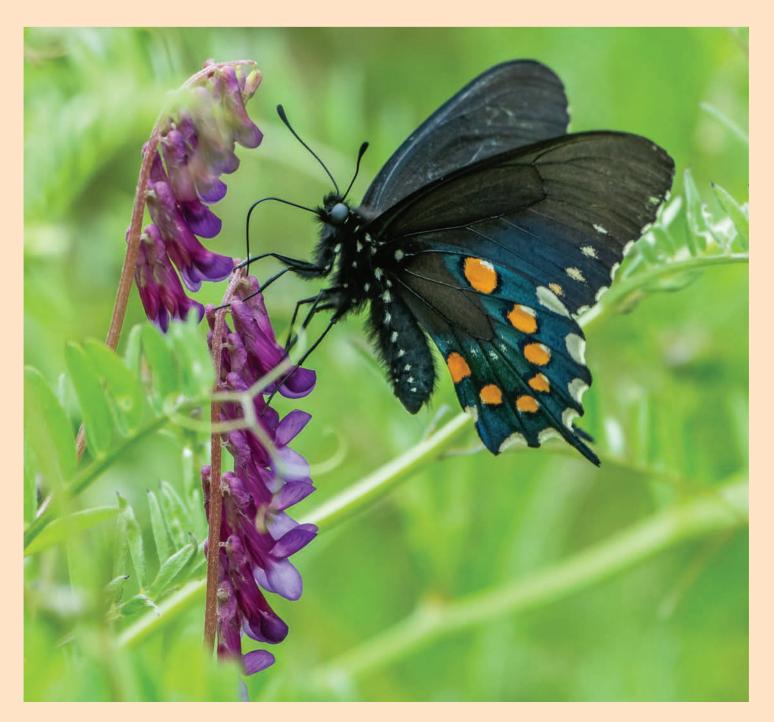
Sierra Club YODELER

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER * SUMMER 2019



SEN. KEVIN DE LEÓN TO HEADLINE BAY CHAPTER'S FALL FUNDRAISER

• WILL BERKELEY NIX NATURAL GAS SERVICE IN NEW BUILDINGS? •

ARE YOU GUILTY OF "WISHFUL RECYCLING"? HOW TO JUNK THE HABIT

• WORKSHEET: DECODE YOUR "COMMUNITY CHOICE" ENERGY BILL •

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Did you know that there are over 300 people here in the Bay Area who have been Sierra Club members for over 50 years? Wow! It gets even better: There are 120 people who have been members for over 60 years, and 50 who have been members for over 70 years! That means that some of our members were children when they went on their first chapter



outing. Connecting with our local environment early committed them to the chapter's environmental work for their entire lives.

Now in our 96th year as a chapter, we are starting to connect with children again. Through a new children's program piloted this spring, we're bringing local families together to learn about the environment. Grandparents bring their grandchildren, new moms bring wee babies, and nannies bring wild toddlers. We have even had an American Sign Language interpreter to welcome Deaf families to our programs.

What do we talk about with these families? The environment! (What else?) So far this year we've led program about pollinators, making small bee houses for the kids to take home and put in their yards. We've taught them about public transportation, making a train out of old cardboard boxes that the kids could "ride" in. We even organized a fossil-excavating project involving JELL-O that left the office a little sticky for a few days.

But this isn't just about fun with JELL-O and pipe cleaners. When we welcome multiple generations, we have an informal opportunity to talk about the most pressing issues facing the Bay Area — from housing to toxic coal dust to oil refineries. Working with multiple generations of environmentalists is the best and most effective way to get our work done.

In this issue, you will read about water and housing policy, coal exports, recycling, natural gas infrastructure, wildfire, and more. These are issues that affect every single person here in the Bay Area, regardless of age. We hope that you will connect with us this summer through whatever means you like best — activism, outings or both! The future of the Bay Area belongs to everyone, young and old. Here at the chapter, we want to connect with you all.

Minda Berbeco

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Pipevine swallowtail butterfly by Michael Reinhart



SUMMER 2019 CHAPTER **NEWS**

Oakland tree team seeks year-round tree maintenance volunteers

Sunday, June 9th is our final tree-planting event of the 2018-19 season — join us! No experience is required but you should be able to lift at least 30 pounds and be prepared to get a bit dirty. Find the details at bit.ly/plantthisspring.

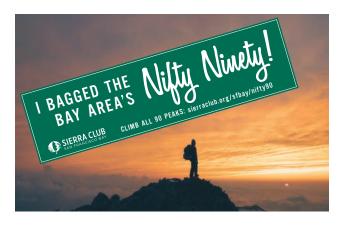
A big "thank you" to all the volunteers that helped to make this another successful year of tree planting. Thank you for toiling under the sun (or rain) to get those saplings into the ground. We hope you visit the trees you planted in a few years to see how much they've grown and how wonderful they look in their new homes - not to mention how much carbon they're sequestering!

Just because the planting season is coming to a close doesn't mean the work is over. If you want to help our urban canopy year-round, consider joining our tree maintenance team. The trees we plant need regular visits to make sure they're getting the water, pruning, and attention they need to thrive. Reach out to Sierra Club Tree Team coordinator Soo-Rae Hong at sctreeplanting@gmail.com for details.

Admin/phone-banking volunteers needed now

We're looking for a few good people to staff the front desk at our Berkeley storefront location on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. You'll be fielding questions and concerns from members of the public in person and on the phone. We'll also ask you to help out with administrative tasks like data entry, as well as phonebanking to inform Sierra Club members about events and issues.

This position fluctuates between periods of activity and periods of slower-paced work. It's a good fit for for reliable, on-time people who enjoy interacting with the public — especially over the phone. We ask for a regular shift of at least three hours and we ask for at least a three-month commitment. Email walter.pope@sierraclub.org to learn more.



Hike 90 Bay Area peaks, claim your prize!

Looking for an outdoor challenge this summer? Tackle our list of 90 Bay Area peak hikes highlighting the spectacular geographic diversity of our region. Each of the "Nifty 90" 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 125-year history.

Find the list online at sierraclub.org/sfbay/nifty90. When you're done, send us the dates and/or photos from your epic adventures at yodedit@sfbaysc.org and we'll send you a free commemorative bumper sticker.

Readers needed for kids storytime program

We're looking for engaging readers who enjoy sharing ideas and stories with young children in a small group setting. If that's you, come and share books with an environmental theme at our regular children's education programs.

Our children's program is designed to introduce the next generation of environmentalists to the wonders of nature. The program is free and open to kids under 6 and their caregivers. Programs typically include an environment-related story time followed by a hands-on lesson and activity such as seed-planting, art-making, or scavenger hunt. Story-time volunteers will not be responsible for planning the other activities, but we are looking for volunteers to help out with that element of the program too!

Our children's program is held each second and fourth Thursday morning of the month from 10:30 to 11:15 AM at our Berkeley location. Our summer schedule will likely include other opportunities as well — visit sierraclub.org/ sfbay/events for more. We'd like to find volunteers who can sign up for a regular monthly shift, but occasional storytellers are needed as well. Contact Julia at 510-848-0800 ext. 304 or julia.foote@sierraclub.org to express your interest.

The Honorable Kevin de León to headline the 2019 David Brower Dinner

TICKETS AND SPONSORSHIPS ON SALE NOW FOR THE SEPT. 21 EVENT

We are very excited to announce former State Senator Kevin de León as Keynote Speaker for our David Brower Dinner this fall. The annual gala celebration and awards ceremony will take place on the evening of Saturday, September 21st at



San Francisco's Delancey Street Town Hall. To hear Senator de León's address and to support the work of your local Sierra Club chapter, purchase early-bird tickets or sponsorships at *sierraclub.org/sfbay/davidbrowerdinner2019* or call Matt Bielby at 510-848-0800 ext. 321.

Here's more information about Senator de León and the evening's other inspiring honorees:

Former State Senator KEVIN DE LEÓN was the first Latino to be elected President pro Tempore of the California Legislature in more than 130 years. As a senator, he was known for trailblazing legislation with a strong focus on environmental justice. His first ballot measure upon arrival in Sacramento allocated funds for the creation of new parks in underserved communities. De León later authored a bill requiring the California Air Resources Board spend at least 25% of cap-and-trade revenue to benefit low-income communities disproportionately affected by pollution. In 2014, his Charge Ahead California Act

created a rebate initiative to make electric cars more affordable for working-class families. De León sponsored the groundbreaking law SB 100 (signed in 2018), which set the state's target of 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2045.

