SIERRA CLUB
Angeles Chapter

December 2023 Newsletter

Falls of the James Group

American Bittersweet berries along the James River. Photo courtesy of Andrew Peacock.

FOJG Member Potluck Dinner and Program
Join us at Congregation Or Ami for our 12/12/23
7 pm FOJG Potluck Dinner and Green Giant Awards Program

Everyone's in, James River ready to dive in! Hard fun. Photo courtesy of Andrew Peacock.

12/12/23 – 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm Potluck Member Potluck Dinner and Green Giant Awards. This program will take place in person at Congregation Or Ami at 6510 Canoga Avenue in Woodland Hills 91303. Come join us for Rhapsody and celebrate FOJG's 2023 Green Giant Awards presented to our outstanding volunteers.

Please send an email to Nancy Pedersen by 12/8/23 if available
at volgardening@hotmail.com so we know many will or your party and whether you will bring a dish to share with the potluck. Please let us know if you are bringing a dish to share, the name of your dish and includes if it is gluten free, vegetarian, or vegan. Congregation Or Ami does not provide dishes, silverware, or cups. Please bring your own.

As conservationists, we ask that you bring your own reusable serving and eating utensils, plates and cups, although we will have plenty in the event you forget to bring them. Water and sodas will be provided. Please bring your own water bottle if you prefer not to drink from a disposable cup.

FOJG 2024 Green Giant Awards

Rodney Gaines. Green Giant Nominee Photo courtesy of Sheri Sherman.

Rodney Gaines

Rodney Gaines is a native Reminiscent and 40 year resident of the Dexter Gardens community in Woodland Hills. He is a 30 year veteran of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and also volunteers in many roles across the city, including as a member of the Dexter Gardens Homeowner's Association Board of Directors, and as a Boy Scout Troop Leader. Additionally, Rodney is an ardent supporter of the Engine Community Grow and the Collaboration Garden in Woodland Hills. He is a tireless volunteer who helps with the coordinated planning projects and organizes residents to care for the environment.

Wherever there is a tree planting or community garden event in the Southeast, Rodney is there to help. He is a tireless, "can do" person who always lends a helping hand. He is a conductor, the two-way radio network, connecting neighbors and local organizations to connect with residents for greater community buy in. Sheri recently, he led the creation of two new community gardens, one at Dexter Gardens and the other at Collaboration Garden, two vacant garden beds, a walking walkway and picnic benches.

As a Senior, grandfather and devoted uncle, he is always of service to others and believes in being a role model and mentor to the community and neighbors.

Agoraphil Hall and Gardens. Photo courtesy of Sheryn Peacock.

Agoraphil Hall and Gardens

The Falls of the James Group wishes to salute a most historic non-profit movie in clean energy generation. As the linked article states, Agoraphil Hall and Gardens Agoraphil Hall & Gardens - A Hidden Gem in Los Angeles - Los Angeles Magazine is a hidden gem in Los Angeles. It is a place to relax and to visit some real life eye gifts. We recognize the forward thinking approach to this non-profit movie in clean energy generation. Agoraphil Hall and Gardens is a place to visit. Some of the recipients of our 2023 Green Giant Award, Executive Director Bernie Marcus, Learn about the same people in this Reminiscent Times Dispatch: Article - Agoraphil Hall and Gardens

Image courtesy of Sheryn Peacock

New Year's Eve Party at Congregation Or Ami

12/31/2023 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm New Year's Eve Party at Congregation Or Ami 6510 Canoga Avenue, Woodland Hills 91303 Come ring in the New Year with the Falls of the James Group and New Year's Eve party! Dress up! Dance! Sing! We invite you to ring in the New Year with the Falls of the James Group and Congregation Or Ami. Rabbi Ariel Stone and Sherman Oak Music Band will be providing music. The cost is $25 per person in advance and $30 per person at the door. Kosher food will be provided by Congregation Or Ami. Please bring your own beverages. Bring your own beverage. Additional food and drinks will be available for purchase. Please RSVP by 12/29/23 to Nancy Pedersen at volgardening@hotmail.com or 310 718-7181 Grandpolka

Advocacy

Please to be a part of the advocacy of our Sierra Club Angeles Chapter and Nationally Rich Apuzzo, Lisa Williams, Glen Stone, and Kevin Cameron to name the leaders. Richmond City Council Approves Ballot Measure Limiting Chevron's Operations Richmond City Council has approved a ballot measure that would limit the operations of Chevron's refinery in Richmond. Learn more about the ballot measure and the campaign to support it. **Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Seeks Volunteers to Help oversee Conservation Committee** Sierra Club Angeles Chapter is seeking volunteers with a passion for conservation to help oversee the Conservation Committee. The commission will provide opportunities for volunteers to learn about conservation issues, attend meetings, and provide input on policy decisions and recommendations relating to the operations of natural gas, clean energy, sanitary sewers, and other environmental issues. Sierra Club Angeles Chapter is seeking volunteers who are interested in joining the Conservation Committee.

