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**HELP US
PRESERVE AND EXTEND
OUR CHERISHED
BERKELEY PATHS**

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association
berkeleypaths.org

Follow Our News



BPWA Board member Elsa Tranter will report on her big year of beach cleanups.

BPWA Annual Meeting
Thursday, October 17, 7 - 8:30 pm
Hillside Club: [2286 Cedar Street](http://2286CedarStreet.com)

Buy Our Map



The best map of Berkeley's paths and streets just got even better! Order your copy of our fresh-off-the-presses 8th edition of *Berkeley and Its Pathways*. [Get your copy.](#)

Join or Renew



Your generosity enables us to build more paths and continue

Let's Talk Trash!

Minna Toloui, education and engagement program manager at the Ecology Center, will shed light on what's really happening with the things we throw 'away' - especially plastics. What is really getting recycled? What can we do about it, and why does it matter? As you've heard in the news, we're in a crisis, but there is still so much we can do. Tips on reducing your impact will also be included, as well as updates on exciting new local initiatives to move towards zero waste.

Agenda:

Refreshments, BPWA store open, President's welcome
(7 pm)

Feature Presentations: Let's Talk Trash! (7:15 pm)

- Minna Toloui, Ecology Center: Plastic waste and recycling
- Alina Constantinescu, BPWA President: June trash pick-up/walk
- Elsa Tranter, BPWA board member: [Beach cleanups](#)

BPWA Updates (8 pm)

- Recognition of departing board members
- New board member election
- Path-building report
- Paths condition report - Update from July 2018 Survey

to offer our path-oriented events. [Join now.](#)

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.](#)

All are welcome to join us at our board meetings, on the third Thursdays of the month.

Upcoming meetings:

Oct. 17: Annual meeting, Hillside Club, 2268 Cedar, 7 pm

Nov. 21: Board meeting, Corporation Yard, 1326 Allston Way, 7:30 - 9 pm

Meet Our Friends

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



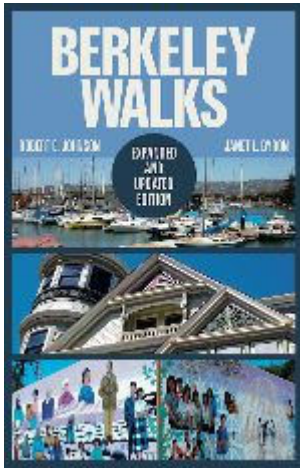
Founder Jacque Ensign (left) and Councilwoman Betty Olds at the dedication of Betty Olds Path. Photo: Colleen Neff

Berkeley Takes First Steps Toward Dedicating Paths for BPWA Founders

This past Tuesday, Sept. 24, the Berkeley City Council took the first step toward naming four paths after our association's founders: Eleanor Hall Gibson, Ruth Armstrong, Jacque Ensign, and Pat DeVito. The council voted to refer the matter for consideration by the city manager and the Public Works Commission. A final vote is expected in the next few months, once the manager and the Commission review and return the matter to the council. We will keep you posted on future developments and look forward to a celebratory walk and name-unveiling ceremony in the near future. In the meantime, read about the paths to be named, as well as our founders, in the [background memo](#) for the City Council action (item 25, page 289).

Free new Berkeley Walks

Bob Johnson, co-author with Janet Byron of the local-bestseller *Berkeley Walks*, has been busy developing [new, self-guided walking tours](#). The first three series, consisting of three walks each, are now available as full-color, pdf files with maps and photographs. They cover additional areas of



Berkeley and surrounding communities (dipping into Kensington and Albany, for example). Walks range from the fast-changing former industrial area of southwest Berkeley to the top of the Berkeley hills. The walks are free and can be opened and/or downloaded from the Berkeley Walks website. Additional walks will be uploaded in coming

months so be sure to check back periodically:

berkeleywalks.com.



Thanks to our intrepid volunteers, BPWA surveyed the condition of all of Berkeley's paths in 2018.

Update: All-Paths Survey

By Alina Constantinescu

President, Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

On July 22 of last year, nearly 80 volunteers fanned out all over Berkeley, clipboards in hand, to walk all the paths in Berkeley and record their condition. With sharp eyes on signage, steps, handrails, and overgrowth, our volunteers gathered invaluable information to inform BPWA's ongoing path improvement efforts.

BPWA collected the info sheets and compiled our volunteers' observations into this [report](#). The first of its kind since the City of Berkeley last assessed the paths in 1993, the report describes in detail the remediation needed to bring our path network into good condition.

The survey is a "living document"; it was last revised in September 2019 to capture recent progress made on path repairs and improvements. Going forward, BPWA plans to conduct these surveys every 5 years.

We are extremely grateful to our community. We could not have done this without you!

To read more about the path survey, [click here](#).



