BPWA Newsletter October 2017

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Save the Date



Be connected. Be prepared. Be Berkeley.

BPWA Annual Meeting November 16 to Focus on Emergency Planning

With devastating hurricanes, floods, and earthquakes dominating the headlines, it's more important than ever to learn how Berkeley officials and neighborhood volunteers continue to improve Berkeley's plans for dealing with a major disaster. Keynote speakers at our Annual Meeting, November 16, will be Khin Chin, of Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services, and, Acting Fire Chief David Brannigan. Among other topics, they will discuss the importance of the paths as emergency access or egress routes.

During a brief business meeting before the keynote talks, we'll elect new board members and highlight our recent path-building efforts.

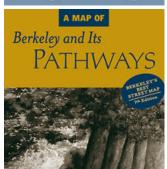
The meeting starts at 7 p.m. at the <u>Hillside Club</u>, at <u>2286</u> <u>Cedar St.</u> Our new tee shirts and caps —along with our

Join or Renew



Did you forget to pay your \$5 dues for 2017? We do not want to lose you. Please renew today.

Buy Our Map



The New York Times calls it ... " a terrific map of all the secret routes and corridors in Berkeley." It's also the best street map of the city you can buy! Get your copy.

Support BPWA

maps, notecards, posters, and other merchandise — will be on sale.

Meet Our Volunteers



A lifelong walker, Mary Lynch enjoys both long hikes on East Bay trails and beyond and shorter ones on Berkeley's paths.

The Unstoppable Mary Lynch!

It may be a bad pun, but it's no exaggeration to say that Mary Lynch has long been a linchpin of Berkeley Path Wanderers. Since 2002, she's contributed her ideas, talents, and sweat equity to help us to preserve, maintain and expand Berkeley's path system.

Mary began her BPWA career as a path builder. Always an avid walker, she went on one of our guided walks and learned she could volunteer to help finish the 50 or so unbuilt paths on city-owned rights of way.

"We were building lots at that time, completing one path and then moving onto the next," Mary recalls. "It was hard work, but it was exciting to see the paths materialize, one step after another." Read more.

Walk With Us



Your generosity enables us to build more paths and continue to offer our path-oriented events. Donate now.

Shop Online



We sell Path Wanderer shirts, hats, and tote bags as well as guidebooks, posters, and note cards. Visit our store.

Get to Know Us



Berkeley Path Wanderers Association (BPWA) is a grassroots organization of people who treasure the public pathways that crisscross our city. Read more.

Meet Our Friends

You'll find links to many other organizations that promote walking, pedestrian safety, protecting the environment, and more on our website.



How do we love our dogs, like Chester here? We'll count the ways on this walk for pooches and people.

Pooches on the Paths Celebrates World Animal Week

Sunday, October 1 @ 10 a.m.

Leaders: Wally & Figgy

Start: 10:00 am, Ohlone Park @ NW corner of Heart Ave.

and Grant St.

'Tis the season to honor our animal kin, so grab a leash and your canine friend as we kick off World Animal Week! Join the pack as we take a flat, two-mile trot through the parks of Central Berkeley, finishing in about two hours with a pièce de résistance romp in newly renovated Ohlone Dog Park. We'll provide snacks for pooches and people, but please bring a bag of dog or cat treats or a jar of yummy peanut butter (Skippy preferred) to show our care and compassion for homeless animals. We'll deliver your donations to Berkeley's Animal Care Services. With or without a four-footed friend, everyone is welcome on this installment of our All-the-Parks-in-Berkeley Series.



Photo: David Ryan

Curving Orchard Lane leads up to the Panoramic Hill neighborhood.

Historic Panoramic Hill Saturday, October 7 @ 10 a.m.

Leader: Ron Sipherd

Start: Prospect Court parking lot, south of Memorial

<u>Stadium</u>

Allow extra time to find parking, which may be scarce and timelimited near the campus; the Prospect Court lot is not available to the public.

Ron will describe the history and architecture of "Berkeley's most romantic neighborhood." This walk includes stairs and slopes but also plenty of places to rest. Allow extra time to find parking, which may be scarce and time-limited near the campus. A full description of this walk, with photos, a printable map, and a text itinerary, is available here. Rain cancels.



