

# Sierra Club YODELER

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER ♦ WINTER 2017-18



SPECIAL  
INSERT: BAY  
AREA PEAK HIKE  
CHECKLIST  
P. 20-21

VOTE FOR LOCAL CLUB LEADERS! YOUR BALLOT INSIDE ♦ STOP PERMITS TO POLLUTE  
BAY AREA AIR ♦ DIVEST WELLS FARGO RALLY 11/30 IN SF ♦ HELP OUR URBAN FOREST  
GROW ROOTS ♦ FORMER MARIN GOLF COURSE PURCHASED AS PUBLIC PARKLAND

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The holiday season is here, and for many of us the time spent with family and friends can be both the happiest and most stressful time of the year. Newspaper advice columns start to fill up with questions on how to manage an Aunt Gloria or Uncle Irving at the dinner table, with conflicts erupting over everything from politics to the environment. If you are at one of the more difficult dinner tables, you may have already instituted an “only-turkey-talk” rule to help settle the meal.



This year, though, seems different to me. Given the recent level of political and environmental chaos, I’ve been surprised at the number of people who have approached me not about starting new fights, but about bridging divides. This is something that we do a lot here at the Bay Chapter, working with all sorts of groups, from community organizations to unions to politicians. Sometimes it’s tough to find the places where we can agree, but it’s often those small points of accord that can build into deep alliances around a common cause.

We spend a lot of time at the chapter telling you about our fights, but it’s important to remember that within each fight there are alliances, friendships, negotiations, and cooperation. These are the things that bring me “back to the table” each day.

As you head out on your holiday journey and think about the challenging discussions that you might encounter, consider what you can “bring to the table.” Where is that common ground or shared passion? Where can you find alliances and friendships — without sending a turkey drumstick flying?

At the Bay Chapter, we often find that the most unlikely alliances lead to the greatest wins. This winter season, I hope you can find some solace in those difficult conversations.

Whether your holiday season keeps you close or you plan to travel far, everyone here at the Bay Chapter wishes you a thoughtful, peaceful, and hopeful end to your year. We hope that you’ll continue to support us through your words, actions, and, of course, donations. To make an end-of-year donation, please go to [www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/give](http://www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/give).

Minda Berbeco  
DIRECTOR

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**ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOGRAPH:** Biker at Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont. Photo by Jerry Ting via Flickr.com/jerryting.

# Sierra Club YODELER

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# WINTER 17-18 CHAPTER NEWS

## Find friends and good cheer at the Bay Chapter's annual holiday party

*Fri, Dec 1, 6-9 pm, Bay Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave, Ste I, Berkeley*

Eat, drink, and be merry with fellow Sierra Club members. Family and friends are welcome. Bring finger food—savory or sweet—and beverages to share. Organizers will provide music, plates, cups, and door prizes.

RSVPs are appreciated; contact Joanne Drabek at [joanne1892@gmail.com](mailto:joanne1892@gmail.com) or 510-530-5216.

Volunteers are needed to make this party successful. We need help from decorating and set-up through clean-up. To volunteer, please contact Joanne Drabek (see above).

If you would prefer to make a \$10-25 donation in lieu of bringing food and beverages, please send a check payable to “Sierra Club” to: Sierra Club, SF Bay Chapter, 2530 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley CA 94702. Write “Holiday Party” on the memo line.



## Grow roots with the Bay Chapter Tree Team

Urban forests clean the air, shelter birds and other wildlife, and even improve mental health. Now that the rainy season is here, it's time to get more trees in the ground and make sure every Bay Area neighborhood has access to the many benefits that trees provide.

The Bay Chapter Tree Team currently has lots of openings for volunteer positions. Whether you want to get your hands dirty or help out with the administrative side of the program, there are lots of ways to be involved. Learn more at [www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/jobs](http://www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/jobs).



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## Come to our training program for new community-outreach volunteers

*Thu, Jan 18, 5:30-7:30 pm, Bay Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave, Ste I, Berkeley*

The Bay Chapter is in search of tabling and phone banking volunteers to help amplify our voice on local environmental issues. If you are interested in helping to communicate the Sierra Club's vision and positions to achieve conservation victories, we need you.

Come to a volunteer training program for interested new volunteers on Thursday, January 18th. This training will give you the skills to most effectively engage, educate, and empower our members and the general public to make a difference in the diverse conservation issues that we work on at the local chapter. Please RSVP at <http://tinyurl.com/OutreachVolunteerTraining>.

As a grassroots, volunteer-led organization, the Sierra Club runs on our volunteers' passion and dedication. If you have time and energy to spare, share it with us and help make a difference for the local environment!

# EVEN MORE CHAPTER NEWS

## Meet Shelan, the Bay Chapter's new organizer for open-space campaigns

Shelan Zuhdi started work as the Bay Chapter's newest staff member in late October. Get to know Shelan by reading her answers to a few questions about her background, favorite local hike, and which superhero she'd want on her side in a fight for the environment.

### HI, SHELAN! TO START, TELL US ABOUT YOUR BACKGROUND IN ENVIRONMENTAL WORK.

I grew up in the Bay Area and learned to appreciate the environment at a very young age. I attended UC Santa Barbara to earn my bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies and I worked for various environmental nonprofit organizations including Sprout Up, Goleta Valley Beautiful, and the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County. Shortly after, I returned to the Bay Area to earn my master's degree in Environmental Management at the University of San Francisco. During my graduate school career, I traveled to Borneo, Malaysia to volunteer in restoration efforts for tropical rain forests and coral reef ecosystems. Since graduating from USF, I have worked for the County of San Mateo Parks Department, which led me to my work for the Sierra Club.

### WHAT WILL YOU BE WORKING ON FOR THE BAY CHAPTER?

I will be building community engagement and coordinating outreach on issues pertaining to open space and urban limit lines in eastern Contra Costa and Alameda Counties.

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE BAY AREA HIKE?

This is a very tough question considering that there are so many wonderful hikes in the Bay Area. But if I had to chose, I would say the Tomales Point trail at Point Reyes National Seashore.



### WHAT'S THE MOST INSPIRING/EXHILARATING EXPERIENCE YOU'VE HAD IN NATURE?

It was during my time volunteering in coral reef restoration projects on Pom Pom Island in Malaysian Borneo. I will never forget seeing my first sea turtle while diving. Seeing the marine life thriving in coral reef systems that we helped restore truly made me feel that I was making an impact.

### WHICH SUPERHERO WOULD YOU MOST WANT ON YOUR SIDE TO HELP FIGHT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, AND WHY?

I would definitely want Aquaman by my side to help protect our environment! He would save countless marine organisms from drift nets, oils spills, and plastic pollution since he can communicate with marine life.

Have an open-space issue you want to discuss with Shelan? Shoot her an email at [shelan.zuhdi@sierraclub.org](mailto:shelan.zuhdi@sierraclub.org) or give her a call at 510-848-0800 ext. 304.

## Vote for your local Sierra Club representatives – ballot on page 39

In order for the Sierra Club to make an impact commensurate with the enormity of the threats facing the environment today, we need our members to be active and engaged. Today, that means voting in the election for your local Sierra Club representatives. These volunteer leaders represent you in deciding local Club policy on issues ranging from transportation to conservation; make sure they speak for you!

Voting instructions are on page 25, candidate statements begin on page 27, and your ballot is on page 39. You can also vote online at [www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/2017chapterselections](http://www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/2017chapterselections). However you vote, make sure your ballot is received by Friday, December 15th.

## Now seeking leaders for the Bay Chapter outings program – Design and lead your own trips for Club members and the public!

If you're an experienced hiker, biker, backpacker, snow camper, or outdoorsperson of any stripe, consider leading outings for us! The basic requirements to become an outings leader are pretty simple, and the work of putting people in touch with nature has never been more vital.

The Sierra Club's outdoor activities aim to connect all people with the natural world and with the Club. As an outings leader with the San Francisco Bay Chapter, you will join others in exploring the great outdoors, grappling with conservation issues, and even changing perceptions. Because trips are specialized around a unique theme or activity, you could be hiking, backpacking, kayaking, bicycling, or doing service work — it's up to you to choose, because you design and lead your own trips.

### Requirements:

First, you need to decide what type of outing you would like to lead (hike, backpack, car camp, etc.), and which activity section you would like to affiliate with (our newest activity section is the cycling section!). You can find a list and descriptions of our activity sections online at [www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/activity-sections](http://www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/activity-sections).

The other basic requirements are:

- You are a current Sierra Club member
- You are at least 18 years of age
- First Aid training (contact the outings coordinator of the activity section you want to affiliate with to find out what type of training is required)
- Complete the "Basic 101" outings leader training, either online or in a chapter-sponsored class
- Have appropriate, advanced skills
- Choose a current outings leader as your mentor
- Provisionally lead at least one outing and receive a positive evaluation by your mentor leader
- Receive approval to lead outings from the Outing Chair or delegated authority of the activity section sponsoring the outing

Following a successful first outing, you will be a full-fledged outings leader and able to lead outings on your own. And then, happy trails!

Read more and find links at [www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/how-become-outings-leader](http://www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/how-become-outings-leader).



### Reader response to Yodeler article on State cap-and-trade legislation

Sierra Club member Ron Rothbart sent in the following letter to the editor. We encourage readers to submit questions and comments. Email them to [yodedit@sfbaysc.org](mailto:yodedit@sfbaysc.org) and we'll do our best to answer.

*The article "Cap-and-trade bill muddles local push to limit refinery emissions" in the Fall Yodeler gives three good reasons why the Sierra Club opposed the bill to extend California's cap-and-trade program. However, it does not mention the alternative bill, SB 775, which was supported by a number of environmental justice groups, and which the Sierra Club supported "in concept" according to Californians for a Carbon Tax.*

*SB 775 not only met the Sierra Club's goals by 1) allowing local air districts to regulate greenhouse gas emissions, 2) disallowing current banked allowances to be carried forward, and 3) not broadening the manufacturing tax exemption. It also 4) eliminated offsets, 5) put a rising floor and ceiling on the price of carbon, 6) added a border adjustment to protect California businesses from out-of-state competition, and 7) distributed the revenue into funds for clean climate infrastructure, clean energy research, and a dividend to California residents that would have protected low- and middle-income households from price increases. On all counts SB 775 was a much superior bill to the one that passed with Governor Brown's support. Let's hope we have another chance in the future to enact a truly effective and progressive carbon pricing program.*

– Ron Rothbart, Sierra Club member since 1978

# Stop permits to pollute Bay Area air – Turn out at Dec. 6 hearing

MELISSA YU

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is the agency responsible for permitting “stationary sources” of emissions such as refineries and other industrial facilities. On December 6th, for the first time in many years, the Air District will consider revisions to its permitting process. The Air District’s permitting record indicates a very bad habit of rubber-stamping projects that endanger community health and destabilize the climate. Can that behavior be reformed? Only if we show up and speak out!

Please join us on Wednesday, December 6th to demand permitting rules that prevent increased emissions of carbon dioxide and toxic co-pollutants.

**WHAT:** Public hearing of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board of Directors on permit rules

**WHEN:** Wednesday, December 6th, 9:45 am

**WHERE:** First floor auditorium, 375 Beale Street, San Francisco

The Air District reports that climate targets cannot be met if refinery greenhouse gas emissions increase, and that toxicity from the deadliest air pollutant (fine particulate matter, or PM<sub>2.5</sub>) kills an estimated 2,000 to 3,000 people in the Bay Area each year.

Yet current permit rules allow refineries to increase emissions by using pollution-trading schemes like buying “offsets” for increasing PM<sub>2.5</sub> that purport to decrease its emissions elsewhere in the region. Such “offsets” disproportionately impact the environmental health of low-income communities of color living near Bay Area refineries. Refineries are the highest-emitting industrial sector in the region for PM<sub>2.5</sub>.

Currently, Air District staff’s proposed “improvements” to permitting rules do nothing to control future carbon dioxide emissions. The result is that dangerous projects — like the proposed expansion of crude-by-ship into the Phillips 66 marina at the Rodeo refinery — will continue to be rubber-stamped. As currently proposed, the permit rule updates would fail to prevent the increased emissions that inevitably follow from projects that allow

refineries to switch to dirtier crude sources.

Join the Sierra Club, Communities for a Better Environment, and many other green, environmental justice, climate, and health-protection groups on December 6th to demand that our elected representatives on the Air District board vote to fix these rules. Show up to tell your elected representatives on the Air District board that our region’s air permit rules should be fixed to:

1. Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and other toxic air pollutants; and
2. Close the pollution-trading loophole that lets polluters increase deadly PM<sub>2.5</sub> air pollution in nearby communities by purchasing environmentally unjust “offset” credits.

We hope that you can join us on December 6th to demand that our elected Air District representatives fix permit rules to protect our climate and the health of the Bay Area’s most vulnerable communities.

If you can't be there in person, send a message to your board member. You can find your representative at <http://tinyurl.com/baaqmdboard> or email the clerk of the board at [mhiratzka@baaqmd.gov](mailto:mhiratzka@baaqmd.gov).



AFSCME is the union that shows every public service worker respect through action—fighting for better pay, better conditions, a better future. To our community partners: we honor and value your work in the fight for environmental and social justice.



# Luxury mega-marina proposal heads to SF Supervisors

## HUNTER CUTTING

On October 30th, the Treasure Island Development Authority (TIDA) made official their proposal to take one-third of Clipper Cove at Treasure Island for a private luxury marina. The plan now heads to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, who will be asked to approve the development plan, a 66-year lease to the private marina, and \$6 million in “rent credits” (i.e. free rent) to offset construction costs for the developer who will own and operate the private marina.

The proposal would demolish Clipper Cove's existing marina dedicated to small and medium boats, and replace it with a sprawling luxury marina dedicated exclusively to large yachts. Clipper Cove is currently home to the only venue for community sailing in San Francisco, as well a science and sailing STEM program that puts over 1,500 public-school fourth graders onto the Bay each year. For most of these youth, these classes are their first time on the Bay and for many it is their first time on water.

The proposed private marina would be built across the protected heart of the Cove, forcing educational programs to be severely scaled back — especially the youth programs that depend upon the sheltered waters of the Cove. The Science Department of the San Francisco Unified School District has spoken out against the plan, as have 23 SFUSD fourth grade teachers.

Earlier this year the California Division of Boating and Waterways issued a feasibility report that pointed out the marina is likely to change circulation and sedimentation in the Cove and cited similar outcomes in other nearby marina projects. The state agency projected the changing sedimentation would lead to annual maintenance dredging expenses running into the hundreds of thousands of dollars just to keep the marina open.

The Sierra Club followed the state report by pointing out that changing sedimentation and annual maintenance dredging would both pose a potential threat to eelgrass beds in the cove, a perspective that has been affirmed in an opinion written by the leading professional biological expert on the Cove's eelgrass beds. Eelgrass is a threatened and critically important keystone species in the Bay.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

Board action is currently slated for late November. Advocates for the Cove are asking supporters in San Francisco to send a quick message to their supervisor: Protect public access to the San Francisco Bay. Find your Supervisor's contact information at <http://sfbos.org/roster-members>, or use our online action center to send a message at <http://tinyurl.com/saveclippercove>. We wouldn't give one-third of Golden Gate Park to a private luxury resort and we shouldn't do that with Clipper Cove!



**BART DIRECTOR**  
**JOSEFOWITZ**  
**GET SF MOVING**

**What we've done together at BART...**

- Passed \$3.5bn Bond to modernize aging infrastructure
- New energy-efficient trains rolling this winter
- Put BART on track to be first transit agency in the country powered by 100% renewables
- Passed TOD Policy to build 7000 units of affordable housing on BART Property
- Passed Station Access Policy with deep commitment to sustainable transportation

**But there's more work to be done!**

- Stop BART To Livermore
- Transition BART's Non-Revenue Fleet to Zero Emissions Vehicles
- Continue Focus on Modernizing Core Infrastructure
- Pass Means-Based Fares

# The Bay Area takes the lead in the Community Choice movement

**LUIS AMEZCUA**

As 2017 comes to a close, the Bay Area has positioned itself as a leader in the clean energy economy as many of its residents and businesses opt into a Community Choice program that delivers cleaner energy than the incumbent utility.

## What is Community Choice?

Community Choice energy (also known as Community Choice Aggregation, or CCA), is a game-changing alternative to the investor-owned utility, enabling cities and counties to pool electricity customers to form a local power agency. This means that communities can decide to get their electricity from clean, renewable sources — either by purchasing it on the market, or by developing local resources.

By relying on clean, locally generated electricity, we can speed our transition away from fossil fuels that threaten our climate. We can also cut pollution and foster dependable, efficient, and resilient energy economies. And because CCA programs are locally owned and managed, ratepayer funds are reinvested locally.

Since MCE (formerly Marin Clean Energy) became California's first CCA program in 2010, the model has spread far beyond Marin County. Here are updates on CCA programs in three Bay Area counties:

## CleanPowerSF continues to exceed expectations

As of October, San Francisco's CCA, CleanPowerSF, is evaluating power contracts to prepare itself for the next phase of enrollment in 2018. Currently, CleanPowerSF only serves 15% of the city, but will jump to 35% in May 2018, and will continue to provide two options: a 35% renewable default option, and a 100% renewable "opt-up" option for just a few more dollars per month.

So far, the program continues to exceed expectations. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission reported that only 3.2% of potential enrollees have chosen to stay with Pacific Gas & Electric, and 3.8% have opted up to the 100% clean energy option. Additionally, the program is aiming to be 100% greenhouse gas free by 2030 (70%

renewable energy and 30% hydroelectric sources).

As CleanPowerSF sifts through its power contracts for its next phases of enrollment, the Sierra Club is monitoring the power contracts to ensure that the renewable energy is procured from within California, and that there are no bids from proposed projects that have not gone through environmental review and may be detrimental to the environment.

