



SIERRA  
CLUB

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### It's EXCOM election time!

(See ballot on Page Three)



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# SANTA LUCIAN



Protecting and  
Preserving the  
Central Coast

The official newsletter of the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club • San Luis Obispo County, California

## Action Alert to Support Sara Wan

by Jack McCurdy

An Action Alert has been issued by Sierra Club California to enlist urgently-needed support for the reelection of Sara Wan as Chair of the California Coastal Commission in the face of a scheme to replace one of the most effective defenders of coastal resources in the Commission's 25-year-history.

"The attempt to remove Sara Wan as Chair of the Coastal Commission is one of the most dire coastal threats we have faced in years," said Tarren Collins, Chair of the Santa Lucia Chapter. "If that move is successful, her unyielding determination to protect the coast and the public participation allowed under her leadership will surely end, and the prospect of a majority more vulnerable to pro-development pressures is very real. Developer interests want her removed as Chair because she is smart and effective in marshaling support on the Commission behind coastal protection in issue after issue that comes before it."

Giving the public equal footing with developers during Coastal Commission hearings by allowing ordinary people adequate time to speak before the Commission has been critically important in opening up the process to everyone, not just the builders and their highly-paid consultants and attorneys, Collins, who has long experienced in matters before the Commission, pointed out.

Collins stressed that Sierra Club members and others must rally behind her immediately. "Sierra Club members have exhibited muscle in the past by collectively letting decisionmakers know when we feel something important has to be done," she said. "We have done it before on big issues, and we urgently need to do it now."

She called for telephone calls, letters and emails to Gov. Gray Davis, California

Senate President John Burton and Assembly Speaker Herb J. Wesson Jr, who appoint most of the members of the Commission. They should be asked to avoid involvement in the reelection of the Chair in order to protect the independence and integrity of the Commission.

In addition, letters to the editor strongly supporting Wan's reelection should be sent to leading California newspapers by individuals as well as groups and organizations, who should also include names of members signing the letters, if possible.

In a separate but related matter, support also is vitally needed for the reappointment to the Commission of Christina Desser, one of Davis' most effective Commissioners, whose vote for Wan's reelection could be pivotal. Telephone calls, faxes, letters or emails should go to Davis urging her reappointment, on which Wan's reelection could hinge.

The Commission's annual election of officers is scheduled on Dec. 11 at the next Commission meeting in San Francisco. The election originally was scheduled at the November meeting but was postponed. At that meeting, Commissioners David Potter and Cynthia

## Chapter Candidates Win Big

by Bob Shanbrom  
Chair, Political Committee

If Sierra Club political action is all about getting a seat at the table of power in order to preserve and enhance the environment, then this Thanksgiving we shall be feasting here in SLO County.

Bucking a chillingly reactionary national trend away from environmentalism in 2002, the Santa Lucia Chapter had considerable success in our local elections.

With the count still going on at press time we appear to have won seven out of 10 races, in which we endorsed candidates. In addition, we won with all five candidates with whom we were sympathetic, but who declined our endorsement due to the controversial nature of Sierran political activity. (We respect that kind of thinking.)

Lois Capps beat her free-spending opponent, Beth Rogers, by a whopping 20% margin for the 23rd Congressional seat. Capps has been a long-time friend of the Sierra Club and we look toward a very tight working relationship in a nation turned hostile toward progressive politics in general.

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continued on page 5

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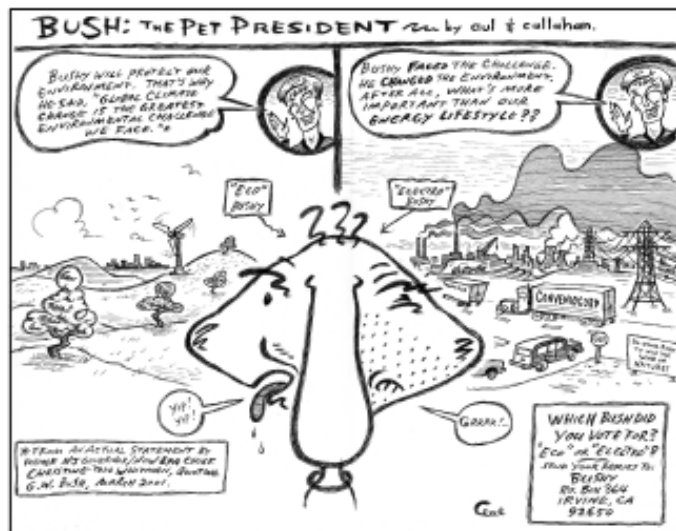
## From the Editorial Board

We apologize for the delay in getting this issue to you. Due mainly to medical and family issues, this issue of the Santa Lucian was not published in time to include information about the Chapter's General Meeting in November. The next General Meeting will be in January, and information about its program will be in the January issue. You may also wish to check our website for updates.  
—Editorial Board

## Winter Desert Outings



We have many exciting activities coming up for the New Year. To start off with, December 30<sup>th</sup> is a Darwin Falls Wilderness dayhike, and on January 11<sup>th</sup> we will be in Joshua Tree. We usually have a campfire in the evenings with lots of food (potluck) and camaraderie. For a complete listing of CNRCC Desert Committee trips, send a large SASE with 60 cents postage to Letty French, 14140 Chimney Rock Rd, Paso Robles, CA 93446. Trips may also be received via e-mail from: LMfrench@tcsn.net.



