

Berkeley's PATHS

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Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

Summer 2014

“Explore” the Historic Anza Trail at BPWA’s Annual Meeting, Sept. 18 — Sandy Friedland

American colonists famously declared their independence in 1776; but on the West Coast a less famous band of hardy colonists also made history that year. After a five-month journey from Nogales, Mexico, through Arizona and up coast of California, 240 men, women, and children established Spain's northernmost outpost on land that would become San Francisco.

Their 1200-mile route now is called the Juan Bautista de Anza Trail, named for the Spanish soldier who led that arduous expedition.

BPWA's Annual Meeting on Thursday, September 18, will feature the Anza Trail, which Congress designated a National Historic Trail in 1992. The event begins at 7 p.m. at the Hillside Club (2286 Cedar St.), and is free and open to the public.

A brief business meeting and the election of officers will precede the program. We also will recognize Zeke Gerwein and Jacob Lehmann Duke and the 11 intrepid hikers who followed them on all six BPWA walks, covering every path in Berkeley.

For the program, three keynote speakers each will discuss a different aspect of the Anza Trail, which includes more than 350 miles of recreational routes and many historic sites.

Ranger Hale Sargent, who lives in Oakland, is the interpretive specialist for the Trail and works with community groups and volunteers along its entire length. He will tell how Colonel Anza organized, supplied, and led a rag-tag group of soldiers, friars, and families — not to mention 695 horses and mules and 385 head of cattle — to San Francisco.

As a complement to his talk, Ranger Sargent also will lead a BPWA walk, “Bringing the Anza Trail Alive,” on

Saturday, September 27. The route will highlight some local parts of the trail. (For details, see walk descriptions, on page 2)

Our second speaker, Beverly Lane,



is an expert on Northern California history and a self-described lover of trails. She serves on the boards of the East Bay Regional Parks and the Anza Trail Foundation and lives in Danville, where she served three terms as mayor. Her special interests include California pre-Gold Rush history and Col. Anza's exploration of the East Bay. She will explain what happened when the settlers reached the Bay Area as well as how the trail is being developed and marked here.

To close, Rockridge resident Meredith Kaplan will explain how the Anza Trail became a National Historic Trail. A veteran of the National Park Service, she was the Superintendent of the Anza Trail, raised public awareness of its significance, and developed its management plan.

BPWA's map, tee shirts, caps, tote bags and more will be on sale before and after the program. Free maps of Anza Trail also will be available. Light refreshments will be served.

BPWA Walks

11th Annual Summer Path-a-thon: Sunday, July 20

Three walks, three leaders, three levels. One BYO picnic at the end. We'll supply the cake!

Walks will start at staggered times, but each one will begin and end in the park in front of John Muir School, 2955 Claremont Avenue.

(AC Transit #51B)

If by some fluke we get heavy rain, these walks will be cancelled.

Contact: walks@berkeleypaths.org

Claremont Hills Power Walk, 9:45

Leader: Sandy Friedland

Terrain: Hilly with steep stairs, streets

Pace: 2-3 miles an hour

Get your heart rate up on this five-mile circuit that will include some steep steps and ramps and hilly streets in the lovely neighborhood above the Claremont Hotel. We will be on pavement until the last part of this two-hour walk, when we will explore some of the newly improved paths in Garber Park. No dogs, please.

Claremont Path Safari, 10:15

Leader: Lynn Derogowski

Terrain: Some Hills and stairs

Pace: 1-2 mph

Join us on this all-ages, family-friendly expedition. We will stalk the whimsical animal art that roams the urban savannah. Kids spotting more than 25 animals will get a special treat. Adults who do the same will receive a smile and a pat on the back. Well-behaved dogs on leashes, regardless of how many animals they find, will be rewarded with biscuits. Please note: We will be taking several older paths with stairs, so strollers may not be appropriate. Expect this hike to last 1 ½ hours.

Monkey Park, a “Manet” Mural, and More, 10:45

Leader: Elsa Tranter

Terrain: stairs, ramps, and some moderate hills

Pace: 1 mph

This one-hour ramble will be the shortest of the three walks. We will explore the stately neighborhood between Claremont and College Avenues, with its iron gates, varied architecture, and creative yard art. Expect some stairs and moderately steep inclines. Well-behaved dogs on leashes will be welcomed.

(More walks on next page)

CLIP AND SAVE

(Walks continued)

BPWA Walks

Walks last 2-3 hours, are free, and open to all. No dogs permitted unless noted, and heavy rain cancels. **See expanded descriptions at berkeleypaths.org** For questions write: walks@berkeleypaths.org

Wednesday, August 6, 10 a.m.

Coffee Constitutional: East Campus

Leader: Jacque Ensign

Start: Qualcomm Cyber Café in Sutardja Dai Hall, Hearst and Le Roy Aves.