HELEN BURKE will be honored with the ED BENNETT LIFE-TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD. This year marks Helen Burke's 50th year of Sierra Club membership. Helen has served in many Club leadership roles at the local, state, and national levels. Her career includes four terms on the East Bay Municipal Utility District Board of Directors and 16 years in environmental planning at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Helen's ongoing volunteer work with the Club includes tireless advocacy on behalf of East Bay parkland and park users.

JOHN SUTTER will receive the 2019 TRAILBLAZER AWARD. John's career in public service includes terms as an Alameda County deputy district attorney, an Alameda County Superior Court judge, a member of the Oakland City Council, and a board member of the East Bay Regional Park District. He is an unparalleled champion for environmental protection and a key figure in the expansion and preservation of open space, parks, trails, and the bay.

The EMERGING VOICES YOUTH AWARD will go to JACQUELINE OMANIA'S THIRD-GRADE CLASS at Berkeley'S Oxford Elementary and the school'S HEIRS TO OUR OCEANS CLUB. The young activists have virtually eliminated disposable products in their classroom and in the school's cafeteria during its "waste-free Wednesdays." This school year the third graders combined their conservation efforts with a lesson in civics, advocating successfully for Berkeley's Disposable-Free Dining Ordinance.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE NANCY PELOSI will be honored with the PHIL BURTON PROFILE IN COURAGE AWARD. As Speaker, Pelosi has made the climate crisis her flagship issue, enacting comprehensive energy legislation in 2007 that raised vehicle fuel efficiency standards for the first time in 32

years and making an historic commitment to American home grown biofuels. In 2009, under her leadership, the House passed the landmark American Clean Energy and Security Act — a comprehensive bill to create clean energy jobs, combat the climate crisis, and transition America to a clean energy economy. The legislation was blocked by Republicans in the United States Senate, but sent a strong signal to the world. In San Francisco, Pelosi was the architect of legislation to create the Presidio Trust and transform the former military post into an urban national park.



Berkeley considers proposal to phase out natural gas in buildings

MELISSA YU

Did you know that gas appliances in our homes and buildings consume more gas than all of California's power plants and are a major source of climate and air pollution? Here in California, building emissions are second only to transportation as the leading source of greenhouse gas emissions. Roughly 90% of residential and commercial buildings in California use gas. That's why building electrification is an essential strategy to curb climate and air pollution. Luckily, cities like Berkeley are starting to step up and take action.

A proposed ordinance introduced by Berkeley Councilmember Kate Harrison would phase out installation of polluting gas infrastructure when issuing permits for new buildings. Berkeley has set an ambitious emission reduction target of 33 percent below 2000 levels by 2020 — but the city is 18 percent behind its target. Building electrification will play an important role in helping us meet this goal.

All-electric buildings can save homeowners money by lowering utility bills. Modern, high-efficiency electric heating technologies can also cost less up-front than their gas counterparts — especially when installed during new construction — because there's no need to extend costly gas pipelines and infrastructure.

Powering local homes and buildings with clean, renewable energy will improve public health by eliminating a substantial source of indoor air pollution. Fossil fuel appliances release dangerous toxins, leading to air pollution levels in some homes that would be illegal if measured outside. A recent study found that gas stoves may be responsible for up to 12 percent of childhood asthma cases.

Electric infrastructure is powered by increasingly clean sources. Berkeley's electricity, sourced by East Bay Community Energy, is 85 percent carbon free at a minimum. As a result, shifting to electric power in our buildings dramatically lowers greenhouse gas emissions. Through building decarbonization, Berkeley is striving to make changes that reduce smog and support human health.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Join us at Berkeley's city council meetings in July to advocate for this important step toward limiting Berkeley's reliance on fossil fuels. To learn more about this issue and to get the most up-to-date information about future meetings, please contact Richard Rollins at *rrollins@rollinscs.com*. You can also contact Richard if you don't live in Berkeley and you want your city to follow in its footsteps.

Are you guilty of "Wishful Recycling"?

ALFRED TWU

One of the biggest challenges in recycling right now is "wishful recycling": the placing of mixed and nonrecyclable objects (cardboard boxes with other stuff in them, plastic takeout containers half full of food, or objects made up of multiple materials) in the recycling bin. While it might feel good to avoid the trash can, wishful recycling simply causes these objects to take a labor-intensive detour through recycling facilities on their eventual way to a landfill — or worse, the ocean.