More Pet President cartoons at: [www.aulcallahan.com](http://www.aulcallahan.com)

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## SANTA LUCIAN

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The *Santa Lucian* is published 10 times a year. Articles, environmental information and letters to the editor are welcome. The deadline for each issue is the 15th of the month prior.

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### Santa Lucia Chapter

#### 2002 Executive Committee

**Tarren Collins** tarren@sierraclubso.org  
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VICE CHAIR

**Jim Empey** jim@sierraclubso.org  
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**Ross Pepper** ross@sierraclubso.org  
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**John Burdett** 544-7302  
COUNCIL DELEGATE

The Executive Committee meets the first Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. at the chapter office. All members are welcome to attend.

#### Standing Committees

**Political** political@sierraclubso.org  
Bob Shanbrom

**Conservation** conservation@sierraclubso.org  
Pete Wagner

**Membership** Available

**Programs** programs@sierraclubso.org  
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#### Other Leaders

**Speakers Bureau** 805-781-9466  
Ira Winn

**Open Space** 805-473-3694  
Gary Felsman

**Book Sales** 805-543-7051  
Bonnie Walters

**Chapter History** 805-543-2229  
Jan Clucas

**Publicity** Position Open

**Office Manager** 805-466-8781  
Joan O'Keefe

#### Activities

**Outings** outings@sierraclubso.org  
Chuck Tribbey 805-927-3769  
Gary Felsman 805-473-3694

**Canoe/Kayak** 805-773-2147  
Jack Beigle

**Equestrian** 805-929-3647  
Bill Denneen

#### General Information

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**Fax** 805-543-8727

Our office and phones are staffed by volunteers, and there may be a delay of up to a week to return your call. Please contact the most appropriate chapter officer for matters requiring immediate attention.

[www.santalucia.sierraclub.org](http://www.santalucia.sierraclub.org)

# Candidate Statements

Colby C. Crotzer (colby@fix.net):

I am presently at the conclusion of my eighth year as councilman for the City of Morro Bay. Yet, I still have environmental objectives that I intend to pursue after leaving office. *Here are a few:*

- 100% conservation of the Hearst property.
- Inclusion of SLO County in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
- OHV's destroy the Nipomo Dunes and should be banned.
- The nesting habitat of the Snowy Plover on Morro Bay beaches must be protected
- I support the CEC staff and Santa Lucia Chapter positions that Duke's proposal for a new plant will harm the marine environment and once-through cooling should be prohibited by the CEC.

As the "lone environmentalist" on the Council, I have had to battle the philosophy and strategies of the anti-environmental, development-at-all-costs political right. Even so, I've maintained a high standard of civility in these public debates, obtaining consensus on many projects, while fundamentally changing the public image that my opponents now try to project by voicing concern for the environment.

I feel that the Sierra Club, being a national advocate for our environment, could provide a forum through which I might further causes that I support. I am therefore submitting this application to become a member of the Executive Committee.

Jim Empey (jempey9732@charter.net):

I am running for reelection as a member of the Santa Lucia Chapter Executive Committee. I have served as secretary for the past two years and would be happy to serve again.

Pete Wagner (cpwags@charter.net):

I am running for a second term on the Executive Committee. My experience includes 32 years university teaching, directorship of a university environmental research center, development of an environmental monitoring program for power plant emissions, and several years as an environmental consultant.

I am an ardent supporter of the Sierra Club. I am especially proud of the accomplishments of the Conservation Committee, which I chair. It now has five dedicated, highly qualified, and thoughtful regular members as well as

other chapter members who contribute on specific issues.

Our agenda is set by requests from Excom, issues brought up by Committee members, and suggestions from chapter members. We are working on projects that include Duke Energy's proposal to expand the Morro Bay power plant and PG&E's application to build an outdoor storage area for spent nuclear fuel. We completed work on a proposed increase in Navy overflights of Big Sur for expanding bombing practice at Hunter Liggett, which was cancelled, and a ban on an invasive seaweed, *caulerpa taxifolia*, which became law.

We are also participating in, or closely following, the National Estuary Program, the USACE Morro Bay monitoring plan, the Carrizo Plain (through Cal French), and the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary expansion. In the future we hope to deal with urban sprawl and the individual actions it encompasses, and we may undertake the Lake Nacimiento water management issue.