San Francisco residents and businesses will be enrolled in CleanPowerSF in phases, neighborhood by neighborhood — but you don't have to wait! Pre-enroll at [www.cleanpowersf.org](http://www.cleanpowersf.org) today and you'll be part of the next wave of CleanPowerSF customers.

## Alameda County CCA begins to take shape

With a launch date of Spring 2018, the East Bay Community Energy Authority (EBCE) has been busy the last couple of months appointing its Community Advisory Committee, hiring staff, including its Chief Executive Officer, and finalizing its Implementation Plan as required by California law.

After months of consideration, EBCE, at its meeting on November 1st, awarded its data-management, billing, and call-center services contract to the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), rejecting proposals from Calpine and GridX. Additionally, EBCE will work with SMUD to set up its own in-house local call center in two years to begin creating local jobs.

In the next few weeks, EBCE will consider awarding a contract for power services, and will begin reviewing draft results of the Local Development Business Plan for public feedback.

Among the many issues the Sierra Club is interested in, the Local Development Business Plan is a major priority that will lay out a roadmap for fostering local benefits and developing and integrating local renewable energy resources in the long and short term.

## Contra Costa County and its cities prepare for MCE service

In summer of this year, Concord, Danville, Martinez, Moraga, Oakley, Pinole, Pittsburg, San Ramon, and unincorporated Contra Costa County all voted to join MCE, and will begin to receive cleaner energy in Spring 2018.

The Sierra Club is working with MCE to promote the program in the new member communities, and work toward fostering community benefits, like local jobs and renewable energy development.



# Marin becomes first California county with all municipal power from 100% renewable sources

**CHANCE CUTRANO & SARAH LOUGHRAN**

After months of organization, collaboration, and persuasive comments at public meetings throughout Marin County, all cities, towns, and the County of Marin have opted to enroll their municipal accounts in MCE's Deep Green power program: 100% renewable, 100% greenhouse-gas-free electricity. According to MCE — a local Community Choice power provider that's a cleaner alternative to PG&E (read more on the facing page) — Marin is the first county in California (and possibly the nation!) to be using 100% renewable energy for all municipal accounts. Kudos to Marin and its cities for leading by example!

This campaign, led by Marin residents Helene Marsh and Sarah Loughran as a part of the Environmental Forum of Marin's Master Class and supported by numerous other Sierra Club members, will result in an annual reduction of 3,900 metric tons — or 8,598,028 pounds — of carbon dioxide. This is the equivalent of removing 835 cars from the road each year.

Prior to this campaign, only four Marin municipalities — Fairfax, San Anselmo, Belvedere, and Sausalito — had elected to pay a small premium to receive 100% renewable energy. With a tremendous amount of community support and engagement, this county-wide initiative resulted in unanimous votes by the elected leadership of Corte Madera, Larkspur, Novato, Ross, San Rafael, Mill Valley, Tiburon, and the County of Marin to "opt-up" to 100% renewable energy.

The Sierra Club applauds our public officials' dedication to minimizing our carbon footprint. In addition to all of the jurisdictions in Marin, a number of other municipal MCE customers have already opted up to Deep Green power, including Napa County, the City of Napa, Richmond, El Cerrito, Lafayette, and San Pablo. These actions support the Sierra Club's 125th Anniversary "Ready for 100" campaign and mark a pivotal step in our march beyond fossil fuels and toward a 100% renewable energy future.

The conversation is far from over. Following the lead-



ership of our local governments, businesses and residents must make the choice to opt up to MCE's Deep Green. Currently, most MCE customers are enrolled in the Light Green program, which offers 55% renewable electricity (cleaner energy than PG&E offers, at competitive rates). A number of environmental groups are working with renewed vigor to urge residents, businesses, and schools to enroll in Deep Green. The number of MCE accounts enrolled in Deep Green increased by 39% between March and September of this year, and has risen even more since. For most residential customers, the additional cost of Deep Green is about \$4 per month.

It only takes a few minutes to sign up for Deep Green, and for the price of a cup of coffee a month, you too can power your home or workspace with 100% California wind and solar power.



## Donating is Easy!

Clean out your garage and help out the environment by making a significant contribution to our vehicle donation program.

Your donation will go towards raising awareness of our efforts to protect and improve the natural environment around us. We make the process of donating your old car or unused vehicle both simple and easy. Plus, you may even qualify for a tax deduction.



1. Give us a call today!



2. Schedule your free pick up



3. Receive a donation receipt

**1-844-6-SIERRA | [scfch.careasy.org](http://scfch.careasy.org)**

# Marin County to buy golf course for public land

SUSAN IVES

Open space advocates cheered the Marin County Supervisors' decision on November 14th to buy the San Geronimo Golf Course for public open space. The 157-acre property near Nicasio has operated as a private golf course for more than 50 years. As golf's popularity waned, the 18-hole links have been on and off the market. Zoned for commercial recreation, the land was eyed for private development and nearly sold last summer. That's when the County decided to take a shot.

The Trust for Public Land agreed to option the property, keeping it off the market to give the County time to find funding for the \$8.5-million purchase, while vetting the idea with the community.

The San Geronimo Golf Course is part of a wound-

ed watershed where a dwindling population of endangered coho salmon arrives each winter to spawn. The County learned that the two creeks that wend through the property would be eligible for state grants for habitat restoration, bringing the purchase price within the reach. Measure A, an existing County sales tax for parks and open space, brought the County within sight of its acquisition goal.

Nearly 250 people crowded into the Supervisors' hearing. Opponents to the County's plan argued that the golf course should stay. Proponents from more than 20 local organizations, including the Sierra Club, argued for placing the land in public hands. We argued that purchasing the land would remove the threat of development, restore stream habitats, connect a greenbelt corridor, and provide opportunities for outdoor education and recreation, with free access to all.

"An opportunity like this happens once in a lifetime," said Supervisor Dennis Rodoni, who spearheaded the effort to buy the land for the public. The Board of Supervisors unanimously agreed.

Future uses of the soon-to-be public park will be hashed out in community meetings in the coming months.

## A NOTE ON OUR WORK TO PROTECT OPEN SPACE:

As you can see in these pages, the Bay Chapter does a lot of work to protect the Bay Area's remaining open spaces. From the wilds of our national parks to little slivers of green in city centers, parks and open space are essential for wildlife and human welfare.

Perhaps the greatest threat to open space is sprawl development fueled by the Bay Area's skyrocketing housing costs. To combat sprawl, we advocate infill development in the Bay Area's urban centers. When more people can live near where they work, shop, and play – in areas that are walkable, bikeable, and well served by public transit – our communities are also more efficient and pollute less.

This two-pronged strategy – protecting open space while promoting infill development – is a holistic approach that is guided by our vision for a sustainable and healthy Bay Area.

A key component of this strategy is making sure that low-income families can afford to live in urban areas. Displacement, which disproportionately impacts communities of color, is taking a huge toll on many Bay Area neighborhoods, tearing apart families and uprooting lives. Displacement also has an environmental cost: a 2014 study by the non-profit TransForm found that low-income households displaced to the suburbs more than double their driving – and their replacement by high-income households in dense urban neighborhoods results in a net increase in driving emissions. That's why the Bay Chapter supports policies that protect renters' rights and prevent evictions; preserve and increase affordable housing in transit-rich urban areas; and increase the minimum wage so that people can afford to live near where they work.

We live in a consequential moment. By one estimate, the Bay Area will grow by 666,000 households by the year 2040. The choices we make today to influence where these people live and how they get around are critical to reducing our impact on the Earth and leaving a livable planet for future generations. I hope that in the years to come, the pages of the Yodeler will be filled with many stories of thriving compact communities enjoying the splendors of nearby nature.

–Virginia Reinhart, Yodeler editor

# Initiative to protect Martinez open space moves forward

TIM PLATT

In October, the citizen-sponsored initiative to give voters a voice in protecting all Martinez open space and parkland achieved a major step toward becoming law when 4,713 supporter signatures were submitted to the City of Martinez for certification. If 2,413 or more of the signatures are found to be valid, the City Council will certify the Martinez Open Space and Park Protection Initiative. Then, the City Council can either set a date for a public election on the initiative, or vote the initiative into law themselves, saving taxpayers the cost of an election and making the open space and park protections effective immediately.

The initiative will require approval by Martinez voters



before the City Council can convert open space and parkland to more intensive development. This approach will prevent sprawl development and protect our remaining natural areas and wildlife. It will support the goal of efficient, non-polluting communities by concentrating development in existing urban areas that are walkable, bikeable, and transit-accessible.

The 4,713 signatures submitted to the city represent almost 20 percent of the voters in Martinez, indicating the high level of public support for these protections.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

While we wait for the city to certify our initiative, please help spread the word of this success. Volunteers are urgently needed to deliver fliers. (Just deliver — no door knocking!) Get some exercise in your own

neighborhood and help educate voters to support the initiative. You can do this on your own schedule. If you can help, call Tim Platt at 925-808-9684.

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# Lawsuit threatens open space atop Albany Hill

BRYAN MARTEN, ALBANY HILL 4 ALL

On September 11th the Albany Lions Club filed a lawsuit in federal court to force the city of Albany to give up ownership of the former “Call property,” a 1.1-acre hill-top portion of Albany Hill Park that has been open space parkland since 1973. Turning public land private would set a dangerous precedent and deprive the public of access to an ecologically and historically important open space.

The Lions Club is suing the City, claiming interference with an easement to light an electrified cross on the City’s property in Albany Hill Park. In the Fall of 2016, the City asked PG&E to temporarily shut off electricity to the cross because its electrical wires were frayed and attached to a nearby eucalyptus tree, creating a fire hazard. The electricity was subsequently off for about three months until PG&E corrected the situation.

The Albany Lions lawsuit alleges that because of the way the city handled this safety concern, it deprived the

Lions of claimed property rights, freedom of speech, and free expression of religion (though according to Lions International its Clubs are to be non-sectarian). As one of several demanded remedies, their lawsuit seeks to force the sale of 1.1 acres of parkland surrounding the cross.

The Sierra Club and its members have been involved for decades in acquiring and preserving open space on Albany Hill. The hill is home to a diverse ecosystem, including migratory monarch butterflies, and at its base are historic grinding stones used by the Ohlone. In 2008, Albany Hill was declared a Priority Conservation Area by regional and state agencies.

If the Albany Lions are successful, this would be the first public land on the hill to return to private ownership. It would set a dangerous precedent in federal court for other groups in the U.S. to privatize parkland. And because this lawsuit gives no guidance for what happens to the land after it turns private, there are no assurances the privately held land would remain open space.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

Write to the Albany City Council at [citycouncil@albanyca.org](mailto:citycouncil@albanyca.org) expressing your support for their commitment to keeping Albany Hill public land public.

# Assembly Bill 617 seeks relief for communities impacted by industrial air pollution

DAVID MCCOARD

Residents of disadvantaged communities and communities of color acutely feel left behind and dumped upon by regulators and industry. This is true of local refinery communities such as Richmond, where residents live with polluted air that leads to a host of devastating health impacts.

As I reported in the last issue of the Yodeler, this summer's extension of the state's cap-and-trade program included a provision that prevents local air districts (like our own Bay Area Air Quality Management District, or BAAQMD) from passing regulations designed to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. That provision has further complicated the passage of a rule capping refinery emissions of greenhouse gases here in the Bay Area.

A silver lining to this legislative setback was the passage of Assembly Bill 617 as a companion to the cap-and-trade bill. The bill's author, Assemblywoman Christine Garcia, represents the majority-Latino district in Southeast Los Angeles where she grew up. The area is heavily impacted by freeways, rail yards, and heavy industry. Garcia became a community organizer and activist for her community's environmental justice issues before joining the Assembly in 2012. Now in the Assembly, Garcia continues to advocate for environmental justice. She wrote AB 617 to address the pain of communities like hers that are impacted by industrial air pollution.

Governor Brown signed AB 617 into law in July. The new law includes these broad elements:

- The California Air Resources Board (CARB) must develop a pollution-monitoring plan by October 1, 2018 and select priority communities in which they should

be implemented. The regional air districts (in our case, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, or BAAQMD) will be required to deploy a monitoring system by July 1, 2019.

- By October 1, 2018, CARB must prepare a statewide strategy to reduce emissions in communities affected by a high cumulative exposure burden.
- Within one year of the state board's selection of these communities, regional air districts must adopt community emissions reduction programs.
- The state will create a clearinghouse of "best available retrofit control technologies" — equipment and methods for meeting the highest standards for pollution control — and require districts not meeting air quality standards to mandate this technology for stationary sources.

- Grants will be given to community-based organizations to support these programs.
- Maximum penalties for violation of air pollution laws will increase on January 1, 2018.

The local Air District (BAAQMD) has already made headway on some of these requirements. The timelines are aggressive and will require BAAQMD to

refocus its resources. Staff is working to identify appropriate staffing increases and capital needs. They're working with the State and other air districts to find reimbursement for expected expenses.

BAAQMD will have help from CARB's Community Air Protection Program, newly created to implement AB 617. The program will work closely with local air districts, community groups, community members, environmental organizations, and regulated industries to reduce pollution in the state's most impacted communities.

In October and early November CARB conducted four informational meetings around the state to introduce the program and to gather input from community members and organizations. At the October 17 meeting in Oakland, staff emphasized their desire to work in a bottom-up manner to incorporate community input into the



CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

program, as people had spoken up to demand.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO**

- Study AB 617 at <http://tinyurl.com/ab617>
- Follow BAAQMD in its work to address emissions and implement AB 617 at [www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov). Study Board and committee agendas and reports, and rules under development
- Attend and speak at BAAQMD Board and committee meetings at 375 Beale Street, San Francisco

- Attend meetings of the BAAQMD network of which the Sierra Club is a member. We work with the District to reduce emissions in the community. We meet in Richmond (schedule and place are variable)
- Watch for meetings with CARB staff on the AB 617 Community Air Protection Program
- Contact Dave McCoard at [dmccoard@hotmail.com](mailto:dmccoard@hotmail.com) to learn more or get involved

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## Divestment movement puts pressure on fossil fuel financiers

**NOV. 30TH RALLY AT WELLS FARGO'S SAN FRANCISCO HEADQUARTERS!**

During the height of the activism against the Dakota Access pipeline (DAPL), the Standing Rock Sioux called on environmental groups to raise awareness about Wells Fargo's funding of this egregious project and urge our members and supporters to move their money away from Wells Fargo. From the route's threats to Native communities' water supplies to the violence unleashed on peaceful protesters along the route, DAPL was just the most recent example of how Native people and communities of color are often disproportionately impacted by the construction of dirty fossil fuel infrastructure.

As long as big banks like Wells Fargo continue to provide large-scale financing for fossil fuel extraction and pipelines, these communities and our climate will continue to suffer.

Out of this call from our Indigenous allies grew a nationwide campaign to stop banks like Wells Fargo from supporting fossil fuels by moving our own money into more responsible financial institutions and calling on our local governments to do the same. The Sierra Club is cutting ties to financial institutions that fund the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL), Keystone XL, and other high profile fossil fuel projects. We are divesting from Wells Fargo, Bank of America, Citigroup, Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan Chase, and PNC Financial.

Wells Fargo is feeling the heat. Now is

the time to keep the pressure up and send a message to big banks that there are consequences for their socially irresponsible actions, and that investing in dirty fossil fuel projects is bad business.

On November 30th you have an opportunity to put pressure on Wells Fargo: Join us and other local partners at noon for a rally in front of Wells Fargo's world headquarters to deliver the message that they will continue to be held publicly accountable for their investments.

**WHAT:** Rally at Wells Fargo's world headquarters to demand the company stops funding dirty fossil fuel projects like the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipelines

**DATE:** Thursday, November 30th

**TIME:** Noon to 1 pm

**WHERE:** Wells Fargo headquarters, 1 Montgomery Street, San Francisco

**RSVP:** <http://tinyurl.com/divestwellsfargo>



**PHOTO CREDIT:** Guerrilla street painting outside Wells Fargo headquarters at a November rally led by Idle No More and allies. Photo courtesy Peg Hunter via Flickr Creative Commons.

# Final victory over San Luis Obispo oil-by-rail project

ANDREW CHRISTIE & DEVORAH ANCEL

On October 24, the signature of a Superior Court judge formally brought to an end an epic three-year environmental struggle. Phillips 66, the County of San Luis Obispo, and environmental and community groups including the Sierra Club, settled the oil giant's lawsuit challenging the county's denial of a proposed crude-by-rail terminal that would have brought millions of barrels of explosive tar sands crude to California's central coast. The settlement, which affirms the County's denial of this dangerous project, is a complete win for the refinery community and communities across California — including many in the Bay Area — that would have been placed directly in the line of fire of this volatile moving pipeline.

The settlement affirms the County's rejection of the project. Having chosen not to appeal the decision to the California Coastal Commission, Phillips 66 has no further avenues to pursue in its quest to undo the County's decision.

The Phillips 66 lawsuit attempted to negate the county's denial of the project by challenging a determination that "environmentally sensitive habitat area" (ESHA) existed on the project site. However, the county's denial of the project was only based in part on its determination that the project poses a threat to sensitive ecosystems supporting sensitive species. The County also found that the project poses a host of other serious unmitigable impacts including adverse air quality impacts and a serious risk of derailment, spill, and explosion to local communities and to communities throughout the state. Phillips 66 did not challenge the County's other justifications for denial in its lawsuit and, arguably, a court would have been hard-pressed to simply overturn the County's denial of the project based on the ESHA determination alone, given the serious unmitigable risks that the project posed to communities, public health, and the environment.



