Sierra Club YODELER
THE NEWSPAPER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER • WINTER 2022-23

VOTE FOR YOUR LOCAL SIERRA CLUB LEADERS! BALLOT INSIDE
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA TURNS 50
HOW WASTEWATER TURNED THE BAY BROWN WITH TOXIC ALGAE
TIPS TO REDUCE WASTE DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON
LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Sierra Club friends and supporters,

By the time you read this, the 2022 Midterm Elections will have concluded, and I hope you all are taking some well-deserved rest. We were fortunate to see many Sierra Club-endorsed candidates elected to public office across our Chapter, largely thanks to our members and supporters who organized, got out the vote, and made their voices heard.

In Richmond, we saw exciting victories with the election of Eduardo Martinez as Mayor and Doria Robinson to the City Council. These wins will ensure that the council is comprised of strong leaders who will stand up for frontline communities and environmental protections. They will help us hold Chevron accountable and keep making progress on a number of our priority issues, such as the clean-up of Astra Zeneca’s heavily contaminated former chemical plant and our effort to save the Point Molate shoreline – one of our Chapter’s 30x30 local conservation priorities.

In Marin County, some of our strongest allies in Fairfax, San Anselmo, San Rafael, Larkspur and Corte Madera were re-elected with overwhelming support, and a new cohort of environmental champions were brought in to join them. What’s more, voters in Tiburon passed Sierra Club-endorsed Measure M, which will ensure the protection of the 110-acre Martha Property on the Tiburon Peninsula – another 30x30 conservation priority for the Sierra Club.

In Alameda County, all but one of our endorsed ballot measures are headed to victory. Of the numerous Sierra Club-endorsed affordable housing measures with a strong lead, one specific highlight is Berkeley’s Measure M: a vacancy tax aimed at increasing housing stock by incentivizing the owners of vacant dwellings to rent units they currently let sit empty. San Francisco voters passed a similar vacancy tax, Proposition M, to utilize already existing housing to address our housing crisis.

And, as part of a growing desire to see our common streetscape reclaimed for vibrant community life and safe, multimodal transit, San Francisco voters rejected Proposition I (the measure that would reopen John F. Kennedy Drive and the Great Highway to cars) and approved the Sierra Club-endorsed Proposition J to permanently ban cars from JFK Drive in San Francisco’s Golden Gate Park.

As the final votes are tallied, new councils are seated, and the legislature convenes for its next session, one thing is certain: now that the election is wrapped up, the real work of bringing positive, lasting change to our communities begins. The Sierra Club’s San Francisco Bay Chapter will be working day-in and day-out with communities across our region to advocate for a healthier environment and a livable future for all. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support of this vital work. We couldn’t do it without you.

From all of us at the Bay Chapter, we wish you a joyous and peaceful holiday season. Enjoy the rain. We will see you next year.

Chance Cutrano
CHAPTER CHAIR

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Chapter News & Events • 3 - 5, 8, 13
Educational Programs • 11
Outings Calendar • 12
Campaign Updates • 6, 7, 10, 14
Chapter Election Supplement • 15 - 31
Vote & Make Your Voice Heard

It’s time for Sierra Club members to elect our leaders. Cast your vote between November 13th and December 11th, 2022. Your ballot is on page 31 of this Yodeler or can be found online at sierraclub.org/sfbay/chapter-elections.

Every year, members of the SF Bay Chapter elect amazing volunteers to serve as leaders for the Club. These elected leaders make important policy decisions, help us endorse local government candidates, support important causes, and work to improve our local Chapter and Groups for all Sierra Club members.

This year, we are also voting on a few minor changes to our election bylaws and rules, which we hope will make our elections more transparent and fair.

Read candidate statements on page 16 to learn more about who is running. Online at sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities, you can register for a Virtual Meet & Greet event held on Zoom on December 1st to ask your candidates questions.

For questions or more information, please email elections@sfbaysc.org. Happy voting!

— Scott Simmons
SF Bay Chapter Elections Committee member

Gas Appliances are Polluting Our Air

A key Chapter priority is the pursuit of clean-energy solutions as we move beyond dirty fossil fuels. Currently, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) has committed to setting zero-emitting appliance standards for furnaces and water heaters with an equitable, affordable transition. Most household appliances in California run on gas and emit Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) in and near our homes. In the Bay Area, appliances release nearly three times as much NOx as light-duty passenger vehicles and over eight times as much NOx as power plants. As a result, buildings in California are responsible for over 1,500 premature deaths and over $17 billion dollars of health impact costs.

You may be asking what an equitable, affordable transition to zero-NOx standards could look like. Some ideas include a “cash for clunkers” program that would pay residents to swap out gas appliances for electric ones, identifying optimal times for replacement of old appliances, ensuring there are renter protection policies, and creating a building electrification incentive and information hub. These solutions represent some but not all of the current thinking about how we can equitably achieve zero-NOx standards. There is still a lot of room to shape and influence policy that BAAQMD will pursue over the coming months and years. If you or your organization are interested in getting involved, please contact Melissa Yu at melissa.yu@sierraclub.org.

Coal Back on the Table for Oakland? Say No!

Money-hungry developers and out-of-town interests keep threatening to bring coal to Oakland! Coal dust is incredibly hazardous to human health and would most impact West Oakland, which is already overburdened with air pollution from the Port, highways, and industry. We need to send a clear message to the City of Oakland, developers, and coal interests that they can't bully us into accepting environmental injustice. We have until March 2023 to get a settlement that secures a no-coal future — anything less than that isn’t good enough! Sign up online at addup.sierraclub.org/campaigns/keep-coal-out-of-oakland for updates and to speak up at City Council meetings against toxic coal.

Help Keep Our Beaches Clean

Join us for our monthly beach clean ups! One Saturday each month from 9am to 11am our community gets together to beautify one of our local beaches and take action against pollution on our shorelines. Our next event will take place on November 19th, meeting at the Tidewater Boating Center in Oakland to clean up the MLK shoreline. Be sure to keep an eye on our activities calendar at sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities or reach out to Dani Zacky at dani.zacky@sierraclub.org for more information and upcoming dates.
On the Cover: Celebrating 50 Years of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Amy Meyer & Becky Evans

On October 27, 2022, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area celebrated its 50th birthday. Today, the park stretches 82,000 acres across three counties, is 60 miles long, and is one of the three most visited national parks in the United States. In honor of the park’s anniversary, we want to highlight its history and the hard work of Sierra Club members to create this monument for the people of the San Francisco Bay Area and visitors alike.

In San Francisco in 1970, former Sierra Club president Edgar Wayburn, Amy Meyer, and Executive Director of SPUR John Jacobs saw the potential for a national park in the Army lands at the Golden Gate. Together, they started a campaign and created a group called People for a Golden Gate National Recreation Area (PFGGNRA).

This came at a time when the White House had plans for a park in the area that would be a mere 8,000 acres, and Interior Secretary Walter Hickel had called for "national parks for the people, where the people are, in the urban areas." People of all walks of life were realizing the importance of parks and preserved natural spaces, and some areas around the Golden Gate had already been preserved, including areas like San Francisco’s Ocean Beach, Muir Woods National Monument, Mount Tamalpais State Park, and adjacent Point Reyes National Seashore.

PFGGNRA mapped a plan for a park that would span 34,000 acres, connecting all of these previously set aside natural areas and the Golden Gate Army lands. Advocates, including many from the Bay Chapter, fought hard for the park by giving speeches to civic and conservation groups, writing articles, testifying at hearings, and publishing a newsletter, aiming to halt development plans in the area.

The incredible thing about this campaign was that it was entirely bipartisan. Two major advocates for the park were congressmen Phillip Burton (a Democrat) and William Mailliard (a Republican). Thanks to the PFGGNRA’s tightly focused campaign and the support of these congressmen, a law was unanimously passed on October 27, 1972, officially establishing the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

In later years, additional areas would be added to expand the park, including lands in San Mateo County.

The original motto of PFGGNRA was "to preserve the headlands of the Golden Gate for the public to use in perpetuity." Looking back 50 years, we can see that the lands and vistas of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area are as beautiful now as they were then. Looking into the next 50 years, we hope that the park will continue to be enjoyed and preserved, so that all may experience the “outstanding natural, historic, scenic, and recreational values” of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

To celebrate the 50th birthday of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, learn more about the park’s history, or plan your next visit, go to nps.gov/goga/50.htm.

Amy Meyer is a Bay Chapter member and author of New Guardians for the Golden Gate (UC Press, 2006), Becky Evans is a Bay Chapter activist.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area is the ancestral land of the Ohlone and Coast Miwok tribes, who have stewarded the site for millennia. To learn more about this history, go to nps.gov/goga/learn/historyculture/ohlones-and-coast-miwoks.htm.

---


Volunteer AT POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

Strengthen connections with and foster stewardship of the park from the Bear Valley Visitor Center.

Flexible time commitment of 3 days per month. Training provided.

Contact kodi_monaghan@partner.nps.gov for more information
The 12th Annual Awards Ceremony

On the evening of September 17th, our community gathered together on the terrace of the David Brower Center in Downtown Berkeley to celebrate the hard work and dedication of local environmental leaders. This was our first awards ceremony back in person since the pandemic, and the excitement in the air was palpable as we caught up with old friends and made new ones. The ceremony started with live music and delicious hor d’oeuvres, and once the music and conversation had died down, we moved inside to commence the awards ceremony.

Our honorees included the Golden Gate Village Residents Council, who received the Community Defender Award to recognize their exceptional environmental justice work in Golden Gate Village, the only majority-Black public housing in Marin County. John Bauters became the inaugural recipient of the David McCoard Visionary Award for his contributions to building decarbonization, affordable housing, public transit and mental wellness as mayor of Emeryville. Alfredo Angulo won the Emerging Voices Award for their work towards an equitable and just transition away from fossil fuels in their community in Richmond. Renée Goddard received the Phil Burton Badge of Courage Award to honor her commitment to social justice and environmental protections on the Fairfax Town Council. Finally, Vicky Hoover received the Ed Bennett Lifetime Achievement Award to recognize her career-long dedication to our shared Sierra Club mission.

We’d like to thank our members and supporters who celebrated with us in September. Without you, we wouldn’t be able to do the work we do. We’d also like to appreciate our generous sponsors, our honorees for going above and beyond for the environment and our community, our speakers for inspiring us and leaving us teary-eyed, and our staff and volunteers for making this event possible. If you were unable to attend this event, you can still support our chapter by making a donation using the form at the bottom of page 6.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

VIRGINIA REINHART & JAMES KEALEY
SIERRA CLUB SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP
FELIX KRAMER
MINDA BERBECO & WILL FERTMAN
OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL MEMBER AT-LARGE REBECCA KAPLAN
SAN FRANCISCO GROUP, SIERRA CLUB
ELIZABETH ECHOLS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
CORINA LOPEZ, SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCILMEMBER
MAYOR JOHN J. BAUTERS
NICK PILCH, PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSIONER
LAW OFFICES OF STUART M. FLASHMAN
VICKY HOOVER
COLIN COFFEY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
ARTHUR FEINSTEIN & RUTH VOSE
WILLIAM (BILL) SMITH
SIERRA CLUB NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP
ASSEMBLYMEMBER PHIL TING
SIERRA CLUB MARIN GROUP
RACHEL PRAY
SCOTT SIMMONS
NORMAN LA FORCE
IGOR TREGUB & MARITESSA ARES
DEE ROSARIO, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BARRY HERMANSON
PEGGY DA SILVA & DAN HODAPP

PHOTO CREDIT: Honorees and Chapter leaders gather after the ceremony. Photo by Jane Richey Photography at janerichey.com.
How Wastewater Turned the Bay Brown with Toxic Algae

DANI ZACKY

If you were in the Bay Area this summer, you probably noticed that the water along the coast and in Lake Merritt had turned a reddish brown color, almost like root beer or chocolate milk, darkened by massive quantities of algae. You probably also noticed a concerningly high number of dead fish washed up on shore, suffocated as the algae sucked oxygen out of the water. As this phenomenon quickly spread from the Alameda estuary throughout the Bay, many of us were left with questions. What causes an algal bloom? How can we avoid it in the future?