It would be a privilege to continue this work for another term as a member of Excom and the Conservation Committee.

Eliane Guillot (eguillot@slocog.org):

I have been active in the Sierra Club for 14 years and am eager to join the Executive Committee and bring the perspective of someone who has a background in outings and hiking activities. I am especially interested in attracting Central Coast newcomers to the Club and encouraging them to join outdoors and conservation activities. I became a local outing/hike leader after moving here in February, 2001. I hold a "standard first aid" certification from the University of California at San Francisco Outdoors Unlimited and attend annual refresher weekends in the Bay Area with Sierra Club National. Prior outdoors activities include national backpacking and music/hiking from the Clair Tappaan Lodge, snow shoeing with the Sacramento chapter, cross country skiing with the Orange County chapter and hiking with the Mountaineers in the Puget Sound area. Having been raised in Grenoble in the French Alps, I enjoy nature and the opportunity to get away from the urban life as much as I can and strive to share those experiences with others. I also have more than 25 years of experience in public transit, an urgent need for pedestrian-friendly communities and a real challenge in a predominantly rural area like ours.

# Court Ruling Protects Beach Access

by Jack McCurdy

The California Coastal Commission won a landmark victory in its long effort to protect the public's right-of-entry to beaches in the state when the U.S. Supreme Court in October rejected two challenges to its authority to require access paths when beachfront property owners build there.

At stake were the beach access rights granted by the owners of more than 1,200 coastal properties over the past 30 years in exchange for permission to build. Had the court upheld the challenges, it would have triggered hundreds of other suits by property owners seeking to revoke longstanding public beach access rights.

There are 300 such access paths in San Luis Obispo County, most of them in Cambria, Cayucos and Los Osos, according to the county parks department.

In reality, less than 25% of these coastal paths have been opened to the public. In many cases, property owners have erected fences, walls and other obstructions and

*continued on page 5*

## Official Ballot

This is your official ballot to elect the officers of the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club. There are four candidates for four open seats in the seven-member Executive Committee (EXCOM). The three candidates who receive the most votes will be elected to three-year terms, and the other candidate to a two-year term. Included with this ballot is a statement from each of the candidates running for the Executive Committee. Please review these statements and vote for any of the candidates listed or write in another candidate of your choosing in the space made available on the ballot. In any case, do not vote for more than four candidates.

If you have a joint membership, please fill out both of the ballots (below). Please cut out the ballot(s), enclose in an envelope and then be sure to sign the back of the envelope. *Any unsigned ballots cannot be counted.* You can enclose both ballots in the same envelope—just be sure both signatures are on the back of the envelope.

Mail the ballot(s) to: Sierra Club, P.O. Box 15755, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406. **Please mail before December 14th, 2002.**

Again, REMEMBER TO SIGN THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE so your vote will be counted! Thank you for taking the time to select the candidates to serve our members in 2003.  
*Tarren Collins, Chapter Chair*

### OFFICIAL BALLOT

Ballot #1 Executive Committee (vote for 4)

- Colby Crotzer
- Jim Empey
- Eliane Guillot (two-year term)
- Peter Wagner

\_\_\_\_\_ (write-in)

Ballot #2 (Spouse if joint member) Executive Committee (vote for 4)

- Colby Crotzer
- Jim Empey
- Eliane Guillot
- Peter Wagner

\_\_\_\_\_ (write-in)

## Action Alert

continued from page 1

McClain-Hill, who voted in favor of coastal development in more than 80% of the cases before the Commission, led the charge to defeat Wan's reelection, and Potter, a builder and a Monterey County supervisor, is a candidate for the Chair.

You can call Gov. Davis' offices (asking him to avoid involvement in Wan's reelection and to reappoint Desser) at 213-897-0322 or 916-445-2841, fax him at 916-445-4633, write to him at State Capitol Building, Sacramento, CA 95814, or email him at [governor@governor.ca.gov](mailto:governor@governor.ca.gov).

You can call Burton at 916-445-1412, fax him at 916-445-4722, write him at State Capitol Room 205, Sacramento, CA 95814, or email him at [mary.shallenberger@sen.ca.gov](mailto:mary.shallenberger@sen.ca.gov).

You can call Wesson at 916-319-2047, fax him at 915-319-2147, write him at P.O. Box 942349, Sacramento, CA 94249-0001 or email him at [Assemblymember.Wesson@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Wesson@assembly.ca.gov).

**Calling, faxing or writing these officials are considered most effective. Sample letters are available on the Santa Lucia Chapter's web site, <http://santalucia.sierraclub.org/index/index.html>**

Letters to the editor supporting Wan's reelection (emails are preferred by the newspapers) should be sent to the:

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—Los Angeles Times, [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com), by fax to 213-237-7679 or by mail to 202 W. 1st St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

—San Francisco Chronicle, [letters@sfchronicle.com](mailto:letters@sfchronicle.com), by fax to 415-543-7708 or by mail to Letters to the Editor, 901 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103.