And the settlement affirms the ESHA determination for the proposed project. It further clarifies, as the law prescribes, that the County may use and rely upon the same information that the County used in reaching the ESHA determination at issue in this case in the context of any future land use development permit application for the site. In other words, if Phillips or another future owner of the property returns with a new project proposal for that site, all the information that documented the presence of ESHA on the project site at issue in this case can be used again during that future environmental review process, in addition to any new studies the County chooses to undertake.

The Sierra Club and its partners — Environmental Defense Center, Communities for a Better Environment, STAND.Earth, Center for Biological Diversity and Surfrider — were instrumental in the County's rejection of this dirty and hazardous fossil fuel project. We intervened in Phillips 66's lawsuit and successfully defended the County's denial of the project and its ESHA determination. We spent three years opposing the project, drafting legal and technical comments that forced the County to recirculate

the environmental impact report for further review and to obtain critical information from Phillips 66 about the project's impacts. We educated the public and built a network of local elected officials from throughout the state representing constituents along the project's rail route. These champions registered their formal opposition with the County. We engaged individuals for numerous public hearings and town hall meetings, which drew hundreds of activists to testify. The Club's efforts helped to generate nearly 35,000 written comments in opposition to the project.

We are grateful to our County decision makers for placing the health and safety of our community and the environment ahead of big oil's short-term goals and profits. This is especially true in a time where California and the world are making strides in transitioning away from dirty and dangerous fossil fuels in favor of cleaner fuel alternatives. This victory continues to lay the groundwork for our transition to a clean and fossil fuel-free economy.

Andrew Christie is the director of the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club. Devorah Ancel is a staff attorney with the Sierra Club's Environmental Law Program.

PHOTO CREDIT: Activists protest the Phillips 66 tar sands oil terminal outside the San Luis Obispo County courthouse in February 2016.

# Marin's birds need greater protections during peak nesting season

SUSAN IVES

Responding to community concerns, the Sierra Club has joined with Environmental Action Committee, Point Blue Conservation Science, Marin Audubon, and Audubon Canyon Ranch to solve a problem that's taking a toll on Bay Area birds. The groups have urged Marin County to adopt an ordinance that would afford more protection for birds and their habitats.

Such an ordinance would require that the County avoid outdoor maintenance — tree and brush removal — during peak nesting season, March 1 through August 1. Because some species, like hummingbirds, owls, jays, and towhees nest as early as mid-December, we recommended that the County take this into account when scheduling outdoor maintenance in order to minimize harm to these species as well. Exceptions would be allowed when trees or brush present an emergency or a hazard to humans.

The San Francisco Bay Area is on the Pacific Flyway, a virtual bird highway that extends from Alaska to Patagonia. Millions of migrating birds take to the flyway annually — heading north in spring and south in fall. Many species, including a number that are listed as rare and endangered, rest, feed and overwinter in Marin where food and nesting sites are plentiful. Birders flock to Marin in hopes of spotting some of the nearly 200 avian species that live in or overwinter in the county's diverse landscapes.

The federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California law (Fish and Game Code Section 3503) ensure protection for birds found in Marin. However, there have been several documented incidents in which nests, eggs, or young have been displaced or destroyed by ill-timed tree cutting and vegetation removal. This points to the need for more

education about the laws protecting birds among County workers, landscapers, arborists, and residents.

In a recent letter to the County Supervisors, the Sierra Club's Marin Group recommends that the County adopt an ordinance, which we believe would be the most effective means to prevent harm to birds by raising awareness of the state and federal laws, accountability for avoidable risks to birdlife, and promoting wildlife-friendly practices.

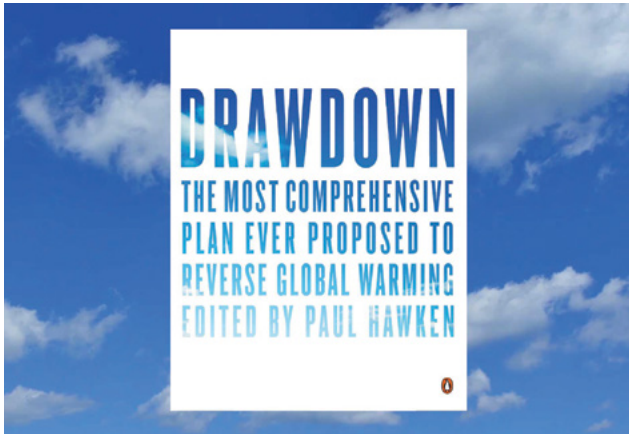
To learn more, go to [www.eacmarin.org/bird-protection](http://www.eacmarin.org/bird-protection).



# SPECIAL EVENTS & PROGRAMS

## GREEN FRIDAYS

Green Friday programs feature speakers and presentations on the most important environmental issues of our time. **MEET:** Bay Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Ste. I, Berkeley. Doors open at 7 pm, program runs 7:30 to 9 pm including questions and discussion. Refreshments are served. **COST:** \$3 requested donation.



### Fri, Jan 12 – “Project Drawdown”

Join us to watch the DVD lecture "Project Drawdown: The most comprehensive plan ever proposed to reverse global warming." Prominent environmentalist and thinker Paul Hawken will discuss the strategies put forth in his book "Drawdown", a comprehensive list of one hundred ways to approach and solve the crisis of global warming.

Paul Hawken is an environmentalist, entrepreneur, author and activist who has dedicated his life to environmental sustainability and changing the relationship between business and the environment. He is one of the environmental movement's leading voices, and a pioneering architect of corporate reform with respect to ecological practices. His work includes founding successful, ecologically conscious businesses, writing about the impacts of commerce on living systems, and consulting with heads of state and CEOs on economic development, industrial ecology, and environmental policy. Paul is Executive Director of Project Drawdown, a non-profit dedicated to researching when and how global warming can be reversed. The organization maps and models the scaling of one hundred substantive technological, social, and ecological solutions to global warming.



### Fri, Feb 9 – “Sanctuary for sharks” with David McGuire

David McGuire, a marine biologist who is the director of Shark Stewards, will join us to give a presentation on how the proposed threats to our marine monuments and sanctuaries hurt sharks and other marine life. The Shark Stewards mission is to restore ocean health by saving sharks from overfishing and the shark-fin trade, and protecting critical marine habitat through the establishment of marine-protected areas and shark sanctuaries.

David is a Research Associate in the Department of Aquatic Biology at the California Academy of Sciences, as well as an adjunct professor at the University of San Francisco, where he teaches marine protection policy. He is conducting a shark research program that includes shark population studies, movements and fisheries impacts. David has explored the world ocean on numerous sailing voyages, producing media with an emphasis on ocean awareness.

## SAN FRANCISCO DINNERS

**MEET:** Social hour 6 pm, dinner 7 pm, program 8 pm. Grace Lutheran Church, 3201 Ulloa St. at 33rd Ave. **COST:** Send a check for \$22 made out to "Sierra Club, S.F. Bay Chapter," to Gerry Souzis at 1801 California St., #405, San Francisco, CA 94109. Please indicate the program date, number of guests, vegetarian meals requested, and your phone number. **BRING:** Wine or soft drinks. Glasses and ice available. **LEADER:** For questions, contact Gerry between 4 and 9 pm at 415-474-4440 or [gsouzis@hotmail.com](mailto:gsouzis@hotmail.com).

There will be no December 2017 program.



**PHOTO CREDITS:** Left: "Project Drawdown" book cover. Top-right: Nursing northern elephant seal, Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, courtesy David McGuire. Bottom-right: Yellow-faced bumble bee, courtesy John Hafernik.



## Thu, Jan 18 – “The latest buzz on bees” with John Hafernik

Threats to both honey bees and native bees are mounting. Several species of U.S. native bees are now listed as endangered species. In the U.S., hive failure rates have increased as honey bees deal with introduced mites, diseases, pesticides, and other stressors.

Recently a new threat to honey bees, the parasitic phorid fly *Apocephalus borealis* (AKA the zombie fly), was discovered in San Francisco. Bees infected by the fly (ZomBees) show disoriented, zombie-like behavior, leaving their hive at night to die under nearby lights.

Dr. John Hafernik will discuss ways to help bees and the accidental events associated with the discovery of zombie fly parasitism of honey bees. He will also highlight the role of citizen scientists in tracking the prevalence of zombie fly parasitism across North America through the ZomBee Watch Project ([zombeewatch.org](http://zombeewatch.org)), along with the many discoveries that citizen scientists have made that can improve the fate of bees.

Dr. John Hafernik is Emeritus Professor of Biology at SFSU and a past President of the California Academy of Sciences. When Dr. Hafernik is not chasing insects, he enjoys traveling, hiking and nature photography.

Checks must be received by Saturday, January 13.



## Thu, Feb 15 – “The wild nature of Marin” with Mary Thompson

A bobcat places one tentative paw on a trail; a burrowing owl stares out from a rocky slope; a brush rabbit hides in the grasses. Even in our overbuilt world, wildness still abounds—if we look for it. This talk and slideshow will focus on the wildlife of Marin, as experienced through the lens of photographer and ex-convict, Don Moseman, and the words of Mary Reynolds Thompson. Mary will also share their inspiring stories of recovery, grounded in connection to the natural world.

Mary Reynolds Thompson is an award-winning author and eco-coach who teaches and speaks around the world on how nature holds the key to our wilder, wiser, and most creative selves. She is an instructor for TreeSisters, an environmental non-profit, and is core faculty for the Therapeutic Writing Institute. Her books are "Embrace Your Inner Wild: 52 Reflections for an Eco-Centric World" and "Reclaiming the Wild Soul: How Earth's Landscapes Return Us to Wholeness."

## EAST BAY DINNERS

**MEET:** No-host cocktails/social hour at 6 pm, dinner at 7 pm, program at 8 pm. Berkeley Yacht Club on the Berkeley Marina.  
**COST:** Dinner and program is \$30, including tax and tip; \$10 for program only. **RESERVATIONS:** Send your check, payable to "Sierra Club, S.F. Bay Chapter," with your name, telephone number, and the names of your guests, to: Jane Barrett, 170 Vicente Road, Berkeley, CA 94705. With questions, call 510-845-8055. Attendance is limited to 115. Reserve early; programs fill up.



## Thu, Dec 7 – “Hemp: The comeback of the world’s most promising plant” with Linda Delair

Come join a lively hands-on conversation with Linda Delair about the many-faceted non-psychoactive industrial hemp plant.

In 1970, the federal government passed the Controlled Substances Act, listing hemp as a Schedule 1 substance, although the plant has only trace amounts of THC, and is never used as a drug. 47 years later, hemp is back. The 2017 Congressional Industrial Hemp Farming Act aims to end unnecessary and outdated regulations against hemp. Meanwhile in November 2016, Californians authorized commercial production and processing of industrial hemp. Hemp is an industry ready to explode.

Enjoy a hands-on display of hemp building materials, body care products, textiles, paper, plastic, and food. Samples of edible hemp seeds, soap, and lotions will be given away.

Reservation deadline is November 30.



CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

## SPECIAL EVENTS & PROGRAMS

EAST BAY DINNERS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

### Thursday, Jan 25 – “Evolution of Organic” with Mark Kitchell

From filmmaker Mark Kitchell (*Berkeley in the Sixties*, *A Fierce Green Fire*) comes a new saga of social change, *Evolution of Organic*. It is the story of the organic agriculture movement, told by those who built it, capturing the entire arc of organic, from its alternative origins to mainstream triumph. Not just a history, the film also explores the next generation expanding organic and carbon farming as a solution to climate change.

Come join us as Mark Kitchell leads us on a fascinating journey into the evolution of organic led by a motley crew of back-to-the-landers, spiritual seekers and farmers’ sons and daughters rejecting chemical farming and creating organic alternatives. Mark will share with us his personal story, as well as show us segments of the 86 minute documentary film.

Mark Kitchell is best known for *Berkeley in the Sixties*, which was nominated for an Academy Award. More recently he made *A Fierce Green Fire*, a big-picture synthesis of environmental activism spanning fifty years from conservation to climate change. Mark grew up in San Francisco, went to NYU film school, and has had a long career in film and TV production, beginning with *Grand Theft Auto* and including a Brazilian soap opera.

Reservation deadline is January 18.



### Thu, Feb 22 – “Mongolia” with Peter Chang

Want to get away from it all? How about Outer Mongolia? Other than a couple of island nations (Greenland and the Falklands), Mongolia is the least densely populated country in the world, with less than two individuals per square kilometer. With so few people, Mongolia is instead a vast rangeland for wildlife, especially ungulates such as gazelles, ibexes, bactrian camels, and the Argali sheep, an endangered species that is highly sought after by poachers for its magnificent horns.

Come join us as Peter Chang takes us on a photographic journey of the animals and landscape that is Outer Mongolia. Mongolia is a country with a fascinating history and culture, from Genghis

Khan to throat singing to the many nomads who still dot the countryside and, increasingly, inhabit its capital, Ulan Bataar. With the withdrawal of the Soviet Union in the 1950s, Mongolia is trying to come into its own with its rich mineral deposits and tourist attractions. There is the Gobi desert, the paleontology digs in the Flaming Gorge, and now Hollywood fame from the indie hit of 2016, *The Eagle Huntress*.

Peter Chang is a semi-retired psychologist in Oakland who has always been drawn to wildlife and remote vistas. In 2016 he joined an ongoing Earth Watch research project studying the Argali sheep, jointly co-sponsored by the Denver Zoo. His previous “grand” adventure was circumnavigating Mont Blanc, Europe’s highest peak, traversing some 130 miles with as much elevation gain as reaching Everest base camp. In February he will have just returned from three weeks in Patagonia, straddling both Argentina and southern Chile.

Reservation deadline is February 15.

## MOUNT DIABLO GROUP

MEET: 7 pm at Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek. COST: Programs are free and open to all and no reservations are necessary. LEADER: Ken Lavin, (925)852-8778 or [ken\\_lavin@hotmail.com](mailto:ken_lavin@hotmail.com).



### Wed, Jan 10 – “California’s desert geoscapes” with John Karachewski

Warm up at our midwinter meeting as geologist and photographer John Karachewski shows us the beautiful and complex geology of California’s deserts. John’s presentation will focus on Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Death Valley National Park, and the Great Basin along Highway 395. The geology of these mountains and valleys change dramatically over short distances. Gain new insights into these desert landscapes and ideas for planning your next adventure.

John Karachewski is a geologist for the California Environmental Protection Agency in Berkeley. He has a doctorate in geology and has conducted projects from Colorado to Alaska, Midway Island and throughout California. John leads field trips in the Bay Area for the Field Institute at Point Reyes National Seashore Association and DVC Emeritus College.

# CLASSES & TRAININGS

## WILDERNESS FIRST AID

*Saturday, January 27 and Sunday, January 28, 8:30 am to 5 pm  
Bay Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave, Ste I, Berkeley*

Students have two options: You can take the one-day class on Saturday (Jan. 27) and receive the Basic Wilderness First Aid certification of the American Safety & Health Institute. The cost for the one-day course is \$50 for members or \$60 for non-members. Basic WFA is a practical eight-hour course that prepares you to recognize and avoid wilderness hazards, and perform first aid outdoors with whatever equipment you have or can improvise.

To receive the higher-level WFA certification, you can take the two-day class for an additional \$30/\$40. This option adds more advanced skills and role-playing scenarios.

This class satisfies first-aid requirements for most Bay Chapter outing leaders (confirm with your section/group officers).

**REGISTRATION:** Current chapter outings leaders visit [www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/wfa](http://www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/wfa), call (510)848-0800, or email [firstaid@sfbaysc.org](mailto:firstaid@sfbaysc.org) for instructions on how to sign up. All others email [donelan@speakeasy.net](mailto:donelan@speakeasy.net) and pay him in class (cash or check).



## SNOWCAMPING TRAINING

*Early-bird application deadline: November 30  
Final application deadline: December 16  
Indoor seminar: January 20; Trip dates vary*

Learn how to camp in the snow with confidence and comfort by taking the Snowcamping Section's annual training series, offered for the 49th year. The section has taught generations of people the skills for winter navigation, shelter construction, how to stay warm, how to cook, and other winter tips and tricks.

The training series teaches groups of adults, families, or youth during a full-day classroom session in Emeryville, followed by

two weekend trips (one two-day, one three-day) in the Sierra to practice what we've learned. Each group has leaders with years of experience and multiple assistant leaders to guarantee a small student to leader ratio.

Kids and snow are a natural match for big fun, so families with children ages eight and older have a special group Youth groups like scouts may also be accommodated as space and staffing allow.

This training is not for the complete backcountry rookie; all students must apply and we ask that all applicants be in good physical shape and have backpacking experience. Sign up soon to select dates that work for you and get the early-bird discount. A limited number of scholarships are also available.

For more information and to sign up, visit [www.snowcamping.org](http://www.snowcamping.org).



## BEGINNERS BACKPACKING

*Application deadline: February 20  
Indoor seminar: March 18  
Field trips: April 14/15, May 5/6, May 12/13, May 19/20 (choose one)*

Learn how to travel safely and comfortably with only a pack on your back during the annual Beginner's Backpack course run by the Bay Chapter's Backpack Section. The course consists of:

1. A full-day indoor session at the Naturebridge Conference Center (GGNRA) on Sunday, March 18, including short lectures, discussions, a slide show, and equipment show.
2. One overnight weekend backpacking trip in the greater San Francisco Bay Area in April/May. You will go out in small groups led by experienced instructors. You will have the opportunity to try out your gear, learn how to set up a tent and operate a backpack stove, practice basic navigation skills and, most importantly, experience what it feels to hike with a heavy pack.

The course costs \$110 per adult; \$70 ages 12-22. Early registration is recommended, as space is limited. Families with children age 12 and older are welcome. The course is not suitable for younger children. Participants should be in good physical shape and have no serious health conditions. A good background in day hiking is necessary.