The FCC adopted rules to SAY NO to the CHESTERFIELD gas-fired power plant and the application period ends on December. Please share the link widely with anyone you think may be interested, and who have access to a computer. Thank You!

Image courtesy of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter

12/6/23 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Friends of Chatsworth is a night of prose and community. Join us for Friends of Chatsworth, Friends of the Los Angeles River, Sierra Club Angeles Chapter and Hope Gallery! This event is for all members of local community, concerned about the **Joint Sierra Club Angeles Chapter and Friends of Chatsworth Community Meeting** and the **Joint Sierra Club Angeles Chapter and Friends of Chatsworth Community Meeting**. Sierra Club Angeles Chapter **Volunteers in Clean renewable energy**, as per the 2021 Climate & Conservation Committee Report, are the leaders in the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter. Volunteers with gas, diesel, demolition, wastewater and water leaks advocates and experts.

The commission shall serve as an advisory body to the Council and the Mayor and will provide recommendations on matters relating to the operations of natural gas, clean energy, sanitary sewers, and other environmental issues. The commission will provide opportunities for volunteers to learn about conservation issues, attend meetings, and provide input on policy decisions and recommendations relating to the operations of natural gas, clean energy, sanitary sewers, and other environmental issues. Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Volunteers are the leaders.

If you'd like to volunteer to join our Security Shift and Beyond Wellness RUN Teams or get involved in active protests, contact Lisa Williams at lisa.williams.sierraclubangeles@gmail.com.

January FOJG Program

Dennis Pierpoint, Executive Director of both Volgenau for High Speed Rail (VHSR) and the Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities (CRTP).

1/23/24 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm Virtual program "Why are Transportation Projects so Controversial?: Why it's important, and what it means for our communities" with Dennis Pierpoint, Executive Director of both Volgenau for High Speed Rail (VHSR) and the Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities. Join us in person at Congregation Or Ami and attend the program virtually. Please RSVP to Nancy Pedersen at volgardening@hotmail.com. Zoom Link for Transportation Talk on Google Calendar.

Volgenau for High Speed Rail (VHSR) - "Why is Happening in the Richmond Region? Why is it important, and what it means for our communities" Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities (CRTP) Volgenau for High Speed Rail (VHSR) and the Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities (CRTP) are a partner of Congregation Or Ami and sponsors the program. Please RSVP to Nancy Pedersen at volgardening@hotmail.com. Zoom Link for Transportation Talk on Google Calendar.

Richmond Rail Project Program on 12/14/23 - "Why is Happening in the Richmond Region? Why is it important, and what it means for our communities" Volgenau for High Speed Rail Coalition Richmond Rail Project Program on 12/14/23 - "Why is Happening in the Richmond Region? Why is it important, and what it means for our communities" Volgenau for High Speed Rail Coalition. Please RSVP to Nancy Pedersen at volgardening@hotmail.com.

Volgenau (VHSR) programs will include a Beyond Wellness presentation, a 420 Gardening presentation, and a presentation by Chatsworth Tribe Chief Adams and Clara Adams, Tribal Representative, on the Chatsworth Tribe's Gardens.

You can check out other Sierra Club and Friends of Chatsworth events on the FOJG calendar: Events Calendar - Sierra Club

To see what time zone and to convert Sierra Club events you can select Kingsford the date. Check out the Sierra Club Events Calendar and Friends of Chatsworth Calendar Zoom

Upcoming FOJG Outings

An old Homestead Windpump at Pearblossom State Park. Photo courtesy of Doug Crouchley.

12/16/23 10 am - 12:00 pm Sierra Club Pearblossom State Park on Sierra Club Angeles Hike in Pearblossom State Park. Our route takes us through hardwood and pine forests and through meadows with a variety of wildflowers and grasses. This hike is mostly flat with some moderate hills and a couple of short but steep inclines.

Pearblossom State Park opened to the public in July 2021. It encompasses 1,900 acres of land with a variety of habitats, including hardwood and pine forests, meadows, and riparian areas. In addition to miles of hiking trails, a primitive, hard-in campground, and a dirt-service campground. Register here: Pearblossom State Park - A Little Bit Hard Work Hike

Emerald Green Dragonfly Photo courtesy of Doug Crouchley.

12/16/23 9:30 am - 12 pm Emerald Green Dragonfly Photo Hunt Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Photo Hunt. Join us for Emerald Green Dragonfly Photo Hunt. Bring your own camera and tripod. Meet at the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter