



# The Wanderer

LOS ANGELES COUNCIL OF HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL USA

MARCH/APRIL 2009

100 YEARS OF  
HOSTELLING  
WORLDWIDE

## Spirit of Adventure Award

2009

-Last call for nominations-

75 YEARS OF  
AMERICAN  
YOUTH HOSTELS

The LACouncil of HI-USA is putting out its final call for nominations for its 2009 Spirit of Adventure Award. The deadline for submissions is **April 18**. This honorary award recognizes an individual (or individuals), regardless of age, who, through his or her experiences, has demonstrated outstanding enthusiasm and curiosity while traveling abroad.

Primary consideration will be the spirit and manner in which the nominees undertook their travels, their ability to give interesting presentations, and their experiences in hostels. The recipient of the award will be honored with special recognition and an HI-USA Life Membership, both of which will be presented at the HI-Members' Annual Meeting & Party on Sunday, June 7.

The award recipient must be able to attend the Annual Meeting & Party to receive the award. After receiving the award, the recipient will make a presentation on his or her adventures and travel experiences. A story on their experiences will also be featured in the next issue of The Wanderer.

Do you know someone with a curious mind who always seems to catch the travel bug? Is it someone whose life plan involves



meeting people of different cultures and visiting the far off corners of the globe? Is that person someone who understands that travel is a vehicle for better human understanding? They may be a family member, friend, co-worker, or maybe that person is you!

Nominations are accepted for any extraordinary traveler with an amazing story. If you wish to nominate someone, including yourself, please send us the name and contact information for your nominee (including phone numbers). Tell us about your nominee, their travels, and why you believe they should receive this award. Go ahead...Impress us (we love photos)!

### Nominations

State your reasons for submission and mail all information by April 18 to:

SOAA Award Committee  
Los Angeles Council of HI-USA  
1434 Second Street  
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Or email: [programs@lahostels.org](mailto:programs@lahostels.org)

(Stories of two previous SOAA recipients follow on Pg. 2. More can be found on our website: [www.lahostels.org](http://www.lahostels.org))

# World Travel 101

## Workshop Schedule

Mar 28	Europe
Apr 11	Women Traveling Solo
Apr 25	Europe by Rail
May 9	Mature Traveler
May 30	Europe
Jun 13	Women Traveling Solo
Jun 20	Europe by Rail
Jun 27	Mature Traveler
Jul 11	Europe
Jul 18	Women Traveling Solo
Jul 25	SE Asia
Aug 1	India
Aug 8	Australia/NZ

World Travel 101 is a workshop series geared towards first-time travelers, and highlights vital trip planning information.

The Los Angeles Council invites everyone in the area to attend a World Travel 101 workshop before going abroad. Each speaker is a regionally experienced traveler who can help you get the most from your budget and itinerary.

Workshops are held on Saturdays at 11 a.m. in the HI-Travel Store, 1434 Second Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Admission is FREE, and there is two-hour free parking available across the street in the public parking structure. All dates subject to change. Please call to confirm, (310) 393-3413.

Visit [www.lahostels.org](http://www.lahostels.org) for updated dates and rotating topics.



### HI-USA Mission Statement

*To help all, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of the world and its people, through hostelling*

### HI-USA Vision:

*That hostellers become caring world citizens who are catalysts for intercultural exchange and understanding, and who are stewards of the earth*

### Board of Directors

Leslie Kennedy, President  
Jaime Leslie, Vice President  
Cara Riley, Treasurer  
Aimee Wyatt, Secretary  
Tony Stanton, Member-at-large  
Suzie Doran  
Eric Foster  
Ann Henry  
Erin Lantz  
Valerie Lopez  
Donna Morris  
Stephanie Pham

### Wanderer Staff

John Estrada  
Patrick Dunn  
Dave Connolly

The Wanderer is a publication of the Los Angeles Council of HI-USA with offices located at 1434 Second Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. (310) 393-3413

