

HAT HiLites

Greater Los Angeles Area Council

February 2026

Scouting America

- ❖ Adult Leader Backpack Training will be held on February 27th to March 1st. This training provides an overview of high adventure basics: leadership; planning and preparation; equipment and clothing; menus and cooking; mountain navigation and travel; conservation; risk and safety; and program awards. There will also be an overnight outing in the local mountains. See the attached flyer for details. The class size is limited so register early to ensure a spot. We cannot guarantee a spot for walk-ins. Since the Cabrillo Beach Youth Center is closed, the location is Camp Trask. Register online at <http://glaac-hat.org/register/> or call 213-413-4400 and ask for Hannibol Sullivan.
- ❖ Would you like to take your unit on a multiple day trip on the lower Colorado River (Hoover Dam to Martinez Lake)? Canoeing the Lower Colorado Training will be held on February 21st. To sign up, register online at <http://glaac-hat.org/register/>
- ❖ Have you heard about LA's newest Scouting Aquatics program? Scouts will have a chance to gain experience in many forms of paddlecraft and swim strokes earning merit badges and awards, including the prestigious National Outdoors award! Most events will be meeting on the fourth Sunday of each month, either at Camp Trask or Santa Fe dam. See the attached flyer. Check out GLAAC's calendar to sign up!

HAT Website: <<https://glaac-hat.org>> Awards store: <<https://glaac-hat.org/store>>

3-Month Calendar

Feb 7&8	Winter Camping and Travel Field Experience	
Feb 21	Canoe Training	See attached flyer
Feb 27-Mar 1	Adult Leaders Backpack Training Seminar	See attached flyer
TBD	Adult Leaders Backpack Training Field Experience	
Mar 3	HAT Meeting *	
Mar 7	Scout Leaders Backpack Training Seminar	See attached flyer
TBD	Scout Leaders Backpack Training Field Experience	
Mar 20&21	B.S.A. Level II Climbing Instructor Course	
Mar 22	B.S.A. Level II Climbing Instructor Course Field Experience	
Mar 21&22	Wilderness and Remote First Aid	See attached flyer
Apr 7	HAT Meeting *	
Apr 11	CA Trails Day/Trail Boss	
Apr 13	Rock Climbing and Rope Use/Rescue Training Seminar	See attached flyer
Apr 17-19	B.S.A. Level I Climbing Instructor Course	
May 23	Rock Climbing and Rope Use/Rescue Training Field Experience	

* HAT meetings are open to all registered adults. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Cushman Watt Scout Center, 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles. We will be meeting virtually too. Contact Steve Dodson for details.

**Weekend field experience to be scheduled at the seminar.

HAT Contacts

Chair	Steve Dodson	818-967-1323	sedodson1@roadrunner.com
Training	Michael Schlaifer	213-247-8808	training@glaac-hat.org
Awards Store	Craig Triance	714-474-1652	craigtriance@gmail.com
Trail Boss	David Ledford	310-373-2111	gdledford@verizon.net
The Trail Head Editor	Craig Triance	714-474-1652	trailhead@glaac-hat.org
HAT HiLites Editor	Tom Thorpe		hilites@glaac-hat.org

Forest Service Contacts

Conservation Projects	David Ledford	310-373-2111	gdledford@verizon.net
LA Gateway Ranger District	Little Tujunga Station	818-899-1900	

HAT HiLites is published monthly by the GLAAC High Adventure Team to inform Scout Leaders of specific program, service, and other High Adventure activities and opportunities available in the coming months. For additional information please call or email the appropriate HAT contact.



Scouting Aquatics



10am-3pm

[bring a sack lunch
and Health form A and B]

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Jan 25 Santa Fe Dam - Canoeing Merit Badge 1st half

Feb 22 Santa Fe Dam - Canoeing Merit Badge 2nd half

Mar 22 Santa Fe Dam - Kayaking Merit Badge

More to Come:

Lifesaving Merit Badge

Rowing Merit Badge

Swim Lessons (Camp Trask)

Mile Swim Award (Camp Trask)

Standup Paddleboard Award

Snorkeling Award (Camp Trask)

Continuous: National Outdoor Award, Aquatics

Contact:

