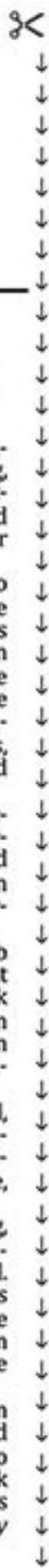


The Wanderer

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

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BPWA's Annual Long Walk, June 5th: Five East Bay Parks In A Single Day

You may have hiked the hills of Tilden or the scenic trails in Redwood but never contemplated go-



Photo by Jacob Lehmann Duke

The Stream Trail in Redwood Regional Park will be a shady segment of the Long Walk.

ing from one of these East Bay Regional Parks to another on foot. It's actually possible to walk from Wildcat to Chabot, some thirty miles, entirely on trails.

On BPWA's 6th annual Long Walk, Sunday, June 5th, you'll get a taste of how many of these special parks you can explore in a single day.

Led by our good friends Jacob Lehmann Duke and Zeke Gerwein, this 15.5-mile adventure is for those who like a challenging hike with good company. We'll walk on wide trails with incredible views and narrow ones that snake through canyons. We'll pass fern-covered hillsides, follow streams, and traverse stands of towering redwoods.

Be prepared for 3,000' of elevation gain, many hours of walking, and great conversations — starting on many topics and narrowing to just one: our aching feet!

Jacob and Zeke rose to path-wandering fame when they led BPWA's walk-every-path series in 2014. Since then, we've been lucky to count the teens as regular hike leaders. Like their other walks, this one will be brisk and full of surprises.

We'll start at the intersection of Shattuck and Virginia at 8:45 a.m., proceed through campus, and then go up some steep stairways on Panoramic Hill.

From there, we'll climb the north side of Claremont Canyon to Grizzly Peak Blvd. on the Upper Jordan Fire Trail and descend on the East Bay Skyline National Recreation Trail.

After we cross EBMUD land, we'll reach Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve and lush Huckleberry Botanic Regional Preserve, where we'll stop for a BYO picnic.

Then we'll head up winding, tree-lined paths and into Redwood to pick up the Stream Trail. A final ascent on the switchbacks of the Fern Trail will put us on the West Ridge. The extensive trails in Joaquin Miller Park then will take us down to Mountain Blvd.

We'll go through the pedestrian tunnel under Highway 13 and walk a short way on sidewalks to an AC Transit bus stop on Park Blvd. Our final steps will put us aboard the #18 bus for a very welcome ride back to our start.

BPWA Walks

Walks proceed at 1.5 to 2 mph and last 2-3 hours unless otherwise noted. They are free and open to all. Questions about a walk? Well before the date, write us at: walks@berkeleypaths.org

Weather cancellations will be posted the morning of the walk on berkeleypaths.org and Facebook. Sorry, we no longer can accommodate your dogs except on our Pooches on the Paths walks.

Ashby Corridor Sculpture and Metalwork

Sunday, April 3 @ 10:00 a.m.

Leader: Tom Dalzell

Start: SE corner of Emerson and Adeline Streets (Flacos lot)

Quirky Berkeley is back! This time he'll lead us on a 3-mile tour of the Ashby corridor, filled with sculptural quirk. You'll see Mark Bulwinkle's installations; Eni Green's all-things-dachshund house; and Marcia Donahue's indescribable garden. We'll also visit Slingshot Collective's cell-phone gate, Mark Olivier's beach-detritus creations, Julie Partos Clark's ceramic creatures, and Mike and Becky O'Malley's fence of doors with Mike's ceramic figures peeping out. Tom's family will provide snacks, drinks, and optional rides back to Ashby BART.

Maybeck Country and More

Sunday, April 17 @ 11:00

Leaders: Bob Johnson and Janet Byron

Start: Northeast corner of Oxford and Cedar Streets

Join the authors of *Berkeley Walks* on this 2.8-mile, mostly paved route to see diverse historic architecture. We'll visit Bernard Maybeck's own neighborhood as well as the Rose Garden and some unusual residential communities. We'll take a few of our finest paths as we gain 560' of elevation. Expect some steep segments. Bring your lunch or a snack for a picnic in Codornices Park.

Oakland Stairs, Huckleberry Trails, and a Repurposed Railway

Sunday, May 1 @ 10 a.m.

Leaders: Jacob Lehmann Duke and Zeke Gerwein

Start: Intersection of Mountain Blvd. and Colton Blvd.