—Sacramento Bee, [opinion@sacbee.com](mailto:opinion@sacbee.com), by fax to 916-321-1996 or by mail to letters to the editor, 2100 Q St., P.O. Box 15779, Sacramento, CA 95852.

Wan is founder of the League for Coastal Protection and has a record of grassroots coastal activism and public service on behalf of the coast stretching back more than 25 years.

Mark Massara, the Club's coastal program director, stressed that "the Chair of the Coastal Commission is an extremely important position and sets the tone for the Commission's proceedings. In the three years that Sara Wan has been Chair of the Coastal Commission, she has made numerous improvements to the proceedings that have helped increase public participation.

"Prior to her tenure, members of the public were each only given two to three minutes to speak. Now, members of the public are allowed to prepare an organized presentation that is equivalent to the time given to an applicant. This has been crucial in the public's ability to demonstrate the pros and cons of some of the most controversial development projects along our coastline."

Massara went on to say that "Wan's decades of grassroots coastal activism, advanced degrees in science and engineering, and business acumen make her without doubt the most qualified person in California to serve as Chair of the California Coastal Commission."



## Sanctuary Boosted

By Jack McCurdy

Efforts to establish a federal marine sanctuary along the San Luis Obispo County coast got a major boost on Nov. 7 when the first steps were taken to create a county stakeholders committee to explore the idea and make recommendations.

An organizing group called for nominations to the committee at a public meeting in Cayucos presided over the Supervisor Shirley Bianchi and attended by more than 50 people. They also announced that the World Wildlife Fund has agreed to support and fund the organizational efforts.

The group acted after the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Advisory Council at a meeting in Cambria in August voted 11-5 to give priority status to consideration of expansion of that Sanctuary to cover the San Luis Obispo County coast. The Council also proposed creation of a stakeholders committee composed of San Luis Obispo County residents to explore the expansion idea and draft a proposal.

Representation on the committee will be in 20 categories, ranging from agriculture to fishing to the public at large. Nominations may be made to Bianchi at County Government Center, Room 370, San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2040. Applications are avail-

able there or at the Environmental Center of San Luis Obispo County (ECOSLO) 1204 Nipomo St., San Luis Obispo.

Bianchi said the committee primarily will consider three options for recommendation: no sanctuary, expansion of the Monterey Bay sanctuary or creation of a new and separate national sanctuary encompassing Estero Bay and other San Luis Obispo County coastline.

It was made clear that expansion of the Monterey Bay sanctuary to cover this county would be faster than forming a separate sanctuary. Greg Haas, a member of Rep. Lois Capps' staff, said it would take five to 10 years to obtain approval of Congress to create a new sanctuary. By contrast, the Monterey Bay sanctuary is undergoing review, and its Advisory Council could recommend expansion to include waters off San Luis Obispo County within a year, a sanctuary official said.

Bianchi said a sanctuary here would be a "tool to stop pollution off our coastline," especially the dumping of selenium waste from the San Joaquin Valley in Estero Bay, which has been proposed. "I want to do everything I can to keep it (selenium waste) from coming here," she said.

The organizing group, working through Bianchi's offices, consists of Pam Marshall Heatherington of ECOSLO, citizen advocate Shoosh Crozter, Ron Massengill of the Monterey Bay sanctuary Advisory Council and Robin Robinson of the World Wildlife Fund.

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## Chapter Wins Big

*continued from page 1*

For SLO City Council, Allen Settle was holding on to a skin-of-our-teeth lead over, yes, again free-spending Paul Brown with just a five-vote lead. John Ewan, a green businessman, easily won with the top number of votes.

Our candidate for mayor, Jan Marx, was trounced by perpetual pro-growth Dave Romero. Should Settle not prevail we will have a largely sympathetic City Council turn decidedly neutral. In any case, we mourn the absence of Marx, a member of the Sierra Club for over 30 years.

In Arroyo Grande, Joe Costello overcame a highly-popular and well-connected candidate to prevail for City Council. A special thanks to Jim Guthrie, a hard-working volunteer who made the difference in Costello winning. Costello completes a new three-person majority that will seek to protect the wondrous microclimatic valley, ag land and habitat around Arroyo.

Same on adjacent Nipomo Mesa where our three favorite candidates won, including top vote-getter, Sierra-endorsee Judith Wirsing. She and our new friends on the Nipomo CSD will just be saying "NO!" to overdrafting the aquifer and to sprawl at a rate of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

We got a "two-fer-one-er" in Atascadero where Becky Pacas displaced a candidate openly hostile to environmental concerns who also served on the highly powerful San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG). She joins the luminous George Luna as the minority contingent on the City Council that might learn from their presence. Pacas is a part-time gym teacher and we can't help but marvel at how well she stuck her landing.

