In Memoriam

Angeles Chapter

2016 - 2017
Glen Dawson
Longest Life-Tenured Member

June 3, 1912 - March 22, 2016

Back-country photographer Ansel Adams snapped this portrait of Dawson (note the Sierra Club pin on his lapel) in Tuolumne Meadows during a 1930 trip to Yosemite National Park.
Glen Dawson
*Sierra Club Board of Directors*

Membership in Sierra Club began in 1921 as a gift from Aurelia Harwood, the Club's first female president and an ardent environmentalist. He was just 9 years old.

**Active 1929-2000 (17.6 Years Leading; 70.3 Years Overall Service)**

Junior Section, RCS, Ski Mountaineers, Ice Skating

Sierra Club Francis P. Farquhar Mountaineering Award (1973)

A founding member of both the Ski Mountaineers Section and Rock Climbing Section, he was the leading Southern California rock climber of the Sierra Club Board of Directors, and was with the Tenth Mountain Division during World War II.
Royal Robbins
Rock Climbing Pioneer
Founder of Rockcraft, “active lifestyle apparel” company

Legendary rock climber and outdoor-apparel entrepreneur died on March 14, 2017 at 82.

Started to pursue Rock Climbing through Sierra Club’s Angeles Chapter as part of the now closed Rock Climbing Section.

He became famous for his first free ascents of Tahquitz Rock.

In 2011, he won the Club’s Francis P. Farquhar Mountaineering Award.

He became a powerful advocate for clean climbing, urging those who followed him up the rocks to leave few traces of their path.

Later in life took up wild river kayaking making lot of first descents of wild rivers.
“We need adventure. It’s in our blood. It will not go away. The mountains will continue to call because they uniquely fulfill our need for communion with nature, as well as our hunger for adventure”

Royal Robbins
Roger Johnston

Inspiring Connections Outdoors

d – February 2nd, 2016

LA ICO for more than 15 years

He was an active hike leader, taking out 12-15 groups per year, and he was an important member of our fund-raising committee, writing grant proposals and reports to support the program.

He and his partner set up a youth club that was still in existence 15 years later.

Peace Corps Volunteer in the Dominican Republic in the early 1960s

He was a kind man, whom many of us loved and will dearly miss.
Beloved ICO leader for 25 years, she succumbed to brain cancer on March 20, 2017.

She received the Madelyn Pyeatt Award from national Sierra Club for her work with ICO (pictured here with Michael Brune).

For LA ICO, she has served as chair, secretary, volunteer coordinator, co-web master, and fund-raising committee secretary. She was also the Western Regional Representative for National ICO.

She will be dearly missed!
George Milton Thuro  
*May 10th, 1931 – July 9th, 2016*

*Singles Section, Ice Skating*

Active in Sierra Club 1970 -

Loved leading hikes, ski trips, Harwood weekends, photo outings, and backpacks.

He chaired the Singles in 1973 and was instrumental in transitioning the Committee to an official Section.

An electrical engineer and passionate about photography, he photographed his extensive travels and provided public lectures regularly about his experiences.
Elaine Trogman  
*San Fernando Valley Group Water Committee*

*d – October 8th, 2016*

Strong advocate

Served for many years as editor of the San Fernando Valley Sierra Club Group's newsletter *Vall E Vents*, was involved in countless environmental causes.

These included clean water issues, anti-nuclear causes, wildlife protection, and the conservation of wild spaces. She was also active in the United Nations Association and cared passionately about women's rights.

Elaine's personality was warm and outgoing. She had many friends. With these friends she hiked in Descanso Gardens, went to environmental conferences and meetings, and tended to the trees in her yard.
Zobeida Arauz

Hundred Peaks Section and Verdugo Hills Section member

Zobeida passed away on May 21st, 2016 after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. She touched the hearts of many with her smile and her gentle demeanor. Those who knew her admired her dedication -- completing the HPS list eight times (the record for a woman) -- and her bravery for overcoming her fear of heights.
Jeff Yann died on Nov 1, 2016 in a snorkeling accident in Kauai at the age of 73.

Jeff worked tirelessly on the clean-up of the polluted San Gabriel ground water basin, adding parks along the much damaged twin rivers, researched and promoted cleaner energy and recycling for four decades.

Yann helped start the task force dedicated to San Gabriel Valley and the Montebello Hills.

1999 Jeff received the Weldon Head award the highest conservation award for the Chapter.
Hersh Kelly

Palos Verdes South Bay Group

Former Angeles Chapter Chair, PVSB leader.
Air Force Lieutenant

Instrumental in securing 160 acre Forrestal Nature Preserve in Rancho Palos Verdes.

Avid writer for Sierra online publications.

Employed in the computer industry his entire career and was assigned to various countries and locations throughout the U.S. Hersh loved to travel, hike, backpack, ride his bike, swim and was always up to a new adventure.

He was a Sierra Club member for more than 35 years and will be greatly missed.
John Wessel  
*Palos Verdes South Bay Group*  

March 8th, 1942 - July 6th, 2016  

Active in the Sierra Club and the Palos Verdes Land Conservancy.  

A Woodrow Wilson Fellow and two-time recipient of the President's Award from Aerospace Corp., he retired as "Distinguished Scientist" in 2005 after 31 years and continued working part time until Sept. 2015.  

A passion for photography, his work was seen in local galleries.  

In their 40 years together, he and his wife, Judy Herman, shared a love of hiking, classical music and contemporary art.
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