For more information, download the application at [www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/backpacking-trips](http://www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/backpacking-trips). You can also contact Thomas Meissner by email at [meissner.thomas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:meissner.thomas@sbcglobal.net) or by phone at 707-795-7980 (only if you do not have access to email).

# BAG THE BAY AREA'S "Nifty Ninety" Peaks!



The Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter's list of day hikes to 90 Bay Area summits highlights the spectacular geographic diversity of our region. Each of the peaks on our list is accessible via public land.

The Sierra Club has been around for 125 years, and checking off this list might take the next 125 – so you better get started now! When you've summited all 90, send us your completed list with dates of each climb and we'll send you a special commemorative bumper sticker – *and* your name will live on for eternity in the pages of the Yodeler.



## Federal Sites (8)

*National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management land*

### Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument

- ..... Berryessa Mountain..... 3,057'
- Mount Vaca \*..... 2,819'

### Point Reyes National Seashore

- ..... Mount Wittenberg..... 1,407'
- ..... Point Reyes Hill..... 1,336'

### Golden Gate National Recreation Area

- ..... Hawk Hill (Marin)..... 920'
- ..... Hill 88 (Marin)..... 950'
- ..... Slacker Hill (Marin)..... 915'

### John Muir National Historic Site

- ..... Mount Wanda..... 640'

## State Parks (24)

### Robert Louis Stevenson State Park

- ..... Mt. Saint Helena..... 4,339'
- ..... Mt. Saint Helena South Peak..... 4,003'
- ..... Table Rock..... 2,460'

### Bothe-Napa Valley State Park

- ..... Coyote Peak (N)..... 1,170'

### Sugarloaf Ridge State Park

- ..... Bald Mountain (N)..... 2,729'

### Olompali State Historic Park

- ..... Mount Burdell..... 1,558'

### Samuel P. Taylor State Park

- ..... Barnabe Peak..... 1,466'

### Mount Tamalpais State Park

- ..... Mount Tamalpais..... 2,571'

### Angel Island State Park

- ..... Mount Livermore..... 788'

### Mount Diablo State Park

- ..... Mount Diablo \*..... 3,849'
- ..... North Peak..... 3,557'
- ..... Mount Olympia..... 2,946'
- ..... Eagle Peak..... 2,369'

### San Bruno Mountain State Park

- ..... San Bruno Mountain..... 1,314'

### McNee Ranch State Park

- ..... Montara Mountain..... 1,898'

### Castle Rock State Park

- ..... Goat Rock..... 2,850'

### Big Basin Redwoods State Park

- ..... Pine Mountain..... 2,150'
- ..... Mount McAbee..... 1,730'
- ..... Chalk Mountain..... 1,609'

### Henry Coe State Park

- ..... Mount Sizer..... 3,216'
- ..... Willson Peak..... 2,651'
- ..... Burra Burra Peak..... 2,281'
- ..... Vasquez Peak..... 2,210'
- ..... Bills Hill..... 1,988'

## North Bay Regional Parks (8)

### Mount Hood Regional Preserve

- ..... Mount Hood..... 2,730'

### Loma Alta Open Space Preserve

- ..... Loma Alta..... 1,592'

### White Hill Open Space Preserve

- ..... White Hill..... 1,430'

|  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Mount Tamalpais Watershed              |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>               | Pine Mountain.....1,762'            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>               | Pilot Knob.....1,187'               |
| San Pedro Mountain Open Space Preserve |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>               | San Pedro Mountain.....1,058'       |
| Skyline Wilderness Park                |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>               | Sugarloaf Mountain.....1,630'       |
| Hiddenbrooke Open Space                |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>               | Sulphur Springs Mountain.....1,112' |

## San Francisco Regional Parks (10)

|                          |                          |      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mount Davidson *         | 925' |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Twin Peaks.....          | 922' |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mount Sutro.....         | 908' |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tank Hill.....           | 650' |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Corona Heights Crag..... | 510' |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Bernal Heights.....      | 459' |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nob Hill.....            | 325' |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Russian Hill.....        | 300' |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Telegraph Hill.....      | 275' |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Hayes Hill.....          | 265' |

## East Bay Regional Parks (24)

|                                   |                       |        |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| Ohlone Wilderness                 |                       |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Rose Peak.....        | 3,817' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Schlieper Rock.....   | 3,080' |
| Mission Peak Regional Preserve    |                       |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Mission Peak.....     | 2,658' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Monument Peak.....    | 2,594' |
| Tilden Regional Park              |                       |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Vollmer Peak.....     | 1,905' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Grizzly Peak.....     | 1,740' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Wildcat Peak.....     | 1,211' |
| Sunol Regional Wilderness         |                       |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Vista Grande.....     | 1,840' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Maguire Peak.....     | 1,688' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Flag Hill.....        | 1,360' |
| Las Trampas Regional Wilderness   |                       |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Las Trampas Peak..... | 1,827' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Vail Peak.....        | 1,787' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Eagle Peak.....       | 1,720' |
| Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve |                       |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Round Top.....        | 1,763' |
| Brushy Peak Regional Preserve     |                       |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Brushy Peak.....      | 1,702' |

|                                       |                   |        |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Redwood Regional Park                 |                   |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>              | Redwood Peak..... | 1,619' |
| Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve |                   |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>              | Rose Hill.....    | 1,506' |
| Briones Regional Park                 |                   |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>              | Briones Peak..... | 1,483' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>              | Mott Peak.....    | 1,424' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>              | Russell Peak..... | 1,357' |
| Dublin Hills Regional Park            |                   |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>              | Donlan Point..... | 1,139' |
| Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Park       |                   |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>              | Gossip Rock.....  | 1,080' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>              | Tolman Peak.....  | 995'   |
| Garin Regional Park                   |                   |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>              | Garin Peak.....   | 948'   |

## Peninsula Regional Parks (5)

|                                   |                     |        |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| Windy Hills Open Space Preserve   |                     |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Windy Hill.....     | 1,905' |
| Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve |                     |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Borel Hill.....     | 2,572' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Mindego Hill.....   | 2,143' |
| Monte Bello Open Space Preserve   |                     |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Black Mountain..... | 2,812' |
| Upper Stevens Creek County Park   |                     |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>          | Table Mountain..... | 1,852' |

## South Bay Regional Parks (11)

|                                  |                        |        |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|--------|
| Joseph D. Grant County Park      |                        |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>         | Antler Point.....      | 2,995' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>         | Mount Hamilton.....    | 4,213' |
| Almaden Quicksilver County Park  |                        |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>         | Mines Hill.....        | 1,728' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>         | Church Hill.....       | 1,450' |
| St. Joseph's Open Space Preserve |                        |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>         | St. Joseph's Hill..... | 1,253' |
| Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve  |                        |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>         | Mount Umunhum.....     | 3,486' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>         | Mount El Sombroso..... | 2,999' |
| <input type="checkbox"/>         | Bald Mountain (S)..... | 2,387' |
| Santa Teresa County Park         |                        |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>         | Coyote Peak (S).....   | 1,155' |
| Uvas Canyon County Park          |                        |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>         | Nibbs Knob.....        | 2,694' |
| Mount Madonna County Park        |                        |        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>         | Mount Madonna.....     | 1,897' |

\* indicates county high point

## ABOUT THIS CALENDAR

Activities listed here are abbreviated. For full listings, visit: [sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities](http://sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities). The online calendar will also include changes, cancellations, and outings submitted after the print deadline.

### Hike and backpack ratings

Hike ratings are based on distance and elevation gain (the sum of all gains in elevation per day):

- |                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. up to 6 miles | A. under 1,000 feet   |
| 2. 6 - 10 miles  | B. 1,000 - 2,000 feet |
| 3. 10 - 15 miles | C. 2,000 - 3,000 feet |
| 4. 15 - 20 miles | D. over 3,000 feet    |
| 5. over 20 miles | E. over 3,500 feet    |

Backpack ratings include a third digit for travel:

- T. trail
1. limited/easy crosscountry
  2. moderate crosscountry
  3. strenuous/difficult crosscountry

### What to bring

For day hikes always bring lunch and enough water. Consider layered clothing, sunscreen, good hiking boots with treads, and hiking poles. Non-service dogs are allowed only if specified in the listing; canine hikers should bring leashes, litter bags, and water for their dogs.

### Liabilities

To participate on a Sierra Club outing, you will need to sign a liability waiver. To read a copy of the waiver form, call call (415)977-5630, or visit <http://tinyurl.com/outingswaiver>.

### Problem resolution

If you have an outing-related concern that you are not able to address via the outing's leader, please contact the chair of the sponsoring section or group. If that is not sufficient, you can contact the Activities Committee ombudsman, Seth Feinberg, at [sethfeinberg@yahoo.com](mailto:sethfeinberg@yahoo.com) or (510)969-7151, or the Chapter office at (510)848-0800.

### Carpooling

Carpooling helps the environment and allows people without cars to participate. If you are driving to a hike, please stop by the carpool point to pick up others. If you're a rider, pay a share of expenses. Many activities are listed on the Chapter's Meetup site a couple weeks in advance of the event. Join the Meetup group and post a comment requesting or offering a ride: [www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay](http://www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay).

# WINTER 2017-18 OUTINGS CALENDAR

## TUESDAYS

*Lake Chabot Reservoir 1A hike.* Optional dinner afterward. MEET: 3:30 pm at boathouse/cafe during December and January and 4 pm beginning Feb. 6, 2018. LEADER: Dolores Gruenewald, (510)351-6247 or [doloresgru@aol.com](mailto:doloresgru@aol.com). (Solo Sierrans)

## WEDNESDAYS (NO HIKE NOV 22)

*Lafayette Reservoir 1A hike.* Optional dinner afterward. MEET: 4 pm in parking lot (takes five quarters or annual pass). LEADER: Lee Cowden, (925)934-6357. (Solo Sierrans)

## NOV 29 • WED

*Golden Gate Park 2A hike.* Golden Gate Park off the beaten path. Any rain cancels. MEET: 10 am in front of the Beach Chalet on the Great Highway. ENDS: 4 pm. Leader: Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

## DEC 1 • FRI

*Chapter holiday party.* Annual potluck celebration. Details on page 2. MEET: 6 pm at 2530 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley. ENDS: 9 pm. LEADER: Joanne Drabek, (510)530-5216 or [joanne1892@gmail.com](mailto:joanne1892@gmail.com).

## DEC 2 • SAT

*Pierce Ranch 2A hike.* We'll start at Pierce Ranch and go off trail to visit Tomales Bay and the Pacific Ocean side after having lunch at Aviles Beach. MEET: 9 am at the Fairfax Parade to carpool to trailhead. LEADER: Tom Post, (415)690-6572 or [tpost123@hotmail.com](mailto:tpost123@hotmail.com). (Hiking)

*Henry Cowell Fall Creek 2C day hike.* Join Steve Bakaley on a leisurely to moderately paced day hike to the Lime Kilns and then on to Big Ben. Explore the Lost Empire (trail). MEET: 9:30 am at Henry Cowell Fall Creek Unit trailhead. ENDS: 4:30 pm. LEADER: Steve Bakaley, [slbakaley@gmail.com](mailto:slbakaley@gmail.com). (Mount Diablo Group)

*Kayaking at Pillar Point.* Beginners are welcome on this guided paddle through protected and scenic waters near Half Moon Bay. Cormorants, pelicans, terns, and harbor seals may put in an appearance. Registration required at <http://glshikes.org/events>. COST: \$67/70. MEET: 3 pm at 1 Johnson Pier, Half Moon Bay. ENDS: 7:30 pm. LEADER: Beth Bittle, (510)759-6225 or [callingu2@gmail.com](mailto:callingu2@gmail.com). (Gay & Lesbian)

## DEC 3 • SUN

*Berkeley hills and architecture 2A hike.* An educational walk featuring hidden parks, plus many houses designed by Bernard Maybeck and other architects. BRING: Money for post-walk dinner. MEET: 10:30 am on grass at

corner of Euclid and Bayview near Berkeley Rose Garden. ENDS: 5 pm. LEADER: Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

**Moonlight at Mission Peak 2C bike.** Moonlight hike from Ohlone College to Mission Peak summit on the Peak Trail. Headlamps or flashlights recommended but the objective is to enjoy hiking in the moonlight without artificial illumination. Not a beginners hike. COST: \$4 garage parking. Free parking on Mission Boulevard. MEET: 6:30 pm at corner of Ohlone College multi-story parking garage nearest the tennis courts. ENDS: 10 pm. LEADER: William Yragui, (650)642-5150 or wyragui@infobond.com. (So Alameda County Group)

#### DEC 4 • MON

**Full moon celebration bike.** Steep and narrow trail to Wildcat Canyon Peak for sweeping panoramic views. Five miles roundtrip. Registration required. BRING: Headlamp or flashlight. MEET: 3:30 pm at Tilden Nature Area, Berkeley. LEADER: Maria Teresa Garcia De La Noceda, (510)725-8405 or vuelaus@yahoo.com. (Sierra Singles)

#### DEC 9 • SAT

**Barbary Coast, Chinatown and North Beach 1A bike.** Moderately paced walk through backstreets and alleyways. MEET: 10:15 am in front of the Ferry Building. ENDS: 3:30 pm. LEADER: Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

**GLS holiday party potluck.** Celebrate another year of fun and commitment to the outdoors and to each other, with stunning views of Muir Beach. After lunch, stay for hike-leader awards and introduction of the 2018 GLS Governing Committee. Music by Ruby's in Town, featuring GLS's own Jesse Ortiz on the keyboards! Volunteers needed; email leader. BRING: Food/drink to share (the Club will provide mains and non-alcoholic beverages); plate, utensils, and cup. COST: Free for active GLS members; \$15 for non-members. MEET: Noon at Muir Beach Community Center. ENDS: 4 pm. LEADER: Beth Bittle, (510)759-6225 or calingu2@gmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

**Martinez Regional Shoreline 1A sunset walk.** Enjoy a leisurely stroll along scenic Carquinez shoreline and marina. Wheelchair accessible. After, optional stop for dinner. MEET: 3:30 pm in front of former Amtrak station on Ferry Street at railroad tracks intersection. ENDS: 5 pm. LEADER: Lidia Campos, (925)240-5795. (Delta Regional Group)

#### DEC 10 • SUN

**Alameda Bay Farm Island & Harbor Bay shoreline 1A walk.** Explore the shoreline and lagoons of Harbor Bay Isle, with great views of the open water and San Francisco skyline. Flat and scenic. MEET: 1:30 pm at Towata Park, Alameda. ENDS: 4:30 pm. LEADER: Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob\_solotar@hotmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group)

#### DEC 16 • SAT

**Corona Heights Natural Area habitat workday.** Help maintain one of the most diverse and intact native plant communities in San Francisco. Our rainy season should be in full swing, so we

will likely be planting native plants raised from seeds gathered at Corona Heights. Children welcome with adults. No dogs. Wear close-toed shoes, long pants, long sleeves, and rain, sun, and/or wind protection. MEET: 10 am on north side of Randall Museum at the end of Museum Way, just off Roosevelt Way. If the parking lot is fenced off for construction, walk through gate and around to back side of museum. ENDS: Noon. LEADER: Russell Hartman, (650)242-2679 or rph1917@comcast.net. (Gay & Lesbian)

#### DEC 17 • SUN

**Berkeley hills 3B loop bike.** Take a break from your Christmas shopping and join us on a route featuring the best of both city and greenbelt. Explore both hidden urban pathways and parkland trails. Great views of the Bay on a clear day. MEET: 10:30 am at University Avenue & Oxford Street, southeast corner, Berkeley. ENDS: 5:30 pm. LEADER: Bob Solotar, (510) 525-2110 or bob\_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

#### DEC 29 • FRI

**Mount Diablo 'round the mountain 2C hike.** This classic loop provides views in all directions (even if the lowlands are socked in with tule fog). Circle the park's namesake peak. Steady, relaxed pace with breaks. Be prepared for mud and poison oak. COST: \$10 vehicle entry fee. MEET: 10 am at Diablo Valley Overlook, Juniper Camp trailhead, Summit Road. LEADER: Jake Van Akkeren, (925)933-3486 or jvanakkeren@comcast.net (email preferred). (Mount Diablo Group)

#### DEC 31 • SUN

**Moonlight at Mission Peak 2C hike.** Moonlight hike from Ohlone College to Mission Peak summit on the Peak Trail. Headlamps or flashlights recommended but the objective is to hike without artificial illumination. Not a beginners hike. COST: \$4 parking in garage. Free parking on Mission Boulevard. MEET: 6:30 pm at corner of Ohlone College multi-story parking garage nearest the tennis courts. ENDS: 10 pm. LEADER: William Yragui, (650)642-5150 or wyragui@infobond.com. (So Alameda County Group)

#### JAN 1 • MON

**Full moon celebration bike.** Celebrate the New Year under the spell of the full moon. Steep and narrow trail to Wildcat Canyon Peak for sweeping panoramic views. Five miles roundtrip. Registration required. BRING: Headlamp or flashlight. MEET: 3:30 pm at Tilden Nature Area, Berkeley. LEADER: Maria Teresa Garcia De La Noceda, (510)725-8405 or vuelaus@yahoo.com. (Sierra Singles)

#### JAN 6 • SAT

**Mount Diablo summit 3C hike.** Moderately paced, mostly on Summit and Juniper trails. Rain or muddy trails cancel. MEET: 8:45 am for carpool at lacrosse field parking, Blackhawk Road. LEADER: Lutz Heinrich, (925)216-8672 or ltz\_hnrch@yahoo.com. (Hiking)

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

**Big Rock Ridge/Loma Alta 4D hike.** Great views on this strenuous hike. Any rain cancels. MEET: 9 am at the end of Manuel Freitas Parkway, San Rafael. LEADER: Tom Post, (415)690-6572 or tpost123@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