Enviro hero Gordon Hensley handily won reelection to the Los Osos CSD, tallying the second highest number. Hensley can be counted on to pursue a sound sewer system that recycles water in Los Osos.

In an election critical to land use on the North Coast, Vern Kalshan fought a valiant fight against (is this getting tiresome?) a free-spending developers' attorney from Orange County who is a semi-transplant.

Kalshan deserves our thanks for stepping up to the plate and so does Istar Holliday who was unsuccessful in a bid for a Lucia Mar school board seat where she would have had a chance to work against the sprawl-inducing siting of a school.

In fact, all 15 candidates sympathetic to Sierra values with whom we made positive contacts deserve our thanks for their willingness to serve us

in this glorious land we call home.

And thanks to our political committee members, Holly Sletteland, Bill Robinson and Josh Olejczak, for helping to set us a place at virtually every decision-makers' table in the county where decisions that effect our families and our futures here on the Central Coast are made.

Gordon Hensley put it best when he said on election night of our thrilling success, "Now you just have to figure out how to put it (our electoral successes) to work!"

If you'd like to take that next step with us, communicating environmental concerns to those elected officials who hold the reins of power, please contact us so that we can get on with the next part of the job. Thanks to all who helped make our political campaigns so successful.

## Coastal Access

*continued from page 3*

steadfastly refused to honor their access agreements with the Coastal Commission, according to Mark Massara, coastal program director for the Sierra Club, which has vigorously supported beach access.

The Commission's authority over coastal access was challenged by two of these owners, Santa Barbara billionaire Wendy McCaw, who used the Santa Barbara News-Press, which she owns, to promote her cause, and Malibu billionaire David Geffen, who put up fences blocking the access paths adjacent to his house at La Costa Beach.

But "this should now put to rest all of the other challenges we have received," said Peter Douglas, executive director of the Commission. "It will mean substantial new public access to the beaches and along the beaches."



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## Kranzdorf Receives First Chapter Award

Richard Kranzdorf, who has worked tirelessly over the years for environmental causes here and is a former Political Committee chair of the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club, has been named the recipient of the first annual Kathleen Goddard Jones Award in recognition of his long-time commitment to Sierra Club service and conservation activism.

Kranzdorf was presented the award at a dinner honoring him and his wife, Illona ?, on Oct. 19 at Cal Poly. He is a retired Cal Poly professor of political science and also has been active in local political campaigns of candidates who are dedicated to environmental preservation in our community.

The Kathleen Goddard Jones Award was established by the Santa Lucia Chapter to honor the founder of our chapter and an outstanding and effective activist, Kathleen Goddard Jones. Known as "The Lady of the Dunes," she exemplified environment action with her fierce love and protection of the Nipomo Dunes. The award will be given annually to a chapter volunteer whose contributions reflect her values.

Tarren Collins, chair of the Santa Lucia Chapter, presented the award and paid tribute to Kranzdorf's personal qualities and astute leadership skills.

"No matter how deep into the thick of battle for peace and the environment we get, Richard Kranzdorf always reminds us that this is about kindness, gentleness, tenderness," she said.

Unlike the many people who deplore what is going on in our midst but fail to act, "Richard, you certainly have done something about it," Collins said to him.

She cited two examples:

"With your leadership as a member of the Sierra Club Executive Committee, the community was able to block passage of Measure "A" that would have allowed oil drilling off our coast. Again, because of your personal commitment and drive to energize voters, the county was blocked from hooking up with State water, thus slowing the drive for population growth and development."

Kranzdorf, she noted, has had a long and distinguished professional career, which has included Fulbright grants to Eastern Europe and Pakistan, teaching for many years in the university program in London, England, and as the recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities Grant at Yale University.

Collins also quoted from an article in Hopedance magazine, which said Kranzdorf had been "personally representing a disproportionately large percentage of the conscience of Cal Poly. You were honored for being dizzyingly active and effective on uncountable vital fronts while elevating discussion with your wisdom, your reason and your respect for fellow humans of every stripe."

Because of his many contributions, Collins said, the Chapter "decided that you, Richard, deserve to be the first recipient."

Letty French, another long-time Chapter member, was instrumental in the establishment of this award and also arranged for the creation of the beautiful engraved crystal monolith presented to Kranzdorf to commemorate his being the first recipient.

## 2003 Sierra Club Calendars

Wall & Engagement still available! Also a limited number of pocket-sized. 10% (+tax) off for members: Wall, \$11.51; Engagement, \$12.47; Pocket, \$2.50. Boxed for mailing.

**Please contact Bonnie at 543-7051**

# A Delightful Dinner Picnic

by Jack Beigle

After a week of cold foggy days and evenings I was pleased to find light wind and high fog when we launched ten boats at 5:30 p.m. We leisurely paddled across the estuary to the sand spit, turned toward the Back Bay and beached our boats on Midden Point.



