



From left: Aden, Angel Jr., Kathy and me. Hiking is always family fun!

Angel's *Be Alive!*

Angel Gomez, Club Director of Sales

Send your photos to me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com. I would love to see them!

Hiltscher Park — Fullerton

Hello again, everyone!

This month, we travel to Fullerton for a nice hike.

We actually started at Laguna Lake in Fullerton, then took Juanita Cookie Trail and then the Hiltscher Park Trail (by turning slightly right off Juanita Trail). I really like this trail because of its nice size, and the large number of nice homes and trees along the way. If you start at Laguna Lake, you could get about six miles of exercise with a round trip. There's only one thing you have to worry about, and that is the bike riders. Keep your eyes open.

History:

The surname Hiltscher is one of the oldest and one that made its mark on the Fullerton in its earlier days. Patriarch August ran a farm off Orangethorpe Avenue, and his sons operated the Center Meats butcher shop for decades.

August Jr. was a Fullerton council member from 1913 through 1918; Hiltscher Park has a beautiful expanse of trails and trees named for him. His son, Herman, served Fullerton for decades – as a planning commissioner and as a city engineer and administrator, as well as other positions. Hiltscher Photography was a mainstay of the city for more than 40 years until very recently.

Trail:

This trail is a local favorite for bike riders. With its mature trees and marked paths, the trail is devoted solely to trail trekkers. To begin, catch the Juanita Cooke Trail off Valencia Mesa Drive and proceed south. Turn right onto the Hiltscher Park Trail. Cross Euclid Street and continue on to West Valley View Drive. Our starting point, Laguna Lake, is gorgeous – you can fish, jog, hike or just walk around and look at all the birds in the area. There is even an equestrian center nearby. The lake is stocked by the California Department of Fish and Game. I love this place; you have to come by and visit.

Special note: In an ongoing effort to improve the City's trail system, Fullerton has recently installed a signalized crossing at Hiltscher Trail and Euclid Street. This signal is activated by pressing the "walk" button (there is also a button for those riding horses). The wait time is about a minute, similar to the trail crossing at Morelia Street and Bastanchury. Other improvements to Hiltscher Trail are in final design, and will likely be under construction in next spring.

Don't forget to bring your camera and take plenty of photos and send them to me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com. Bring water, snacks and maybe some sunscreen.

As always, *Be Alive!*,
Angel



Above: My son Aden is ready to continue his hike through Hiltscher Park.



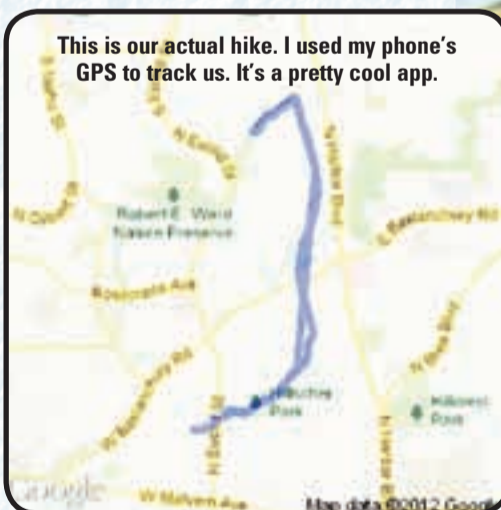
From left: Angel Jr., Aden and Kathy in front of beautiful Laguna Lake.



Above: The starting point at Laguna Lake.



The trail head notice and trail rules.



This is our actual hike. I used my phone's GPS to track us. It's a pretty cool app.



From left: Kathy, Angel Jr. and Aden find a bench on the path a take short break.



Aden says "happy trails!" See you next month.

Hiltscher Park
 1002 N. Euclid St. • Fullerton, CA 92832
 OR:
 Laguna Lake
 3120 Lakeview Dr. • Fullerton, CA 92832

HIGHLIGHTS: Laguna Lake, a creek, beautiful trees.
ACTIVITIES: walking, bicycling, jogging, fishing
HIKE DISTANCE: Laguna Lake to Juanita Cookie Trail to Hiltscher Trail, 6 miles round trip
DIFFICULTY RATING: Easy
TRAIL TIME: one to two hours
TRAIL SURFACE: dirt
DIRECTIONS: From Downtown Los Angeles, take the 5 Freeway south. Go east on the 91 Freeway. Exit onto Euclid Street heading north until you pass W. Bastanchury Road. Then you're your final turn onto Lakeview Drive.
PARKING: Limited.