This challenging 7.5-mile route begins in Montclair and quickly heads into the Oakland hills. We'll take ten paths, ascending 1,000 feet to Skyline Blvd. before we enter fern-covered Huckleberry Botanic Regional Preserve. After a short leg in Redwood Regional Park, we'll descend some steep streets to the Montclair Railroad Trail, a scenic, 1.5-mile bicycle-pedestrian path that returns us to our start. Count on 3.5 hours, including a stop for a BYO lunch or snack.

[See more walks on page 2]

BAHA House Tour, May 1, 1-5 p.m.

"Rambling 'Round the Rose Garden," will feature notable houses built from 1904 to 1936 near the Rose Garden. For details, go to berkeleyheritage.com. Watch for our booth along the route.



Photo by Daniella Thompson

(Walks Continued)

Walk Your Inner Yogi

Saturday, May 21 @ 9:45 a.m.

Leader: Bella Lindell

Start: Oxford St. entrance to UC Berkeley, near spherical sculpture

Whether you're a well-seasoned yogi or simply yoga-curious, join Bella, a Hiking Yoga guide and Berkeley YMCA instructor, on an invigorating, mindful walk. We'll wend our way through campus, Holy Hill, Codornices Park, and the Rose Garden. We'll stop along this 3.5-mile route for three, 15-minute respites with instructions in breathing and posture. Expect some steep hills and stairways, a variety of poses, and a closing meditation. We hope you'll leave feeling restored and tranquil. Bring your yoga mat. (Bella will have a limited number of mini mats to borrow.)

Sixth Annual Long Walk:

Five Parks in One Day

Sunday, June 5 @ 8:45 a.m.

Leaders: Jacob Lehmann Duke & Zeke Gerwein

Start: Corner of Shattuck Ave. and Virginia St.

This challenging all-day walk will cover 15.5 miles. Bring bus fare or a Clipper Card for the bus ride back, arriving around 5 p.m. See more details on page 1.

Pooches on the Paths: Parks of the North Berkeley Hills

Sunday, June 12 @ 1:00 p.m.

Leaders: Figgy & Wally

Start: Glendale-La Loma Park, Upper Parking Lot on Glendale Avenue

Last December, it rained cats and dogs, forcing us to cancel this walk. But Figgy and Wally bow-vowed not to skip any segments of their all-the-parks-in-Berkeley series. Our four-footed leaders will try again to share some of their favorite green spaces high in the North Berkeley Hills, both big and small, well-known and nearly secret. This almost three-mile route has some steep stairways. We'll break for biscuits and cookies halfway through. Paws crossed that the forecast will call only for reigning cats and dogs.

BPWA Path Builders Replace Dangerous Steps on Panoramic Hill

By Sandy Friedland

Some sure-footed folks who love to climb hills and build paths have made it safer and easier to get to the top of Panoramic Hill.

Under the auspices of a new group called Take to the Hills, BPWA's crack volunteers recently finished installing 89 wood-tie steps at the bottom of the Clark Kerr Trail. It starts from the top of Dwight Way and ends at Panoramic Way.

Of course, *easier* is relative. Above the new steps, hikers still face a narrow, steep path with perilous footing and friable soil. The Cal Recreational Sports website calls this trail "a real gut buster."



Photo by Jim Rosenau

Artist Jim Rosenau carved the phrase "Take To The Hills" into the front of the first of 89 new wood steps leading up Panoramic Hill from Dwight Way. The new map (bottom right) shows hikers where they are and where they can go from this trail.

A south fork, about two-thirds of the way up, leads to Stonewall-Panoramic Trail, another steep, though wider path up the hill.

BPWA supplied the expertise and labor to replace badly disintegrating steps that Boy Scouts had installed some twenty years ago on University of California property. East Bay Regional Park District owns the land beyond the steps.

Jim Rosenau, a Berkeley artist who has lived near Panoramic Hill for thirty years, spearheaded this effort.

"The Clark Kerr trail was heavily used, poorly designed, and quite

eroded. But it seemed easily improved," Jim says, adding that many students head up the hill to enjoy the view, often in flimsy shoes.

He contacted the co-leaders of BPWA's path-building team, Charlie Bowen and Steve Glaeser, who met him at the bottom of the path. In less than an hour, they decided to form Take to the Hills under the fiscal umbrella of Berkeley Partners for Parks.

"Steve had a crew and a method," says Jim, "and I agreed to raise the funds for materials."

He got almost \$2,000 from neighbors and the Claremont Elmwood Neighborhood Association, plus an in-kind donation from the



Photo by Sandy Friedland

Green Waste Recycle Yard in Richmond, which milled the steps from eucalyptus timber left over from tree trimming and removal.

For his part, Steve led the work crews. He was eager to partner with UC, optimistic that this project could lead to improving more trails and cleaning litter in the area.

The project also had some sentimental value for Steve, who grew up near the hill and often climbed it as a child.

The coalition that facilitated this effort has implications for the

future as well.

"The big story here," Charlie stresses, "is the high-energy momentum toward rebuilding this severely eroded path with the support and advice of UC grounds people, and contributions from motivated, generous neighbors."

Jim is hopeful that EBRPD soon will allow the organization to improve the treacherous upper portion of the trail, where volunteers have already started removing Scotch broom.

"Steve's and Charlie's expertise and willingness to pitch in made the first stage a breeze," says Jim. "We are getting effusive thanks from neighbors and hikers each time we are out there. The change is dramatic."



Photo by Sandy Friedland

Panoramic Hill Offers Stunning Vistas and More

(This article is adapted and expanded from one Richard M. White wrote for the Claremont Canyon Conservancy newsletter.)

Panoramic Hill is well named as it offers great views of San Francisco and the Bay. To the south is Claremont Canyon, and to the north lies Strawberry Canyon, both forested and scenic. On the hill itself is a neighborhood of architectural gems designed by luminaries like Bernard Maybeck, Julia Morgan, and even Frank Lloyd Wright.

Your BPWA map is a good guide to the stairways and winding streets on the hill and the links to nearby hiking trails. Claremont Canyon Conservancy has an up-to-date map of the trails at claremontcanyon.org/maps.php

An easy way to reach Panoramic Hill is from Bancroft Steps, east of campus. At the top go straight onto Prospect St. to Panoramic Way and

the landmarked Orchard Lane. Halfway up Orchard, turn left onto quaint Mosswood Lane, noting the Wright house on the right, to reach Mosswood Rd. Turn left to find Arden Steps followed by rustic Arden Path.

Or you can take Orchard steps to the top to rejoin Panoramic Way and go left to follow the hairpin to Upper Orchard Lane. Either way, you then can wander the streets to the top.

Hikers eager for a more challenging ascent can choose between two extremely steep routes that rise from Claremont Canyon.

The Clark Kerr Trail begins where Dwight Way ends. Eighty-nine new wooden steps lead to a narrow, uneven footpath. Stay left at the fork to reach upper Dwight Way. (See related story on this page.) Or, from either Tanglewood Path or Stonewall Road, take Stonewall-Panoramic Trail to the top of Panoramic Way.

To find your way down, watch for small, blue and gold signs on trees, fences, utility poles, and even a garage. Designed and installed by residents, the signs start where Panoramic Way joins the Upper Jordan Trail, a broad, limited-access dirt road that heads north 2.5 miles to Grizzly Peak Blvd. This sign also points toward so-called Misery Hill and the start of the unpaved Lower Jordan Trail, which you can hike down for 1.2 miles to Cal Memorial Stadium. If you prefer staying on pavement, head down Panoramic Way, and follow signs to the stairways and back to Prospect St.

Two desirable benefits 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 to:

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

Please make checks payable to our fiscal parent, Berkeley Partners for Parks (BPP)

Membership/Donation Form

THE Wanderer
Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

Name: _____
Address: _____
email: _____
tel (optional): _____

I am enclosing \$5 for new membership I am interested in volunteering
 I am enclosing \$5 for renewal membership I am also enclosing a donation of: _____

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

1442-A Walnut St. #269

Berkeley, CA 94709

berkeleypaths.org

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If "Mem '15" appears by your name, this will be your last newsletter unless you renew your membership by returning the form on p. 3 or visiting: berkeleypaths.org/joinrenew/

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

Spring, 2016

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, an affiliate of Berkeley Partners for Parks, is dedicated to the creation, preservation, and restoration of public paths and stairways for the use and enjoyment of all. We are community volunteers who work to increase awareness of Berkeley's pathways. Our activities include offering guided walks, mapping Berkeley's path network, and building and maintaining the paths with wood-tie steps on previously inaccessible city-owned rights-of-way.

Special Thanks To Our Generous Supporters

Since its founding 18 years ago, BPWA has kept dues at just \$5. The good news is we have more members than ever, but their dues cover only a fraction of our expenses. To fulfill our mission, we depend on the generosity of our members, map and merchandise sales, and occasional grants. We sincerely thank the following donors who, since last March, gave at least \$25 in addition to their dues.

New Lifetime Members (\$500+)

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