EAST BAY **Community** **FREE EVENT**
Emergency Prep Fair

Saturday, October 12th
(10 am - 3 pm)

James Kenney Park
1720 8th St. (near Virginia), Berkeley
Free shuttle from North Berkeley BART!

Berkeley Ready
City of Berkeley

Bouncy House **Quake Shake Truck**
Disaster Supplies **First Aid Training**
Use a Fire Extinguisher **Pet Preparedness**
and much more!

For more info visit bdpnnetwork.org or email: demofair@bdpnnetwork.org

The poster features a vibrant, colorful illustration of a community scene. In the center, a woman in a wheelchair is being assisted by another person. To the right, a man is playing a guitar. In the background, there are large green leaves, a sunflower, and a blue bird. The overall theme is community support and preparedness.

Berkeley Path Wanderers will host a table at the East Bay Community Emergency Prep Fair at James Kenney Park, 1720 8th St., on Saturday, October 12. Please come by and say hello!

Walk With Us

Join us on our terrific guided walks, which are free and open to all. Unless otherwise noted, they last 2 to 3 hours and proceed at a moderate, conversational pace. We're sorry, but we can't accommodate your dogs except on walks specified as dog-friendly. Please check our [home page](#) for last-minute weather cancellations. Questions about a walk? Write walks@berkeleypaths.org.



Mansion in the Claremont-Rockridge neighborhood.

Great Estates of Claremont-Rockridge

Date: Saturday, October 5, 2019 10 am – 1 pm

Leader: Ron Sipherd

Start: [Claremont Avenue at the Uplands](#) (opposite Star Grocery)

Circa 1900, the scenic Claremont-Rockridge neighborhood boasted several imposing mansions with extensive grounds that belonged to some of the Bay Area's wealthiest tycoons. Many other very nice homes belonged to the merely affluent. We will discover what remains of these grand houses and try to imagine the splendor of bygone days. The 3-mile walk includes some concrete stairs and moderate uphill climbs. Preview the route at: <http://ronksville.com/pix/walks/estates/>.

Note: This walk is dog-friendly! Well-behaved dogs on leash permitted.



Join us for a brisk 9-mile walk at the border of Tilden Park, with 9 paths.

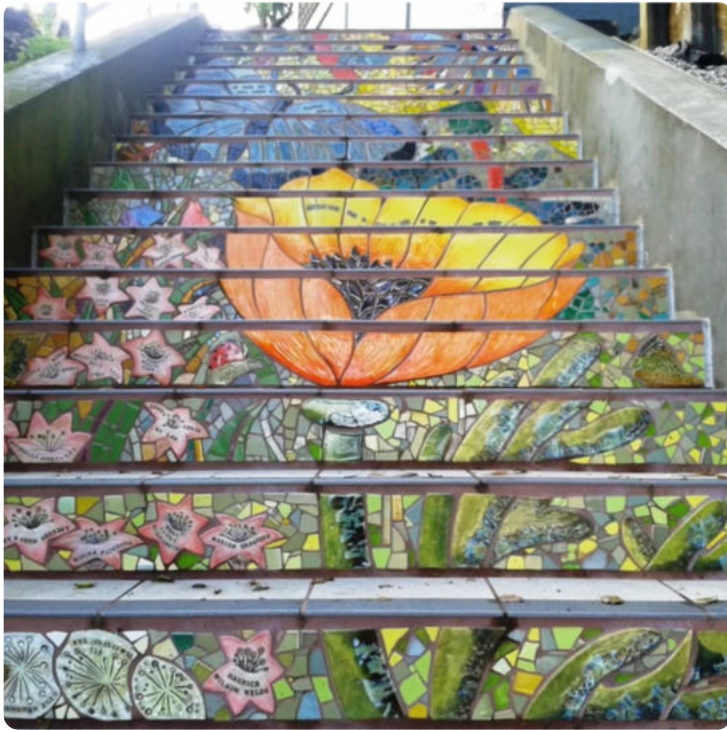
A Brisk Hills Walk

Date: Sunday, Oct. 13, 9 am - 1 pm

Leader: John Ford & Bonnie Forer

Start: [2113 Vine St.](#) (Patio in front of Vintage Berkeley, across from the original Peet's on Walnut Street.)

We'll take a zig-zag walk up to the border of Tilden Park utilizing 9 paths, with about 1,000 feet of elevation gain in about 2 miles. Then we'll move north along the ridge with some more up and down, plus another 7 paths and a walk through the Zaytuna College campus (formerly a Lutheran seminary). We'll work our way back down from the hills taking several other paths (which ones depend on the energy level of the group at that point). This is a challenging 9-mile walk with optional lunch in the Gourmet Ghetto as our reward at the end.



Beautiful tiled stairs in San Francisco, on the Crosstown Trail.