Climate change and rising sea temperatures tend to be among the first factors that come to mind when we consider the cause of algal blooms. While it is true that warm water temperatures help facilitate the growth of bacteria, mold, and harmful algae, there are other contributing factors that can cause these organisms to “bloom.”

According to water testing done by San Francisco Baykeeper and the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI), the specific organism that made up this bloom is called *Heterosigma akashiwo*. This type of algae often blooms when there is an excess of available nutrients. Unfortunately, in a highly urbanized estuary, nutrients like this are often in surplus.

The byproducts of wastewater treatment plants are full of nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus. When discharge from wastewater facilities is dumped into the Bay, it is essentially like adding a ton of fertilizer into the water. This creates an environment where algae like *Heterosigma akashiwo* can thrive.

While there are standards that regulate the amount of treated water that can be discarded into the Bay, the intensification of other factors like higher water temperature due to climate change compounds to create massive algal blooms. Because of this, and what we saw in the Bay this summer, it may be time to reconsider existing standards and find new solutions to both wastewater treatment and water conservation as a whole.

It may be hard to imagine what is at stake because we have never seen an algal bloom of this magnitude in the Bay. The washing up of thousands of fish may be just the tip of the iceberg. In areas like the Bay-Delta, harmful algal blooms are extremely common during the dry hot season, and we see how this negatively impacts the environment and communities. The regular presence of these kinds of algal blooms could spell disaster for our remaining wetlands, important species, and communities who rely on a clean Bay. It is critical that we reign in these contributing factors as much as possible.

If you would like to learn more or take action on algal bloom or other water-related issues, please reach out to Chapter organizer Dani Zacky at dani.zacky@sierraclub.org.

Dani Zacky is an organizer for the SF Bay Chapter.

Make a donation to support your local chapter's work here in the SF Bay Area!

Make your check payable to Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter, or use your credit card.

Please select a payment method: □ MasterCard □ Visa □ Discover □ AmEx

Credit Card Number: ____________________________ Exp. (mm/yy): __________________

Name on Card: ____________________________ Signature: __________________

Email: ____________________________ Phone: __________________

Contributions to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible; they support our effective citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts.
East Bay Parks Can Reduce User Conflict Through Trail Design

NORMAN LA FORCE

The East Bay Regional Park District is testing out new trail management approaches in response to ever-increasing usage, plans to open up new parks, and demands from specific user groups, especially mountain bike advocates, for expanded access. The Sierra Club is following this process closely and continues to advocate to ensure a safe, enjoyable, and environmentally sustainable experience for all.

A major issue for the Sierra Club and many of our partner conservation, hiking, and equestrian organizations is that the Park District now consistently designs new trails that combine all park users — hikers, equestrians, and mountain bikers — on the same narrow trails. We have heard concerns from many of our members, as well as advocates for disabled park users, that this narrow mixed-use trail approach risks increasing conflict between different user groups in a way that isn’t good for anyone. It’s important to note that once a trail has been open to all users, it’s extremely hard to limit its uses down the line.

This concern applies to the Park District’s proposed trail design for the new Roddy Ranch park in eastern Contra Costa County. This former golf course is set to become the entrance to thousands of new acres of open space in the future Deer Valley Regional Preserve, and will also provide close-to-home outdoor access for residents of Antioch, Brentwood, and Oakley. We’re excited about this new park, and have proposed three minor but important changes to the proposed trails plan to ensure safe and enjoyable experiences for all, including:

1. Adding a five-foot mowed shoulder to the narrow trails to ensure passing room for bikes moving faster than hikers or equestrians;
2. Dedicating one trail as a pedestrian-only nature trail for seniors and families with young children; and
3. Restoring native oaks as appropriate to support wildlife and provide shade for park users.

Eight organizations sent a letter to the Park District supporting these recommendations for Roddy Ranch, which were endorsed by hundreds of individuals who signed our petition. The Park District Board responded by making it clear to their staff that they want to review the trail design before it is finalized. Thank you to everyone who signed our petition. Your voices were heard.

At Briones Regional Park, the Park District is trying to make up for years of lax enforcement that allowed for the proliferation of rogue trails, primarily created by mountain bikers. Ten years ago there were 16 miles of rogue trails in Briones. Today there are over 32 miles. These trails have resulted in fragmentation of habitat and impacts on wildlife.

The Park District has proposed a pilot project at Briones to test new trail management techniques, centered around the Alhambra Creek Staging Area in Martinez. The current draft pilot involves opening up a number of rogue trails primarily for mountain-bike use, while closing off or restoring other rogue trails, though the District has not yet provided details on the budget or timeline for that restoration work. The Park District also plans to test day-of-use restrictions by user group, to see if having dedicated hiker/equestrian and mountain biking days within the Pilot Zone creates a more positive experience for trail users in this popular area of the park. We are currently taking a close look at this proposed pilot project with other park user groups, and have strongly advocated with the Park District that members of the public (especially regular Briones trail users) need an opportunity to provide feedback on the design of this pilot project if it is to guide future trail planning.

We continue to believe that there is a place for everyone in East Bay Parks — whether on foot, atop a horse, in a wheelchair, or pedaling a bicycle or adaptive bicycle. With proper planning and engagement, we can design our parks and trails to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all, while protecting our environment. However, the Board needs to continue to hear from the public that mixing all trail users on the same narrow trails is just a recipe for conflict — which benefits no one.

Norman La Force is the Chair of the East Bay Public Lands Committee.

SUPPORT THE CHAPTER BY GOING SOLAR

Thinking of going solar? If you go solar through SunPower, you’ll receive a $1,000 rebate and SunPower will donate $500 to the SF Bay Chapter. It’s a win for you, your local Sierra Club chapter, and the planet. Head to bit.ly/sunpowerforthebay to get your free quote and find out how much you can save.
Bay Area Trio Completes Nifty 90 Peaks Challenge!

SUSAN ALCORN

The Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter’s list of day hikes of 90 Bay Area summits, dubbed the “Nifty 90,” highlights the spectacular geographic diversity of our region. Each of the peaks on our list is accessible via public land, and they’re often places that Sierra Club members have successfully fought to protect over the Club’s 130-year history.

Below, Susan Alcorn answers a series of questions from Chapter staff about her experience with the challenge that we think will inspire you.

You can read and download the Nifty 90 list at www.sierraclub.org/san-francisco-bay/nifty90. Once you’ve summited all 90 peaks, 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.

When I first saw the item in the Winter 2017 Yodeler announcing the challenge to “Bag the Bay Area’s ‘Nifty Ninety’ Peaks!,” I read through the list of peaks and saw that there were several familiar names. Mount Tamalpais and Mount Diablo are dominant landmarks in the Bay Area. San Francisco’s Nob Hill, Telegraph Hill, and Russian Hill are popular spots for tourists and locals alike.

My immediate reaction was, “that looks interesting; we’ve even done some of them.” I put the article aside for the moment—and it could have stayed in my large pile of articles about places that I would like to go, to hike, to eat, etc., but somehow I couldn’t get it out of my mind. Getting my husband, Ralph, on board took no time at all. We soon went out to Sibley and Briones (East Bay Regional Parks), where we often hike, and climbed an easy peak in each: Round Top (1,763’) in Sibley and Briones Peak (1,483’). Though we had already hiked both before, we agreed that even if we had climbed a peak previously, we would do it again for the challenge.

A couple of months later our friends, Patricia Schaffarczyk and Tom Coroneos, decided to join us on the peak walks. Patricia, and Tom to some extent, caught up with us by doing the ones they had missed independently.

What was the toughest ascent?

There are three that stand out for us— Rose Peak in Ohlone Regional Wilderness, Mount Sizer in Henry Coe State Park, and Berryessa Peak in Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. Rose Peak was tough because it’s an 18-mile round-trip hike from Sunol Regional Park and gains almost 4,000 feet in elevation. Sizer involves a round-trip hike of 15.5 miles, also with about 4,000 feet gain. Berryessa involves a 14.7-mile out-and-back trail with an elevation gain of 3,507 ft. We did all three as overnight backpack trips because of the length of the hikes, and because of their distance from home.

Two of them, Rose Peak and Mount Sizer, are frequently mentioned on forums as the most challenging hikes in the Bay Area. Berryessa Peak, also rated challenging, doesn’t pop up as often on online discussions — perhaps because of its remote location in Napa County — but we found that earlier wildfires had left parts of the trail in poor or unstable condition (trail work has since been done).

What did you learn about the Bay Area in the course of this epic accomplishment?

I learned there is always more to discover! Even though I have lived in the Bay Area about 75 of my 81 years, there are always new trails, new backroads, and new vistas to be explored! I particularly loved finding wildflower displays at their best.

Any standout wildlife sightings?

I am happy with ANY wildlife sightings! I barely missed stepping on a large rattlesnake when going up a rocky section on the way to Mount Hood in Mount Hood Regional Preserve. We saw a bobcat in Henry Coe, and many coyotes and deer in various parks. Plenty of cows — not very wild, but sometimes a bit intimidating! Birds — including quail, woodpeckers, hawks, vultures, and more.

Which was your first peak on the list? Which was your last? Any method behind what order you tackled them in?

The first peak was Round Top in Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve. The last was Burra Burra in Henry Coe.
State Park. Round Top was first because it is close to us, and easy. Burra Burra was last because the entrance station we wanted to use (Dowdy Ranch) has rarely been open in the last few years. Much of the park was closed for several months after the SCU Lightning Complex Fire in 2020. The Dowdy Ranch entrance is rarely open because of staffing cutbacks. We were able to enter on April 29, 2022, for the Coe Backcountry Weekend — the only time they are expected to be open this year.

We had a few other considerations: For the most part, we started with the easier and/or shorter hikes and peaks and moved to the harder and/or longer ones as we got stronger. We considered the weather; we avoided places that would be too hot in the summer or too muddy during rainy spells. Finally, because there were (usually) four of us, we had to consider our personal schedules and the driving time needed to reach trailheads.

Sometimes, especially when the parks were a long drive for us, we did more than one peak in an area. Sometimes we made backpack trips or stayed overnight in lodging to be nearer our destinations — that included Berryessa, Henry Coe, Big Basin, and Robert Louis Stevenson State Park.

You finished this challenge over the course of the pandemic. What additional difficulties or opportunities did this present?

Once COVID hit, we stopped carpooling, and shuttling cars, for a while. We walked several feet apart and wore masks when necessary. We carried our own lunches instead of stopping at a local pub until eating outside in public again felt safe. Once we were able to get vaccinated, we felt much safer and were able to resume riding together!

Any lessons you want to pass along to hikers?

In the process of doing the Nifty Ninety, I realized that generally we hike on trails that travel through valleys rather than along ridges. There is a lot to be said for taking the high routes, or going to the peaks, because of the far-reaching views. It’s also a lot less crowded up there!

The peaks on the Nifty Ninety are non-technical — they don’t require mountain climbing skills. A few involve a scramble at the end. I came down the trail from Mount Diablo’s North Peak by sliding on my butt rather than chance slipping on loose rock. Most of the peaks on the list were chosen by Sierra Club leaders from hikes that they had previously led. (A few of the peaks’ exact geographical tops were fenced off because of communication towers.)

We found some helpful information about the peaks online. The Chapter’s list doesn’t include information about trails or trailheads to take to reach a given peak, so it usually involves some research to find the route that would work best. We had great fun keeping track of our ascents on Peakbagger.com. It’s free to use and will dazzle you with its hundreds of other peaks you can explore throughout the world! We also often used AllTrails.com. You’ll also find many posts about the Nifty Ninety challenge at my website: susandalcorn.com/nifty-ninety-peaks-challenge/

Doing this challenge has been a joy and provided a real sense of accomplishment. As I looked through our photos, I found myself wishing we could do it again. Thank you, Bay Chapter!

Susan Alcorn is the author of five hiking books, including Walk, Hike, Saunter: Seasoned Women Share Tales and Trails.
Reducing Waste During the Holidays

ALFRED TWU

As winter approaches, a natural question to ask is, "What are more eco-friendly ways to celebrate the holidays?" Of course, the first R of zero waste is Reduce — buying less. However, when buying less isn’t an option and we’re still looking for a physical gift, there are many ways to keep the environment in mind.

The second R of zero waste is Reuse. That’s right — the greenest product is not the organic item made from recycled bottles; it’s the used item that already exists. While online shopping has generated mountains of packaging waste, it has a silver lining: it has made it much easier to buy and sell used products. The energy cost of shipping and packing a product is far smaller than the energy used to make it. Freight transport uses about 10 percent of energy in the US, versus industry, which uses 33 percent, and that’s not even including imports.

Meanwhile, in-person shopping can help us avoid the next major R of the zero-waste holiday season: Returns. Due to the high cost of sorting, checking, and restocking products (some of which might already be discontinued), many retailers have been caught throwing away returns that are in perfectly good shape. By purchasing in person, we can ensure we’re getting the correct items and lower the chance of returns, keeping usable goods out of the trash.

This brings us to our last R for the sustainable holiday: Roads. Research found that over 1/5 of the energy in the product life cycle of clothing is “Consumer Transport” — people driving to the store. Here in the Bay Area, we’re fortunate to have many shopping destinations easy to get to by walking, biking, or riding public transit. This holiday season, consider ditching your car while you do your shopping!

If you’re interested in other ways we can reduce the impact of holiday shopping, get involved with our Zero Waste Committee! Currently, club members are working on reducing the impact of online shopping. In Marin County, Carolyn Lund has drafted a Reusable E-Commerce Packaging Ordinance that is modeled on systems in South Korea and Europe where deliveries are sent in packaging that is later picked up for reuse. To get involved in projects like this, reach out to Alfred Twu at alfredtwu@gmail.com.

Alfred Twu is the Chair of the Zero Waste Committee.

Remembering Neil Samuel Kaplan

JUNE 11, 1955 - AUGUST 22, 2022

Neil was the son of the late Babette B. Kaplan and the late Ronald J. Kaplan and is survived by sister Marsha A. Kaplan of Washington, DC. Neil grew up in Cherry Hill, NJ, and as a child was an intrepid hiker and biker there.

He is remembered by all who knew him for his exuberant spirit and keen intellect. Neil led hikes with the SF Bay Area Sierra Club for about 10 years until illness prevented him. He was a founding member of the Bay Area Ridge Trail in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Given Neil’s passion for hiking and the outdoors, his family established a Memorial Fund in his memory at the SF Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club.

To learn more about the Neil S. Kaplan Memorial Fund or donate, please contact Matt Bielby at matt.bielby@sierraclub.org.

Thank You to Neil’s Memorial Fund Donors

Marsha Kaplan
Gary Kaplan
Dr. Kenneth & Cindy Zonies
Deborah & Andrew Hermann
Eliza Kaplan
Terry Silver
Richard and Frances Kaplan

PHOTO CREDIT: Gift by Monika Stawowy on Unsplash.
Learn to Snowcamp!

JANUARY 7, 2023 ONLINE WITH TWO MANDATORY FIELD TRIPS

Do you often find yourself:

• Wishing the backpacking season didn’t have to end with the first snow?
• Wanting to learn to build an igloo or snow cave—and sleep in it?
• Eager to get outdoors early in the season even with snow still on the ground?
• Bummed that the weather has made you change your plans?
• Wanting to extend your backcountry skiing season?
• Wondering how to prepare for higher elevation hikes?
• Looking to learn about the appropriate gear needed for cold weather in the backcountry? Or,
• Wanting to visit our parks when they’re covered in beautiful snow?

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, you’re an excellent candidate for snowcAMPING! Come join the Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter’s SnowcAMPing Section for the upcoming 2023 training program. Our snowcAMPing training is now in its 53rd year and has prepared more than 4,000 people to extend their backpacking adventures into the winter. In snowcAMPing, there is no “off” season!

The training program includes a mandatory virtual orientation on January 7th, 2023 and two mandatory field trips (with multiple dates offered). Our curriculum covers basic snowcAMPing knowledge, snow gear 101, tips and tricks for handling unforeseen weather, and even how to build snow structures as shelters. Lessons will be in a group format with leaders and assistant leaders to escort you on the field trips which will allow each student to see and experience a variety of techniques and equipment. We will also have training options available for adults, families, and youth.

APPLICATIONS:

We started accepting applications in October, and early-bird applications will be open until November 30, 2022. The final application deadline is December 16, 2022 at 5:00 PM. Prospective students should be experienced backpackers in good physical shape.

There are a limited number of scholarships available. Apply now and find more information online at snowcAMPing.org.

Imagine an open shoreline from Crockett to San Jose, linking all local shoreline parks and open spaces together. Let’s make this happen.

CITIZENS FOR EAST SHORE PARKS
eastshorepark.org
cespmanager@eastshorepark.org
510.524.5000

CESP BOARD PRESIDENT
Shirley Dean

CESP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Robert Cheasty

Great Blue Heron, Point Molate. Photo by Jack Scheinman

PHOTO CREDIT: SnowcAMPing at Tamrack Lake by Lorrie Poch.
ABOUT THIS CALENDAR

Activities listed here are abbreviated. For full listings, registration, and waivers visit: 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 in a Sierra Club outing, you will need to sign a liability waiver. To read a copy of the waiver form, call (415) 977-5630 or visit tinyurl.com/outingswaiver.

COVID-19 Protocol
Masks are optional for adults in outdoor areas but required in indoor close quarters such as vehicles, public transport, restaurants, or visitor centers. Vaccinations are not required, so please be aware you may be on trips with unvaccinated individuals. Masks are required at all times for unvaccinated minors. If you are experiencing any possible COVID-19 symptoms, do not attend the outing and contact the outing leader. Report any positive COVID-19 tests after an outing to the outing leader.

Carpooling
Carpooling helps the environment and allows people without cars to participate. You can arrange carpools on our Meetup group: meetup.com/sanfranciscobay. Outings will be listed there 2 - 3 weeks prior to the event. Masks are required in carpools.

WINTER 22-23 OUTINGS CALENDAR

WEEKLY • TUES
Lake Chabot Reservoir 1A Hike. Join the Lake Chabot group on this scenic weekly 3-mile hike. Bring: A mask, optional outside. Cost: Park for free on street, $5 in lot, or annual pass from East Bay Regional Park District. Meet: 4pm at boathouse/cafe near park entrance. Leader: Dolores Gruenewald, doloresgru@aol.com. (Solo Sierrans)

WEEKLY • WED
Lafayette Reservoir 1A Hike. Enjoy the lovely weather while walking around the beautiful reservoir on this weekly hike. Bring: A mask, optional outside. Cost: Five quarters suggested for parking meter. Meet: 3:30pm at west end of parking area near picnic tables and bathrooms. Leader: William Gilbert, wmglbrt@gmail.com. (Solo Sierrans)

NOV 20 • SUN
Two Ridge Loop 3C Hike. This Two Ridge Loop Hike provides stunning views of the Peninsula, SF, the Bay, Mt. Diablo, Mt. Tam, Point Reyes and the Ocean. The hike is about 11-12 miles with about 2200' elevation gain. The pace is moderate, but there are a few parts of steep rocky trails. It may not be suitable for beginners/hikers. Heavy rain cancels. Bring: Water, snack, lunch, hat, and layered clothing. Hiking poles and sturdy boots recommended. Meet: 9:30am at Sweeney Ridge Trailhead (San Bruno side). Ends: 3pm at starting point. Return to cars by sunset. Leader: Lucy Zhang, lucyzhang2@hotmail.com. (Sierra Singles)

NOV 26 • DEC 11 • DEC 31
1A Let in the Wow: Luxurious Walking in Delight Zen Mindfulness. A slow walking practice designed to relax and balance yourself resulting in deepening connection to your inner nature. It is often accompanied with an experience of delight. Attendees report a change in awareness and some report their heart opening. Register: Registration on the online listing is required. Bring: Clothes for the weather. Meet: 11am at 1853 Solano Ave, Berkeley. Ends: 12:30pm. Leader: Halley Forest, sierragreenforest@gmail.com. (Hiking)

DEC 18 • SUN
1A Winter Solstice Saunter. Take a break from holiday shopping and indulge your inner Druid on a nature walk up Mitchell Canyon. Bring: Snacks, water, layered clothing. Cost: $6 park entrance, $5 seniors. Cash only. Meet: 9:30am at Mitchell Canyon Visitor Center in Mount Diablo State Park. Leaders: Ken Lavin, mtddiablohiker@gmail.com. Elizabeth Watson, sweettrails00@gmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group)
4. Work Together In Solidarity and Mutuality

Groups working on similar issues with compatible visions should consciously act in solidarity, mutuality and support each other’s work. In the long run, a more significant step is to incorporate the goals and values of other groups with your own work, in order to build strong relationships. For instance, in the long run, it is more important that labor unions and community economic development projects include the issue of environmental sustainability in their own strategies, rather than just lending support to environmental organizations. So communication, strategies and resource sharing is critical to help us see our connections and build on them.

We’re more than halfway through our series on the six Jemez Principles with this column focusing on the fourth: working together in solidarity and mutuality. On the surface, this may seem like a pretty understandable tenet — support partners on issues. Indeed, supporting partners and allies is a central component to movement work. It can help build trust and relationships.

However, we have to be careful there as well. This sort of support can be thoughtless. We can fall into patterns of supporting usual partners or doing so in usual ways, without deep engagement. The idea of “You scratch my back and I scratch yours.” Quid pro quo relationships of this kind end up transactional in nature. If we do x for you, then we expect y in return. This develops imbalance, resentment, and isolation.

Instead, we have to approach this with both an equity and a strategic lens.

As the quote states, it’s not just about supporting the actions of another group, it’s about “incorporating the goals and values...with your own work.” When we take the time to meet with partners and hear about why the issue matters to them, we learn more about how we too are impacted by this issue. Peeling back the effects and laying out the histories helps wake us up to the reality of the issue.

We also have to take into account the discrepancies in power and resources. To enter into relationships of true solidarity and mutuality, the scales will not look equal, nor should they. Organizations like the Sierra Club worked for years to develop the influence we have and to marshall our resources. Many environmental justice organizations have not had the privilege of that time, nor as many resources to draw from due to the ongoing reality of economic oppression often afflicting these communities. Communities of color and lower-income communities are not only blocked from higher incomes, it can be more expensive to live.

Therefore, it’s central for organizations like the Sierra Club, if we want to live up to values of solidarity and equity, to move our resources over to our disadvantaged partners. It can be easy for us to hoard resources – the mindset of scarcity is all too rampant – but we can shift our thinking so that moving those resources creates possibility and thus bounty. When we support our partners, we push our movement forward and enrich our shared futures.

And that’s just one of the ways to think strategically about this principle. Another way is implied in the latter half of the quote. When the goals and values of one sector, like environmental organizations, are incorporated into that of another, such as a labor union, we create a powerful front.

In successful campaigns with labor partners, we typically follow a game plan where we educate each other in our areas of expertise behind the scenes, but in public we swap talking points. For example, I will share with a labor representative the environmental impacts of a project and how that will impact the health and safety of frontline communities and workers. My ally will tell me about how the issue affects jobs, the well-being of workers and their families, and the local economy. Then, when we speak to decision-makers or reporters, we push the points that the other taught us.

In this way, we show a unified front. By so doing, we won’t get singled out by our opponents and defeated. By understanding that our struggles are interwoven, we not only get immediate wins, we sow the seeds for bright futures.

Jacob Klein is an organizer for the SF Bay Chapter.

PHOTO CREDIT: Puzzle pieces by Ashkan Forouzani on Unsplash.
Speak for the Trees

Across the PG&E service region, we’re hearing stories about tree-cutting crews cutting down old growth trees and trees on people’s property. In response to massive wildfires caused by PG&E’s outdated infrastructure, the company has undertaken an “enhanced vegetation management” plan to remove hazardous trees near electrical lines. However, far too often, PG&E’s hired crews have been clear-cutting trees that aren’t in the easement, that are healthy, and pose no risk. PG&E needs to update their infrastructure instead of removing trees. Sierra Club members across the state are coming together to take action. Contact Jacob Klein at jacob.klein@sierraclub.org if you have a story of your own!

Point Molate Victories Show Why Elections Matter

NORMAN LA FORCE

The progressive majority on the Richmond City Council has taken courageous stands regarding Point Molate in favor of the environment and against development of the shoreline property as a luxury housing enclave. Recently, the City Council refused to provide the developer SunCal with financial backing for bonds that would have saddled taxpayers with hundreds of millions of dollars in infrastructure costs for a proposed luxury housing project. This isn’t the affordable, transit-accessible housing that Richmond so badly needs, either; a single unit would have required an annual income of at least $250,000.

Then – after SunCal failed to meet its contractual obligation to pay the City $46 million for the property – the City Council voted not to move ahead with the sale of the property. The court threw out most of the developer’s lawsuit attempting to force the sale.

Under the sweetheart deal that outgoing Mayor Tom Butt cooked up to settle a lawsuit over a prior failed casino development on the shoreline, Point Molate is now in the hands of the would-be casino developers, Upstream LLC and the Guidiville Rancheria. But they have the same predicament as SunCal because in order to develop the property, they would need to spend hundreds of millions of dollars on infrastructure improvements.

The solution, of course, is to preserve Point Molate as a public park for the people and the environment – a dream that got one step closer to being realized in July, when the Governor signed a state budget that includes $36 million for the East Bay Regional Park District to acquire and clean up Point Molate. This investment by the State will no doubt leverage additional funds to achieve the goal of a community park at Point Molate. We owe special thanks to State Senator Nancy Skinner, Contra Costa Supervisor John Gioia, East Bay Regional Park District Director Elizabeth Echols, and Governor Newsom for stepping up to support the vision of a regional park including recreational, cultural and outdoor educational opportunities. On the Richmond City Council, Point Molate has strong defenders like Claudia Jimenez, Gayle McLaughlin, Eduardo Martinez, and Melvin Willis.

There is still much more work to be done, but these recent developments demonstrate what can be achieved when you have strong environmentalists in office and tireless community activists on the case. Richmond voters reaffirmed the city’s progressive majority on Election Day, and we look forward to continuing our work to save Point Molate, now with Eduardo Martinez as Mayor!

Norman La Force is the Chair of the East Bay Public Lands Committee.

Gift A Vehicle This Holiday Season

Spread holiday cheer this winter by donating your vehicle to support the Sierra Club Foundation’s SF Bay Chapter! Not only will your generous donation continue to help us make a difference, but it can also help you qualify for a tax deduction. It’s easy, the pick-up is free, and our partners at CARS accept cars, boats, motorcycles, RVs, and more. To get started, visit our website at scfch.careasy.org or call (844) 674-3772.
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 1st, can — and are encouraged to — vote. 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 your group affiliation).

All ballots must be received by Sunday, December 11th.

Questions? Contact the Chapter office at 510-848-0800 or email the Elections Committee at elections@sfbaysc.org.

VOTE BY MAIL OR ONLINE:
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.

Your paper ballot is on page 31. Once you have made your selections, cut out the page, place the ballot in a stamped envelope, and mail it to: Ballot Submission, Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter, P.O. Box 2663, Berkeley, CA 94702. Paper ballots sent by fax or email will not be counted. The mailing label printed on the reverse of your ballot, which includes your unique membership number, will indicate it’s valid.

The Chapter will also 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 Chapter election webpage at sierraclub.org/sfbay/chapter-elections.

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 County; 107 = Southern Alameda County; 108 = Northern Alameda County; 109 = Tri-Valley.

WHAT IF I HAVE A JOINT MEMBERSHIP?
Just after your group number, your mailing label also indicates whether your household has a single (SGL) 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 already cast your ballot online.

Bylaw Amendments:

Bold font indicates new or amended language.

BAY CHAPTER AMENDMENTS

CHAPTER AMENDMENT 1:
Add wording in bold to Section 3.4 to clarify the term of service for appointed Executive Committee members, limiting it until the next election.

3.4 Vacancies.
The ExCom shall have the power to fill a vacancy in any elected or appointed office, except when the vacancy results from a recall in a special election. A vacancy in an elected position shall be filled by secret ballot vote of the remaining ExCom members. Any appointed ExComm member will serve no longer than until the next election for Chapter/Group ExComms.

CHAPTER AMENDMENT 2:
Add wording in bold to Section 4.2B (i) to establish the number of signatures required for nomination by petition as a candidate for Chapter Executive Committee.

4.2B (i) Nominations By Petition.
The number of valid signatures needed to nominate by petition shall be set forth in the published information about the election as a number of members, not a percentage. This number shall be published at or before the opening of nominations. To qualify as a candidate by petition for SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee, an applicant must provide 30 valid signatures of supporting members.
CHAPTER ELECTION SUPPLEMENT

MARIN GROUP AMENDMENTS

Marin Amendment 1:
Add wording in bold to Section 3.4 to clarify the term of service for appointed Executive Committee members.

3.4 Vacancies.
The ExCom shall have the power to fill a vacancy in any elected or appointed office. A vacancy in an elected position shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term until the next election for Chapter/Group ExComms.

Marin Amendment 2:
Add wording in bold to Section 4.3 to lower the number of signatures required for nomination by petition as a candidate for Marin Group Executive Committee.

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

NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP AMENDMENTS

NAC Amendment 1:
Add wording in bold to Section 3.4 to clarify the term of service for appointed Executive Committee members.

3.4 Vacancies.
The ExCom shall have the power to fill a vacancy in any elected or appointed office. A vacancy in an elected position shall be filled by vote of the remaining ExCom members, for the remainder of the unexpired term for no longer than until the next election for Chapter/Group ExComms. Should a two-year term(s) and a one-year term(s) be open at the time of the Chapter/Group election, the higher vote getter(s) will be elected to the two-year term(s) and the remainder to one-year term(s).

NAC Amendment 2:
Add wording in bold to Section 4.3 to lower the number of signatures required for nomination by petition as a candidate for NAC Executive Committee.

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP AMENDMENTS

SAC Amendment 1:
Add wording in bold to clarify that no person may serve more than three consecutive terms on the Executive Committee.

4.2 Nominating Committee.
A Nominating Committee (NomCom) of at least three Group members, at least one not an ExCom member, none of whom may be a candidate, shall be appointed annually by the ExCom not later than four months before the designated closing date of the election. Sufficient opportunity shall be given for Group members to submit names for consideration by the NomCom. The NomCom shall attempt to nominate at least two more candidates than the number of ExCom members to be elected, and shall report the nominees’ names to the ExCom at least two weeks before the deadline for submission of nomination petitions and five weeks before the scheduled mailing of the ballots. Nominees shall be Group members who give their consent and shall be members of the Sierra Club Southern Alameda County Group in good standing; however, no person may serve more than three consecutive full terms as a member of the SAC Group Executive Committee. If the NomCom chooses not to nominate a willing candidate, the NomCom shall promptly inform that candidate of the opportunity to seek nomination by petition.

SAC Amendment 2:
Remove wording with strikethrough and replace with wording in bold clarify the term of service for appointed Executive Committee members, limiting it until the next election.

3.4 Vacancies.
The ExCom shall have the power to fill a vacancy in any elected or appointed office, except as provided when the vacancy results from recall in a special election. A vacancy in an elected position shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by vote of the remaining ExCom members. A vacancy in an elected position shall be filled only until the next election by vote of the remaining Group Executive Committee members.
Candidate Statements:
The Chapter Executive Committee candidates are first, then the Groups are listed in alphabetical order. Candidate statements within each section are listed in alphabetical order by last name.

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
There are four candidates. You may vote for up to four.

Philip Haves
Residence: Berkeley
Occupation: Retired research engineer working on energy efficiency in buildings
Sierra Club member since: 2021
Contact: (510) 295-9941, phaves2117@gmail.com
Activities:
• Transition Network Berkeley and Transition Network Bollington (UK) - grass roots organizations: community development through crop exchange, repair for reuse, electrification of housing and transportation (2022)
• International Building Performance Simulation Association - adoption of low energy design tools
  • Conference Chair, Building Simulation 2017
  • Fellow (2011 – current)
• President - US Affiliate (2004 - 2006)
• American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers - focus on low energy design and efficient operation
  • Chaired committees on Energy Calculations and Building Operation Dynamics
  • Fellow (2003 - current)
• I enjoy hiking, biking and growing produce.
Statement:
I’m convinced that global climate change is the most urgent problem facing us. I think that the Club could be even more effective by enabling more members to go beyond donating money and lobbying decision-makers, vital though these activities are.

I worked at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory from 1998 to 2018, where I led R&D projects on energy efficiency in buildings. I was not active in the Club at that time because my ‘day job’ took up all my time.

I think I can contribute to the Club’s already substantial work on climate change by using my knowledge of energy technology work at the state and federal levels. Also, there are Chapter members with particular ideas and expertise that could help implement or extend national policy at the regional level. These members are an under-exploited resource for the Club and I’d like to try to enhance communication between them and our professional staffers.

All this needs to be done without short-changing on-going work on wilderness protection or failing to address racial, economic and gender inequalities wherever we find them, including in the Club.

Matt Morrison
Residence: Pleasanton
Occupation: Civil Attorney
Sierra Club member since: 2002
Contact: mattmorrisonus@gmail.com
Activities:
• Past SF Bay Chapter Compliance Officer
• Past SF Bay Chapter Finance Committee Chair
• Past SF Bay Chapter Treasurer
• Past SF Bay Chapter Water Committee Chair
• Present Tri-Valley Group Chair.
Statement:
I am a life-long resident of the Bay Area, born in San Francisco, lived as a toddler in Oakland and raised in Pleasanton. My partner and I continue to reside in Pleasanton where I have my private law practice. I practice mostly juvenile dependency and family law, both areas fraught with emotion as families navigate complex governance structures with outcomes being crucially significant.

The Sierra Club is a critical ally for frontline communities that disproportionately carry the burden of social and political disenfranchisement. As a Club we can and will alter our structure to increase meaningful leadership and policies from our members, especially those from frontline communities. This is vital as the Club helps tackle the effects of climate change and works toward social justice in the areas of opportunities and privilege.

As a participant in our Chapter’s governance for many years, I have a key perspective in how the Club’s evolving structure intersects with our past, and hope my particular historical insight would help the Club maneuver long overdue efforts to broaden the base of our leadership and remain true to the Club’s mission. I ask for your support and vote as a means to join me in these efforts.

Nick Pilch
Residence: Albany
Occupation: BART Operations
Sierra Club member since: 1990
Contact: nicky@mindspring.com
Activities:
• National and Local Outings Leader, 2005-present
• Committees:
  • Northern Alameda County (NAC) Executive (Excom) 2010-2011, 2021-present.
  • Bay Chapter Excom 2011-2016.
  • Outreach Chair 2011-2012.
  • Nominations/Elections Chair 2013.
  • Fundraising Chair 2015.
  • Transportation and Compact Growth 2018-present
  • Finance 2021-2022
  • Local Ballot Measure Review 2016-present (Sierra Club California).
Statement:
I am active with both Outings and the political side of the
Marisol Rubio

Residence: San Ramon
Occupation: Health Care Provider
Sierra Club member since: 2019
Contact: mrubiosierrclub@gmail.com
Activities:
• At-Large Executive Committee
• CA Conservation Committee Chapter Delegate
• Standing & Bylaws Committee Chapter Member
• Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion/Environmental Justice Chapter Committee Co-Lead
• Former Vice-Chair/Interim Chair Tri-Valley Group
• Vice President, Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRD)
• Chair, DSRSD-EBMUD (East Bay Municipal Utility District) Recycled Water Authority
• National/State Board, Elected Officials to Protect America
• Co-Chair, County Central Committee Rules & former Issues Committee
• Contra Costa Labor Council Delegate, Climate Caucus Member, Labor-Climate Task Force Co-Chair.

