

HAT HiLites

Greater Los Angeles Area Council

April 2026

Scouting America

- ❖ 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!
- ❖ Rock Climbing and Rope Use/Rescue Training is coming up on Monday, April 13th. To sign up, register online at <http://glaac-hat.org/register/> or call 213-413-4400 and ask for Hannibal Sullivan.
- ❖ Interested in becoming a Climbing Instructor? Start with the first step, "Climbing Level I Instructor Course." The course is held at Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation, April 17-19. To sign up, register online at <http://glaac-hat.org/register/> or call 213-413-4400 and ask for Hannibal Sullivan.
- ❖ In celebration of the opening of National Park Week (April 19-27), there will be no admission fees at National Parks on April 19th.
- ❖ Wilderness Woman is coming up on Saturday, May 16th. This is a class created specifically for women and girls who want to be prepared for the great outdoors and get more involved with camping, hiking, backpacking, canoeing, rock climbing, etc. This class will address the challenges, questions, and concerns of the Wilderness Woman. Register online at <http://glaac-hat.org/register/> or call 213-413-4400 and ask for Hannibal Sullivan.
- ❖ The USDA-Forest Service, Angeles National Forest, and the GLAAC-HAT invite you to attend the next of the on-going series of Trail Boss Training sessions on June 6th. The purpose of this program is to train and qualify adult volunteers to organize and supervise conservation projects by sponsored groups, such as a Scout Unit. Contact David Ledford (see below) for details.

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

3-Month Calendar

Apr 13	Rock Climbing and Rope Use/Rescue Training Seminar	See attached flyer
Apr 17-19	B.S.A. Level I Climbing Instructor Course	See attached flyer
May 5	HAT Meeting *	
May 16	Wilderness Woman	See attached flyer
May 22-24	Rock Climbing and Rope Use/Rescue Training Field Experience	
Jun 2	HAT Meeting *	
Jun 6	National Trails Day/Trail Boss	

* 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



\$50 sign-up
+\$15 launch and
lunch

Sign-up

<https://greaterlascouting.org/calendar/>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 19 Long Beach Sea Base - Rowboat Merit Badge (time change 1pm - 4pm)
- May 3 Camp Trask - Swim stroke lessons and refinement
- May 17 Santa Fe Dam - Stand Up Paddleboard Award
- More to Come:
 - Lifesaving Merit Badge
 - Mile Swim Award
 - Snorkeling Award
 - Continuous: National Outdoor Award, Aquatics

Contact:

Kricket McKay
kricket@waterbuggs.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.

Scouting America Climbing Level 1 Spring 2026

- PURPOSE:** Provide training for people who are interested in teaching Scouts how to climb and rappel at the Unit, District or Council level. This group might include those interested in becoming Climbing Merit Badge Counselors, Camp Staff and Scouters. ***Scouters who work with troops and teach climbing are required to be "Qualified Instructors" prior to teaching any climbing / rappelling activities.***
- DATE:** Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday 17, 18, 19 April 2026
- TIME:** 8:00 p.m. Friday through 5:30 p.m. Sunday
- LOCATION:** Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation, 30500 Deep Creek Camp Rd, Lake Arrowhead
- COST:** \$125.00 for (textbook, meals and camping fees included) by 12 April 2026. If fewer than six 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:** Climbing gear will be provided by the Directors (ropes, anchors, carabineers, etc.) You will be sleeping indoors in a Troop Lodge and will need to provide your own sleeping bag or linens as well as you regular gear for a weekend outing.
- OVERVIEW:** This course is very intense and will work into the late hours of the night. We will cover Scouting America's current National Policies associated with all climbing/rappelling activities, at the Unit, Council and District levels, as outlined in the pamphlet entitled "Climb on Safely," and the National Camp Accreditation Program. Textbook is Scouting America's publication entitled "Belay On" (provided).
This course will be conducted over a weekend (starting Friday night). Meals will be provided Saturday and Sunday, but please bring take out or have dinner before you arrive Friday night.
- REQUIREMENTS:** Current registration with Scouting America
18 years old
Current successful completion of Scouting America's Safeguarding Youth Training (formerly Youth Protection Training).
Current Scouting America Annual Health and Medical Record
Completed the online [Climb on Safely Training](#)
- MAXIMUM SIZE:** 12 students.
- QUESTIONS:** Contact Josh Long Cell: (808) 780-2074 email: jlongbsa@gmail.com

All persons interested must be mature, capable of instructing, safety conscious, able to exercise good judgment, be dependable, relate well to youth and adults, and be familiar in the techniques of climbing, rappelling, belaying, and spotting. BSA Level I Climbing Instructor Qualification Certification is good for 1 year upon successful completion of this class.

Help keep climbing/rappelling as part of Scouting's activities by becoming a qualified BSA Climbing Instructor for your Unit, District, or Council.

A copy of "Belay On" will be given to each participant.

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Wilderness Woman Training 2026

PURPOSE: Address those issues that may arise for
Women and girls who want to be prepared for the great outdoors & high adventure activities
Women who want to be or are adult leaders in a Scouting America Troop
Girls who will be entering the Scouting America program
Girls who will be in the Venturing or Sea Scouts programs
Girl Scout Leaders and Girl Scouts



DATE: Saturday 16 May 2026
TIME: 8:00 a.m. to about 12:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Cushman Watt Scout Center, 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles
COST: \$10.00 (non refundable) by 3 May 2026. Includes continental breakfast and snacks

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.

There will be no sign ups at the door.

EQUIPMENT: No special equipment is needed for this training but do bring your questions, concerns, experiences, successes, etc. to share

MAXIMUM SIZE: 25 participants.

OVERVIEW: This is an open discussion by the moderators and the participants about issues that arise for women and girls in a back country setting.

REQUIREMENTS: None.

QUESTIONS: Course Instructor Beth Miles (626) 590-8346 (C) e-mail: elizabeth.miles@gmail.com

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