**San Francisco Crosstown Trail Part 2:
Golden Gate Park to Forest Hill (Hike 2 of a 4-Hike
Series)**

Date: Sunday, October 27, 10 am - 12:30 pm

Leader: Alina Constantinescu

Start: [Sidewalk on SE Corner of Park Presidio Blvd. and
Fulton Ave](#), by the sign for the Rose Garden. Street
parking in the neighborhood is free, though it's not always
easy to find a spot. Muni bus 5 and 28 are nearby.

End: Laguna Honda Boulevard by the Forest Hill Muni
Light Rail Station.

On our October hike, we make our way across Golden Gate Park through the Rose Garden and Stow Lake and then head to the Forest Hill neighborhood via Grandview and Golden Gate Heights parks. There is quite a bit of climbing on this section as we go up and down seven (not-so) secret staircases, including two mosaic-tile beauties that are sure to delight. Our estimated arrival at Forest Hill is around 12:30 p.m. At this point, hikers can choose to return to Golden Gate Park (or other destinations) via public transit or car share.

Optional: Those who would like an extended hike can continue with the group and hike the route in reverse, back to the starting point. Bring a picnic lunch if you are sticking around for the return hike; we will take a lunch break at Forest Hill before heading back to the start. Estimated end

time for the round-trip option is 4 p.m.

Save-the-date for the remaining hikes in the series:

Sat., Nov. 16, and Sun., Dec. 15.



Sunrise at Wildcat Peak.

Wildcat Peak Sunrise Breakfast Hike

Date: Saturday, November 2, 6:15 - 9:00 am

Leader: Erika Wilson

Start: [Inspiration Point in Tilden Park](#). Meet at the start of the paved Nimitz Way trail. Ample parking and restrooms are available at the trailhead.

Calling all early birds! Bring your flashlight, an extra layer, and breakfast for an out-and-back sunrise hike from Inspiration Point to Wildcat Peak in Tilden Park. We will start in the dark and walk along the Nimitz Way trail as dawn breaks over the East Bay hills. The trail is mostly flat and paved, with a short but somewhat steep 0.25 mile climb on a dirt trail up to Wildcat Peak. At the top we will take some time to enjoy breakfast as we watch the sunrise and take in sweeping views of the hills, San Francisco, and the North Bay. Rain cancels; if in doubt, please check the BPWA website the night before the hike for an update.



Glen Park is the launching point for our exploration of Glen Canyon Park and hidden trails behind Laguna Honda Hospital.

**San Francisco Crosstown Trail Part 3:
Forest Hill to Glen Park** (Hike 3 of a 4-Hike Series)

Date: Saturday, November 16, 2019 10 am - 12 pm

Leader: Alina Constantinescu

Start: [Sidewalk in front of Forest Hill Muni Light Rail Station](#). Street parking in the neighborhood is free, though it's not always easy to find a spot. Muni K, L, M, T stop here.

End: Glen Park BART

Our November hike is a 3-mile section exploring the hidden trails behind the Laguna Honda Hospital, fun canyons and outcrops in Glen Canyon Park, and a greenway that is steps away from Glen Park BART. From the endpoint at Glen Park BART, hikers can choose to head home or return to Forest Hill Muni (or other destinations) via public transit or car share.

Optional: Those who would like an extended hike can continue with the group and hike back to the starting point at Forest Hill. Bring a picnic lunch if you are sticking around for the return hike. The route back is 3.5 miles and challenging, with several hills along the way. We will explore Mount Davidson (San Francisco's highest point), Edgehill Open Space, and several staircase paths. Estimated end-time for the round-trip option is 3:30 pm.

Save-the-date for the final hike in the series: Sunday,
Dec. 15.



Founders Hall at the Lutheran Seminary, now part of Zaytuna College.

Berkeley Woods

Date: Saturday, December 7, 10 am - 12:30 pm

Leader: [Bob Johnson](#)

Start : [580 Grizzly Peak Blvd](#), 3 houses south of where Euclid ends at Grizzly Peak. 65 bus stops at Euclid and Grizzly Peak, but buses run once per hour on Saturday; parking available on surrounding streets.

Bob Johnson, co-author of [Berkeley Walks](#), leads this hilly, ~ 3-mile walk in the northeast corner of Berkeley. The walk, one of his new [free series](#) of Berkeley walks, includes land formerly occupied by plant nurseries, and it features tall trees, views to the east and west, a variety of 20th-century architecture, the former homes of famous people, and an historic seminary that is now a Muslim college. We will explore two little-known paths, and walk up and down the ridge. The streets generally do not have sidewalks but traffic is scant.

Join Our Work Parties



Charlie Bowen helps weed John Muir Path during a work party.

Help us Keep our Paths Clear for Emergencies Monday, Oct. 7 @ 11 a.m.

Help us transform a weed-obsured path into a safe and lovely walkway. Please email [Mary Lynch](mailto:Mary.Lynch@berkeley-path-wanderers.org) if you can come to the work party, and she will send you the location. We supply refreshments and gloves and tools, but feel free to bring your own.



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