In the community, I co-founded Albany Strollers & Rollers, and was a founding member of Carbon Neutral Albany (now Albany Climate Action Coalition), and Albany for Everyone, a group promoting needed housing in Albany.

While serving on the Albany City Council for six years, I continued my environmental work and advocacy. I was appointed to the League of California Cities Environmental Quality Policy Committee. I supported and campaigned for city environmental work and ballot measures, such as the 2020 Albany Measure DD which will fund climate action work. I served 4 years on the East Bay Community Energy Board. Currently, I am a member of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee of the Alameda County Transportation Commission.

My priorities for the Club are:
• fighting climate change above all
• cordial and respectful and fruitful relationships amongst volunteers and leaders
• diversity in all aspects
• attracting and retain young membership. Increasingly, the membership is skewing older. We can’t maintain the Club if we can’t continue to bring in young volunteers and leaders.
• attracting and retaining people of color. The Sierra Club must represent the diversity of our geographic boundaries.
• making sure the Chapter is working on all aspects of environmental work – environmental justice, and climate change including alternative transportation and energy, and resource conservation.
• finally, maintaining fiscal solvency. The Chapter depends on contributions and fundraising is imperative. I will do my part in donating and fundraising as well.

DELTA GROUP

There are three candidates. You may vote for up to three.

Joe Kovalick

Residence: Oakley
Occupation: Director for the Diablo Water District
Statement:

I have lived in Oakley for the past 30 years. I have been a member of the Sierra Club for many years. I am currently an elected director for the Diablo Water District which provides water service to the 45,000 residents of Oakley. I believe the Sierra Club can have a tremendous impact on local, state and national issues that directly affect the environment and our everyday lives like climate change, sustainability, clean renewable energy and saving the Delta. I have been working with the Delta Group for the past year on growing our membership and addressing local land use issues and candidate endorsements. I fully support the mission of the Sierra Club “to explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; To practice and promote the responsible use of the earth’s ecosystems and resources; To educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.” Thank you for your support.

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE
Mark Linde

Residence: Pittsburg
Statement:

My name is Mark Linde: I live in Pittsburg, CA with my wife and two children, and I am asking for your vote for the Pol-com/Ex-com committee in East Contra Costa.

Over the past few years I have become more active in our area, helping encourage community involvement in all aspects of our environment, from traffic to housing and more. Our county needs help. Recently, I was personally involved in helping stop a major housing development in the hills overlooking Pittsburg and Concord. My hope is to follow both EIR and CEQA reports with a focus on accountability and education to open minds.

My beliefs are: I’m not anti-development, but pro responsible development. The key thing in that is those we elect, following the process completely and in the end holding accountable those elected, especially if they have been endorsed by the Sierra Club. I feel all running for office deserve our best and it shouldn’t only be limited to incumbents. It’s a big leap of faith for those at the local level to run. Together we can help make change.

In closing, thank you for the opportunity to run for office.

Paul Seger

Residence: Oakley
Occupation: Retired teacher – President Diablo Water District
Sierra Club member since: 2017
Activities:
• Delta Group chair 2017–present
• SF Bay Water Committee 2017–present
• 3-Chapter Sea-level rise Committee
• SF Bay ExCom, 2017–present
• SF Bay PolCom, 2017–2019
• Co-Chair of SF Bay Energy–Climate Committee, 2017–present

Statement:

I’m proud to be working with the Sierra Club for the betterment of the environment in East Contra Costa.

My main goals are to expand local membership and influence of the Sierra Club in Eastern Contra Costa. We need to be the leaders to more aggressively assert sustainable solutions as we do our part regionally. I’m totally committed to advocating for East Contra Costa’s unique character and future.

We are leading the way in East County using the positive influences that Sierra Club leaders have on local communities around the Bay area but the Sierra Club does need many more effective environmental leaders (please join us) on the issues important to East County: Antioch, Bay Point, Bethel Island, Brentwood, Byron, Discovery Bay, Knightsen, Oakley, and Pittsburg (including unincorporated areas that are represented by the Board of Supervisors). I am confident that we will continue expanding our influences and services, furthering our mission to protect the environment and extend equanimity far into Eastern Contra Costa County’s communities in the next several years. I am already gearing up for action and activities to increase the Delta region’s understanding of SC issues through educational outreach and increased SC membership.

The Western-San Joaquin, South-Sacramento, South-East Solano, North-East Contra Costa need to work together to make sure that the next 100+ years of growth in our Delta Region is inclusive, responsible and transparent. This is a very sensitive area that has been divided. East County’s Delta group should seek to employ Environmental Legal Assistance to be certain that East County’s sprawl is held at bay, while only sustainable policy and projects can be allowed to move forward, if necessary. This is the direction I’d like to see us head. Cheers!

MARIN GROUP

There are three candidates. You may vote for up to three.

Barbara Bogard

Residence: Mill Valley, CA
Occupation: Retired computer designer, high school and college English teacher
Sierra Club member since: 1995
Contact: barbogard@gmail.com
Activities:
• Marin Group ExCom
• Marin Group ConsCom, chair
• Marin Group NomCom, chair
• Climate Solutions Committee, co-founder and co-chair
• Parks & Open Space Committee, chair

Statement:

I am a full-time activist and organizer. I currently serve on the board of Pesticide Free Zone and the steering committee of the ML King Jr. Coalition. I co-founded 350Marin and Pesticide Free Marin. I have also co-managed local political campaigns and helped produce the movie, Dolores. In an earlier life I lived on communes in Oregon.

A great deal of my time these days is spent facilitating the Golden Gate Village (GGV) Strategy Team who are working to implement the GGV Resident Plan. The plan includes deep green revitalization of the property, job training in 21st century green tech jobs for GGV and other Marin City residents, and creation of a limited equity housing co-op as path to home ownership and resident control for the approximately 700 residents of GGV who are primarily African American. I also represent the Sierra Club as a Consulting Party on the Section 106 National Historic Preservation Act Committee for Golden Gate Village.

I was awarded the 2019 Marin County IPM Achievement Award for my work in eliminating the use of pesticides in Marin; I also received the 2022 Marin City Community Services District Legendary Women’s Hall of Fame Award “In Appreciation of Inspiring and Lifting Others.”
Pamela Ruby Meigs

Residence: Fairfax
Occupation: Registered Nurse, MS in Community Health
Sierra Club member since: 2000
Statement:

Pamela Meigs is an East Bay native and a long-time Fairfax resident. She is a member of the Sierra Club (since 2000), the Marin Group Executive Committee, and the SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee. She is a retired Registered Nurse with a Master’s in Community Health.

She grew up in a “sacrifice city” next door to a large oil refinery. As a mental health nurse at a local hospital, she has worked with the homeless for many years. She is a caregiver for her community, our fragile planet, and all species, big and small. She believes that all living things need to be protected and cared for, now more than ever.

She participates in the pioneering Ecologically Sound Practices Partnership which created a set of Best Practices for the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority’s vegetation management work. Additionally, she works on the acquisition and protection of Open Space using Conservation Easements to prevent development. Her latest initiative is a youth intern program for the Marin Group.

Pamela’s present activities include Director of the Ross Valley Sanitary District, the North Bay Watershed Association, and Cascade Canyon Firewise. Her past activities include Chair of the Fairfax Planning Commission, founder of the Fairfax Open Space Committee, Fairfax General Plan Advisory Committee, Fairfax Tree Committee, and Girl Scout Leader.

She feels that the climate crisis threatens all life and that there is little time left to prevent planet destruction. Her interests continue to be open space, vegetation management best practices, special species protection, pesticide abuse, and equity for families living in or near sacrifice communities. She plans to recruit more youth interns and expand environmental public education.

Pamela would be honored to continue to use her experience, knowledge, and leadership with the Executive Committee of the Sierra Club Marin Group.

Holli Thier

Residence: Tiburon
Occupation: Attorney
Sierra Club member since: 2017, and years before
Contact: (415) 407-4843
Activities:
• Sierra Club, Member (2017 and prior)
• Sierra Club Executive Committee (2022 to Present)
• Worked with Sierra Club and MOMMA’s to prevent the spray n Ring Mountain, Volunteer
• Fought with Sierra Club to ban herbicides and create a real IPM Policy, instrumental in getting Tiburon to go deep green, passed a Climate Action Plan, working to develop a Climate Element (2017 - 2021)
Statement:

As Mayor of Tiburon and as a Town Councilmember, I have worked very closely with members of the Marin Executive Committee, and have wanted to work more closely with the Sierra Club. I feel at home with Sierra Club, and my passion for the planet that Sierra Club has sworn to protect since 1892, my passion for ensuring good environmental policy locally, statewide, nationally and globally makes me want to serve with such a great group of environmental champions.

None of the work I have done could have happened without Sierra Club Marin Group’s help. Whether it was banning the use of Round-Up in Tiburon, my five year effort to ban Lifeline, and other harmful pesticides from Tiburon’s parks and open spaces, getting Tiburon to go Deep Green with Marin Clean Energy, passing the Single Use Foodware ordinance, passing a Climate Emergency Ordinance, creating a Sustainability Element for our General Plan, successful in getting support to purchase new open space within one of our parks, Sierra Club Marin Group was there every step I took.

I love the Sierra Club’s mission, and it is also my mission in all of my public and private service. I remember fondly visiting Lassen National Park as a young child, and now recognize the importance of preserving our environment for future generations. Working for the good of the environment is what I am dedicated to and why I want to serve on the Executive Committee.

Please vote for me Holli Thier, and please feel free to contact me at (415) 407-4843 anytime.

Mount Diablo Group

There are five candidates. You may vote for up to four.

Rebecca Barrett

Residence: Martinez
Occupation: Contra Costa Community College Board Trustee
Sierra Club member since: 2020
Contact: rebecca.faith.barrett@gmail.com
Activities:
• Sierra Club Mt. Diablo Group Member
Statement:

My 7th grade Sequoia Middle School science teacher sparked my interest in protecting our local environment. She was the advisor to our student Earth Club and would take us out to coastal cleanups. While out on the coastline she would share with us information about native animals and plants. And while we picked up garbage, carelessly left behind, we learned how much of our local habitats are at risk.

I joined the Sierra Club Mt. Diablo Group because, after years of being involved with local education causes, government and politics, I wanted to become more engaged in protecting our environment and promoting climate resilience—making local
change to make healthier, safer, more equitable communities.

This upcoming year, I hope to focus on sparking more people's interests in our local environment by hosting beach clean-ups, community hikes and policy town halls. Hopefully we will all learn something new and recommit to protecting our wildlife, open spaces, and ecosystems.

My whole career has been dedicated to education. I began at the California Department of Education as a senior advisor to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. I have since worked for a local children's non-profit, forming a robust environmental science program aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards. Today, I serve you as your elected representative to the Contra Costa Community College District Board, representing Martinez, Pleasant Hill and Concord.

I want to take my experience and passion for environmental education and sustainability to inspire the next generation of environmental leaders in the Mt. Diablo region—just like how my 7th grade science teacher did for me.

I hope to earn your vote. If you have any questions or want to get in touch, please feel free to email me at rebecca.faith.barrett@gmail.com.

Jonathan T. Bash

Residence: Martinez
Occupation: Environmental/Health Communications Consultant
Sierra Club member since: 2016
Contact: jonathan.t.bash@gmail.com
Activities:
• Sierra Club Mt. Diablo Group Chair
• Sierra Club Mt. Diablo Group Executive Committee Member
• Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter Political Committee
• Contra Costa County Hazardous Materials Commissioner, Sierra Club Representative
• City of Martinez Planning Commissioner

Statement:
As a Martinez resident, I often walk past beautiful Mt. Wanda and the historic home of John Muir, founder of the Sierra Club. This ritual reminds me of all the amazing natural resources located right here in our backyard. Our environment is precious, as is our quality of life. And both are at risk if we don’t stand united.

Sprawl with no long-term strategy has worsened our commutes, harmed our environment and has barely put a dent in the housing crisis. Climate change threatens our very own existence. And all the while, our movement has taken a backseat to a multitude of short-term threats.

This coming year, I hope to continue driving the regional conversation back to urgent conservation, housing and climate issues by continuing to serve on the Mount Diablo Group Executive Committee.

I also intend to further strengthen our group by partnering with like minded organizations to amplify our ability to make change. We are stronger when we stand with organized labor and local progressive organizations. We are stronger when we advocate for transit, infill development and open space.

Throughout my entire career, I have managed tough environmental and public health campaigns that improve the health of all Californians. Working in local government and nonprofits, I have advocated for tangible community change. And as Martinez Planning Commissioner and Contra Costa County Hazardous Materials Commissioner, I have fought hard for environmental justice and sustainability.

If re-elected, I will continue to bring this experience—and significant expertise in media relations and policy advocacy—to the table.

Hopefully, I can once again earn your support. If you have any questions, please email me anytime at jonathan.t.bash@gmail.com.

John Chatowski

Residence: Danville
Occupation: Attorney
Sierra Club member since: 2021
Activities:
• Mt. Diablo Group Executive Committee Member (2021-present)
• Chapter Sea Level Rise Committee Member (2021-present)
• Chapter Advocacy Committee Member (2021-present)

Statement:
I first became involved in the Sierra Club when my mother joined the club in the 1970s in Southern California. I have always felt that active groups/constituents are necessary to keep government in check when it comes to development and activities that affect the environment (both local and global). I have been honored to become involved in the Sierra Club, and the Bay Chapter in the particular, because of its longstanding history of local engagement championing environmental issues and conservation.

I believe the most critical threat to the world is climate change, and the effect it is having not only on the Bay (sea level rise), but for all of us that rely on energy for our homes, cars, and industry. We need immediate action to stop (or at least slow down) climate change through active efforts to promote clean energy options. I also consider saving our public spaces from development to be critically important to maintaining natural habitats, while at the same time understanding the need for additional housing in the Bay Area.

Finally, I believe that respect is critical to ensuring that people feel that their voices are heard. Today I feel that our community has become so much more siloed, such that often people just talk over each other instead of listening to each other to find a common ground. I feel having community panels of diverse viewpoints of environmental issues could lead to a greater understanding of each other and, hopefully, agreement on fundamental points that we can leverage into action. I believe that the Sierra Club has, and should continue to be, an integral part of that process, and I would welcome the opportunity to promote it.
Wietske Medema

Residence: Lafayette  
Occupation: Environmental scientist, consultant  
Sierra Club member since: 2019  
Contact: medemawietske@gmail.com  
Activities:  
• SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee, group representative  
• Sierra Club Mt Diablo Group, Vice-chair  
• Contra Costa Green New Deal Committee, Vice-Chair  

Statement:  
We are in an emergency. We are in an economic crisis. We are in a climate crisis.  
The pandemic has resulted in the loss of 2.4 million California jobs so far, the highest unemployment record in state history. This has economically affected local businesses and the most vulnerable communities in our region.  
A transformational change is required in our current system that requires for the environmental and labor movements to work closely together. We must directly involve and consult underrepresented and oppressed communities.  
It is important that we tap the power of collective action and continue to build a large, intentionally organized network that involves people who are passionate to tackle environmental challenges in our region.  
I am an outspoken proponent of the Green New Deal, in particular for its focus on environmental, social, and economic justice.  
I have animated a coalition to create the Bay Area Green New Deal Alliance and a Green New Deal Plan for the Bay Area. Organizing town halls around Northern California in partnership with the Sierra Club, front-line communities, the Sunrise Movement, the California Democratic Party, 350.org, and other civic and labor groups.  
I am collaborative, self-driven, creative, energetic. My experience is wide ranging. I have worked on environmental projects in the EU, Southeast Asia and North America. I have been responsible for fundraising, advocacy and outreach, managing projects, teams, creating partnerships, facilitating collaborative programs, as well as directing research, education, and administration.  
Creating coalitions is my passion. I am excited to work with the Mt. Diablo Group to change our region for the better.  
You can contact me at medemawietske@gmail.com.

Donald Lathbury

Residence: Berkeley  
Occupation: Consultant  
Sierra Club member since: 2011  
Activities:  
• Political Action Committee Co-Chair, Alameda County Democratic Party  
• Former Chair, Berkeley Transportation Commission  
• Former President, East Bay Young Democrats

Statement:  
As the country’s most storied and well known environmental organization, the Sierra Club provides all of us with the opportunity to pool our skills to protect our planet.  
I’ve been a proud Member of the Sierra Club for most of my adult life, and I’m excited by this opportunity to serve in an elevated capacity as a Member of the Northern Alameda County Group Executive Committee.  
As all of us live through a generation-defining climate crisis, our collective ability to make consequential change locally matters. I bring 20 years of government, campaign, and consulting experience to the Committee. Developing strategies to communicate with the public on issues important to me and those I associate with has always been my professional calling, and I am eager to deploy what I’ve learned to help the Sierra Club fulfill our mission.  
My environmentalist values are reflected in my lifestyle and my life’s pursuits. I’m the former Chair of the Berkeley Transportation Commission, someone who is passionate about forging livable and climate-resilient communities. I’m an avid bicyclist who has never owned a car. I also frequently use public transit and have developed a deep understanding of where it is meeting our regional needs and where it is falling short. I enjoy hiking, kayaking, and exploring both urban and natural environments, and I’ve been a vegetarian for 23 years.  
My policy priorities include addressing the ever increasing risk of wildfires, accelerating our clean power transition, accommodating growing populations in an environmentally sustainable way, promoting seamless and shared mobility, advancing housing affordability and preventing displacement, prioritizing infill housing that reduces the need for sprawl and protects...
open space, and ensuring that access to clean air and clean water reaches every community.

I’m honored to be nominated for the NAC ExCom and hope I make you proud.

Nick Pilch

Residence: Albany
Occupation: BART Operations
Sierra Club member since: 1990
Contact: nicky@mindspring.com
Activities:
• National and Local Outings Leader, 2005–present
• Committees:
  • Northern Alameda County (NAC) Executive (Excom) 2010-2011, 2021-present.
  • Bay Chapter Excom 2011-2016.
  • Outreach Chair 2011-2012.
  • Nominations/Elections Chair 2013.
  • Fundraising Chair 2015.
  • Transportation and Compact Growth 2018-present
  • Finance 2021-2022
  • Local Ballot Measure Review 2016-present (Sierra Club California).

Statement:

I am active with both Outings and the political side of the Club.

In the community, I co-founded Albany Strollers & Rollers, and was a founding member of Carbon Neutral Albany (now Albany Climate Action Coalition), and Albany for Everyone, a group promoting needed housing in Albany.

While serving on the Albany City Council for six years, I continued my environmental work and advocacy. I was appointed to the League of California Cities Environmental Quality Policy Committee. I supported and campaigned for city environmental work and ballot measures, such as the 2020 Albany Measure DD which will fund climate action work. I served 4 years on the East Bay Community Energy Board. Currently, I am a member of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee of the Alameda County Transportation Commission.

My priorities for the Club are:
• fighting climate change above all
• cordial and respectful and fruitful relationships amongst volunteers and leaders
• diversity in all aspects
  • attracting and retain young membership. Increasingly, the membership is skewing older. We can’t maintain the Club if we can’t continue to bring in young volunteers and leaders.
  • attracting and retaining people of color. The Sierra Club must represent the diversity of our geographic boundaries.
  • making sure the Chapter is working on all aspects of environmental work – environmental justice, and climate change including alternative transportation and energy, and resource conservation.
  • finally, maintaining fiscal solvency. The Chapter depends on contributions and fundraising is imperative. I will do my part in donating and fundraising as well.

Igor A. Tregub

Residence: Berkeley
Occupation: Senior Policy Advisor, CA Solar & Storage Association
Sierra Club member since: 2008
Contact: igor@sfbaysc.org
Activities:
• Chair, Northern Alameda County Group
• Co-Chair, SF Bay Chapter Energy-Climate Committee
• SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee (Former Chair)
• California Executive Committee

Statement:

Preserving the environment, decarbonizing every aspect of our economy, and ensuring that policy decisions are made with an equity lens and ample input from impacted communities have always been at the forefront of my work as a legislator and climate activist.

I crafted some of the strongest affordable housing policies in the nation; helped pass the nation’s first gas ban in new buildings; and enhanced access to energy upgrades and solar financing for residents. I helped craft local Green New Deal policies intended to protect our air and water, integrate clean energy solutions with good jobs, and say “NO!” to coal traveling through our communities.

With your help, I continue to wage the fight and make steady progress toward the intertwined goals of saving distributed solar in California, saving our planet and those who call it home from the existential crisis of climate change, saving my homeland of Ukraine through divestment from fossil fuels that finance warmongering autocratic regimes, and saving democracy.

Having chaired our local chapter and group, 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 growth in new membership and enhanced the financial sustainability of our chapter. I’ve worked tirelessly to ensure that the Northern Alameda County Group is here for you so we can weather the storm – whether your passion is our conservation issues, expanding our climate campaigns, or joining our fantastic outings programs.

I humbly ask for your vote, so I keep serving you as we take dramatic action to save our planet. Together we will remain a potent and effective voice for the climate and strengthen partnerships within and outside of the Club. Please contact me at igor@sfbaysc.org with your questions and ideas. Thanks for your consideration!
San Francisco Group

There are seven candidates. You may vote for up to four.

Becky Evans

Residence: San Francisco
Occupation: Retired paralegal
Sierra Club member since: 1969
Activities:
• Member, Chapter Executive Committee
• Chair, San Francisco Group
• Chapter Delegate, Sierra Club Council of Club Leaders, 2015–present

Ana Vasudeo

Residence: Berkeley
Occupation: Berkeley School Board Director
Sierra Club member since: 2022
Activities:
• Northern Alameda County Group Executive Committee Member (appointed)
Statement:
I am honored to serve on the Berkeley School Board and to have been appointed to the Northern Alameda County Group Executive Committee Member of the Sierra Club. My professional background is in land-use & environmental planning and I have over 15 years of professional experience working on issues related to climate change mitigation. I have worked with Safe Routes to School programs throughout the Bay Area to increase the number of students who bike, walk, take transit, or carpool to schools. I have dedicated my career to finding innovative solutions to reduce transportation greenhouse gas emissions.

I also fought to increase climate literacy education in our schools, including launching a School Community Grants Program at the Bay Area Air Quality Management District that provided microgrants to low-income schools for projects that addressed the impact of air pollution on the global climate. As a Berkeley School Board Director, I supported the implementation of the Miyawaki micro forests project on our campuses, making our district the first one in the US to use this ultra-dense planting method which generates more biodiversity than conventional forests. I am passionate about inspiring future generations of young climate leaders in our schools.

Given my track record of bringing my environmental activism to my role as an elected official in Berkeley, I would be honored to continue to serve on the Northern Alameda County Group Executive Committee. Furthermore, I value the Sierra Club’s critical role in mobilizing for clean energy and climate solutions in our schools through projects like the 100% Clean Energy School Districts Handbook and supporting climate literacy resolutions. I would be honored to have your vote so I can continue to champion the critical work of the Sierra Club.

• Recipient of the 2017 SF Bay Chapter Ed Bennett Lifetime Achievement Award

Statement:
I am proud to be a Life Member of the Sierra Club, now celebrating 130 years of protecting the Earth. As a Club activist, I have served on the San Francisco Bay Chapter Executive Committee (its subcommittees on Finance and Staff Management,) the San Francisco Group ExCom as well as committees protecting Yosemite and the Colorado River.

I am among the many founders of the GGNRA, was on the first SF Environment Commission. My community work has focused on open space, parks, waterfront and water issues (including sewage treatment) and transportation.

The strength of the Sierra Club is in its members - all of us - those who volunteer for its committees and campaigns. We are all volunteers - office workers, writers, architects, scientists and retirees. All of our voices are critical in the work to protect the Earth.