Founded in 1934, HI-USA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.  
[www.lahostels.org](http://www.lahostels.org)  
[www.hiusa.org](http://www.hiusa.org)  
[www.hihostels.org](http://www.hihostels.org)

## Stories of Past SOAA Winners

### Scott Stoll - 2007 SOAA Winner

From 2001-2004, Scott set out on a personal quest to bicycle the around the world. Since the age of four Scott has loved the sense of freedom that riding a bike gives a person. It was this sensation, and his first cross-country bicycle journey in 1997, that revealed to Scott how much he loved to go to places on his bicycle and to meet people along the way.

The first 15 months of the trip were shared with his friend Dennis while the rest of his trip was spent independently, splashed with experiences of remarkable people and great suggestions. Scott averaged 50 miles a day but did go as far as 116 miles in six hours and as little as 21 miles in seven hours. His journey racked up a little over 100 flat tires. He also suffered most imaginable ailments, such as salmonella, giardia, dengue fever, boils, strep throat, conjunctivitis, prickly heat rash and then some.

### Jeff Booth-2006 SOAA Winner

The life that Jeff Booth leads has always been in motion. The sensitivity, observation, and reflection that guide and influence his traveling experiences make this remarkable person a worthy recipient of the 2006 Spirit of Adventure Award.

By the age of 32, Jeff had traveled extensively, making his way through Asia, Central and South America, and Europe. His first experience living abroad was at 22, teaching English for six months in Chongqing, China, followed by a 5-month photography tour of Southeast Asia.

Through a myriad of other travels, Jeff also found the time to get married and start his family, but that didn't slow him down. At the time of receiving the Spirit of Adventure Award in 2006, Jeff, his wife, and his then-22-month-old daughter were readjusting back to Los Angeles life after living in Venice, Italy.



# MARATHON

## May 25, 2009

## (Memorial Day)

run/walk/bike - marathon/5k

The Los Angeles Council of HI-USA is one of the “Official Charities” of the 2009 LA Marathon. The Marathon is a fantastic opportunity to participate in one of our city’s best annual events, while helping out a great cause!

The money raised by our runners, walkers, and bikers helps us to conduct educational programs such as our Cultural Kitchen, Discover Your World, and Marine Science programs, as well as our World Travel 101 seminars.

To further encourage those participating in the LA Marathon races with HI-USA, we are offering fundraising goals and incentives to reimburse our athletes up to the full cost of their registration fee. Call our LA Council office at 310-393-3413 or visit our website, [lahostels.org](http://lahostels.org) for more details.

Is the thought of a marathon a little too daunting? We are especially looking for people to run or walk the **5K (3.1 mile) event!**

## Get your registration fee reimbursed!

*Find out how:*

*Call our LA Council office at 310-393-3413  
or visit [www.lahostels.org](http://www.lahostels.org)*

*we need your help:*

**run** We are looking for runners for either the **Marathon** or the **5K**

**bike** Prefer cycling? You can bike the LA Marathon for HI-USA

**walk** We also need walkers for the 5K event

# June Save The Date:

## Annual Members' Meeting

The 2009 Annual Members' Meeting has been scheduled for **Sunday, June 7**. The Annual Meeting hosts elections for our Board of Directors, as well as the presentation of the Spirit of Adventure Award.

Be sure to mark your calendars!

Sunday

## Inside...

*Spirit of Adventure Award*

**Last Call for Nominations**

(front cover)

*LA Marathon*

**run/walk/bike for HI-USA  
-Marathon or 5K-**

(page 3)

### *The Wanderer*

Los Angeles Council of  
American Youth Hostels, Inc  
1434 Second Street  
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Nonprofit Organization  
US Postage PAID  
Santa Monica, CA  
Permit No. 103

OR Current Resident



Soy inks printed on 30%  
post-consumer recycled paper.



2009 100 YEARS OF HOSTELLING WORLDWIDE  
75 YEARS OF AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS