

*Chapter Chair Chat, March 2024*

## **Chapter News**

*By Mila Vujovich La-Barre, Chapter Chair*

Dear All -

It has been a remarkable honor to assume the role of Chair of the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club. It is a blessing that both Andrew Christie, our beloved, retired Director of nearly two decades and Carole Mintzer, the genius past Chair of our club are nearby for consultation and guidance.

The Executive Committee and other Committee Chairs have collectively helped to guide our vision for the future through formal and casual meetings. What wonderful souls they are!

The office on Marsh Street has been transformed into a communal meeting place. We are increasing our efforts at communication with Chapter members. I strongly encourage everyone to explore all the tabs on our website <https://www.sierraclub.org/santa-lucia> that include opportunities to socialize and volunteer. There is a place for everyone to participate and celebrate Mother Nature!

I am happy to report that outreach for a new Santa Lucia Chapter Coordinator went very well. There were over 40 applicants for the position. The resumes were impressive and with the assistance of the National office, we will soon be interviewing seven stellar candidates. It is my hope that by April we will have a new Coordinator to serve our Chapter.

I also want to sincerely thank all who attended and assisted with our fundraiser last November. The donors of our silent auction items were also so appreciated! Thanks to BK Richards, Luann and Brad Parker, John Sanders, Listen Bonnier, Ayanna Chambers, and anyone whose name I missed for their incredible contributions.

The event at Cal Poly, headed up by Stephanie Carlotti, Janine Kennel Rands and assisted by Gianna Patchen, was an opportunity to hear some wonderful guest speakers, honor John Sanders and plan for upcoming events.

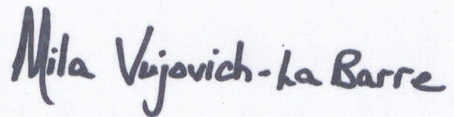
It is also so heartwarming for me to hear from our Treasurer Julie Lang monthly. The donations from our Santa Lucia members make the magic happen!

Our dynamo Vice-Chair Ranel Porter and I have been working to develop a robust list of interesting presenters for our General Meetings from now through the end of 2024. Stay tuned and Zoom in to learn about a variety of topics at those meetings.

This Spring, we are all looking forward to again having an opportunity to celebrate Andrew Christie with a tree planting in his honor at Santa Margarita Park on April 13. Everyone will be invited to interact with a picnic in hand to view our local mountains in spectacular shades of green!

In closing, I live each day with a deep sense of appreciation for all of life's blessings. Being intimately connected with the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club is definitely one of them!

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in dark ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Mila Vujovich-La Barre" in a cursive, slightly slanted script.

Mila Vujovich-La Barre  
Chair