There was lots of good food and good conversation while we ate. We were sheltered from the evening breeze by a large sand dune. After dinner we took a short hike on the spit. We found the old fresh water well was almost overgrown, but you could clearly see where the animals kept open a small trail to their water source.

The tide was full as we paddled back to the marina. The sun was setting below the high fog and the warm pink rays colored the bottom of the fog layer, giving a special glow to the estuary. The sage advice, "Enjoy each moment," came to mind as paddlers expressed their appreciation of the beauty of this evening on the estuary. It was another delight filled outing. Check our outing schedule and join us on the water.

# State Bans Fishing Around Channel Islands

Fishing has been banned by the California Fish and Game Commission around the Channel Islands off Santa Barbara County to help fisheries there to recover, and the difference in the 2-1 vote was Bob Hattoy, former Sierra Club staff member and recent appointee of Gov. Gray Davis.

"California once again is in the vanguard of environmental protection," Hattoy said. "This is good for the fish, good for the fishermen and good for future generations." Davis said that he was "delighted" by the vote.

The Commission's action was strongly supported by the Sierra Club and other environmental organizations, such as the Ocean Conservancy and the Environmental Defense Center.

The decision imposes a permanent ban on removing fish as well as all sea life in 175 square miles of ocean around the Islands and establishes a network of 13 marine reserves and conservation areas in state waters to give a wide variety of fish and shellfish species a chance to rebound from decades of excessive fishing.

The size of the no-fishing areas could grow depending on whether federal officials decide whether to expand the cluster of reserves into federal waters, which begin three miles from shore, over the next few years. Enforcement of the state ban is scheduled to begin Jan. 1.

A combined state and federal reserve system could ultimately encompass 426 square miles, making it the largest complex of marine reserves in the continental United States. The largest reserve in the nation surrounds the northwest Hawaiian Islands.

The ban was angrily opposed by many from the fishing industry, and hundreds carrying placards converged on the Commission meeting in Santa Barbara to register their objections, contending it would severely hurt their livelihoods. But Hattoy refused to back down.

"Some of you will call me wrong," he told several fishermen who heckled him. "But your grandchildren will call me right."

# Nava: 'We Hear You'

The California Coast Commission is known for listening attentively to the public at its meetings, but Pedro Nava goes a step beyond, often interacting with speakers and voicing his appreciation for sharing their views.

In August at the Commission meeting in San Luis Obispo, Nava was eloquent as he described the effect that ordinary people have on Commissioners like him and how their pleas for coastal protection have left a lasting impression.

After the Great Coastal Places Campaign hearing had concluded, Nava recalled the day four years ago when more than 1,500 people crowded the same Embassy Suites Hotel conference room to support preservation of the Hearst Ranch.

"That was the first year I was a Commissioner," he told the packed audience. "If you reflect back on it there was a tremendous unanimity on the part of the Commission with respect to how we understood the community's perception of what they wanted the county to look like and especially the north county."

"And the 1500 people who came out had a tremendous impact on the Commission and a tremendous impact on me. And I carried that experience and still carry that experience with me at every Commission meeting because having heard you then underscored for me the sacred duty and responsibility that Commissioners have to listen to the public, to be respectful of the environment and to think seven generations out.

"And (today) I heard phrases that (suggest) maybe it's time to redefine some language. Instead of agricultural maybe we should call it 'agri-future' because it is absolutely clear that agriculture plays a pivotal role in the economic viability of our state, agriculture has a critical role in San Luis Obispo County and the intelligent management of our agricultural resources will be an important linchpin in maintaining open space and protection of the environment in keeping this place as blessed and beautiful as it is.

"In terms of hard choices, we either honor nature or our conveniences, and I think we are learning more and more that we need to give up some conveniences, if in fact we are going to respect our obligations to future generations.

"I like the term 'industrial abuse' because at one time we really thought we could tame nature. We were so arrogant we thought we could engineer our way out of every problem. But I think we are becoming more conscious and more sensitive to the fact that we're just

not as smart as we think we are. We're just not.

"And by respecting nature and understanding our connection and our relationship to the natural world will we indeed begin to come to our full potential as a people on this planet..."

"I really regret that this is the last one of the LCP updates because what I think this process has done is afford grassroots organizations and volunteers a little bit of access to the Commission. You can't come to the Commission every month and...follow what we do and talk to us about the issues that matter to you.

"But through the LCP process we've had a chance to listen to your voices for at least a year, and this Commissioner tells you that I will continue to hear your voices long after you are able to come to these meetings."