Sunday Streets Festival Walk

Sunday, October 15 @ 10:30 a.m.

Leader: Alina Constantinescu

Start: SW corner of Shattuck and Hearst Avenues

The Sunday Streets festival will transform Shattuck Ave.

into a car-free pedestrian mall, from Channing Way to Rose St. What a perfect time to take a walk with us! Our three-mile loop will cover the stretch of Shattuck from Hearst to Live Oak Park, where we will head into the hills through beautiful parks and on hidden paths and staircases. We'll linger at the Berkeley Rose Garden, noting the recent improvements, and enjoy other fun places in the area north of campus. Our pace will be moderate, with breaks to enjoy the festival and other points of interest. We'll return to the start around 1 p.m



Young bear spotters show off their nearly complete bingo cards at this sculpture near Haas School of Business.

Fun and Prizes Await Young Path Wanderers On I-Spy-a-Bear Bingo Walk on Cal Campus Saturday, October 28 @ 10 a.m.

Leader: Sandy Friedland

Start: Steps of Sproul Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Calling all sharp-eyed bear lovers between the ages of
four and eight: Come find bears — plus a few other critters
— in the wilds of the UC campus. Back by popular
demand, this version of Sandy's Bingo walks for kids will
cover about two miles and last 90 minutes with frequent
stops, including one for refreshments. An adult must
accompany every young bear spotter. The route is paved,
with some gentle hills and a few streets to cross. Optional
lunch in Lower Sproul Plaza or on Bancroft. Walk limited to

20 children. Please rsvp to <u>Sandy</u> by October 20 to reserve your child's spot for this creative activity.



This plaque, at the foot of Ina Coolbrith Path, summarizes the achievements of California's first poet laureate and Oakland's first public librarian.

Ina Coolbrith & Friends Sunday, November 12 @ 10 a.m.

Leader: Aleta George
Start: Cragmont Rock Park

Join Aleta George, author of *Ina Coolbrith: The Bittersweet Song of California's First Poet Laureate*, on a four-mile loop walk on the roads and pathways named for some of the Bay Area's literary pioneers. A highlight will be the <u>stairway that BPWA renamed</u> in Coolbrith's honor, where the Berkeley Historical Society and the Berkeley Historical Plaque Project have installed an informational plaque on Coolbrith. Aleta developed this route during her frequent walks when she was writing her book. On the walk, Aleta will tell stories about Coolbrith and her colleagues <u>Bret Harte</u>, <u>Joaquin Miller</u>, and <u>Charles</u> <u>Keeler</u>. This walk has stairs and some steep streets.



The tough rhyolite of Indian Rock was the setting for Berkeley's pioneering rock-climbing scene.

Berkeley's Changing Ground: Volcanoes, Landslides, and the Hayward Fault Saturday, November 18 @ 2 p.m.

Leader: Andrew Alden

Start: Codornices Park Playground

The steep residential hills of North Berkeley owe their picturesque qualities to three great geological forces: mass wasting (landslides), tectonism (earthquake faulting), and volcanism (lava flows). Andrew, who has a blog_that focuses on East Bay geology and is writing a book on the subject, will take us on a 3.3-mile route with informative stops at Berkeley's distinctive rock parks. We'll explore vivid signs of past volcanic activity — thankfully, no longer a threat! Along the way, we'll also encounter evidence of giants *in* the Earth: large active landslides, the inexorable Hayward Fault, and marks left by mammoths during the Ice Age when Berkeley was even more unusual than it is today. Expect stairways and some hilly streets, which may be slippery with dead leaves.

Join Our Work Parties



Cleaning paths is hard work, but we also have a great time. Find out for yourself when we tackle our next overgrown path.

Help Keep Our Paths Clean Sunday, October 29 @ 10 a.m.

Help us transform another weed-obscured path into a safe and lovely walkway. Please email <u>Mary Lynch</u> if you can come, and she will send you the location of the next Path Maintenance Work Party. We'll supply gloves and tools, but feel free to bring your own. Refreshments will be served.







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