**Mount Diablo 2B necklace hike.** Climb above the winter fog on a leisurely to moderately paced hike around the mountain. Afterwards, optional half-mile walk around the Summit Interpretive Trail. Some steep downhill with loose rocks. COST: \$10 parking fee. MEET: 10 am at Juniper Campground. ENDS: 5 pm. LEADER: Steve Bakaley, slbakaley@gmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group)

**West Portal/Stern Grove 1A hike.** Walk through West Portal's charming commercial area and into one of San Francisco's hidden treasures: Stern Grove. Any rain cancels. MEET: 10:30 am at West Portal station, West Portal Avenue and Ulloa Street. ENDS: 2:30 pm. LEADER: Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

### JAN 20 • SAT

**Central Point Reyes 3C loop hike.** Scenic day hike through varied terrain. Highlights include the top of Mount Wittenberg and Kelham Beach. MEET: 8:30 am at Bear Valley trailhead. ENDS: 5:30 pm. LEADER: Steve Bakaley, slbakaley@gmail.com. (Hiking)

### JAN 27 • SAT

**Muir Woods/Steep Ravine 3C loop hike.** Explore the south side of the mountain on a route with great vistas and old-growth redwoods. Not for speed demons or gazelles, but not a beginner's hike. Rain cancels. MEET: 9:15 am at Mountain Home trailhead. ENDS: 5 pm. LEADER: Bob Solotar, (510) 525-2110 or bob\_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

### JAN 28 • SUN

**Bird-watching safari, Sacramento Valley and Delta 1A hike.** Join Tish Brown and Lidia Campos for a car caravan to the Cosumnes River Preserve and Thornton agricultural area to see migratory birds, including sandhill cranes, tundra swans, snow geese, ducks, and raptors. BRING: Binoculars. MEET: 9:30 am for carpooling in parking area near Macy's/Chevron on Somersville Road in Antioch. ENDS: 4-4:30 pm. LEADER: Lidia Campos, (925)240-5795. (Delta Regional Group)

### JAN 31 • WED

**Moonlight at Mission Peak 2C hike.** Ohlone College to Mission Peak summit on the Peak Trail. Headlamps or flashlights recommended but the objective is to hike without artificial illumination. Not a beginners hike. COST: \$4 parking in garage. Free parking on Mission Boulevard. MEET: 6:30 pm at corner of Ohlone College multi-story parking garage nearest the tennis courts. ENDS: 10 pm. LEADER: William Yragui, (650)642-5150 or wyragui@in-fobond.com. (So Alameda County Group)

### FEB 10 • SAT

**Eagle Peak and Mount Diablo Falls 2C hike.** Climb Eagle Peak from the wild north side and return via Donner and Back canyons on a leisurely to moderately paced strenuous loop. Some steep and slippery downhills. COST: \$6 parking fee. MEET: 10 am at Mitchell Canyon trailhead. ENDS: 5:30 pm. LEADER: Steve Bakaley, slbakaley@gmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group)

### FEB 17 • SAT

**Lunar New Year on Mount Tamalpais 3C hike.** Celebrate the Lunar New Year on Mount Tam. Any rain cancels. MEET: 9 am at Miller and Locust Streets, Mill Valley, to carpool to trailhead. LEADER: Pao Chen, (510)237-7570 or paoc945@yahoo.com. (Hiking)

### FEB 25 • SUN

**Martinez to Port Costa, 2A hike.** Hike on paved George Miller Regional Trail with scenic views of Carquinez shoreline and bay. Lunch at Port Costa, then hike back to Martinez. BRING: Lunch, or buy one drink and get free buffet. Rain cancels. MEET: 10 am at Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline Park, East Staging Area on left, just beyond cemeteries. ENDS: 2-2:30 pm. LEADER: Lidia Campos, (925)240-5795. (Delta Regional Group)

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# 2017 CHAPTER ELECTION

## Voting Instructions

All members of the Sierra Club who live in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, or Marin Counties, and who were registered as a member of record in the Club database as of November 7th, are eligible to vote. You may choose to vote by paper ballot or online. If we receive both electronic and paper ballots for the same membership number, only the electronic ballot will be counted. All ballots must be received before 2 pm on Friday, December 15th.

### HOW DO I VOTE ONLINE?

The chapter will email a link to the online ballot to all members whose email addresses we have on file. If you do not receive this email but wish to vote electronically, go to the online voting site at [www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/2017chapterselections](http://www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/2017chapterselections). You will need to provide your membership number (the eight-digit number printed on the address label of this Yodeler, above your name). Full instructions for voting electronically are listed on that webpage.

### HOW DO I SUBMIT MY PAPER BALLOT?

Your paper ballot is printed on page 39. Once you have made your selections, place the ballot in an envelope, stamp it (47 cents first-class postage), and mail it to: Ballot Submission, Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter, 2530 San Pablo Ave, Ste I, Berkeley, CA 94702.

Do not include anything else (checks, letters to the Yodeler, etc.) with this ballot. Ballots sent by fax or email will not be counted.

### HOW DO YOU KNOW I'M A MEMBER?

The mailing label printed on the reverse of your ballot will indicate it's valid. The mailing label includes your unique membership number. We cannot accept any ballot lacking a membership number.

### WHAT AM I VOTING FOR?

Each Bay Chapter member can vote in the chapter-wide Executive Committee election and in the election for the Executive Committee of their local group (see below for finding group affiliation). The ballot indicates how many candidates you may vote for in each race. You may not select more candidates than indicated on the ballot or your ballot will be considered spoiled and will not be counted. You may vote for fewer candidates than the maximum.

This year there are no candidates for the Delta Group Executive Committee, so if you are a member of that group you may only vote for the Chapter Executive Committee.

You may also vote for or against bylaw amendments for the chapter and — if you are a member of the Northern Alameda County or West Contra Costa County groups — your group.

### WHAT GROUP DO I BELONG TO?

To determine which group you belong to, look at the mailing label on this Yodeler. If you are a Bay Chapter member, a three-digit number beginning with "10" should appear in the line above your name, following your eight-digit membership number. This number designates your local group: 100 = No group membership; 102 = Marin; 103 = Mount Diablo; 104 = San Francisco; 105 = Delta; 106 = West Contra Costa; 107 = Southern Alameda County; 108 = Northern Alameda County; 109 = TriValley.

### WHAT IF I HAVE A JOINT MEMBERSHIP?

Just after your group number, your mailing label also indicates whether your household has a single (SNGL) membership or a joint (JNT) membership. Each section of the ballot has two columns for votes. If you have a single membership, mark only in the first column. For joint memberships, each member makes their selections in one column. Both members in a joint membership must vote in the same medium (either paper or electronic ballot).

### WHAT CAN "SPOIL" MY BALLOT?

Your ballot will be considered spoiled and will not be counted if:

- you vote in the incorrect group election (spoils group vote);
- you vote for more candidates than the maximum indicated;
- your ballot is illegible; or
- you have already cast your ballot (your most recent ballot will be counted; for joint membership voting rules, see above).

### WHAT IF I STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions, contact the Chapter office at 510-848-0800 or email the Elections Committee at [elections@sfbay.org](mailto:elections@sfbay.org).

### HOW CAN I HELP?

We always need help counting the ballots. To volunteer to help at the ballot-counting party at 10 am on Saturday, December 16th at the Chapter office in Berkeley, contact [elections@sfbay.org](mailto:elections@sfbay.org), or just show up! Your participation helps ensure that the Sierra Club remains a truly democratic, grassroots organization.

## Bylaw Amendments

*Bold font indicates new or amended language.*

### BAY CHAPTER AMENDMENTS

#### CHAPTER AMENDMENT 1:

*The following bylaw amendment is part of a series of changes the Chapter Executive Committee is taking to ensure that its bylaws are in compliance with recent revisions to the Sierra Club National Model Bylaws for Groups (and Chapters). The amendment will change the number of members required to call a membership meeting by petition to twenty-five (25) members (currently, the required number is 1% of the chapter's membership, and the use of percentages is not in compliance with the revised Model Bylaws). The quorum for such a membership meeting*

shall remain fifty (50) members (the same number as what is currently in the bylaws). Should this amendment not pass, no mechanism will exist for members to call a membership meeting by petition.

**2.2 Membership Meetings.** The ExCom may call, or upon petition by twenty-five (25) members shall call, a meeting of the members. At least thirty (30) days' written notice shall be provided to the members, stating the time and place to consider subjects specified in the petition or by the ExCom. The notice shall be published in a Chapter newsletter or other publication provided to all members. No binding action may be taken at a membership meeting, but resolutions addressed to any Club entity may be adopted. The quorum for a membership meeting shall be fifty (50) Chapter members.

#### CHAPTER AMENDMENT 2:

*The following bylaw amendment is proposed by the Chapter's Executive Committee in order to make the number of petitions required to be submitted for would-be petition candidates more consistent with the SF Bay Chapter's total membership size, which is nearly 40,000 members.*

**4.3 Petition Candidates.** The name of any Chapter member proposed in writing by at least 25 fifty (50) Chapter members prior to the deadline for submission of petitions, and who gives consent, shall also be included on the ballot. The nomination petitions shall be retained until the ballots are destroyed.

## NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP AMENDMENTS

#### NAC AMENDMENT 1:

*The following bylaw amendment is part of a series of changes the Group Executive Committee is taking to ensure that its bylaws are in compliance with recent revisions to the Sierra Club National Model Bylaws for Groups. The amendment will change the number of members required to call a membership meeting by petition to twenty-five (25) members (currently, the required number is 1% of the group's membership, and the use of percentages is not in compliance with the revised Model Bylaws). The quorum for such a membership meeting shall remain fifty (50) members (currently, the required number is one-half (1/2) of a percent of the Group's members, and the use of percentages is not in compliance with the revised Model Bylaws). Should this amendment not pass, no mechanism will exist for members to call a membership meeting by petition.*

**2.2 Membership Meetings.** The ExCom may call, or upon petition by twenty-five (25) members shall call, a meeting of the members. At least twenty (20) days' written notice shall be provided to the members, stating the time and place to consider subjects specified in the petition or by the ExCom. The notice shall be published in a Group newsletter or other publication provided to all members. No binding action may be taken at a membership meeting, but resolutions addressed to any Club entity may be adopted. The quorum for a membership meeting shall be fifty (50) Group members.

#### NAC AMENDMENT 2:

*The following bylaw amendment is proposed by the Group's Execu-*

*tive Committee in order to make the number of petitions required to be submitted for would-be petition candidates more consistent with the NAC's total membership size, which is approximately 8000 members.*

**4.3 Petition Candidates.** The name of any Group member proposed in writing by at least fifteen (15) thirty (30) Group members prior to the deadline for submission of petitions, and who gives consent, shall also be included on the ballot. The nomination petitions shall be retained until the ballots are destroyed.

## WEST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY GROUP AMENDMENTS

#### WEST CONTRA COSTA GROUP AMENDMENT 1:

*The following bylaw amendment is part of a series of changes the Group Executive Committee is taking to ensure that its bylaws are in compliance with recent revisions to the Sierra Club National Model Bylaws for Groups. The following section does not currently exist in the bylaws, but is required by National Sierra Club to exist (with certain flexibility around the number of members needed to call for a meeting of the members and achieve quorum). Should this amendment not pass, no mechanism will exist for members to call a membership meeting by petition.*

**2.2 Membership Meetings.** The ExCom may call, or upon petition by ten (10) members shall call, a meeting of the members. At least twenty (20) days' written notice shall be provided to the members, stating the time and place to consider subjects specified in the petition or by the ExCom. The notice shall be published in a Group newsletter or other publication provided to all members. No binding action may be taken at a membership meeting, but resolutions addressed to any Club entity may be adopted. The quorum for a membership meeting shall be twenty (20) Group members.

#### WEST CONTRA COSTA GROUP AMENDMENT 2:

*The following bylaw amendment will increase the size of the West Contra Costa County Group Executive Committee from five (5) to seven (7) members. This shall enhance the opportunity for more of the group's members to have a role in the group's leadership activities and decisions.*

**3.1 Number.** Subject to the powers of the members as provided by these Bylaws, the management of the affairs and activities of the Group shall be in the hands of an ExCom of 5 seven (7) members elected by the Group membership for terms of two years. In any election, up to 3 four (4) members may be elected for full terms, as long as the size of the ExCom does not increase as a result and no fewer than 2 three (3) terms will expire in any future year.

#### WEST CONTRA COSTA GROUP AMENDMENT 3:

*The following bylaw amendment is part of a series of changes the Group Executive Committee is taking to ensure that its bylaws are in compliance with recent revisions to the Sierra Club National Model Bylaws for Groups. The use of percentages to define the number needed for a member to qualify for the group's election ballot as a petition candidate is not in compliance with the revised Sierra Club National Model Bylaws. In addition, reducing the number of petitions needed to fifteen (15) shall make it easier for would-be candidates to obtain the requisite number of signatures needed to run by petition.*

**4.3 Petition Candidates.** The name of any Group member proposed in writing by at least 3-percent of the **fifteen (15)** Group members prior to the deadline for submission of petitions, and who gives consent, shall also be included on the ballot. The nomination petitions shall be retained until the ballots are destroyed.

## Candidate Statements:

*Candidate names are listed alphabetically. The membership dates listed for each candidate are those listed in the Club membership database, but may not be completely accurate, especially for earlier time periods.*

### CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There are seven candidates. You may vote for five or fewer.

#### Laura Einowski

Residence: Berkeley

Occupation: Architectural color designer

Sierra Club member since: 2016



Activities: SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee secretary; SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee member since 2017

Statement: After moving to the Bay Area 11 years ago, I became an avid backcountry backpacker and trail runner, where my appreciation and respect for nature and our environment grew immensely. Being lucky enough to live in the Bay Area, I quickly became involved with several environmentally focused organizations such as the National Parks Foundation, World Wildlife Fund and in 2010 the California Academy of Sciences volunteering in their Mammalogy and Ornithology department collecting and preparing specimens. I also give my time to Washington Trails Association, Landvernd: Icelandic Environment Association and as a marketing brand ambassador for Madera Outdoors.

When I joined the Sierra Club in 2016, I began looking for opportunities to become an active voice for our environment and our community. I have worked with the Sierra Club on both the David Brower Dinner and Michael Brune RESIST! event as a graphic designer, volunteered at local events and I am currently working on the final stages of becoming an activities hiking leader. This summer I participated with Team Sierra to raise awareness for the Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter by completing a weeklong hike through Kings Canyon National Park, which raised over \$1,000.

In April of 2017, I was voted in as the SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee secretary and in August I was voted in as an official SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee voting member. I can't think of a more crucially important time to be involved with the Sierra Club. Since becoming familiar with the SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee and working directly with many of the issues that the Sierra Club faces, I look forward to continuing to do good by nature and our communities by being re-elected as a SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee member.

#### Norman La Force

Residence: El Cerrito, California

Sierra Club member since: 1983

Occupation: Lawyer



Activities: Chapter chair: 1991-1993, 2009-2012; Chapter Executive Committee: 1985-present; Chair, East Bay Public Lands Committee (formerly East Shore State Park Task Force): 1984-Present; Chapter Political Committee: 1991-present; Chapter legal chair: 1984-present; West Contra Costa County Group chair: 2004-2014

Statement: You know me as the Chapter leader on parks and open space for the past 30+ years. I led the effort to create the McLaughlin East Shore State Park and saving the shoreline for parks and open space. I received the East Bay Regional Park District's award for Citizen Advocacy in working to make Crab Cove in Alameda part of the Crown Beach State Park. In 2010 the Chapter honored me for my service to the Chapter and Sierra Club. In 2004 the Sierra Club awarded me its William Penn Mott Award for park advocacy. In 2015 Citizens for East Shore Parks awarded me its Sylvia McLaughlin award for Environmental Stewardship and for my work in creating the McLaughlin East Shore State Park.

In West Contra Costa County I have worked to preserve the West County Shoreline, clean up toxic sites like the Zeneca site, to stop Chevron from refining the heavy tar sands for oil, to keep heavy tar sands oil from being refined in West County and shipped out of West County, and to stop dirty coal from being transported through the Bay Area in open rail cars causing pollution and contamination to our neighborhoods.

I have also been a major donor to the Chapter and have led successful fundraising campaigns for the Chapter. I have also represented the Sierra Club pro bono in lawsuits as its lawyer.

I will continue our strong advocacy on issues that matter to Sierra Club both locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally. We must save Tesla Valley from Off-Road Vehicles, get more parkland in the East Bay, preserve West Marin from attempts to develop it, and stop open coal cars and heavy oil from being shipped through our ports as part of our bigger effort to REVERSE climate change.

#### Max Perrey

Residence: Mill Valley

Occupation: Non-profit leader

Sierra Club member since: 2009



Activities: Current member, SF Bay Chapter Executive, Political, Finance, Fundraising, and Federal Lands Committees and Housing Taskforce; Chair, Marin Group, 2016-present; 2017 Sierra Club California Political Committee member

Statement: As a leader in the Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter, it is an honor to represent you as we fight locally for renewable energy, environmental justice, open space and watershed protection, waste reduction, public health and more.

I am humbled to have the support of Congressman Jared Huffman, State Senator Mike McGuire, Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arrequin, and many local environmental champions to serve in this

important role and work everyday on causes close to my heart.