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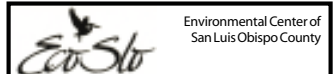


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Deborah Krueger  
c/o Santa Lucian  
P.O. Box 15755  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

## Announcement

Beginning with the January issue, a new editor will be needed to produce the Santa Lucian. Need to know Pagemaker, Acrobat helpful. Please e-mail Jack at: [jmccurdy@slonet.org](mailto:jmccurdy@slonet.org)

## For Sale

Nature photographs, many in and around our beautiful SLO county. Great holiday gifts! To view/purchase, please visit: [www.photographica.org/user/Bunnigrrrl/prints](http://www.photographica.org/user/Bunnigrrrl/prints)



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## A Will . . .

. . . is a way to protect the environment as well as yourself. If you do not have a will, the state decides how your property and other affairs are handled. Decisions made now can later provide financial security for family, friends, and the Sierra Club. You may even direct your bequest to a specific Club program or your home Chapter.

For more information and confidential assistance, contact

**John Calaway**

**Sierra Club Planned Giving Program**  
**85 Second Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105-3441**  
**(415) 977-5538.**

# Outings and Activities Calendar

All of our hikes and activities are open to all club members and the general public. If you have any suggestions for hikes or outdoor activities, questions about the Chapter's outing policies or would like to be an outings leader, please call Outings Leader Gary Felsman at 473-3694. For information on a specific outing, please contact the outing leader. Outings Leaders, please get your outings or events in by the 10th of the next months outings.

The **Morro Bay Natural History Association** (772-2694) and the **Nature Conservancy** (343-2455) hold many hikes as well, which are too numerous for us to list. Call for details. All our outings are open to the general public.

## Hiking Classifications:

**Distance:** 1 = 0-2 mi., 2 = 3-5 mi., 3 = 6-9 mi., 4 = 10-12 mi., 5 = 12 mi. or more.

**Elevation Gain:** A = 500', B = 1000', C = 1500', D = 2000', E = 2500', F = 3000' or more.

**Sat., Nov. 23, 9 a.m., Cerro Alto trail (intermediate)** Meet at Spencer's Market parking lot in Morro Bay-Bring water, lunch and dress in layers-Rain cancels-North County residents call ahead of time for alternate meeting site and to confirm participation. Call Eliane, 784-0532. (2C)

**Sun., Nov. 24, 10 a.m. Canoe/Kayak Morro Bay.** Here's a chance to get a little exercise before that Thanksgiving Dinner. Join us for a picnic and a short hike on the sand spit. Bring your boat and equipment, PFDs, binoculars and your picnic lunch. Launch at Morro Bay State Park Marina. For details call Jack at 773-2147.

**Sun., Nov. 24, 9:30 a.m., Bicycle Nature Tour.** Meet east side of parking lot at Pismo Pier, ride to Avila Pier via Bob Jones Pathway and return by Pirates Cove with many nature stops and solving of world problems on the way. Must wear helmet. Confirm a few days before with Bill at 929-3647.

**Thurs., Nov. 28, 9:30 a.m., Thanksgiving Black Lake Hike.** For about 25 years we have been hiking to Black Lake on Thanksgiving morning. This year we will be coming in from the north. Confirm a few days before with Bill at 929-3647.

**Nov. 28 - Dec. 10 Yucatan Adventures, Mexico.** For details contact Jack Sneddon (925) 676-3939, Jacks2@prodigy.net. Sponsored by Bay Area Car Camping.

**Fri., Nov 29, 4th Annual Los Osos Mini Hikes.** Join us for 3 walks in Los Osos. First, we'll meet at the Los Osos Oaks Preserve parking lot on Los Osos Valley Road, 3/5 mile east of South Bay Blvd. After this, we'll drive to Sweet Springs Nature Reserve and then on to the Elfin Forest Boardwalk. Total hiking distance will be 3-4 miles with little elevation gain. Rain cancels. Leaders Al, 534-0462, and Joanie, 528-2726. (2A)

**Sat., Nov 30, 8 a.m., Manzana Narrows with the Arguello Group.** This is a 10 mile hike with 1500 feet of elevation gain. We will hike upstream from the Nira Campground. The sycamore trees should be showing their fall colors. Meet at the Lompoc Civic Center at 8am, or at the Park n Ride in Santa Ynez at 8:45am. Leader Dean, 736-6685. (4C)

**Sun., Dec. 1, 9 a.m., Valencia Peak Conditioning Hike.** This is a 2 hour, 4 1/2 mile roundtrip hike with over 1200 feet of elevation gain. Bring water, sturdy hiking shoes and dress for the weather. Everyone is welcome, but this is a vigorous conditioning hike. It is intended for already fit individuals who want to maintain a high fitness level. It is not for those who want to get into shape, as they will be left behind. Rain cancels. Leader Al, 534-0462. (3C)

**Sun., Dec. 1, 9:30 a.m., Coast Nature Hike.** See a remote area of dunes with botanizing, bird watching and poetry. Confirm and details a few days before. Bill at 929-3647.

