

FALL 1978 NEWSLETTER



CATALINA LAST MINUTE REGISTRATION

Great Outdoors' overnight and one-day adventure outings to Catalina Aug 12-13 are filling up fast! Last minute registration will be conducted on an in-person basis until noon, Sunday Aug 6 - please call 598-3944 for a registration appointment. A complete Catalina Weekend fact sheet is enclosed for persons registered as of this mailing and will be distributed to late-date registrants upon registration.

CHARTER MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Charter Membership response has been very heavy and requires us to set an expiration date of Sept 15, 1978 for this one-time offer, after which regular memberships will be available. Charter Membership in Great Outdoors entitles participants to privileges that will not be offered again. This membership, valid until January 1, 1979 includes a major overnight outing each month; a balanced program of recreation and special activities; activities instruction; greatly reduced cost on outings for both the member and his/her personal guest; a membership package which includes a special issue G.O. t-shirt, decals and membership card; a three year guarantee of no increase in annual dues; and the assurance that no Charter Member will ever be wait-listed for an outing anywhere in the country. Not all of these benefits will apply to people who join after this initial Charter Membership period. If you have any questions or need additional materials for Charter Membership registration, please call the Great Outdoors office at 598-3944.

WORK PROGRAM AND VOLUNTEER CALL

Even though our program is designed to offer outings at our cost, we realize there may be a person who would like to participate but is unable due to financial limitations. We have established a program where interested persons can volunteer to work a few hours a week in the Great Outdoors office to earn their memberships. In addition, everyone is invited to spend a few hours volunteering in our office - we really need the help. The work is easy and hours flexible - plus volunteers are given first preference at job openings. Call us if you're interested...

"DO YOU KNOW ANYBODY WHO LIKES WHAT WE ALL LIKE" DEPT.

If you know any other folks into the outdoors, please include their names on the referral form enclosed and we'll immediately send them literature. Ten referrals who become members earns you a complimentary membership. If you're already one of us, you'll get the outing of your choice discounted \$25!

BALANCE OF '78 OUTINGS SERIES & OTHER ACTIVITIES

Sept 2-4 LABOR DAY WEEKEND AT LAKE MEAD - Promises to be a high point of this year's program. Camping at sites on the lake, with water skiing, swimming, snorkeling, boating and sailing planned. Of course, the low cost includes all meals and an expedition to nearby Hoover Dam. Departures from throughout Southern California early Saturday morning returning Monday evening. The cost is \$44.25 (Members), \$51.60 (Member's Guest (one only, please), \$59.00 (Non-Members). Use the form provided to register...

DEADLINE FOR CHARTER MEMBER'S PRIORITY RESERVATIONS IS AUGUST 12th.

Sept 9-10 & 16-17 - SIERRAS ON HORSEBACK!

Our first "special outing" is an overnighter on horseback in the untraveled wilderness of Sequoia National Park. A special instruction clinic on horse handling will be offered beforehand in cooperation with Star Sporting Goods. Offered only to members with dues paid by Sept 1 and their one personal guest. Depart early Saturday, return late Sunday by van or carpool. Cost is \$70 Members, \$80 Guests. Deposit of \$35 due 9/1, SPACE LIMITED!!

✓ Oct 1, Sunday - RECREATION & PICNIC, EL DORADO PARK EAST, LONG BEACH
Follow Great Outdoors signs from entrance a half block west of 605 Freeway on Spring St.
Volleyball, softball, bicycling (need your own), fishing (bring pole & bait), lunch is \$2 or
you can brownbag it. From noon 'til dark, Call 598-3944 for late date info.

October 14-15 - WEEKEND IN ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST - Information will be sent
to those who request it on the enclosed catch-all response form.

October 28, Saturday - OLD FASHIONED HAYRIDE - Details supplied by request.

November 11-13 - WEEKEND AT IDYLLWILD - Veterans Day Weekend in this pine forest
near Palm Springs finishes Great Outdoors' outing series for 1978. Information will be
mailed to you at a later date.

WEEKLY VOLLEYBALL

There is a group playing Sundays at 10:30 am in Lincoln Park in Santa Monica (7th and
California). Currently there is only one net, however they can use enthusiasts willing
to rotate in and out of play. Sufficient interest will move Great Outdoors to set up teams
in other areas. A league, anyone?

FOOTBALL - IN THE STANDS AND ON THE FIELD

Great Outdoors will sponsor block season ticket purchases to the Rams, Bruins and Trojan
games. Let us know if one of these is your team and you can join your G.O. friends in the
stands for a good price.... Touch football will be organized in the area in September. All
our potential coaches, players and fans are encouraged to help support our sports division.

GO DENVER!

Great Outdoors Denver opens their chapter with a weekend in the Rockies September 23.
San Diego, Atlanta, D.C., Chicago, San Francisco, Seattle and Houston are hot on their
heels. It's the GO-ingest thing!

WE RECOMMEND...

The Sports Locker at 8853 Santa Monica Blvd in West Hollywood has a quality selection in
a sharp setting. They also carry our t-shirts and Great Outdoors gear.... A friend of
Great Outdoors, Larry Hathaway, is whitewater rafting in Sept. Call him at 768-2146 nites.

ARE WE THINKING WHAT YOU'RE THINKING?

