Baldy), 31/2 miles. Magnificent view of all Southern California. Returning take trail down west slope of the peak and across the Narrows through Bear Flat, 6 miles, down Bear Canyon to the auto, 11/2 miles. No water between the spring at San Antonio-Lytle Creek divide and Bear Flat. Camp grounds with fires permitted at both of these points. Water at frequent intervals balance of the trip. This is a hard one-day trip. but is often done. If intending to use fire secure permit at Bear Canyon Ranger Station. To make easier and more enjoyable stop for the night at one of the several resorts along the way and start early in the morning. Total hiking distance, 17 miles. Lookout Peak from Camp Baldy-I Day

From Ranger Station hike Bear Canyon to Bear Flat, 1½ miles, then turn west (left) on trail to Lookout Peak, old location of the fire lookout, and over the summit to the road on the divide, 6 miles, and road back to Camp Baldy, 1½ miles. Carry cold lunch and small canteen as probably no water after leaving Bear Flat. Fine view and some nice forest. Total hiking distance, 9 miles.

#### Big Santa Anita and West Fork from Mt. Lowe Tavern-21/2 Days

Hike the trail, starting from the trail to Inspiration Point a short distance east of the Tavern, to Eaton Canyon, 31/2 miles, down that Canyon 1/2 mile to old site of Idle Hour Camp and stop for the night. Second day take trail east from camp around the slope to the Mt. Wilson Road, 2 miles, up the road to the Sierra Madre trail, 3 miles, and down this trail a short distance to a trail leading east (left) down to Hoegees Camp, 21/2 miles, on down to the Santa Anita Canyon Trail, 11/2 miles, turning up this trail (left) to Forestry Camp Ground just below Sturtevant Camp and near Junction of trail to West Fork, 3 miles. Third day take trail over the range to West Fork, 5 miles, turn west (left) by Valley Forge Lodge, 21/4 miles, to Opids Camp, 13/4 miles, and up a beautifully forested slope to the Mt. Wilson Road, 11/4 miles. Follow this road east (left) to the Mt. Lowe Trail, 3/4 mile, and the trail back to Mt. Lowe Tavern, 3 miles. Take small canteen as three times on this trip it is 5 miles between water. Secure fire permit before starting. Hiking distance, first day, 4 miles; second day, 12 miles; third day, 14 miles; total distance, 30 miles. This trip may be made much easier and more enjoyable without equipment by stopping at resorts on the way. An afternoon car to the tavern, a sunset from Mt. Lowe, the lights of valley from Inspiration Point and an early morning start from the tavern, stopping the second night at Fern Lodge or Sturtevants and the late car from Mt. Lowe to the valley, or dinner at Opids Camp and an evening ride out on Angeles Crest Highway.

#### San Gabriel Canyon-El Encanto to Camp Rincon—2 Days

There are many beautiful and interesting sights along the main San Gabriel and a leisurely hike from El Encanto to Camp Rincon, 10 miles, will be found different and desirable. The Morris Dam and the beautiful lake above it; Flood Control Dam No. 1 now under construction to be 300 feet high, 1670 feet long, 1100 feet thick at the bottom with a bulk of nearly 6,000,000 cubic yards; and the rock formations of the canyon wall, will all prove tremendously interesting. Stop for the night at Camp Rincon and return by Rincon Trail, starting directly back of the resort, keeping to the high country, around the mountain to Roberts Canyon and back to El Encanto, 14 miles. Carry water on return trip. Total hiking distance, 24 miles.

The Gorge of the San Gabriel and Coldwater Canyon—from Cattle Canyon Ranger Station—

#### 2 or 3 Days

Drive from Glendora by Dalton Canyon Road to Cattle Canyon Ranger Station, park auto. Hike east up Cattle Canyon to Coldwater Canyon,  $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and up Coldwater to a camp ground in beautiful forest 1 mile above Webers Camp,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles, or stay at Webers Camp. Second day—drop back a short distance to the Allison Trail and turn west over the mountain to the San Gabriel above the Narrows,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles, and back to auto, 7 miles. Water all the way except the  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles over the mountains. Narrows not passable but good trail around the cliff on west side. Fire permit at Cattle Canyon Ranger Station. First day, 8 miles; second day, 14 miles; total, 22 miles. A wonderful day may be added by turning up the San Gabriel from the Allison Trail, passing Iron Fork, 1 mile, and Fish Fork,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, to Prairie Fork, 4 miles, and make camp, a total of 13 miles. Third day return down stream to auto, 14 miles. Making the 3 days total of 36 miles.