**Sat., Dec. 7, 8 a.m. Silver Peak Wilderness Work Party.** Come join the Sierra Club as we continue to improve trail in the Silver Peak Wilderness. Our goal this trip is to work on a section of trail either at the front of the Cruickshank Trail a section near Cruickshank Camp, or a section just past Silver Camp. We will do minor brushing, and regrade sections of the trail. Bring gloves, Mcleods, or loppers or hedge shears if you have them. Otherwise we can provide the necessary tools for those that may need them. Bring lunch, water, and dress for the weather. No experience is necessary. Meet at Spencer's Market in Morro Bay. Rain Cancels. Details call Gary at 473-3694.

**Sat., Dec. 7, 10 a.m., Canoe/Kayak Morro Bay Sand Spit and Section Meeting.** A winter paddle to the sand spit for a short hike and picnic lunch. Take a break in your Christmas shopping and join us on the bay. You can write your friends Back East and tell them about this outing. We usually get beautiful weather this time of year. A

short business meeting will follow lunch to discuss future outings. Bring your boat and equipment, PFDs, wind-breaker and a picnic lunch. Meet at the Morro Bay State Park Marina. Leader Jack Beigle, 773-2147.

**Sun., Dec. 8, 9:30 a.m., Kayak Oso Flaco Lake.** Meet at lake with kayak, PFD and mechanism to move kayak to lake. Bring binoculars for bird watching. Confirm at 929-3647.

**Sat., Dec 14, 7:45 a.m., Little Pine Mountain with the Arguello Group.** This is a 12 mile strenuous hike with a steep ascent to the peak. There will be views of the Santa Ynez Mountain Range, the Channel Islands. Bring plenty of water. Meet at the Lompoc Civic Center at 7:45am, or at the Park n Ride in Santa Ynez at 8:30am. Contact the leader to coordinate carpooling and adventure pass. Leader Scott at 736-0792. (4F)

**Dec., 15, Sun. 9:00 am, Cabrillo Peaks Loop.** Join the leader on this moderate 5.5 mile hike in Morro Bay State Park. Along the trail there are great views of Hollister Peak and Morro Bay estuary. We will climb to the top of Cabrillo Peak and obtain vistas of Morro Rock and Black Hill. Total gain will be about 1300 ft. This should be a great time of year to explore an area that is not used as often. There is a possibility of ticks and poison oak. Wear appropriate footwear and dress for the weather. Bring water and lunch or snacks. There may be a refueling stop at an eatery in Los Osos or Morro Bay after the hike. Meet at Cabrillo Peaks parking lot. From Highway, take the Los Osos-Baywood Park exit and go south on South Bay Blvd. for .9 miles to a dirt parking lot on the left. For info, call Chuck (927-3769)(2B)

**Sun., Dec. 15, 9:30 a.m., Bicycle Guadalupe to Ocean.** Meet at Dune Centre Parking lot with bike and helmet. An easy, educational tour of Guadalupe and then to ocean. Confirm a few days before at 929-3647.

**Sun., Dec 22, 8:30 a.m., Hazard Peak Conditioning Hike.** This is a 2 hour, 4 1/2 mile roundtrip hike with 1000 feet of elevation gain. Bring water, sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Everyone is welcome, but this is a vigorous conditioning hike. It is intended for already fit individuals who want to maintain a high fitness level. It is not for those who want to get into shape, as they will be left behind. Rain cancels. Leader Al (534-0462) (3C)

**Wed., Dec. 25, 9:30 a.m., Winter Solstice Coast Hike.** See a remote area of dunes with botanizing, bird watching and poetry. Confirm and details a few



Photo by Joaquin Palting

days before. Confirm with Bill at 929-3647.

**Sun. Dec. 29, 9 a.m., Valencia Peak Conditioning Hike.** This is a 2 hour, 4 1/2 mile roundtrip hike with over 1200 feet of elevation gain. Bring water, sturdy hiking shoes and dress for the weather. Everyone is welcome, but this is a vigorous conditioning hike. It is intended for already fit individuals who want to maintain a high fitness level. It is not for those who want to get into shape, as they will be left behind. Rain cancels. Leader Al (534-0462) (3C)

**Sun., Dec. 29, 9:30 a.m., Point Sal Hike.** Meet at end of Brown Rd. Bring optional Mt. Bike for fast ride back down hill. The first 2.5 miles is uphill (1000ft). We'll stop a lot going uphill to botanize and solve all the planet's problems. Bring lunch, water, fit dogs that do not chase cattle and a friend. A few days before event, call 929-3647.

**Wed., Jan. 1, 9:30 a.m., Mussel Rock Hike.** 19th Annual New Year's Day Hike. Start the year off in nature! Meet at end of West Main on the beach. Bring lunch, water, binoculars, inspirational readings. Dogs on a leash permitted. More info: 929-3647.



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