Transit: From Downtown BART, take AC Transit F; or walk 9 blocks

We'll meet at one of the hippest cafes on campus. With Peet's coffee in hand, we will saunter on pavement and smooth trails, through the transformed east side of UC. We will see both the old and the new, including Founder's Rock, Strawberry Creek, and the renovated Memorial Stadium. Optional lunch afterward.

Terrain: fairly level **Pace:** 1 mph or less

Saturday, August 9, 10 a.m.

Kensington Paths; Sunset View Cemetery

Leader: Neil Mishalov

Start: Semifreddi's, 372 Colusa Ave; Kensington

Transit: El Cerrito Plaza BART, A.C. Transit #25

This hike will take us on the eight accessible pathways in Kensington and through historic Sunset View Cemetery. We'll see the tombstone of Robert Gordon Sproul, president of UC, 1930-1958; and a memorial to Helen Crandall, a volunteer nurse who died caring for patients during the 1918 Influenza epidemic.

Terrain: Some hilly streets and steps

Pace: Moderate

Monday, Sept. 8, 5 p.m. picnic,* 6 p.m. hike

Moonrise Kingdom and Sunset Splendor

Leader: Kay Englund

Start: Nimetz Way Trailhead, Inspiration Pt.

Transit: No public transportation available

Join us for a family-friendly, two-mile, in-and-out walk to see the rise of a Supermoon, which looks much larger than other full moons, followed by a sunset. The path is level and paved until the final ascent of about 300' on a dirt path. Moonrise is at 6:38; sunset at 7:28. You should be back at your car by 8:00, or earlier if you leave after the moonrise. Heavy clouds cancel. Check the website berkeleypaths.org by 2 p.m. if weather is a concern.

*Please bring a dish to share and beverages. We'll supply plates, forks, napkins.

Terrain: Flat, except for one small hill

Pace: Leisurely

Sept. 27, 2014, 10 a.m.

Bringing the Anza Trail Alive

Leader: Ranger Hale Sargent

Start: Downtown BART

To complement our Annual Meeting Sept. 18th, guest speaker Hale Sargent will lead us on a walk within the corridor of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. Sept. 27 is National Public Lands Day, so our route will link the National Park Service with Berkeley parks, including Cordonces and Cragmont Parks. Ranger Sargent will read diary entries from the area's first non-Native settlers, part of the Anza expedition.

Terrain: some hills, steps **Pace:** 1-2 mph

Meet Our Man with the Camera: Neil Mishalov

— Colleen Neff and Kay Englund

What happens when scores of brave adults follow two pre-teen boys all over (and up and down), on six BPWA hikes in six months, covering every path in Berkeley? Well, we have great fun and make new friends. One of those gems is Neil Mishalov, who became the unofficial photographer, mileage counter, and route recorder for that epic journey. With unflagging energy, good humor, and precision, Neil documented it all.

A retired real estate agent, Neil has lived in Berkeley since 1979. He joined BPWA last year but had not gone on any of our walks until he read about the Whole Berkeley Walk series. A former trail runner, an avid marathoner, and even an ultra-marathoner, he knew a challenge when he saw one!

Neil also came on our Long Walk April 5, an all-day, 14-miler from the San Francisco Ferry Building to Sausalito. Once again, he documented the event with his camera and GPS device. His photos grace our website and our Facebook page.

His love affair with the camera began in high school and became a life-long passion. "Whatever I'm doing, my eyes are viewing all my surroundings," Neil explains. "I often see things other people miss, and a camera lets me record them. It's satisfying for me to do so."

Neil was drafted into the Army in September, 1967, and sent to South Korea in March, 1968. Of course, he took his Nikon camera. He was assigned to an ordinance battalion whose mission was to store and maintain munitions, including nuclear warheads.

Luckily for Neil, he became the battalion mailman with his own jeep to pick up the mail twice a day, six days a week. With lots of freedom between mail runs, he drove around taking photos of scenery as well as rural villages and their residents as they went about shopping, repairing roads, threshing grain, and caring for their children. He also documented military life and maneuvers.

In December, 1968, he photographed Bob Hope's Christmas show, featuring Ann Margaret. During two week-long leaves, he took his camera to Japan.

In all, he produced thousands of images while in the Army. But when he came home, he put them away for 32 years. In 2001, a friend suggested that Neil digitalize his 35mm slides, and he started to post the images on his website: www.mishalov.com. He had

created it in 1998 to publicize the 268 Congressional Medal of Honor recipients from the Vietnam War. "I was lucky to have been sent to Korea and not to Vietnam. So I wanted to make an accounting of their heroic actions more available to the public."

Neil has added more photos to his website, including contemporary scenes from Japan, Korea, and Vietnam that he had shot on recent trips. His website has had more than 4 million viewers from all over the world. In 2003, he was invited back to Anyang, the Korean town near where he was stationed. The city mounted a display of his photographs of the area, some of the only high-quality ones from that era, and published them in a book. The mayor also made Neil an honorary citizen.