As a volunteer leader, I have pushed for the Sierra Club to take a leading role by pushing for:

- 100% renewable energy future with tough pollution regulations including a complete ban on fracking
- Ban on single-use plastic bags & styrofoam takeout containers
- Protection of open space & enforced growth limits around city centers
- Support for environmental and social justice activists fighting pollution and discrimination on the front lines
- Elimination of toxic products in our homes, gardens and beyond
- Strict protections for wildlife habitat, creeks and wetlands, and open space recreation areas
- Public transit that meets 21st century needs
- Strong worker protections and a higher minimum wage

Throughout, I have sought to create a more welcoming and inclusive organization that mentors new volunteers and values diversity. I have advocated for retaining the Club's long history of exploring the outdoors while working hard for it's permanent protection. I would be honored to have your vote so I can continue to fight the good fight.

## Gabriel Quinto

Residence: El Cerrito

Occupation: El Cerrito Mayor Pro Tem, 2017; El Cerrito City Councilman, 2014-present; Human relations/recruiter, retired

Sierra Club member since: 2013

Activities: Member, Bay Chapter Executive Committee; Chair, West Contra Costa County Group; AD15 Delegate 2013-2015, California Democratic Party; Vice President, League of Women Voters West Contra Costa County

Statement: I'm an El Cerrito Councilmember and activist in Contra Costa, serving on local, county and regional boards and commissions. As Mayor Pro Tem I serve as a liaison to the Planning, Parks and Recreation Commission, as General Assembly Delegate of the Association of Bay Area Governments, and member of the League of CA Cities API Caucus, Director at Large Eastbay Division League of CA Cities & Environmental Committee League of CA Cities, West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee.

I am honored to have been one of the Councilmembers to vote in favor of El Cerrito's joining MCE, and have supported CCA from the beginning. I strongly support the ongoing development and implementation of all alternative energy sources and of alternate and efficient modes of transportation. I support restoration of the Delta waterways, and a ban on fracking on Federal and State lands. I have actively worked with the League of Conservation Voters and my hometown of El Cerrito in their efforts to end the use of plastic bags and Styrofoam.

I actively support education on environmental issues. As a Vice President of the El Cerrito Democratic Club, I invited environmentalists such as EBMUD President Andy Katz to speak on

clean water issues and California environmental bills such as SB375 and AB32. Through the League of Women Voters, our Board hosted an event on climate change and the impact of rising waters due to global warming, as well as a program on Saving the Delta. I supported Measure AA and have had Save the Bay representatives speak on this in El Cerrito.

## John Rizzo

Residence: San Francisco

Occupation: Tech writer, author

Sierra Club member since: 1982

Activities: SF Group Executive Committee chair 2001-2005, and member 1998-present; Chapter Political Committee chair 2007-present, and member, 2004-present; Chapter Executive Committee chair 2005-2007, Vice Chair 2002-2004, and member 2000-2008; Past participation on various other committees (Water, Chapter Communications, Hetch Hetchy Liason to the CNRCC)

Statement: I have been active in the urgent fight against climate change, helping to create renewable energy and blocking the building of fossil fuels. I've also fought for public parks and open space all around the Bay Area, and advocated for better public transit.

I have been working to help counties start Community Choice programs, which would build more solar and wind in the city and retrofit buildings for energy efficiency. I also worked to save the successful GoSolarSF program, a rebate program that has quadrupled San Francisco's solar energy.

This year, I received an award for my work on CleanPowerSF. In 2008, I received a commendation from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors for my leadership in helping defeat the construction of a new fossil fuel power plant in Southeast San Francisco.

As the Chapter's Political Chair, I have led the Club's effort to elect candidates who will make the environment a priority. Now more than ever we need elected officials who won't compromise on the environment. The people with the best environmental voting records are those that the Sierra Club helped elect to office.

I have also brought my environmental activism into public service. As an elected member of the Board of Trustees of San Francisco City College, I led an effort to establish green jobs training programs and promoted the greening of construction projects, which led to LEED Gold and LEED Silver certified buildings. I am currently pushing for drought-tolerant landscaping and to remove plastic bottles from vending machines.

## Igor A. Tregub

Residence: Berkeley

Occupation: Safety engineer, Berkeley commissioner

Sierra Club member since: 2008

Sierra Club Activities: Chair, SF Bay Chapter; Immediate past Conservation Chair, Northern Alameda County Group; Member, Chapter Political, Transportation, Environmental Justice Committees, California Energy Committee; Other Activities: Chair, Berkeley Housing Advisory Commission; Chair, Berkeley Zoning



Adjustments Board; Member, AC Transit Parcel Tax Oversight Committee; Sierra Club representative, Berkeley Climate Action Coalition Steering Committee; Executive Board Representative/Resolutions Committee, California Democratic Party

**Statement:** Preserving the environment and ensuring that policy decisions are made with an environmental equity lens and ample input from impacted communities have always been at the forefront of my work as a legislator and climate activist.

As an elected Berkeley commissioner, I crafted some of the strongest affordable housing policies and financing tools in the nation; expanded recycling services and EV charging infrastructure in multifamily buildings; and enhanced access to energy upgrades and solar financing for homeowners. I strengthened a blue-green alliance around issues like protecting our air, water, and open space, implementing clean energy solutions, and saying “NO!” to coal going through our communities.

As your Chapter Chair, I used my experiences as an immigrant to recruit, retain, and expand the Chapter’s membership and leadership base. Amid trying times nationally, we welcomed an unprecedented 15% growth in members and enhanced the financial sustainability of our chapter. I’ve worked tirelessly to ensure that the Chapter is here for you – whether you would like to work on conservation issues, expand our climate campaigns, or join our fantastic outings programs.

I humbly ask for your vote for both Chapter and NAC Group, so I can continue to serve you as we RESIST, PERSIST, and PROTECT our planet. I’m honored to be endorsed by National Boardmember Susana Reyes, State Controller Betty Yee, Assemblymember Tony Thurmond, Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin, and El Cerrito Councilmember Gabriel Quinto. Please contact me at [igor@sfbaysc.org](mailto:igor@sfbaysc.org) with your questions and ideas!

## William Yragui

**Residence:** Fremont

**Occupation:** Business Owner

**Sierra Club member since:** 2012



**Activities:** Business Owner (infobond, inc.) since 1992; Alameda County Search and Rescue member, 2011 - present; Sierra Club Southern Alameda County Group Executive Committee member 2014 - 2016; Bay Chapter hike leader 2015 - present; East Bay Public Lands Committee member 2014 - present, and secretary since 2016; Outreach Committee member 2015 - present; Transportation Committee member 2015 - present; Activities Committee member 2016 - present, and chair since 2017; EBRPD Environmental Round Table participant 2016 - present; Mission Peak Conservancy co-founder, 2014 - present

**Statement:** The Sierra Club needs to support, attract, and welcome a membership actively involved in building our organization. Developing a sense of wonder about nature originates from spending time outdoors interacting with the fauna, flora, and with others passionate about life on this planet. I am committed to protecting access to our parks and will work to ensure that the Sierra Club continues to represent all communities.

Within our Chapter, I am a member of the Transportation, Outreach, Activities and East Bay Public Lands committees. I Chair

the Activities Committee and am secretary to the East Bay Public Lands committee. My focus is to support the Chapter by working to ensure that members are welcomed with the opportunity to participate in events that have impact, are educational and that provide a path to greater leadership involvement. I have learned much from the Chapter leadership, and I appreciate their willingness to educate me about Club policies and practices. I am committed to attracting new members and will continue to organize hikes, lead new members’ orientations and participate in Chapter and Group events.

## MARIN GROUP CANDIDATES

There are six candidates. You may vote for five or fewer.

### Michele Barni

**Residence:** San Quentin Village

**Occupation:** Paralegal

**Sierra Club member since:** 2000



**Activities:** Sierra Club Marin Group Executive Committee member 2003-2017; Conservation Committee 2011-2017 (current chair); SF Bay Chapter Water Committee 2011-2013; SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee 2013 - 2015.

**Statement:** I was born and raised in the Bay Area, and have lived in Marin County for 39 years. Having served on the Sierra Club Marin Group Executive Committee for 13 years, I am very familiar with the challenges that face the Marin and Bay Area environments and hope to continue to work towards their preservation.

Respect for and protection of our natural environment are my primary goals. I will continue to work towards understanding and promoting the correct balance between humans and nature, making certain the environmental community has a voice in how environmental issues are resolved and advocating for the respect of boundaries that nature has provided so that as human beings we can learn to live within our means in a sustainable manner.

Among the current issues facing Marin, I will continue to promote the protection of ecological habitat, baylands clean-up and wetlands renewal, open space protection and expansion; the prevention of sprawl and over-development; promotion of renewable energy, clean air transportation, recycling; strengthening of local environmental regulations and enforcement of existing regulations.

I am an active volunteer in various environmental, social justice and political community groups in Marin County, including the Sierra Club Marin Group, Marin Women’s Political Action Committee, Democratic Central Committee of Marin and volunteering for environmentally progressive campaigns and candidates.

I look forward to serving you.

### Chance Cutrano

**Residence:** Fairfax

**Occupation:** Environmental Programs Manager, Resource Renewal Institute



Sierra Club member since: 2016

Activities: Beyond Coal Campaign Intern Jan 2014-May 2014; Sierra Club Marin Group Treasurer April 2017-Present

Statement: I believe we each have an obligation—to our families, our community, and our planet—to mitigate climate disruption, preserve and restore our common resources, and work toward a more equitable and inclusive society. I have dedicated much of my personal and professional energy to these goals.

Currently, I serve as treasurer of the Marin Sierra Club Group, a member of the Fairfax Open Space Committee, representative of the student body at Presidio Graduate School where I am pursuing an MPA in Sustainable Management, and as the manager of public lands advocacy, environmental education, and sustainable agriculture programs at the Marin-based Resource Renewal Institute.

Previously, I gained experience in grassroots organizing and energy policy as an intern with Sierra Club's Beyond Coal Campaign. I also researched food systems and water management in Vietnam, Morocco, and Bolivia.

With Sierra Club Marin Group, I worked with a coalition of environmentalists to call on Marin municipal governments to move to 100% renewable electricity with MCE's Deep Green. I also coordinated moving the Bay Chapter's bank accounts from Wells Fargo to a bank that is more aligned with the Club's mission. Additionally, I took a lead role as treasurer for a Sierra Club-endorsed ballot measure to preserve urban growth boundaries in Novato.

As your representative on the Marin Group ExCom I will:

- Develop a climate change committee for Sierra Club members to learn and enact leading-edge climate mitigation strategies at the local level.
- Collaborate with local government to establish stronger greenhouse gas reduction commitments.
- Enhance Marin Group outreach with the public, our members and engage with diverse, often overlooked communities.
- Ensure protection for Marin's public landscapes and wildlife.

## Bob Johnston

Residence: Inverness

Occupation: Professor of Environmental Planning, UC Davis, retired

Sierra Club member since: 2017

Activities: Board member, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, 2009-present. Was on the board of the Sierra Nevada Alliance in the 2000s and chair for a year. I have been an expert in several NEPA lawsuits by the S. Club re. the growth-inducing impacts of new highways and of highway widenings (Chicago region, Salt Lk. region, others). Was on citizens committees in Davis for 30 years that protected the downtown from road widening at the entrance (referendum, initiative). Was a member, and briefly on the board of, the Mountain Area Preservation Fdn, in Truckee. I worked on a new supervisor's campaign last year, because he is not pro-development. I have a fair knowledge of how the Co. planning dept. works, the general plan, and the development code.

Statement: I have attended meetings of the Marin group for a few



months and agree with their priorities and approach to meetings. I'm on their Local Coastal Program lawsuit committee. I think I can contribute in terms of ExCom functions, as well as working on coastal Marin issues and also on some countywide ones on the Conservation Committee. I understand budgets and the Group one is quite simple. I appreciate the need for a strong ExCom chair who keeps the meetings moving along.

## Louis Nuyens

Residence: Forest Knolls

Occupation: Consultant, various topic areas

Sierra Club member since: 2001

Activities: Sierra Club Marin Group member, January 2004-present; Sierra Club Marin Group Chair, January 2011-present; Founding President and Executive Director of Watershed Preservation Network, 2001-present; Environmental Forum of Marin board member 1997-99; Co-director Black Point Forest Rescue Project, 1994-99.

Statement: I have been an active environmentalist and advocate for most of my life; I believe in the goals and mission of the Sierra Club. I am keenly interested in development of ongoing, pro-active programs to keep Sierra Club preservation activities vital, and in facilitating increased involvement by members. My primary areas of interest are:

- Fundamental limitations on growth; alternative economic and societal models
- Evidence supporting scenarios of abrupt climate change, and what might still be done
- Impacts of overpopulation; estimates of global carrying capacity
- The importance of 'piecewise sustainability'
- 'Relocalization' as alternative land-use and economic designs
- Preserve valuable habitat, open space, and agricultural lands
- Prevent sprawl and over-development
- Strengthen local environmental regulations and enforcement of existing regulations
- Evolution beyond transit-oriented development toward 'relocalization' models in planning and redevelopment
- Educate Club leaders, and the general public, and encourage national and global Club leadership in those areas

My environmental experience includes: founder and Executive Director of Watershed Preservation Network; data analysis to help clean up and shut down dirty coal plants; volunteering technical support and campaign consultation to environmentally progressive campaigns and candidates; environmental education program development; researching and commenting on local and statewide legislation, regulations, enforcement, and public process; drafting successful statewide legislation; creating public forums and debates; a five-year campaign to preserve old-growth oak woodlands and seasonal wetlands in Black Point, Novato; serving on the Environmental Forum of Marin board; creating a graphical research presentation on pollutant sources into the Russian River watershed; many others.

I look forward with enthusiasm to continuing being involved in Sierra Club activities and leadership.



## Max Perrey

Residence: Mill Valley

Occupation: Non-profit leader

Sierra Club member since: 2009



Activities: Chair, Sierra Club Marin Group 2016–Present, Sierra Club Marin Group Executive Committee 2010–2014, 2015–Present; Sierra Club Marin Group Zero Waste Committee Chair 2010–2014; Sierra Club Marin Group Dinner Gala Co-Chair 2011; Sierra Club Marin Group Treasurer 2015–2017

Statement: As Chair of the Sierra Club Marin Group, it is an honor to represent you as we fight locally for renewable energy, environmental justice, open space and watershed protection, waste reduction, public health and more.

I am humbled to have the support of Congressman Jared Huffman, State Senator Mike McGuire and many local environmental champions to serve in this important role and work everyday on causes close to my heart.

Under my leadership, the Sierra Club has stepped up. We successfully advocated for Marin to be the first county where every city gets 100% of its municipal energy usage from renewable sources. We likewise led by banning single-use plastic bags, and are a driving force behind the Urban Growth Boundary extension measure on the Novato ballot. And not to forget our precious wildlife in the community, I have supported efforts to protect creeks and marshlands and prevent the destruction of spotted owl habitat.

I am committed to protecting the place we call home for future generations to enjoy. Outdoor exploration and environmental advocacy go hand-in-hand at the Sierra Club, and it is this two-pronged approach that continues to make this great organization thrive.

I ask for your vote so I can continue doing the work I love.

## Judy Schriebman

Residence: San Rafael

Occupation: Elected Official (3 terms) Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District; Alternative Health Care

Sierra Club member since: 1993



Activities: Board Gallinas Watershed Council, Board Watershed Alliance of Marin, North Bay Watershed Association, Vice President Los Ranchitos Improvement Association, Member Miller Creek Watershed Stewards, Author.

Statement: How we use or abuse water permeates every environmental issue we face. Our water resources are finite. My focus is water quality issues, having engaged as an advocate, volunteer, teacher, and elected official.

If elected as a member of the ExCom for Marin, I will bring my extensive watershed knowledge and practical experience as an advocate and an elected director of the sanitary district. Sewage treatment isn't a popular topic, but it's vital for human and environmental health. Our job is to protect the Bay ecosystem as we work on the front lines of sea level rise.

I will continue to advocate for protection of Marin's unique habitats, special status species, renowned biodiversity and open space. My background includes:

- Volunteering and teaching: Creating a "Creek Report Card" for Marin; implementing (with Bioneers/Environmental Forum Marin/Marin School for Environmental Leadership) the Floating Island bioremediation for Civic Center Lagoon; leading hands-on creek and riparian restoration work for elementary, high school, and adult students.

- Advocacy, collaboration and mediation: Providing public hearing testimony, detailed comment letters, and policy workshops. My work includes bringing different organizations together, serving as secretary to several groups, and coalescing different perspectives into coherent policy.

- Academics and Citizen Science: Zoology degree, UC Berkeley; Audubon Society internship in Galapagos; author of two books. Monitoring water quality and watershed restoration.

I believe we need to effectively address the consequences of climate change, inadequate water policy, overdevelopment, traffic, overpriced housing, and social justice issues, including access to a healthy natural environment. Based on all of my affiliations and experience, I will make an important contribution to the Executive Committee.

## MT. DIABLO GROUP CANDIDATES

There are three candidates. You may vote for three or fewer.

### Jonathan T. Bash

Residence: Martinez

Occupation: Nonprofit Communications Manager

Sierra Club member since: 2016



Activities: Chair, City of Martinez Civil Service Commission; President, Contra Costa Young Democrats; Public Relations Consultant, Public Health & Environmental Causes

Statement: Each day, I start my commute passing the historic home of John Muir, founder of the Sierra Club. And on weekends, I hike nearby Mt. Wanda. These two rituals remind me of the amazing natural resources located right in our backyard and provide me with perspective that inspires me to take action.

Society has grown leaps and bounds since John Muir strolled the hills of Martinez, yet his land remains unperturbed for all to enjoy. But all of it – and hundreds of thousands of acres across the Bay Area – are at risk.

Development with no long-term strategy continues to erode open space, all as the housing crisis worsens. Climate change threatens the health of our lands, as well our very own existence. And all the while, our movement has taken a backseat as other short-term threats have taken precedence in the national conversation.

