

HAT HiLites

Greater Los Angeles Area Council

December 2025

Scouting America

- ❖ ADDED! Another winter camping class will be held on Saturday, December 13th. The all-day seminar will be followed in February 2026 with a weekend backpack in San Jacinto State Park. See the attached flyer for details. To sign up, register online at <http://glaac-hat.org/register/> or call 213-413-4400 and ask for Hannibal Sullivan.
- ❖ The Port of Los Angeles is not renewing the Council's lease of the Cabrillo Beach Youth Center. The GLAAC must vacate the premises no later than December 31, 2025.
- ❖ The Cross Country Skiing and Snow Shoeing Seminar will be January 5th at the Cushman-Watts Service Center. The Cross Country outing will be January 10th. The Snow Shoeing outing will be January 24th. Register online at <http://glaac-hat.org/register/> or call 213-413-4400 and ask for Hannibal Sullivan.
- ❖ Adult Leader Backpack Training will be held on February 27th to March 21st. 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 to 45 participants so register early to ensure a spot. We cannot guarantee a spot for walk-ins. **The location is TBD.** Register online at <http://glaac-hat.org/register/> or call 213-413-4400 and ask for Hannibal Sullivan.
- ❖ Check your local library for free vehicle day-use passes to over 200 participating California state parks. Passes are checked out just like books. See https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=30806.

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

3-Month Calendar

Dec 13	Winter Camping and Travel	See attached flyer
Jan 5	Snow Shoeing and Cross-Country Skiing Seminar	See attached flyer
Jan 6	HAT Meeting *	
Jan 10	Cross Country Skiing Field Experience	
Jan 17	Snow and Ice Travel Field Experience	
Jan 24	Snow Shoeing Field Experience	
Feb 3	HAT Meeting *	
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	

* 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
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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.

Winter Camping and Travel Training 2025

- PURPOSE:** Acquaint the adult Scouter with an understanding of the winter environment and to emphasize those backpacking skills which are necessary to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.
- DATE:** Seminar: Saturday 13 December 2025
Weekend trip: TBD probably in February 2026
- TIME:** 8:00 a.m. to about 6:00 p.m. (45 minute lunch break)
- LOCATION:** Seminar: Cushman Watt Scout Center, 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles
Weekend Outing: Mt. San Jacinto
- COST:** \$25.00 by 9 December 2025. 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:** Paper and pencil, and lunch for seminar.
Each Scouter is responsible for obtaining the clothing, equipment, and food for the weekend trip including snow shoes for the weekend outing.
- MAXIMUM SIZE:** 12 Students.
- OVERVIEW:** The seminar is conducted as a series of presentations and demonstrations. The emphasis is on preparing for, and dealing with, a mountainous winter environment, be it rain, cold, snow, or some combination. Sessions cover: the physical demands of winter conditions; snow travel hazards & equipment needs; health & safety; navigation and route finding; menus; food & water needs; and personal clothing & equipment. The desirability of having a "Plan B" and the necessity of providing for unexpected changes in the weather or trail conditions are explained. Participants are invited to attend the Snow and Ice Travel seminar that follows it (see the separate training bulletin).
The weekend field trip provides the opportunity to demonstrate the specific skills taught in the seminar in a winter environment. It will be a backpack in Mt. San Jacinto State Park of about 5 miles, round trip, from 8,600 to 10,000 feet. Snowshoes will be worn while backpacking.
- REQUIREMENTS:** Completion of Adult Leader Backpack Training.
Annual Health and Medical Record (parts A and B).
- QUESTIONS:** Dennis Cline, Course Director, at (310) 792-0544; e-mail: jdcline49@msn.com



Winter brings a special stillness to the local mountains. The year-round camper knows that the pests of summer – insects, most animals, other people – have gone to ground for the season. While the snowy peaks may appear close and inviting, that same camper knows that the weather and trail conditions require special preparation, skills, and equipment.

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 ChairTraining: (213)247-8808 (C); e-mail, michael@schlaifer.com.

Cross Country Skiing and Snow Shoeing Seminar – 2026

PURPOSE: Learn first hand about the special equipment, gear and techniques needed for safe cross country skiing and snow shoeing.

DATE: Seminar: Monday 5 January 2026
Ski Outing: Saturday 10 January 2026
Snow Shoe Outing: 24 January 2026

TIME: 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Seminar: Cushman Watt Scout Center, 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles
Outings: TBA

COST: \$10.00 by 29 December 2025. 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. Each participant is responsible for the rental of skis and other equipment.



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.

MAXIMUM SIZE: 25 Students

QUESTIONS: Tarin Casillas; Course Director (310)515-3647 (H) or (310)780-0074; e-mail ticasillas@msn.com

If you are the kind of hiker who would like to take extended trips during winter months, you should try cross country skiing or snow shoeing. Enjoy the challenge of high country winter travel with confidence. Learn firsthand knowledge of safety and techniques. This will allow you to expand your “places to go” during the snow season.

The program will include demonstrations and discussions covering the special equipment and gear needed. A syllabus that covers the materials discussed will be given to each participant.

Completion of this training is recognized by the award of two special patches.

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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.

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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:** Cabrillo Beach Youth Center, San Pedro.
- 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
orienteering
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 ChairTraining: (213)247-8808 (C); e-mail, michael@schlaifer.com.