These days, Neil loves to hike all over the Bay Area, taking digital photos along the way. Of course, Berkeley's paths and stairways rank among his favorite destinations.

"I am grateful to the Berkeley Path Wanderers for making the paths viable and visible," he says.

Thank you, Neil. See you and your camera on the paths!



Solano Stroll

Sunday, Sept. 14

Watch for the BPWA booth from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pick up an extra map, a tee shirt, or a box of our beautiful note cards.

Take the Bus to Take a Better Path Walk

— Charlie Bowen

When most of us take a walk on the paths in Berkeley, we start and end at the same point. Although a loop walk certainly can be pleasant, it limits both the number of paths you can walk and the distance you can range.

However, if you use the AC Transit bus lines creatively, you can do longer one-way walks or even walk in different parts of town the same day. You also can take the bus uphill to cut out some of the steep ascents.

We have written about this topic before, but here are some updated bus-path suggestions. You can board all buses in downtown Berkeley. Check www.actransit.org for timetables and route maps.

Line 65

A ride on the 65 bus probably is the best to combine with a path walk because that line goes from downtown Berkeley to Euclid Avenue, travels all the way to the top of the hill, and then heads south on Grizzly Peak Boulevard to Lawrence Hall of Science.

You can get off the 65 bus at various stops on Euclid and take paths either down or further up. My favorite plan is to get off along Grizzly Peak because so many of the paths that BPWA volunteers have built since 2003 can be reached from there. Here are a few specific suggestions to get you started:

- Get off at Latham Lane take **Poppy Path** to Remillard Park, then choose either **Pinnacle Path**, with its fabulous pottery dragon, or **Keeler Path** (aka "the wildest path in Berkeley"). Then aim for **Path #50**, the upper part of **El Mirador Path**.
- Get off at Muir Way/Stevenson Ave., and you have two great choices. Either go down **Anne Brower Path** and continue down to **Whitaker Path** via new — and renamed — **Betty Olds Path** (#68 **Twain Path** on our map until the next edition), or walk a little ways south to take **Stoddard Path**, and then go down the two **Stevenson Paths**. Turn right to reach upper **Covert Path** and note the new native plants near the top. Relax on the bench under the redwoods and plan the rest of

your walk, which can start with the recently completed lower **Covert Path**.

- Get off at Arcade Ave. at the top of the three **Glendale Paths**. Take a little jog three houses to the left at Campus Drive to continue down **LaLoma Path**.

Lines 7, 49A, and 67

Other bus lines that are good for exploring paths are the 7, the 49A, and the 67. To visit the historic paths in the neighborhoods on the south side of the UC Campus, take the southbound 49A bus from downtown Berkeley. Find **Mosswood Lane**, **Avalon Walk**, **Pine Path**, and **Oak Knoll Path** and more. Higher up, don't miss some of the magical gardens and yard art at the top of upper **Oakridge Path** and **Park Path**. Many of these paths are charming and some are nearly 100 years old.

Or, instead, go northbound on the 7 bus to The Arlington. You'll be above wonderful old paths like **Indian Trail**, **Vincente Walk**, **Visalia Steps** and below lots of others. You also can cross into Kensington to **Ardmore Path** and five more that now have number designations instead of names. Alternatively, you can go higher by taking the 67 bus northbound on Spruce St, where you can explore **Alta Vista Path**, **Florida Walk**, **Acacia Steps**, and **Upton Lane**.

As a reward, you can end your walk at a café or bakery on Solano Avenue, in the Gourmet Ghetto, in The Elmwood, or in the Claremont neighborhood.



— Photo by Sandy Friedland

Tax-deductible household memberships in the BPWA are \$5.00 and cover one calendar year. Benefits include a newsletter and other BPWA mailings and emails. If you can give more, please consider a donation. You can join or donate online at www.berkeleypaths.org or by sending this form and a check, payable to our fiscal parent BPPF (Berkeley Partners for Parks) to:

BPWA
1442-A Walnut Street - #269
Berkeley, CA 94709

BPWA Membership/Donation Form

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Telephone Number (optional) _____

I am enclosing \$5 for membership new renewal

I am also enclosing a donation of _____

I am interested in volunteering

Please make checks payable to our fiscal parent: Berkeley Partners for Parks (BPPF)

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www.berkeleypaths.org

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Berkeley Path Wanderers Association Summer 2014

Dedicated to the creation, preservation, and restoration of public paths, steps, and walkways in Berkeley for the use and enjoyment of all.

The Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, an affiliate of Berkeley Partners for Parks, is a volunteer group of community members who have come together to increase public awareness of the city of Berkeley's pathways. Our activities include guided path walks, the mapping of Berkeley's path network, the building of paths that are proposed, and the restoration of those that need maintenance.



— Photo by Colleen Neff

The 13 terrific trekkers who walked every path in Berkeley, following the lead of Zeke Gerwein and Jacob Lehmann Duke (4th and 5th from right).

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