Here's a list of ways things can go wrong:

- When cardboard boxes are compacted in the recycling truck, lithium batteries can start fires.
 - In cities that mix paper and containers in the same

cart, food contaminates paper, making it unsellable.

 Trash that gets baled up and exported with recyclables can end up getting sorted out in unregulated facilities where trash is dumped and ends up in rivers and oceans.



Solving the problem of wishful recycling takes both personal and policy action, such as expanding the number of places taking hazardous materials, regulations that shift food containers from plastic to compostables, and dual-stream recycling that separates materials at the source.

The chapter's Zero Waste Committee meets on the first or second Tuesday of odd-numbered months, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at Urban Ore in Berkeley. Contact chair Alfred Twu at alfredtwu@gmail.com for meeting schedule.

Advocates stay focused on full phase-out of Richmond coal

TERILYN CHEN

There's been a development in the campaign to protect Richmond communities from toxic coal dust pollution. At its April 23rd meeting, the Richmond City Council considered a new proposal by Mayor Tom Butt that would prevent future permitting of coal and petroleum coke facilities. Thanks to quick action by community members, local activists, and government officials, the proposal was approved with some significant and positive amendments. It now goes

to the Planning Commission for further development.

The mayor's proposal called for changes to the city's zoning ordinance which, upon implementation, would prevent future coal and pet coke storage and handling activities, as well as any expansions of existing storage and handling activities — a

great step in the fight to stop coal dust pollution in Richmond. However, community members and the chapter believed that the proposal was lacking in one very significant area: the phase-out of Richmond's *existing* coal and pet coke facility, the Levin Terminal. That facility shipped nearly one million metric tons of coal last year.

With that in mind, local activists with No Coal in Richmond worked hard to mobilize the community (over Easter weekend, no less!) to ensure that the proposal wouldn't hinder a complementary ordinance proposed by Councilmember Eduardo Martinez late last year to phase out *all current and future* Richmond coal activities. With only a couple days' notice, community members and activists showed up at City Hall to emphasize the necessity of Martinez's phase-out ordinance.

Our efforts were bolstered by a letter that Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia wrote to the City Council. In his letter, which was read aloud at the meeting by a member of his staff, Supervisor Gioia recommended that the Council approve Mayor Butt's proposal, as well as:

"...(1) direct that the City continue to move forward with its previous direction to develop an ordinance to phase out

existing operations, and (2) clarify that even after the zoning change, there needs to be further review of the City's permit records before making a final determination that the existing coal/coke facility is a 'legal non-conforming use."

Supervisor Gioia made the second request because it is unclear if the Levin-Richmond Terminal ever obtained a permit allowing its current coal and petcoke handling.

Following the strong display by community members, Mayor Butt moved to approve his proposal with Supervisor Gioia's amendments and, at the urging of Councilmember Martinez, with the understanding that the proposal would complement the coal phase-out ordinance. All city councilmembers present voted in favor of the motion, except for Councilmember Nathaniel Bates, who abstained.

Now the Planning Commission will develop language to update Richmond's zoning ordinance for further consideration by the City Council.

This is a positive step, and the chapter will continue to work with community partners and decision-makers to advocate for the phase-out ordinance introduced

by Councilmember Martinez; we believe that's our best path to fully protecting the community from the hazards of coal dust pollution. Expected to go in front of the Planning Commission in June, the ordinance will then need to go back to the City Council for two separate votes before it can pass.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

We would love to have you join us in this important work to keep Richmond communities safe from toxic coal dust pollution! Here are few easy ways you can help:

- 1. Sign our letter urging the council to pass the phase-out ordinance at *addup.sierraclub.org/campaigns/coalfreerichmond*.
- 2. Sign up for our email list at *sierraclub.org/sfbay/email* to get campaign updates and hear about advocacy opportunities.
- 3. Join in our canvassing efforts with No Coal in Richmond to collect signatures and spread awareness. Find the next canvassing dates, as well as monthly No Coal in Richmond meeting dates, at *ncir.weebly.com/lets-do-this*.
- 4. Think you see coal dust on or near your house? Email *coal@sfbaysc.org* to find out how to report it. We may even be able to come out and take a sample.