We are faced each day with many choices- how do we combat the environmental challenges- clean water, clean air, toxics and climate change - which impact us, our neighborhoods and other communities.

Please vote to return me to the San Francisco Group Executive Committee. If elected, I will continue my efforts to “green” San Francisco and the planet as well as mentoring new Sierra Club activists among the 6300+ San Francisco membership. Thank you.

Kieran Farr

Residence: San Francisco
Occupation: Community at Vimeo and Developer at 3DStreet
Sierra Club member since: 2021
Contact: kieran.farr@gmail.com
Activities:
• Potrero Boosters & Dogpatch Neighborhood Associations Joint Livable Streets Committee
• Rotary Club - SOMA (South of Market)/Bayview
• NE Mission Curb Management Committee
• Former Geary Bus Rapid Transit Citizens Advisory Committee (BRT-CAC) Member
Statement:
I am passionate about advocating for bold action to address the climate crisis. The San Francisco Group of the Sierra Club is in a great position to push this important city to take even bigger steps to reduce carbon emissions. I am eager to work to expand the Sierra Club’s power both by recruiting more members and by enticing existing members to be more involved. We have a large number of Sierra Club members in San Francisco and an opportunity to activate this base of support. The dual linked imperatives of climate change and environmental justice create an all hands on deck moment where we must push for policy change in multiple sectors including energy, transportation, food systems, housing and more. Becoming a parent in San Francisco has given me great motivation to engage. My personal experience in looking for healthier and more sustainable transportation options for...
my family converted me into a sustainable transportation, safe streets and climate action advocate.

Sandra Lee Fewer
Residence: San Francisco
Occupation: Retired, formally member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and Board of Education
Sierra Club member since: 2015, rejoined 2022
Activities:
• Member: Climate Champions Slate
• Board Member: Richmond Police Station Community Policing Advisory Board
• Board Member: SF Pretrial
• Board Member: Coleman Action Fund
Statement:
I am a fourth generation Chinese American San Franciscan. As a former elected official, I legislated the adoption of the Good Food Purchasing Program for the San Francisco Unified School District and the City and County of San Francisco to ensure procurement dollars go to companies that meet standards for environmental sustainability, support of local economies, humane animal welfare, nutrition and a valued workforce.

I also authored legislation to create the Office of Racial Equity, laid the groundwork for the first public bank in San Francisco, passed resolutions to support our city’s biodiversity and the divestment of city funds from fossil fuels. I was the Chair of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) and provided oversight for Cleanpower SF.

I have a deep appreciation and respect for our natural environment. I believe parks and open spaces should be accessible to everyone, everyone has the right to live in a healthy environment and everyone has a personal responsibility to support a healthy environment. I am interested in pushing the City to invest in its own sustainable resources for renewable energy and working to close racial environmental inequities.

My husband of 40 years and I are retired and spend our time growing milkweed, raising Monarch butterflies, gardening, preserving and sharing our garden’s produce. I am honored to be included on the Climate Champions slate with such talented, experienced, strong women. We will represent the Sierra Club well.

Kelly Akemi Groth
Residence: San Francisco
Occupation: Legislative Aide, Supervisor Connie Chan
Sierra Club member since: 2022
Activities:
• Former member, San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee
• Former President, SF Women’s Political Committee
Statement:
I was born and raised in the Bay Area and grew up experiencing the great outdoors with my parents, who helped nurture my love and respect for the environment. As is the case with many people in my generation, the documentary An Inconvenient Truth galvanized me to a career in climate policy. After graduating San Francisco State University, I was accepted into a graduate program at the University of Oregon, focused on urban planning and environmental sustainability. While in Eugene, I led a canvassing effort with a local environmental justice nonprofit, Beyond Toxics, surveying neighbors who lived near a creosote plant and documenting their reported health problems. The data from the survey helped illustrate a huge public health concern, and the plant eventually closed this year after decades of complaints and recorded health issues. Additionally, I worked with Beyond Toxics on my thesis, which centered on improving community outreach and engagement when identifying and remediating brownfields.

After graduate school, I began work with NextGen Climate, a nonprofit aimed at electing climate advocates across the nation. As Project and Budget Manager, I managed 11 state and national campaign budgets and operational procedures, in addition to working with national partners on large campaigns. In 2020, I decided to take a leap of faith and run Connie Chan’s campaign for Supervisor. I now staff Supervisor Chan on environmental issues including biodiversity, CleanPowerSF, and reducing plastic waste. My priorities as a member of the Sierra Club Group Member are to uplift communities impacted by environmental racism, advocate for building out a sustainable and equitable local energy system, and work to reduce consumption of single-use plastics. I would also work to build capacity for younger generations to have a platform and voice to advocate and fight for a climate resilient future.

Kim-Shree Maufas
Residence: San Francisco
Occupation: Adjunct Community College Professor/SFMTA Labor Relations
Sierra Club member since: 2018
Activities:
• San Francisco Group: Executive & Conservation Committee
• Former Chapter & SF Group Nominations/Elections Committee; SF Bay Chapter
• Elections Task Force
• Longtime Safety Lead/Trainer for all San Francisco Pride Parade Volunteers
• Member of NAACP/BWOPA, Harvey Milk/Alice B. Toklas/Latinx Demo Clubs
• COVID: Door2Door Meals/Care Packages to Seniors, Hospice & Families
Statement:
I was raised in San Francisco and grew up with a strong love for the outdoors, the environment, and the Sierra Club. I have been an advocate for the environment and a member of the Sierra Club for many years. As a former elected official, I legislated the adoption of the Good Food Purchasing Program for the San Francisco Unified School District and the City and County of San Francisco to ensure procurement dollars go to companies that meet standards for environmental sustainability, support of local economies, humane animal welfare, nutrition and a valued workforce.

I also authored legislation to create the Office of Racial Equity, laid the groundwork for the first public bank in San Francisco, passed resolutions to support our city’s biodiversity and the divestment of city funds from fossil fuels. I was the Chair of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) and provided oversight for Cleanpower SF.

I have a deep appreciation and respect for our natural environment. I believe parks and open spaces should be accessible to everyone, everyone has the right to live in a healthy environment and everyone has a personal responsibility to support a healthy environment. I am interested in pushing the City to invest in its own sustainable resources for renewable energy and working to close racial environmental inequities.

My husband of 40 years and I are retired and spend our time growing milkweed, raising Monarch butterflies, gardening, preserving and sharing our garden’s produce. I am honored to be included on the Climate Champions slate with such talented, experienced, strong women. We will represent the Sierra Club well.
power and privilege.

I teach the SKILLS necessary to speak truth to power for environmental justice, educational justice, and social justice – often intertwined. As an SFUSD Board of Ed Commissioner (2007-2015), I advocated for scratch cooking for children & discontinuing single-use plastic containers, HAPPENING NOW! We can use these same skills to help one another, to protect our forests, to protect our waters, and save our beautiful planet!

On the San Francisco Eastern Neighborhoods CAC, I partner everyday with allies in the Southeast San Francisco fighting to keep developers, corporations, and city departments accountable for how their actions impact systemically oppressed voices and communities. Together, we have brought these dinner-table discussions right to the decision-making table.

This purposeful life of mine is guided by the shining light of my granddaughter, Marley, now in middle school. She’s helped clean beaches from contamination, experienced wild fire pollution in our skies (wearing an N95 mask at school), and is worried that her favorite animal, the Sloth, is high on the endangered species list. We agreed to “lean-in harder,” TOGETHER, for the environment. I truly consider it an honor to serve on the SF Group Executive Committee and am asking for your vote to continue doing so.

**Brian Reyes**

**Residence:** San Francisco  
**Occupation:** Climate and Sustainability Planner  
**Sierra Club member since:** 2021  
**Contact:** brian5368@gmail.com  

**Activities:**
- Volunteer organizing for local San Francisco parks and safer streets  
- Labor organizing to divest San Francisco’s pension from oil and gas  
- Asia Society board member  
- Founded and implemented community and sustainable agriculture development programs in rural Cambodia

**Statement:**

I am a gen X parent raising a child in San Francisco. I am Filipino American that grew up in a diverse Southern California community. Recognizing and giving intrinsic value to the environment and all living things has been part of me since I can remember; but, growing up in a predominately brown community, I didn’t see myself reflected in the environmental movement; that is, until I moved to San Francisco in 2007. Today, I find myself in the middle of that movement whether my career as a scientist and climate and sustainability planner or advocate for parks and open space in urban centric SF.

My service will prioritize and energize efforts, policies, and programs that builds a strong SF community through the lens of six pillars:
1. Taking action to mitigate and adapt to climate change  
2. Race and social equity  
3. Parks and open space  
4. Affordable housing  
5. Sustainable modes of transit, and  
6. Having fun while doing it!

Solutions to address these pillars have been promulgated throughout the history of San Francisco culture, policies, and programs, yet seem distant because of our personal fear to implement in and across our neighborhoods, or, become apathetic to the challenge because it seems so daunting. It is my belief and, ostensibly, my charge, as a San Francisco Sierra Club ExComm member to ensure these pillars rise to the top and our electeds and City Staff are held accountable to implement. I will give confidence and voice to membership. I will enable leaders that follow the evidence, are humbled and motivated by addressing the complex tensions that exists, and demonstrates the aptitude, when in service to solving across these pillars.

**Charles Whitfield**

**Residence:** San Francisco  
**Occupation:** Software Engineer  
**Sierra Club member since:** 2017  
**Contact:** whitfield.cw@gmail.com

**Activities:**
- Member of San Francisco Planning Department’s Central SoMa (South of Market) Community Advisory Committee (2020-2022)

**Statement:**

My #1 motivation & focus as an environmentalist is addressing the climate crisis: to stop and eventually reverse the harm our fossil fuel dependency is doing to the planet and to our own health. No one who has lived through the past few wildfire seasons in California should have any doubt that repairing our climate is the most urgent policy priority of our time. Achieving rapid decarbonization will require policy change at every level of government and will impact nearly every part of how we live, from transportation & energy to housing & food systems. Specific policies I support include transportation & building electrification, preserving car-free park space like JFK Promenade, replacing fossil fuel electricity generation with renewable sources, and “rewilding” to convert formerly human-dominated lands into nature preserves. To support these ends, I will work to help Sierra Club grow its membership and better engage existing members to expand its influence on state & local policy.

**SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP**

There are four candidates. You may vote for up to three.

**Rishi Gurjar**

No candidate statement submitted.

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE
Glenn Kirby

Residence: Hayward
Occupation: Retired
Sierra Club member since: 1978
Contact: gkirby46@gmail.com
Statement:
I am an East Bay native, growing up in West Contra Costa County and living in Hayward for the past 40 years. My wife and I have been Sierra Club members since 1978. Over the years I have served on the Chapter Executive Committee and the Southern Alameda County Group Executive Committee, as well as other Chapter issue committees. I have taken a break from the SAC Group to focus on other priorities but am now ready to resume my activism in my home community.

I served as a Planning Commissioner for Hayward for 8 years and Alameda County for 12 years. I served on the East Bay Regional Park District’s Park Advisory Committee, Alameda County Recycling Board – StopWaste.org, the Alameda County ACTIA (Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority) Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee and currently serve on the Union City Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. I also served on the Board of Directors for the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council and the East Bay Area Trails Council.

I view preservation of open-space as fundamental to our quality of life in the Bay Area. I also support public access, where appropriate, through trails and the expansion of parklands. I also see our future quality of life dependent on our response to Climate Change.

I enjoy hiking and bicycle riding and would usually rather be outdoors than in a meeting. But, whether I am monitoring a proposed development in the county or considering an endorsement for a local elected office, I know that the decisions we make today will determine the future for the Bay Area. The Sierra Club has provided leadership in protection of open space, parklands, agricultural lands and critical habitat as well as advocating for a sustainable economy. I am asking for your support to once again serve on the Southern Alameda County Group Executive Committee.