We use interest surveys to determine the direction for Great Outdoors on such issues as
types of activities, cost range/affordability, sites for outings, etc. Where suggestions
are made, we make every attempt to work them into the program, and we are thankful
for the all-important criticism too. We ask new members to return the Items Survey at
their earliest convenience. Our Big Sur feedback has been most helpful and gratifying...
please return those soon to receive your Big Sur/Great Outdoors patches.

ABOUT GUESTS...

Our guest policy is designed for members to be more easily able to introduce their friends
to Great Outdoors' outings. Because each guest creates a financial liability we must make
up for in other areas, we ask that you limit your guests to one per outing and that the same
guest only be invited once each season. Don't forget to refer them for membership.

FINALLY..... We would like to thank you for the strong program you have helped create
already in Great Outdoors and we hope to merit your continued support. Keep this sheet
handy as a reference tool and use it as your key to new friends and healthful fun. Even if
you are not sure which activities on the response form you wish to participate in, please
return it to us completed as best you can soon. We'll then send you another in case you
want to order more information or register for an additional event. GO FOR IT !!

Halloween in the forest

If you're really into the ghosts and goblins thing, then what you'll want to do is spend Halloween with us in Angeles National Forest.

October 27-29 will find Great Outdoors members at the Bandido campsite, 6,000 feet up in the Angeles National Forest. Planned activities other than backpacking and hiking include volleyball, softball, touch football, campfires, and horseback riding. The site will accommodate only 100 people, so send in your registration form early.

If you own horses, there are corrals at the site. Please call the office to let us know if you are bringing horses so we can make arrangements.

You'll want to bring some heavy clothes for this outing as well as your sleeping bag and tent (if you have one). Everyone must bring their own mess kit (available at surplus stores for \$2-\$5) but food for the six meals will be provided. The campsite is really nice with better-than-usual outhouse facilities and lots of space. Membership cost is \$33.75, member's guest, \$39.45, and non-members, \$56.25. And we promise you will be back to L.A. in time for all those Sunday afternoon and evening halloween parties! Remember the fun starts with a light dinner Friday, October 27th. See you there.

**We need
your help**

**Volunteer
by calling
(213) 598-3944**

**“ . . . it was just an
incredible experience ”**

Sierras on horseback

Our horse-packing members are back, and when you ask them about the trip they still seem transfixed. "It was just incredible," said one member. "I have never seen anything so beautiful in all the years I've lived here."

The horse-backpacking excursion took place Sept. 16-17 and 15 of our luckiest members rode the nine miles into the mountains with spectacular views of the Great Western Divide and a relaxed evening under the stars in Sugarloaf Valley.

**For Christmas
give the gift of
the "Great Outdoors"**

Idyllwild

The forested mountainside campsite will offer gorgeous scenery and some breathtaking views as we backpack and hike all over the area. Volleyball, touch football and softball will also be available. Or just come along and relax.

Regular gear will be needed; again, be prepared for some cool weather up in the mountains. Mess kits should be brought along, but of course meals will be provided. The cost of the outing will be: Members, \$35.00; Member's guest, \$40.00; and Non-members, \$60.00. Membership preference deadline is November 1st. It will be a beautiful trip to the mountains; don't miss it!

Nov-11

Whaddya' mean, a CATERED camping trip?

Well, you heard correctly. That's right, a catered camping trip. You might be snickering at the idea right now, but if you were one of the lucky ones on the Lake Mead outing, your snicker will quickly turn into a smile when you think back to the great food we had.

Kent Reed, owner of the Gourmet Touch catering service in Van Nuys, California, and his staff of Bob Hall and Mike Lyons catered a desert food orgy not soon to be forgotten. Imagine the camper's eyes at two six-foot long submarine sandwiches spread out along the picnic table, or the delicious brownies, carrot-cake and chocolate zucchini cake, or the grilled shish-ka-bob on Saturday night! Were you expecting hot honey-covered biscuits and fresh bacon for breakfast? Or in the desert heart, did you think you'd have fresh fruit topping for your cereal or in your salad? The chicken-salad sandwiches, the homemade cookies and the rivers of ice tea and lemonade gave the Lake Mead outing a culinary treat and efficiency that was welcomed by all concerned. I can tell you it was also a pleasure to ride home with the leftovers!

About those carpools

Great Outdoors has learned that by arranging carpools for our members we are legally responsible in case of an accident. Since we obviously cannot take that responsibility, we no longer will be able to arrange carpools. We hasten to point out to you that does not mean that amongst yourselves you cannot find rides, and as you attend more outings and make more friends in the Great Outdoors, it will be easier for you to travel in groups.

Membership drive and speakers

If you would like to have someone from Great Outdoors speak to your club or organization about our membership, call the office. We also have speakers for consciousness raising groups for predominantly straight gatherings.

We oppose Proposition 6. . .

. . . obviously. But we are concerned that everyone do everything totally within their power to see that this proposition fail. If it means going dry at the bar one night, or staying home to watch TV, or whatever; but the importance of this proposition to us cannot be overstated. If ever there was a need to be unified, this is it. Great Outdoors asks you to do your part, and then do some more . . . thanks.

Photographers!

Did you get some great shots at Big Sur, Catalina, Lake Mead, or the Sierras? Then share them with us and perhaps we can buy them from you. You may even see them on the cover of some paper or magazine! We're organizing a press kit for both the gay and straight media, and if you have any photos we might be able to use please contact us.



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