I wish to help lead the Mount Diablo Group so that we can drive the conversation back to the conservation and climate issues we care about. I also want to step-up and build capacity in our own

service organizations, political clubs and government entities.

I would bring modern communications strategies to our group, having served as an issue advocacy public relations consultant, designer and social media specialist. I will also fight to get us in front of local media, leaders and others to maximize our impact and recruitment.

Additionally, I will bring my experience as the leader of a local political organization and municipal appointee to propel our advocacy efforts. I hope that I can earn your support. Please contact me at [jonathan.t.bash@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.t.bash@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

## Richard Cohen

Residence: Lafayette

Occupation: Finance

Sierra Club member since: 2007

Activities: Bank of America Global Environmental Council, U.S. Partnership for Renewable Energy Finance, Advisory Committee on two Renewable Energy Private Equity Funds, Director on 13 Private Corporate Boards. Contributor to The Nature Conservancy, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Redwood Forest Foundation, World Wildlife Fund, Audubon Society and numerous other environmental and wildlife organizations.

Statement: I have been a member of the Mt Diablo executive committee since 2014, and took on the added responsibility of treasurer earlier this year. I may not be the typical Sierra Club nominee but I have a deep appreciation for the environment we impact and have become involved in various environmental initiatives in recent years. I believe that my combination of business, finance and environmental knowledge and passion will bring a practical and pragmatic viewpoint to the Sierra Club Diablo Group Executive Committee. My professional role at Bank of America involved deploying capital towards redwood forests, wind, solar, fuel cells, etc., and I had several leadership positions which included being a member of the BofA Global Environmental Council. This council was comprised of senior management from across the institution and was the central group where the bank's environmental policies were discussed and implemented.

My family and I are very active outdoorsmen and women. We are hikers, bikers, equestrians, and serious nature and wildlife photographers. At this juncture in my career I want to give more back to the community in areas I strongly believe in. I am able to devote the necessary time to the Sierra Club Group Executive Committee.

The most effective path towards achieving the Sierra Club's goals is to bring together individuals, governments, and private enterprise to find common ground and practical solutions to the enormous issues before us. I respectfully ask for your support for the Sierra Club Diablo Group Executive Committee.

## Jim Gibbon

Residence: Castro Valley

Occupation: Retired architect

Sierra Club member since: 2003



Activities: Mount Diablo Group member: 2009 to 2017

Statement: I have been a member of the Bay Chapter's Mount Diablo Group since 2009. I provide experience and knowledge about what the development community thinks and ways to curtail their impacts when required. I have been active in the environmental community since 1996 as a member of the US Green Building Council. I have been a smart urban growth advocate for many years. I have been a local California residential architect since 1978. Our group works constantly to help local citizens protect Contra Costa County hillsides, open spaces and urban boundary limits.

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## NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP CANDIDATES

There are seven candidates. You may vote for five or fewer.

### Richard Bangert

Residence: Alameda

Occupation: House painter

Sierra Club member since: 2012

Activities: Northern Alameda County Group Executive Committee member since June 2016; East Bay Public Lands Committee active member since 2012; Northern Alameda County Group Conservation Committee active member since 2013; Alameda Point Restoration Advisory Board (Navy cleanup) active member since 2011; contributing writer on Alameda Point environmental issues for Alameda Sun newspaper; creator of Alameda Point Environmental Report blog.

Statement: The majority of my environmental advocacy is centered on open space and natural habitat issues. For more than a decade and a half I have been advocating for creating and expanding wetlands, natural habitat and public parks at Alameda Point, the former Navy base. I drafted the Nature Reserve zoning ordinance that the City of Alameda adopted for the 512 acres of federal land at Alameda Point that was once considered for a wildlife refuge. I launched the effort that led to the construction of the new harbor seal float at Alameda Point, the first of its kind in the world. I am actively involved in an alliance called Safe Trails, Environmental Protection (STEP) that the Sierra Club is a member of.

I was successful in stopping the Navy's plans to construct an unnecessary permanent security fence around an area at Alameda Point that will one day become a shoreline destination. I was active in the successful effort to expand Crown Beach State Park next to the Crab Cove Visitor Center. I have achieved tentative success in getting our local Alameda Municipal Power to study the feasibility of constructing a local solar farm. Distributed, or dispersed, local energy generation averts added burdens on the power transmission grid and lessens energy sprawl onto undisturbed lands such as deserts.

I would be honored to continue serving.





## Sophie Hahn

Residence: Berkeley

Occupation: Berkeley City Councilmember

Sierra Club member since: 1994



Activities: (Current) Berkeley City Councilmember, District 5; East Bay Community Energy, Board Alternate; Trustee, Berkeley Board of Library Trustees; Elected Member, Sierra Club Northern Alameda County Group (SC NAC) Executive Committee and Member, SC NAC Conservation Committee; Founder, Berkeley Edible Gardens Initiative & Shattuck Gardens Urban CSA; (Past) Member, Berkeley Zoning Adjustments Board; Co-Chair, 15th CA Assembly District Environmental Task Force; Co-Convener, Berkeley Deep Green Building; Chair, Berkeley Commission on the Status of Women; Board, Planned Parenthood Shasta Diablo; President, King Middle School PTA

Statement: It has been my honor to serve two terms on the Sierra Club Northern Alameda County Group Executive Committee, and gratifying to work with a diverse board - and community - so deeply committed to the environment, and to combatting climate change. Thank you.

The Sierra Club plays a critical role in securing a sustainable future across the United States, and the globe. But no great progress is ever made without local action, and it is imperative that environmentally conscious regions like Northern Alameda County continue to lead the way.

As a long-time environmental and human rights activist, I have been a leader in local efforts to bring Community Choice Energy to Alameda County, require buildings to achieve Zero Net Energy, build more affordable housing on transit corridors, promote and practice urban agriculture, “green” our schoolyards, plant trees, reduce pollution and other toxins, achieve Zero Waste, ban single use plastics, and more.

My focus on the NAC Executive Committee is to build capacity on every front: build diversity, membership and participation; build partnerships with activists and organizations; and build initiatives with maximum relevance and impact. With deep experience in policy, advocacy, legislation, organizing, law, governance and fundraising, I respectfully ask for your vote, and look forward to continuing to serve you.

## Xavier Johnson

Residence: Berkeley

Occupation: Congressional Aide to Congresswoman Barbara Lee

Sierra Club member since: 2017



Activities: J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley (2016); Legal Intern, Tenants Together; Legal Intern, Grassroots Change; Legal Intern, the American Jobs Project

Statement: I would like to bring a fresh perspective to the Sierra Club. While I am new to the Sierra Club in the East Bay, I am not new to activism. As student government president at the University of Texas at San Antonio, I built partnerships and coalitions and

ultimately we convinced the university to invest \$500,000 on more food options for students. I also fought for a trans inclusive restroom policy for all new buildings. As a member of the East Bay, I worked day and night for affordable housing by campaigning for measure U1 and several other ballot measures to preserve affordable housing.

Our community grows and is strengthened when we all share in a clean and healthy environment. So many of the environmental impacts of climate change, pollution, and toxic waste fall disproportionately on specific groups in our community whose voices are not heard and are not sought. It is our responsibility as community members to empower, engage, and amplify the voices of the people in communities like South Berkeley, West Oakland, East Oakland where so much of the environmental harm is centralized.

The more people we empower and bring to the conversation the stronger our movement will be. This is why it is so important to work intersectionally to make sure that no one faces discrimination because of race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, citizenship status, or any other characteristics. The Sierra Club should build on its current partnerships and develop new ones so that everyone can live healthy lives.

## Andy Katz

Residence: Berkeley

Occupation: Public Interest Attorney

Sierra Club member since: 2002



Statement: I joined the Sierra Club after working on the San Francisco Bay Chapter’s successful campaign to establish an urban limit line for Alameda County in the November 2000 election. The challenges of curbing sprawl, cutting greenhouse gases, and protecting our natural resources will continue to persist. Sierra Club must resist threats to our natural resources, maintain its strong environmental advocacy and build our grassroots so members can be a part of the process.

My Sierra Club experience includes service as Chair of Sierra Club California and member of the Legislative Committee, past Chair of the Northern Alameda County Group Executive Committee, past Co-Chair of the Bay Area Transportation Committee, and Sierra Club delegate to the UN climate negotiations.

My areas of conservation expertise include air quality and climate change, renewable energy, transportation, land use and affordable housing, and water. Professionally, I work as an environmental and workers’ rights attorney, and am trained as a transportation and environmental planner. I previously served on the city of Berkeley Zoning Adjustments Board, and am currently a board member of the East Bay Municipal Utility District. I fought hard to defeat the proposal to expand Pardee Reservoir because of the impacts flooding miles of the Mokelumne River, a wild and scenic habitat, and worked to double investment in water conservation programs and ensure drought resilience.

In my role on the California Legislative Committee, I have worked closely with our activists and staff to ensure our legislative advocacy program remains strong by defending CEQA and advancing California’s clean energy and climate laws. Our membership needs to grow to reflect the diversity of California, and more members need to get actively involved with our mission. I am running for re-election to the Northern Alameda County Ex-

ecutive Committee to contribute my experience in environmental policy and community organizing in continuing service for our environmental movement. I welcome your feedback - write me with your ideas and questions at [andy@andykatz.com](mailto:andy@andykatz.com).

## Andy Kelley

Residence: Berkeley

Occupation: Communications Director, California League of Conservation Voters



Sierra Club member since: 2013

Activities: Vice Chair Sierra Club NAC, Berkeley Public Works Commissioner, Alameda County Planning Commissioner, Alameda County Democratic Party Corresponding Secretary, CDP Executive Board and Environmental Caucus member.

Statement: Protecting the environment and preserving our parks and public lands is critically important to me, both personally and professionally. In my day job, I've been leading our efforts to defend California's National Monuments and Marine Sanctuaries from the Trump Administration's attacks, and to preserve our hard-won environmental protections from federal rollbacks.

For the past four years I've been fortunate to serve the Sierra Club as Vice Chair of the Northern Alameda County Group, which provides the opportunity to bring my activism closer to home. I've been actively involved in advancing Sierra Club positions, most recently in working to block coal exports through the Port of Oakland, helping to secure the successful passage of SB 185 (CALPERS divestment from coal), and extending California's landmark Global Warming Solutions Act SB 32.

I currently serve as Supervisor Keith Carson's appointee to the Alameda County Planning Commission where I've been a strong proponent for environmentally sustainable land use. It also allows me to be a vocal advocate for the concerns of Sierra Club members and ensure our environment is being considered fully in the decisions we make.

I ask for your support of my re-election and am honored by the opportunity to continue to serve. If re-elected I will work to bring in a new generation of young people into the Sierra Club to continue the fight to protect our environment. Together we can build a stronger Sierra Club. Thank you for your consideration!

## Aaron Priven

Residence: Albany

Occupation: Transit Communications



Sierra Club member since: 1994

Activities: 1998-2000: Transportation and Compact Growth Chair, Bay Chapter; 2000, 2005: Bay Chapter Executive Committee; 2000-2001, 2004-2005: Northern Alameda County Group Executive Committee; 2001: Bay Chapter Conservation Chair; 2004-2005: Northern Alameda County Group Conservation Chair

Statement: It is not news to that climate change is the defining issue of our time, and the Northern Alameda County Group has done much on this — opposing the shipment of coal, supporting

institutions devoted to sustainable energy production, and fighting to limit the emissions from oil refineries.

I believe that, in addition, the Sierra Club also needs to take an active role in promoting redirection of development away from wild and rural land around the edges of the Bay Area and toward infill development in Northern Alameda County's urban centers. This includes promoting the development, in our downtowns and transit corridors of, housing of all income levels and commercial projects that would discourage further sprawl.

While as environmental advocates it's tempting to hold out for more and more to try to make each project as perfect as possible, this just encourages developers to sprawl outward. We must oppose sprawl development and also take positive steps toward realizing the more livable, sustainable urban communities that Northern Alameda County cities must become if we are to avoid contributing to climate change and its catastrophic impacts.

Finding the balance between unattainable perfection and compromised values isn't always easy, but it's important that we try, and that we do our best to make as much difference in the real world as we can. That's what I've tried to do in my years as a Sierra Club leader. I believe I can do more to make this real, and I ask for your vote. Visit [club.priven.com](http://club.priven.com) for more info.

## Igor A. Tregub

Residence: Berkeley

Occupation: Safety engineer, Berkeley commissioner



Sierra Club member since: 2008

Club Activities: Sierra Club: Chair, SF Bay Chapter; Immediate past Conservation Chair, Northern Alameda County Group; Member, Chapter Political, Transportation, Environmental Justice Committees, California Energy Committee; Other Activities: Chair, Berkeley Housing Advisory Commission; Chair, Berkeley Zoning Adjustments Board; Member, AC Transit Parcel Tax Oversight Committee; Sierra Club representative, Berkeley Climate Action Coalition Steering Committee; Executive Board Representative/Resolutions Committee, California Democratic Party

Statement: See Chapter Executive Committee statement.

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## SF GROUP CANDIDATES

There are five candidates. You may vote for five or fewer.

## Arthur Feinstein

Residence: San Francisco

Occupation: Environmentalist



Sierra Club member since: 1981

Activities: Chapter and San Francisco Group Executive Committee Member, 2006 to present; Chapter ExCom chair, 2010 to 2013; Chapter Director, 2012 (Interim); Vice-Chair Sierra Club California/Nevada Regional Conservation Committee 2015 to

present; Awarded: National Sierra Club's Susan Miller Award (2014); Clean Water Network's 30-Year Heroes Award; National Audubon Society's Bay Champion Award

**Statement:** San Francisco and the Bay Area needs a strong Sierra Club as never before. Climate change, sea level rise, extreme weather, species extinction, fracking and a now The Trump Administration. The list goes on and can seem overwhelming. But the answer is not despair but rather to accept the challenge, seek solutions and implement them. To do this will require a strong Sierra Club that will lead the effort to reduce and then eliminate dependence upon fossil fuels; that advocates for solutions to sea level rise such as creating new wetlands to reduce storm surges; and that will work to preserve our natural world while supporting increased affordable housing.

When Chapter chair I helped establish a successful Energy Committee. I have worked on wetlands issues on local, state and federal levels, saving and restoring thousands of acres of wetlands around the Bay. I played a key role in saving two square miles of East Bay habitat - Gateway Valley in Orinda. I have worked to preserve our open spaces in San Francisco.

The Club makes a difference. San Francisco is a healthier place for us, and for the critters with whom we share this world, thanks to our efforts. I believe I have the skills and experience to help the Club continue this essential work.

## Chema Hernández Gil

**Residence:** San Francisco

**Occupation:** Political Coordinator, San Francisco Rising Alliance

**Sierra Club member since:** 2015

**Activities:** Member, Sierra Club San Francisco Group; Active member and former staffer, San Francisco Bicycle Coalition; Co-founder, Seed the Commons; Member of the Board of Directors, East Cut Community Benefit District

**Statement:** I am deeply committed to the environment and I strive to lead a style of living consistent with these values. I have never owned a car, preferring to walk, bike or take transit and I am fortunate to have been raised vegetarian.

I also make every effort to help my community become more sustainable. Through Seed the Commons, a small grassroots organization, I help build sustainable and just food systems that are independent of animal exploitation. As an active member leader (and former community organizer) at the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, I help promote the bicycle for everyday transportation. Professionally, I am the political coordinator at the San Francisco Rising Alliance, a multi-ethnic and multi-racial alliance of grassroots organizations dedicated to building the power of communities of color in our city.

It is my earnest belief that effectively addressing the many environmental threats our planet faces will require organized and concerted action by local communities. I believe this means building common ground with grassroots environmental justice groups, particularly those that work with communities of color. We need to achieve transit justice by creating a significantly improved transit system and a world-class bike network that works for everyone. I want to see a roadmap for local food sovereignty that is truly humane. Last-



ly, we need to find and push for bold housing solutions that will prevent the displacement of marginalized communities and lessen dependence on fossil fuels.

I want to support this vision of San Francisco and I would be honored to serve on the San Francisco Group Executive Committee and help make it happen. Thank you for your support.

## Barry Hermanson

**Residence:** San Francisco

**Occupation:** Green Party Politics (unpaid)

**Sierra Club member since:** 1998

**Activities:** Member, Sierra Club San Francisco Group Executive Committee, 2016 to present; Member, San Francisco Green Party County Council – 2009 to present; SF Green Party Candidate for Congress in 2018; Co-Chair, California Green Party Coordinating Committee – 2009 to 2012; Green Party Candidate for various offices – 2002 to present; Small business owner 1980 – 2005, working to improve wages and benefits for temporary employment workers; Proponent and major donor for SF's minimum wage ballot measure that raised wages for 50,000 workers in 2003; Co-Chair, SF Living Wage Coalition, passing legislation raising wages for 20,000 workers in 2000.

**Statement:** Thank you for electing me to the SF Group Executive Committee two years ago. It has been a great pleasure to serve alongside such strong advocates for the environment.

The environment is increasingly dominating national and international politics. As I write this, "Stand Up, Protect Our Planet from Trump" are the opening words on SierraClub.org. Your membership and participation in the Sierra Club helps to make our voices more powerful. Thank you.

I encourage you to put the third Tuesday evening of the month on your calendar. The SF Group Conservation Committee meets from 6 to 8 p.m. The Executive Committee meets after a brief break. Listening to presentations and participating in discussions about local and regional environmental issues is just one way of becoming more involved in the Sierra Club. Since I became a member almost 20 years ago, I've enjoyed many hikes, picnics and dinners. During the last two years I've also attended public hearings and participated in outreach to new members while tabling at events.

I look forward to the possibility of continuing this work. I ask for your vote.