Martha Kreeger

Residence: Fremont
Occupation: Organizer
Sierra Club member since: 2019
Contact: marthakreeger@gmail.com
Activities:
• Field Lead Groundworks Campaigns, Community Organizer, and Commissioner on the Alameda County Commission of the Status of Women
• SF Bay Chapter Vice Chair; SAC Group Chair; Member: Bylaws Committee, SF Bay Chapter Political Committee, Recreation Issues Committee (Sierra Club), Working Group w/ Labor Partners on Warehouse Issues
Statement:
For almost 15 years I have worked as an Issues Organizer in our East Bay communities; working with community members on educational policy, environmental justice and climate actions, equity issues and building toward universal healthcare. My experience has focused on field campaigns, policy focused community actions and training and empowering emerging organizers. As a Sierra Club leader in the SAC Group and the Chapter, I am strongly committed to sustainable organizing, building and supporting teams who have the depth, breadth and commitment to create transformational change within their communities and across California.

I committed to the Sierra Club as a member and a leader because climate change is threatening not only human existence but all life on this planet. I love that Sierra Club is one of many organizations, including labor, coordinating our critical work to guide policy that will
• ensure clean energy and air quality
• push for an indirect source rule and control warehouse impacts
• phase out fossil fuels
• conserve habitat through building within urban growth limits and preserving wildlife corridors and wild spaces outside of those same boundaries.

I want to continue the work to reverse the harm we have done to this planet in any way I can with this group and within our chapter. Thank you for all you do!

Matt Turner

Residence: Castro Valley
Occupation: Principal Consultant at Turner Communications Group, LLC
Sierra Club member since: First joined in 1988, continuous since 2006
Contact: TurnerCommGroup@gmail.com, (972) 379-8748
Activities:
• Member of SF Bay Water Committee from 2010-2014
Statement:
I’m a life-long environmentalist and outdoorsman. I was born in Oakland, but grew up on a small cattle ranch in Amador County. I began backpacking in 1982 and have been at it ever since. I moved to my current home in 1999 and have been involved in local environmental issues here in the unincorporated area ever since.

My activism led me to be appointed to the Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council from 2011-2015 when I was hired by Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley as a community organizer and constituent liaison. Last year, I left that office to start my own public advocacy consulting firm, where I am now under contract with HARD (Hayward Area Recreation and Parks District) working on trail projects, and revenue issues. I also serve as chair of the Alameda County Transportation Commission’s Bike/Ped Advisory Committee.

As a parent of kids in elementary and middle school living in an SB 1000 community of environmental justice concern, I am very focused on safe routes to school and access to parks and trails for kids. Water policy, the activities of Sierra Pacific Industries on the western slope of the sierras, public access to public
lands, and rangeland management in our regional parks are all areas of significant concern to me as well.

After decades of local activism and working within the county bureaucracy, I have fostered many good relationships with people across a wide array of agencies and special districts. Those connections are often vital to successfully advocating for the environment, and I will leverage them to the advantage of the Sierra Club wherever appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration,
Matt

---

**TRI-VALLEY GROUP**

There are four candidates. You may vote for up to three.

---

**Steven Dunbar**

- **Residence:** Livermore
- **Occupation:** Controls Engineer, Public Transit Vehicle Design
- **Sierra Club member since:** 2019
- **Activities:**
  - Tri Valley ExCom Member, 2020-Present
  - Tri Valley Political Committee Chair, 2021
  - Advocacy Chair, Bike East Bay
  - Livermore Planning Commission Chair

**Statement:**

Hello Friends. Over the past two years, I have brought an informed and calm approach to our local group. In that time, I have made positive adjustments to both technical matters of club positions and in problem-solving approach. My planning commission and other board experience has served the group well, especially when communicating with city councils or staff.

My platform over the next two years, should I be reelected:

1. I will continue to move the needle on better engagement with members and leaders, including more consistent background information and more specific action items. I know many of you do not attend because it’s not easy to understand how to be engaged and make a difference between elections.
2. I will strive for a Sierra Club that supports and thanks and builds trust at least as often as it opposes. The environmental status quo is not acceptable, and we need to build bridges to change it.
3. I will continue to bring together a coalition for sustainable, equitable, and achievable transportation outcomes in the Tri-Valley (the single largest category for carbon emissions). Some of the groundwork has been set but more work with local leaders is required.

I would be honored to have your vote once again to continue this important work.

---

**Joseph Mauro**

- **Residence:** Pleasanton
- **Occupation:** Student

**Statement:**

Hello all! My name is Joseph Mauro, and I am running to be on the Executive Committee for the Tri-Valley area. I have been a resident of Pleasanton, California my entire life. Most of my time is spent finishing my last school year at the University of California, Los Angeles, while also spending time as a Progressive Turnout Project intern for Congressman Josh Harder and being active in many political organizations in the Bay Area as well as Los Angeles. While I have recently joined the Sierra Club, environmental justice and advocacy have been a fortifying part of my ideology and life mission: to make my community a much more environmentally healthy place through things like advocating for the state to allocate water resources in a more environmentally sustainable way to moving much more drastically towards cleaner energy than we are currently using. I am running because these are all extremely important issues to me. I have proven to my community that I have been a tireless advocate for justice; I advocated for making the PUSD health curriculum more LGBTQ+ inclusive and advocated a Green New Deal for Los Angeles USD k-12 schools. As a member of the Executive Board, I will be a tireless advocate for conserving our environment in the Tri-Valley and beyond.

---

**Linda Milanese**

- **Residence:** Livermore
- **Occupation:** English Teacher, retired
- **Sierra Club member since:** 1996

**Statement:**

I’ve been a member of Sierra Club for almost 30 years and belong to Friends of Open Space and Vineyards and the League to Save Lake Tahoe. Our cars always sport “Keep Tahoe Blue” bumper stickers. Despite the busy years of raising a family and full-time teaching, I was an active participant in every election season—a precinct foot soldier and letter writer. Whenever open space or the Urban Growth Boundary was on the ballot, I was there to knock on doors and to gather signatures for a UGB in both Livermore and Dublin.

For the past few years I’ve invested many hours working to save the last open space in downtown Livermore for a community park—writing letters, gathering signatures for one initiative and two referendums, and staying late at City Council meetings when our item was usually last on the agenda.

In recent years global warming and environmental challenges have become more urgent and worrisome. I worry about the future and decided there’s no better organization through which I can make a difference than the Sierra Club.

I will:

- protect the Tri-Valley cities’ Urban Growth Boundaries and also the County Urban Growth Boundary established by Measure D as decided by all Alameda County voters.
- We need to preserve agricultural land and open space from

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE
the regular attacks that would chip away at those borders.
• support more renewable green energy—especially solar power—starting with panels on the already developed areas of rooftops, parking lots, and businesses.
• be a watchdog for safe drinking water and ground water by insisting on regular mandated testing for contamination.
• demand CEQA tests (California Environmental Quality Act) for all new developments.

Please support me in working for you on the important and pressing projects of the Tri-Valley Sierra Club.

Carol Silva

Residence: Livermore
Occupation: Contract Administrator, retired
Sierra Club member since: 1991
Contact: 7silva@comcast.net
Activities:
• Tri-Valley 2021 Nominations Committee
• Tri-Valley Executive Committee from Oct. 2021 to present
• Treasurer of my Home Owners Association Board from Jan. 2021 to present

Statement:
To explore, enjoy, and protect wild places and natural resources has been a passion of mine for a long time.

Many of the issues in the Tri-Valley pertain to development, since this area has a substantial amount of open space thanks to activists and voters fighting for conservation. One of my priorities is to help protect the earth’s ecosystems and resources, which includes defending Tri-Valley cities’ Urban Growth Boundaries and Alameda County’s Measure D, which is to protect agricultural land and open space. With Sierra Club’s support, my goal is to encourage Tri-Valley cities to provide incentives for distributed solar instead of using open space. This would minimize impacts to our resources, and to our endangered and threatened plants and wildlife. Another goal is to encourage the Tri-Valley cities to increase affordable housing with infill housing.

My concern is to balance climate change solutions with other factors, such as maintaining or improving biodiversity, minimizing impacts to wildlife corridors and nesting areas, minimizing pollution, and ensuring the availability of resources, especially the precious commodity of clean drinking water now and for future generations. Tri-Valley ExComm members have invited and will continue to invite water experts to present at our meetings. My goal is for all of us to continue to fight for clean drinking water.

Polluted air in our valley tends to stay in our area. Since Livermore has two landfills, it is important that air and land pollution from garbage trucks and the landfills’ operations are mitigated.

I kindly ask and thank you for your support and your vote.

Hari Lamba

No candidate statement submitted.
2022 Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter Election Ballot:

Please vote for the Chapter Executive Committee and your local group Executive Committee. Candidate names have been listed in alphabetical order by last name. Mark your ballot with black or blue ink. Please make your selections legible and keep your marks within the boxes. If you mismark your ballot, you may make a correction in a manner that clearly indicates your intended vote.

Once you have made your selections, cut out this page, place the ballot in a stamped envelope, and mail it to: Ballot Submission, Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter, P.O. Box 2663, Berkeley, CA 94702. Paper ballots sent by fax or email will not be counted. The mailing label printed on the reverse of your ballot, which includes your unique membership number, will indicate it’s valid. Your ballot must be received by Sunday, December 11th.

If you prefer to vote online, visit sierraclub.org/sfbay/chapter-elections. For further instructions on voting and submitting your ballot, see page 15. The 2022 Chapter Nominations and Elections Committee thanks you for voting!

### CHAPTER EX COM
(vote for 4 or fewer)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single member/first joint member</th>
<th>2nd joint member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philip Haves</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Morrison</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Pilch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marisol Rubio</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MOUNT DIABLO GROUP EX COM
(vote for 4 or fewer)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single member/first joint member</th>
<th>2nd joint member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Barrett</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan T. Bash</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Chatowski</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wietske Medema</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Van Landuyt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP EX COM
(vote for 3 or fewer)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single member/first joint member</th>
<th>2nd joint member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rishi Gurjar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenn Kirby</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martha Kreeger</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Turner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CHAPTER BYLAW AMENDMENTS
(write YES or NO for each, or leave blank)

| Amendment 1                      |                  |
| Amendment 2                      |                  |

### DELTA GROUP EX COM
(vote for 3 or fewer)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single member/first joint member</th>
<th>2nd joint member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joe Kovalick</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Linde</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Seger</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP EX COM
(vote for 4 or fewer)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single member/first joint member</th>
<th>2nd joint member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donald Lathbury</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Pilch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Igor A. Tregub</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ana Vasudeo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP BYLAW AMENDMENTS
(write YES or NO for each, or leave blank)

| Amendment 1                      |                  |
| Amendment 2                      |                  |

### TRI-VALLEY GROUP EX COM
(vote for 3 or fewer)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single member/first joint member</th>
<th>2nd joint member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steven Dunbar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Mauro</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Milanese</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Silva</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP BYLAW AMENDMENTS
(write YES or NO for each, or leave blank)

| Amendment 1                      |                  |
| Amendment 2                      |                  |

### WEST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY GROUP EX COM
(vote for 1 or fewer)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single member/first joint member</th>
<th>2nd joint member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hari Lamba</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MARIN GROUP EX COM
(vote for 3 or fewer)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single member/first joint member</th>
<th>2nd joint member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Bogard</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamela Ruby Meigs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holli Thier</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MARIN GROUP BYLAW AMENDMENTS
(write YES or NO for each, or leave blank)

| Amendment 1                      |                  |
| Amendment 2                      |                  |

### SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP EX COM
(vote for 3 or fewer)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single member/first joint member</th>
<th>2nd joint member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Becky Evans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kieran Farr</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra Lee Fewer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Akemi Groth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim-Shree Maufas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Reyes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Whitfield</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
An American white pelican on Lake Elizabeth in Fremont. Photo by Sundar Amartur. For a chance to get your snapshots featured in the next issue of the Yodeler, email photos to yodedit@sfbaysc.org or share them on Twitter or Instagram with the hashtag #SierraSnapshots. Include your name, the names of any people in the photo, and where and when the photo was taken.