#### Prairie Fork and Falls of Fish from Big Pines Park-2 Days

Hike the Nature Trail to East Blue Ridge road, 21/2 miles, turn east (left) a short distance to Prairie Fork trail, then south (right) to Prairie Fork Ranger Station, 21/2 miles, and down Prairie Fork to Vincent Gulch, 3 miles. Here turn south (left) down the main San Gabriel, passing Alder Gulch 2 miles, to Fish Fork, 2 miles, and up Fish a short distance to a fine camp ground for the night. Second day, leave equipment and go on up Fish Fork to the Falls, 11/2 miles, and return, pick up equipment and retrace the trip of the day before to junction of Vincent Gulch and Prairie Fork trails, 4 miles. Here take the trail up Vincent Gulch to the Big Rock divide, 4 miles, and trail east (right) up the south slope of Blue Ridge and road and trails back to Big Pines, 41/2 miles. Water on all of this trip except the first and last 5 miles. Secure fire permit before starting or at Prairie Fork Ranger Station. Hiking distance, first day, 12 miles; second day, 16 miles; total distance, 28 miles. This is a beautiful trip into wild country.

### Rules of the Trail

Do not build any fire of any kind without first securing a camp fire permit from a Forest Service Officer.

Do not build a camp fire in any dangerous place or at a dangerous time even if you have a permit. Do not leave any fire unattended at any time or for any reason. *Put it out*.

Do not build a large fire, a small one will serve you better.

Do not leave camp without first drowning your fire with water and then covering with earth.

Do not smoke except in posted camp grounds, at places of habitation, or at places where there is a sign "Smoking Permitted."

Do not leave a dirty camp. Leave it as clean as you would like to find it.

Do not short-cut trails; they cost on an average of \$700 per mile, and short-cuts damage them. Besides there's usually a reason for going around and those who short-cut are often in danger.

Do not bathe or wash in streams or spring. Dip the water and wash on land.

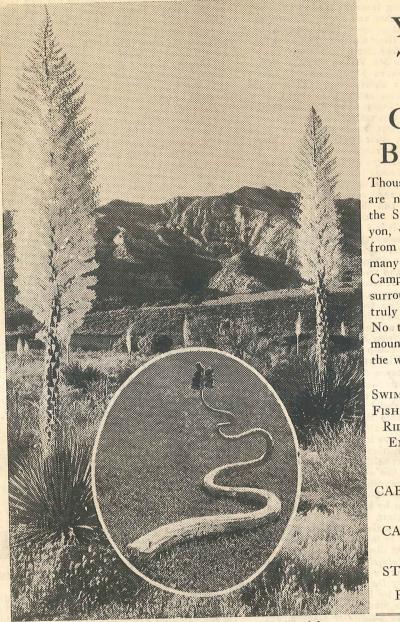
Do not disturb the property of others. Some day you may leave something unprotected.

Do not camp on any National Forest land without being equipped. Each automobile or pack train should have the following fire-fighting tools: one axe with handle not less than 26 inches in length and head weighing not less than 2 pounds; one shovel with handle not less than 36 inches in length and blade not less than 8 inches wide.

If you find a fire, *put it out* if possible; if not, get word to the nearest Forest Service officer at once and help all you can. It is *your* playground that is burning.

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TRAILS MAGAZINE



"Believe it or Not"—This is a Yucca Snake, found by Mrs. Foster Curry on Yucca Flats, near Camp Baldy.

49 miles from Los Angeles via Foothill Boulevard to Claremont, thence 10 miles north; or, Pacific Electric to Upland to meet Camp Baldy Stage.

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# Yucca Time at. CAMP BALDY

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