## John Rizzo

**Residence:** San Francisco

**Occupation:** Tech writer, author

**Sierra Club member since:** 1982

**Activities:** Group Executive Committee Chair, 2001-2005; Group Executive Committee member, 1998-present; Chapter Political Committee, 2004-present; Chapter Political Committee Chair, 2007-present; Chapter Executive Committee Chair, 2005-2007,



sidio Committee, Water Committee, Chapter Communications Committee, Hetch Hetchy Liason to the CNRCC)

**Statement:** I have been active in the urgent fight against climate change, helping to create renewable energy and blocking the building of fossil fuels. I've also fought for public parks and open space and advocated for better transit.

This year, I received an award for my work to advocating to implement CleanPower SF, which will build more solar and wind in the city and retrofit buildings for energy efficiency. I also worked to save the city's successful GoSolarSF program, a rebate program that has quadrupled San Francisco's solar energy.

Several years ago, I received a commendation from the San Francisco Supervisors for my leadership in helping defeat the building of a new fossil fuel power plant in Southeast San Francisco.

As the Chapter's Political Chair, I have led the Club's effort to elect candidates who will make the environment a priority. Now more than ever we need elected officials who will actively fight for the environment.

I have also brought my environmental activism into public service. As a elected member of the Board of Trustees of San Francisco City College, I led an effort to establish green jobs training programs at City College and promoted the greening of the District's construction projects, which led to LEED Gold and LEED Silver certified buildings. I am currently pushing for drought-tolerant landscaping and to remove plastic bottles from vending machines.

I ask for your vote so that I may continue to help lead the Sierra Club's efforts in San Francisco.

## Howard Strassner

**Residence:** San Francisco

**Occupation:** Retired Mechanical Engineer

**Sierra Club member since:** 1961



**Statement:** The Sierra Club started over a hundred ago to preserve wilderness in our country when most people were not concerned, because they saw that there was still a lot of wilderness. Almost forty years ago in San Francisco the SF Group took their first steps to support reducing the supply of parking when most people, even Sierra Club members, were convinced that there was a shortage of parking. During the many years that I was a member of the Executive Committee, we supported San Francisco's innovative steps and urged for bigger steps to reduce parking as a means to reduce driving, even before we knew of driving's contribution to climate change.

Unfortunately, in a few years all of this good work, to reduce driving and help Muni work better while reducing the emission of climate change gases will be overtaken by uber, lyft and the robotic taxis to follow. We are already seeing increased congestion downtown and reduced revenues for Muni from parking. Soon, almost no one will need a parking place.

But, we have another problem, the production of affordable housing. I along with your Group Excom have always supported the ballot measures and ordinances which tend to maintain and expand the supply of affordable housing. But, it has become clear

to me that we should also support additional market rate housing, near good transit, even if that means accepting greater height and density, in order to provide more affordable housing. This policy is similar to SC National policies on housing and driving, which seek to have more people live in places where they don't have to commute long distances and don't have to use a car for most of their everyday needs.

I am asking for your support again, for election to the SF Group Excom so that I and the Sierra Club can have a part in our City's efforts to solve these problems.

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## SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP CANDIDATES

There are three candidates. You may vote for three or fewer.

### Jewell (Hargleroad) Spalding



**Residence:** Unincorporated Fairview, Hayward/ Castro Valley

**Occupation:** Lawyer

**Sierra Club member since:** 1995

**Activities:** Present Chair, Southern Alameda County Group; Chapter & Political Executive Committees; Energy Climate Committee; EB Public Lands; formerly EBRPD Trails Council; Citizens Against Pollution; Hayward Area Planning Association; Citizens for Alternative Transportation Systems (CAP); former Chair, Environmental Section, Alameda County Bar Association.

**Statement:** Our local Group ExComs serve several important functions. One of the more public roles is to consider what candidates should be endorsed and what legislative positions should be taken locally and regionally. Because our communities have serious environmental challenges with which they are presently burdened, and will face as climate change marches forward, makes our choices and decisions all the more important.

As an attorney and former president of my homeowners association in unincorporated Fairview, the Hayward/Castro Valley area since 1989, I worked to address the two largest housing developments in the area, 5 Canyons and Stonebrae, both bordering Measure D; commented on substantial and numerous Environmental Impact Reports; participated and litigated land use referendums and initiatives; litigated environmental issues under CEQA, the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Air Act and Coastal Zone Management Act; and have sought to develop and connect the Bay and Ridge Trails.

As one of the founding members of Citizens Against Pollution, I opposed Russell City Energy Center, a 600-megawatt gas fired thermal power plant, the second dirtiest power plant in the 9 bay area counties, located along the shoreline north of highway 92, an area that the Air District identified as a disadvantaged community that was "too polluted" before RCEC. Now, unfortunately, RCEC is permitted to emit up to 2 million tons of CO2 annually, next to the Bay's marsh and wetlands, home to threatened and

endangered species that require protection.

If elected, I will continue to work to ensure that SAC is effective in achieving our environmental goals and mission.

## Toni Pryor Wise

Residence: Fremont

Occupation: Real property lawyer, retired

Sierra Club member since: 1988



Activities: Sierra Club Southern Alameda County (SAC) Group — Executive Committee, Member (2014- present), Treasurer (2014-present); Chapter Political Committee (2015-present, vice chair, 2017); Chapter Executive Committee, alternate (2016-present); Many Sierra Club hikes, outings, fundraising events and trips, including hiking, boating and exploration trips to Germany, Austria, China, Italy, and Alaska; Anderson Valley Land Trust; Fellow, American College of Real Estate Lawyers; Fellow, American Bar Foundation

Statement: Now retired from the active practice of law, I volunteer with organizations like the Sierra Club, with which I share a passionate interest. As a former biologist, I have a very strong interest in climate change and biodiversity; as a real estate lawyer I am very interested in appropriate land development and use of natural resources. These interests inform my concerns in the environmental issues of energy, transportation, water resources and climate change; as well as legal/social issues involving land development, housing and social justice.

In the current political climate, grass roots organization and political leaders has critical importance. As a local Sierra Club leader, I can increase and leverage environmentally-focused interests and activities in Alameda County and spotlight local concerns. Current projects in which I am involved include review of the ACEForward proposal (especially as it affects Niles Canyon and surrounding East Bay cities, counties and water districts), and the Dumbarton Transportation Corridor Study expected later this fall. Also, I am active in the review and possible endorsement by Sierra Club of political candidates and legislation.

Having served other non-profit and community organizations for years in leadership positions, I am a seasoned and effective advocate and team member, and know how to work productively with others.

If elected, I hope to continue to devote my knowledge, skills and resources to achieve the goals I share with the Sierra Club.

## William Yragui

Residence: Fremont

Occupation: Business Owner

Sierra Club member since: 2012



Activities: Business Owner (infobond, inc.) since 1992; Alameda County Search and Rescue member, 2011 - present; Sierra Club Southern Alameda County Group Executive Committee member 2014 - 2016; Bay Chapter hike leader 2015 - present; East Bay

Public Lands Committee member 2014 - present, and secretary since 2016; Outreach Committee member 2015 - present; Transportation Committee member 2015 - present; Activities Committee member 2016 - present, and chair since 2017; EBRPD Environmental Round Table participant 2016 - present; Mission Peak Conservancy co-founder, 2014 - present

Statement: See Chapter Executive Committee statement.

## TRI-VALLEY GROUP CANDIDATES

There are three candidates. You may vote for three or fewer.

### Donna Cabanne

Residence: Livermore

Occupation: Teacher, retired

Sierra Club member since: 1988



Activities: Tri-Valley Executive Committee Member since 1996; Serving as Sierra Club representative for Community Monitor Committee for Altamont landfill since 2000; Serving on Altamont Education Board awarding grants for reuse and recycling since 2000; Worked on Measure D and numerous county and city slow growth initiatives

Statement: The Tri-Valley continues to face pressure from developers hoping to weaken Measure D and environmental laws which protect our valley. We need to work collectively to preserve as much open space as possible while improving our air and water quality. We need to work against rapid growth that lacks needed infrastructure such as schools, and water. I support Friends of Tesla and all efforts to purchase lands to stop the expansion of an off highway vehicle park. I support efforts and will work against aquifer exemptions requested by E and B Resources which allow the re-injection of oil waste products off Greenville Road.

In Livermore, we need to preserve as much open space downtown as possible; this can only be achieved by placing any future hotel on the westside of a downtown parcel.

I encourage members to partake in activities such as hikes and become involved in our many efforts to protect the environment. Together, we can build a better environment...for our families, for our future.

### Marlene Massetti

Residence: Dublin

Occupation: Former District Administrator, CA Department of Fair Employment & Housing; State of CA civil rights enforcement agency

Sierra Club member since: 2016



Activities: Volunteer for the Dublin Open Space Initiative that protected Doolan Canyon; Dubliners for Change member and

former Projects Committee Chair; Volunteer 2016 Dublin City Council & Dublin Unified School Board elections.

**Statement:** I'm running for the Tri-Valley Executive Committee because I'm committed to trying to make a difference in the quality of life in Dublin and in working to make a difference in the Tri-Valley.

As a resident of Dublin for eight years, I've seen the detrimental effects urban sprawl has had on our community; the degradation of our environment, overcrowding of schools, traffic and loss of open space. As a member of Dubliners for Change and as a resident I've advocated for controlled growth in Dublin, for the preservation of open space and the development of a Pedestrian Friendly Downtown.

In 2014, I was a volunteer for the Dublin Open Space Initiative that protected Doolan Canyon from development. We defeated the developer's counter-initiative Measure T by an overwhelming 84% No vote. Since then, I've worked and advocated to limit growth in Dublin, opposing many residential developments including Trumark, Grafton Plaza and Jordan Ranch.

Successfully lobbied for reduction in housing units in the Di-Manto, Promenade and Green projects and testified extensively in public hearings advocating for limited growth and preservation of Dublin's environment; quality of life.

Most recently, testified before Dublin's Planning Commission in opposition to the Wanmei Project which, if approved by Council, will endanger our golden eagles, their habitat and the conservation area adjacent to the development. Since 2016 have advocated for the protection of two of Dublin's ancient, Heritage Oak Trees which are in danger of being removed for development of a Starbuck's drive-thru in downtown Dublin.

Last year, I participated in Dublin's 2016 elections supporting, campaigning and precinct walking for "candidates for change" running for Dublin's City Council and Dublin's Unified School District.

Having participated in meetings of the Tri-Valley Group I know there's an interest in having representation from Dublin on issues of importance to the Sierra Club. I would welcome the opportunity to be that representative and would appreciate your support.

## Janis Turner

Residence: Livermore

Occupation: Retired teacher

Sierra Club member since: 1986

Activities: Member of Tri-Valley Ex Com since 1990; chair of Tri-Valley group since 2005.

**Statement:** I have been active defending Measure D boundaries and building restrictions; controlling residential growth; campaigning to prevent bucolic Tesla Park (at the south-east boundary of Alameda Co) from being made into an extension of Carnegie Off-Road Recreational Vehicle Park.



# WEST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY GROUP CANDIDATES

There are two candidates. You may vote for two or fewer.

## Lisa Park

Residence: Richmond

Occupation: Environmental Health Specialist

Sierra Club member since: 1981

Activities: Office volunteer

**Statement:** I joined the Sierra Club many years ago because I loved the outdoors, especially the forests, and wanted to protect them. After Donald Trump won the election, I asked myself what I can do on a local level to counterbalance his agenda with one that advances justice, democracy, science and environmental protection. I decided to volunteer for the Sierra Club. In January I began working at the Chapter office reception desk on Friday mornings and attending the monthly West Contra Costa County Group Executive Committee meetings. I am gradually learning about how the Sierra Club works and about environmental issues in West County. I would like to participate more deeply in the work of the West Contra Costa Group, which is why I am running for a position on the committee.

I am from Portland, Oregon, and moved to the Bay Area many years ago. I earned a BS from UC Berkeley in Forestry. I was a preschool teacher until recently and now work for Alameda County as an Environmental Health Specialist.

I am very interested in preserving and expanding open space, parks and beaches. Also, I would like to encourage Club members from West County to join the group, whether they would like to actively volunteer or simply listen to discussions about issues of concern. This could be aided by posting the correct group meeting times on the Chapter website and creating an email list of attendees in order to share information such as meeting times and group events. I would appreciate your vote so that I can join in the work to address local environmental challenges.



## Gabriel Quinto

Residence: El Cerrito

Occupation: El Cerrito Mayor Pro Tem, 2017; El Cerrito City Councilman, 2014-present; Human relations/recruiter, retired

Sierra Club member since: 2013

Activities: Member, Bay Chapter Executive Committee; Chair, West Contra Costa County Group; AD15 Delegate 2013-2015, California Democratic Party; Vice President, League of Women Voters West Contra Costa County

**Statement:** See Chapter Executive Committee statement.



# 2017 Sierra Club S.F. Bay Chapter Election Ballot

Please vote for the Chapter Executive Committee, Chapter bylaw amendments, your local group bylaw amendments (if any), and your group Executive Committee. For instructions on voting and submitting your ballot, see page 25. If you prefer to vote online, visit [www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/2017chapterselections](http://www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/2017chapterselections).

Mark your ballot with black or blue ink. Please make your selections legible and keep your marks within the boxes. If you mismatch your ballot, you may make a correction in a manner that clearly indicates your intended vote. Candidate names have been listed in random order.

| <b>CHAPTER BYLAW AMENDMENTS</b><br>(write YES or NO for each, or leave blank) | Single member/first joint member | 2nd joint member |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Amendment 1   |                                  |                  |
| Amendment 2   |                                  |                  |

| <b>CHAPTER EX COM</b><br>(vote for FIVE or fewer) | Single member/first joint member | 2nd joint member |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Igor A. Tregub                                    |                                  |                  |
| Gabriel Quinto                                    |                                  |                  |
| Laura Einowski                                    |                                  |                  |
| Norman La Force                                   |                                  |                  |
| William Yragui                                    |                                  |                  |
| Max Perrey  |                                  |                  |
| John Rizzo  |                                  |                  |

| <b>MARIN GROUP EX COM</b><br>(vote for FIVE or fewer) | Single member/first joint member | 2nd joint member |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Louis Nuyens  |                                  |                  |
| Judy Schriebman                                       |                                  |                  |
| Chance Cutrano  |                                  |                  |
| Michele Barni   |                                  |                  |
| Max Perrey  |                                  |                  |
| Bob Johnston  |                                  |                  |

| <b>MOUNT DIABLO GROUP EX COM</b><br>(vote for THREE or fewer) | Single member/first joint member | 2nd joint member |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Jonathan T. Bash  |                                  |                  |
| Jim Gibbon  |                                  |                  |
| Richard Cohen   |                                  |                  |

| <b>NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP BYLAW AMENDMENTS</b><br>(write YES or NO, or leave blank) | Single member/first joint member | 2nd joint member |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Amendment 1  |                                  |                  |
| Amendment 2  |                                  |                  |

| <b>NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP EX COM</b><br>(vote for FIVE or fewer) | Single member/first joint member | 2nd joint member |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Xavier Johnson  |                                  |                  |
| Andy Kelley   |                                  |                  |
| Richard Bangert   |                                  |                  |
| Andy Katz   |                                  |                  |
| Aaron Priven  |                                  |                  |
| Igor A. Tregub  |                                  |                  |
| Sophie Hahn   |                                  |                  |

| <b>SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP EX COM</b><br>(vote for THREE or fewer) | Single member/first joint member | 2nd joint member |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Toni Pryor Wise  |                                  |                  |
| William Yragui   |                                  |                  |
| Jewell (Hargleroad) Spalding   |                                  |                  |

| <b>SAN FRANCISCO GROUP EX COM</b><br>(vote for FIVE or fewer) | Single member/first joint member | 2nd joint member |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------|
| John Rizzo  |                                  |                  |
| Chema Hernández Gil   |                                  |                  |
| Arthur Feinstein  |                                  |                  |
| Howard Strassner  |                                  |                  |
| Barry Hermanson   |                                  |                  |

| <b>TRI-VALLEY GROUP EX COM</b><br>(vote for THREE or fewer) | Single member/first joint member | 2nd joint member |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Marlene Massetti  |                                  |                  |
| Donna Cabanne   |                                  |                  |
| Janis Turner  |                                  |                  |

| <b>WEST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY GROUP BYLAW AMENDMENTS</b><br>(write YES or NO for each, or leave blank) | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| Amendment 1  |     |    |
| Amendment 2  |     |    |
| Amendment 3  |     |    |

| <b>WEST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY GROUP EX COM</b><br>(vote for TWO or fewer) | Single member/first joint member | 2nd joint member |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Gabriel Quinto  |                                  |                  |
| Lisa Park   |                                  |                  |



**#SierraSnapshots** | A paraglider takes off from Mission Peak, captured by photographer Hua Scaro on a Bay Chapter hike in the Regional Preserve near Fremont, November 2017. For a chance to be featured in the next issue, submit your photographs on Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook using the hashtag #SierraSnapshots, or email photos to [yodedit@sfbaysc.org](mailto:yodedit@sfbaysc.org). Include your name and where and when the photo was taken.

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#### **SIERRACLUB.ORG/SFBAY**

Our website is home to helpful information and resources including:

- The Yodeler blog, updated regularly
- Our full events and activities calendar
- Group information and leadership roster

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Vote in chapter elections for local Sierra Club leaders – ballot in this issue!
- Join our Divest Wells Fargo rally in SF on Thursday, November 30 (page 13)
- Don't miss the chapter holiday party taking place Friday, December 1 (page 3)
- Training for community-outreach volunteers on Thursday, January 18 (page 3)

#### **EMAIL**

Visit [sierraclub.org/sfbay/email](http://sierraclub.org/sfbay/email) to sign up for Bay Chapter emails, including monthly bulletins and action alerts.