

# HAT HiLites

Greater Los Angeles Area Council

May 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!
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ In celebration of Memorial Day, May 25, and Flag Day, June 14, admission to National Parks will be free.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Desert Camping and Travel training will be held on Saturday, September 19th. The objectives of this training are to acquaint the adult Scouter with an understanding of the special qualities of the desert environment and to emphasize those backpacking skills that are essential to having a safe and enjoyable experience. See the attached flyer for details. Register online at <http://glaac-hat.org/register/> or call 213-413-4400 and ask for Hannibal Sullivan.
- ❖ If you are out hiking in the Angeles National Forest and come across a tree blocking the trail please make a note of the location and rough size of the tree. Then report it to David Ledford at 310-373-2111 or email [gdledford@verizon.net](mailto:gdledford@verizon.net).

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

## 3-Month Calendar

May 16	Wilderness Woman	See attached flyer
Jun 2	HAT Meeting *	
Jun 6	National Trails Day/Trail Boss	
Sep 1	HAT Meeting *	
Sep 5	Trail Boss (Advanced)	
Sep 19	Desert Camping and Travel Training Seminar	See attached flyer

\* 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	<a href="mailto:sedodson1@roadrunner.com">sedodson1@roadrunner.com</a>
Training	Michael Schlaifer	213-247-8808	<a href="mailto:training@glaac-hat.org">training@glaac-hat.org</a>
Awards Store	Craig Triance	714-474-1652	<a href="mailto:craigtriance@gmail.com">craigtriance@gmail.com</a>
Trail Boss	David Ledford	310-373-2111	<a href="mailto:gdledford@verizon.net">gdledford@verizon.net</a>
The Trail Head Editor	Craig Triance	714-474-1652	<a href="mailto:trailhead@glaac-hat.org">trailhead@glaac-hat.org</a>
HAT HiLites Editor	Tom Thorpe		<a href="mailto:hilites@glaac-hat.org">hilites@glaac-hat.org</a>

## Forest Service Contacts

Conservation Projects	David Ledford	310-373-2111	<a href="mailto:gdledford@verizon.net">gdledford@verizon.net</a>
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



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 23, 24, 30 Camp Trask - Lifeguard Certification

June TBD - Mile Swim Award

July 28-Aug 1 Lake Tahoe - Canoe and Camping Float Trip

More to Come:

Lifesaving Merit Badge

Snorkeling Award

Continuous: National Outdoor Award, Aquatics

Contact:

Kricket McKay  
[kricket@waterbuggs.com](mailto:kricket@waterbuggs.com)

# 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](mailto: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](mailto:elizabeth.miles@gmail.com)

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](mailto:michael@schlaifer.com).

## **Desert Camping and Travel Training - 2026**

- PURPOSE:** Acquaint the adult Scouter with an understanding and appreciation of the uniqueness and special qualities of the desert environment and to emphasize those backpacking skills that are essential to having a safe and enjoyable experience.
- DATE:** Seminar: Saturday 19 September 2026  
Weekend outing: date to be arranged during seminar
- 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: TBD Joshua Tree National Park.
- COST:** \$25.00 by 12 September 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](mailto:Hannibal.Sullivan@scouting.org).
- EQUIPMENT:** Paper and pencil, and lunch for seminar.  
Each Scouter is responsible for obtaining the clothing, equipment, and food for the weekend trip.
- MAXIMUM SIZE:** 15 Students
- OVERVIEW:** During the seminar, we will select a date and plan for a weekend backpack trip to Joshua Tree National Park (The Park has a \$25.00 per vehicle entry fee). A backpack trip of about 5 miles, round trip, to a dry campsite, provides the opportunity to demonstrate the seminar topics. After setting up camp, we will climb Queen Mountain - a "good" cross country workout.
- REQUIREMENTS:** Completion of the Adult Leader Backpack Training is highly recommended. Annual Health and Medical Record (parts A, B, and C).
- QUESTIONS:** Tarin Casillas; Course Director (310)780-0074; e-mail [ticasillas@msn.com](mailto:ticasillas@msn.com)



Look north and east, beyond the mountains that surround Los Angeles – it's a desert out there. Actually three – Sonora, Mohave, and Great Basin – and they provide numerous opportunities for hiking and camping. Completion of this training is recognized by the award of a special patch and is a requirement for earning the High Adventure Leader Award.

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](mailto:michael@schlaifer.com).