

## How I Met My Wife on a Sierra Club Hike



Hi, I'm Tina. And this is my story of finding the love of my life on the trail.

My involvement with the Sierra Club began when I moved to the Bay Area in February of 1998. I'd just gone through a big life change. I was living with my sister and really needed to get out and do something healthy. I discovered GLS ([Gay & Lesbian Sierrans activity section of the Loma Prieta Chapter](#)) on the web.

Well, that was the group for me. I had been a GLBT activist in California's central valley, and I've always loved being outdoors. So off I went on my first hike—with many, many more to come over the years. That included a beautiful sunny day in 2000, hiking with the GLS group at Garrapata State Park, where I met the woman who would become my wife. (Okay. Lynne says we met earlier on a different hike. I believe her, I just don't remember!)

At any rate, Lynne and I had our first "real" date at a New Year's eve party in 2001. The next day we hiked up Mission Peak with the Sierra Club for the first time—a tradition we continue to this day. Dating turned into living together, and then expressing our commitment to each other. We exchanged rings on Mission Peak on New Year's Day, 2010.

It was 2013 when the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments regarding the recognition of same sex marriage. Lynne and I were chatting about this one Sunday morning as I was reading her a cartoon on the subject. I offhandedly said, "If the Supreme Court decides we can get married, I'd marry you."

Lynne did not miss a beat. She said, “Is that a proposal?” I responded with, “Uuh ... I guess so”. Her response: “Yes, I’ll marry you.”

On Jan 1, 2014 we were married by my mother at our home in Campbell. Ours is a marriage that is recognized by both the state of California and the U.S. Federal Government. I’m pretty sure that was the only Sierra Club New Year’s Day hike to Mission Peak we’ve missed since we met. I think we had a good excuse!

I continue to feel grateful for the camaraderie and strength of the LGBT family and the Sierra Club—who support our presence in the natural places of our state and nation, who advocate for the health of our planet and our community, and who gave me a chance to meet an amazing woman who has transformed my world. Thank you, [GLS-Loma Prieta Chapter-Sierra Club!](#)



Mission Peak Jan 1, 2017