Kricket McKay
kricket@waterbuggs.com

Canoeing the Lower Colorado Training – 2026

- PURPOSE:** To train adult leaders to safely take their unit on a multiple day trip on the lower Colorado River (Hoover Dam to Martinez lake).
-Familiarize the Scouter with appropriate treks via maps and verbal description.
-Teach the Scouter basic canoeing techniques, emphasizing practical canoeing vs. technique (i.e., not the canoeing merit badge).
-Teach the Scouter appropriate meal planning similar to what a car camping troop may use, in addition to backpacking/canoeing style cuisine.
-Give Scouters as much additional info as possible to ensure an exciting, but safe trip for the Scouts.
- DATE:** Saturday 21 February 2026
- TIME:** 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- LOCATION:** Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park, San Dimas CA, Sailboat Cove entrance
<https://parks.lacounty.gov/frank-g-bonelli-regional-park/>
- COST:** \$12.00 per car vehicle entrance fee.
\$20.00 by 16 February 2026. If fewer than five sign ups are made prior to that date a cancellation notice will be sent. Otherwise a confirmation will be sent after that date.
- REGISTRATION:** Online registration with check, paypal or credit card is available at <http://glaac-hat.org/register>. For help with registration contact Hannibol Sullivan, Community Engagement Coordinator (SR) and HAT Advisor at (213) 413-4400 or email Hannibol.Sullivan@scouting.org.
- EQUIPMENT:** 10 essentials, waterproof bag for phones etc., extra water, water shoes or shoes you don't mind getting wet, dress in layers, there will be no intentional swimming.
- MAXIMUM SIZE:** 32 students
- OVERVIEW:** Will include logistics, itineraries, meal planning, equipment, and practical on the water canoe training.
- REQUIREMENTS:** Completion of the Adult Leader Backpack Training and BSA Paddle Craft Safety is highly recommended.
Annual Health and Medical Record (parts A, B, and C).
- QUESTIONS:** John Sandhagen , Course Director, at (909) 626-2796
e-mail, tromboneyard@yahoo.com
- Eat breakfast before you arrive or bring it with you, pack a sack lunch.

Hike Aid 3, "Full Dimension High Adventure Training", has a complete discussion of the training programs of the GLAAC-HAT. It may be downloaded from the Council High Adventure website at <http://glaac-hat.org/HikeAids.html>. Questions about any of them are to be directed to Michael Schlaifer: Vice Chair-Training: (213)247-8808 (C); e-mail, michael@schlaifer.com.

Greater Los Angeles Area High Adventure Team 64th Adult Leaders Backpack Training-2026

PURPOSE: Acquaint you with a basic understanding of how to plan and conduct outdoor activities
Stimulate your participation and leadership in a High Adventure Program at the Unit level
Inform you of the many programs and activities of the GLAAC-HAT.

DATE: Friday, Saturday, Sunday 27, 28 February, 01 March 2026
Weekend backpack outing to be arranged during the training sessions.

TIME: Friday registration starts at 6:30 p.m.
program from 8:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.,
Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: [Camp Trask, Monrovia](#)

COST: \$115 before 20 February 2026.

REGISTRATION: Online registration is available at <http://glaac-hat.org/register>. **Registration by 20 February is mandatory to ensure sufficient meals, snacks, and course materials.** If fewer than ten sign ups are received a cancellation notice will be sent. Registrants will be sent a confirmation, map of location, and other details. For help with registration contact Hannibol Sullivan, Field Director and HAT Advisor at (213) 413-4400 or email Hannibol.Sullivan@scouting.org.

MEALS: Cracker barrel Friday, breakfast, lunch, dinner Saturday, breakfast Sunday.

EQUIPMENT: Compass, paper and pencil.

Participants are strongly encouraged to bring their gear and to camp (free) at the facility. Onsite camping reinforces the essentials of your training.

MAXIMUM SIZE: 45 students

OVERVIEW: Basics of the necessities for safe and enjoyable outings

- leadership
- planning & preparation
- equipment & clothing
- menus & cooking
- orienteeing
- route finding and mountain travel
- conservation
- risk & safety
- program awards & procedures

the importance of training and transferring leadership to your Scouts is stressed.

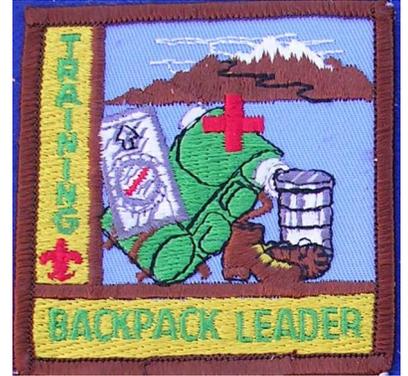
QUESTIONS: David Behenna, Course Director, at (603) 828-2065; e-mail: tigerbay@att.net

The emphasis is on backpacking but it is generally applicable to all types of outdoor activity. This is the next step beyond the camp-craft skills that are covered in Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS).

You will be need to select and take a weekend backpack trip (5-7 miles, round-trip, in the local mountains) from among several to be offered in March and April and led by the GLAAC-HAT Staff. Each person is responsible for providing his/her own clothing and equipment. An Adventure Pass for your vehicle is required at many of these locations.

Completion of this training is recognized by the award of a special patch.

Hike Aid 3, "Full Dimension High Adventure Training", has a complete discussion of the training programs of the GLAAC-HAT. It may be downloaded from the Council High Adventure website at <http://glaac-hat.org/HikeAids.html>. Questions about any of them are to be directed to Michael Schlaifer; Vice Chair Training: (213)247-8808 (C); e-mail, michael@schlaifer.com.



Junior Leaders Backpack Training 2026

- PURPOSE:** Acquaint Scouts, Venturers and their adult leaders, with a basic understanding of how to plan and conduct a backpacking trip.
Give them information that they can use to teach other Scouts and Venturers safe and effective outdoor outings.
Stimulate their participation and leadership in a High Adventure Program.
- DATE:** Saturday 7 March 2026
Weekend trip in local mountains TBD led by the GLAAC-HAT
- TIME:** 8:00 a.m. to about 4:00 p.m. (bring sack lunch)
- LOCATION:** Seminar: Cushman Watt Scout Center, 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles
Weekend Outing: to be announced.
- COST:** \$15.00 per Scout, Venturer or Adult by 28 February 2026. If fewer than five sign ups are made prior to that date a cancellation notice will be sent. Otherwise a confirmation will be sent after that date.
- REGISTRATION:** **Online registration** with check, paypal or credit card is available at <http://glaac-hat.org/register>. For help with registration contact Hannibal Sullivan, Community Engagement Coordinator (SR) and HAT Advisor at (213) 413-4400 or email Hannibal.Sullivan@scouting.org.
- EQUIPMENT:** Paper and pencil, and lunch for seminar.
Each Scout and Venturer is responsible for obtaining the clothing, equipment, and food for the weekend trip.
- MAXIMUM SIZE:** 20 students
- OVERVIEW:** This High Adventure training is designed to be taken together as an adult leader (Scouter) and the Scout leaders in a troop/crew. It will cover
- Basic backpacking skills
 - equipment and clothing
 - food and cooking
 - mountain navigation and travel
 - outdoor courtesy, planning and preparation
 - risk and safety
 - weather and climate
- REQUIREMENTS:** An Adult Leader who has completed the class room session of Adult Leader Backpack Training is required to participate in class room and field outing. Scouts and Venturers must be 14 years old and have attained the rank of First Class or the Venturer equivalent. The Adult leader will be responsible for their own and their Scout's Annual Health and Medical Record (parts A, B, and C). These requirements will be verified by the Hike Leader before the Adult and Scouts or Venturers are allowed to participate on the overnight trip
- MAXIMUM SIZE:** An adult and five Scouts or Venturers per Unit is permitted.
- QUESTIONS:** Steve Chow, Nazoomzoom@gmail.com / (626) 379-8160 and Nancy Szeto-Ko, 3kokids@gmail.com / (626) 975-8189.



Camping and hiking are fun. Developing the skills and learning safe and courteous practices are a necessary part of these activities. This most effectively occurs when it is the Scout lead Unit that provides the instruction.

While the emphasis is on backpacking, it is generally applicable to all types of outdoor activity.

A syllabus that covers the materials discussed will be given to each participant.

Hike Aid 3, "Full Dimension High Adventure Training", has a complete discussion of the training programs of the GLAAC-HAT. It may be downloaded from the Council High Adventure website at <http://glaac-hat.org/HikeAids.html>. Questions about any of them are to be directed to Michael Schlaifer; Vice Chair Training: (213)247-8808 (C); e-mail, michael@schlaifer.com.

Wilderness and Remote First Aid Spring 2026



**American
Red Cross**

- PURPOSE:** Extend Scout Leaders knowledge of First Aid to those situations where professional response may not be immediately available. This training is geared towards Adult Scout Leaders and those Scout parents going to a Scout High Adventure Base activity or Scout wilderness activity.
- DATE:** Saturday and Sunday 21 & 22 March 2026
- TIME:** 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day
- LOCATION:** Cushman Watt Scout Center, 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles
- COST:** \$90.00 for Wilderness First Aid and CPR/AED by 14 March 2026. If fewer than five sign ups are made prior to that date a cancellation notice will be sent. Otherwise a confirmation will be sent after that date. Cost includes a CD with all printed material on it.
- REGISTRATION:** Online registration with check, paypal or credit card is available at <http://glaac-hat.org/register>. For help with registration contact Hannibol Sullivan, Community Engagement Coordinator (SR) and HAT Advisor at (213) 413-4400 or email Hannibol.Sullivan@scouting.org.
- EQUIPMENT:** None needed.
- MEALS:** All meals are the responsibility of the participants. Time will be allotted to go out or you can bring your own snacks, lunch and refreshments.
- MAXIMUM SIZE:** 45 students.
- OVERVIEW:** CPR/AED class includes printed materials as well as AED demonstration using an AED trainer and use of CPR manikins. Successful completion of the course earns a certification valid for two years.
- REQUIREMENTS:** For Wilderness and Remote First Aid Certification, current certification in Adult CPR & AED which will be taught at the beginning of the class.
For First Aid Basics – have knowledge of Tenderfoot, Second Class & First Class First Aid skills, and completion of the online trainings in Weather Hazards, Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat.
- INSTRUCTORS:** Rick Reeley and Dave Rolandelli
- QUESTIONS:** Rick Reeley course instructor at reeleyr@cmtlaw.com

A USB thumb drive with all printed material on it will be given to each participant.

Hike Aid 3, “Full Dimension High Adventure Training”, has a complete discussion of the training programs of the GLAAC-HAT. It may be downloaded from the Council High Adventure website at <http://glaac-hat.org/HikeAids.html>. Questions about any of them are to be directed to Michael Schlaifer; Vice Chair Training: (213)247-8808 (C); e-mail, michael@schlaifer.com.

Rock Climbing and Rope Use/Rescue Training – 2026

- PURPOSE:** Introduce the adult Scouter to the Scouting America climbing program and to the specialized skills and techniques of basic rock climbing and rope use/rescue. Teach the eight points of the Scouting America's Climb on Safely procedure. Discuss the opportunities and requirements for being trained as a qualified BSA climbing instructor.
- DATE:** Seminar: Monday 13 April 2026
Weekend trip: Friday, Saturday, Sunday May 22-24, 2026 led by the GLAAC-HAT
- TIME:** Seminar: 7:00 p.m. to about 10:00 p.m.
- LOCATION:** Seminar: Cushman Watt Scout Center, 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles
Weekend Outing: Joshua Tree National Park, Indian Cove Group Site #12
- COST:** \$40.00 for the training by 12 April 2026. If fewer than five sign ups are made prior to that date a cancellation notice will be sent. Otherwise a confirmation will be sent after that date.
There is also a \$25 per vehicle entry fee at the National Park.
- REGISTRATION:** **Online registration** with check, paypal or credit card is available at <http://glaac-hat.org/register>. For help with registration contact Hannibol Sullivan, Community Engagement Coordinator (SR) and HAT Advisor at (213) 413-4400 or email Hannibol.Sullivan@scouting.org. You will be sent a confirmation, or notice of cancellation if there are fewer than 5 sign-ups by that date.
- EQUIPMENT:** You will need to purchase specialized safety equipment that will be described during the seminar. GLAAC-HAT provides climbing ropes and other gear.
- MAXIMUM SIZE:** 12 students
- OVERVIEW:** During the seminar
Instruction in the use of rope and other gear for climbing (both belay and rappel)
Training in knots and hitches used for climbing.
During the weekend outing
Ground school to teach and practice the climbing, belaying and rappelling techniques
Actually climb and rappel using the techniques and equipment.
Execute a simulated rescue of an injured climber.
- REQUIREMENTS:** You will be responsible for your own Annual Health and Medical Record (parts A, B, and C).
- QUESTIONS:** Contact Josh Long Cell: (808) 780-2074 email: jlongbsa@gmail.com

Your High Adventure Team staff includes BSA qualified climbing instructors who have years of experience.

Knowledge of safe and effective climbing practices can open this exhilarating activity to you and your Scouts. Units with leaders trained in climbing and rappelling can experience the challenges of high-mountain travel, especially using cross-country routes, with confidence because of this training.

A syllabus that covers the materials discussed will be given to each participant.

Hike Aid 3, "Full Dimension High Adventure Training", has a complete discussion of the training programs of the GLAAC-HAT. It may be downloaded from the Council High Adventure website at <http://glaac-hat.org/HikeAids.html>. Questions about any of them are to be directed to Michael Schlaifer; Vice Chair Training: (213)247-8808 (C); e-mail, michael@schlaifer.com.