Terilyn Chen is a Regional Coal Organizer with the Sierra Club. You can email her at terilyn.chen@sierraclub.org.

What's the deal with the Green **New Deal?**

JULIA FOOTE

You've probably heard some buzz about the Green New Deal recently, whether it be praise, criticism, or just plain confusion. Before we get any deeper, let's set the record straight: The Green New Deal in its current form is not a policy; it's a resolution. It lays out the goals, aspirations, and some specifics of a program that would implement a transformative, historic economic mobilization to solve climate change — one that provides good-paying green jobs, economic growth, and equity for all. The resolution was introduced to Congress on February 7, 2019 by Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Senator Ed Markey. The Senate voted the resolution down on March 26, but there is a strong movement still behind it that continues to grow and needs mass support.

A "Road to the Green New Deal" tour recently made its way around the country to spread the word about the resolution and build support through informative, community-organized town halls. These town halls were primarily led by members of the Sunrise organization, with partners like the Sierra Club helping out. Sunrise is a nationwide movement of young people who work to make climate change an urgent priority across America, end the corrupting influence of fossil fuel executives on our politics, and elect leaders who stand up for the health and wellbeing of all people.

Over the past couple of months, members of Sunrise have organized 10 town halls in the Bay Area to bring the conversation about the Green New Deal to our communities. The Oakland Town Hall was held on April 24th at Sierra Club's national headquarters, and organized by Sunrise members Willa, an artist, educator, and mother living in Oakland, and Kobi, a beekeeper and account manager designing solar systems at CivicSolar in uptown Oakland. We asked them a couple of questions to debrief on the town halls.

WHAT IS YOUR ELEVATOR PITCH FOR THE GREEN NEW DEAL?

Willa: Climate change is a global emergency and the clock is ticking. We have ten years to radically re-imagine and re-create every aspect of our daily life to avoid a cataclysmic chain reaction of collapse. Yes, it's cause for panic, but not paralysis. We must act, and we must act now. The



kind of action we need isn't unprecedented. We have mobilized massive, coordinated, impressive legislation in the past, when faced with crises. Just like the New Deal [of the 1930s], the Green New Deal will transform our economy and environment at a scale and rate that meets the scale and rate of this crisis.

WHAT DID THE AUDIENCE AT YOUR TOWN HALL LOOK LIKE? WHO WAS THERE, AND WHO WAS MISSING?

Kobi: We had phenomenal attendance at our town hall, bringing together more than 130 people — from high schoolers to retirees.

Willa: We had an amazing turnout from local community members. In the future, we will try to have more lead time to recruit and support participation from more attendees from frontline and under-resourced communities.

WHAT DO YOU FEEL PEOPLE LEARNED OR WALKED AWAY WITH?

Kobi: Everyone who came to the town hall left having taken concerted action to encourage Rep. Nancy Pelosi to support the Green New Deal and armed with information to promote and reach out to their own communities about the Green New Deal.

Willa: I think folks left feeling less alone and more connected to a community of people who are ready to do whatever it takes to address this crisis.

HOW CAN FOLKS SUPPORT THIS **MOVEMENT?**

Kobi: The time to turn up the heat on addressing the climate crisis is now! We've all got to work hard to ensure that the 2020 election is a referendum on climate. Everyone should encourage their representatives to support the Green New Deal. And the Sunrise movement could use some donations to keep the work going!

Bay Chapter forms a new Environmental Justice Team

WILLIAM SMITH

The San Francisco Bay Chapter recently formed an Environmental Justice Team to focus chapter resources on the environmental disparities that lower-income and minority communities face every day. These environmental injustices often include unhealthy pollution, crowded and substandard housing, and time-consuming transit.

Climate change impacts, from severe heat waves to higher food costs, disproportionately affect our most vulnerable populations — a reality that will only exacerbate inequality. Sea level rise and storms threaten low-lying coastal areas that are home to predominantly low-income and minority communities, including areas in East and West Oakland and San Leandro.

Many chapter projects have improved the environment for vulnerable communities. For example:

- Our Transportation and Compact Growth Committee has long advocated for better transit in underserved communities, especially free fares for students.
- Club members lead a program to plant street trees that cool Oakland neighborhoods (see page 3).
- Earlier this year in the City of Alameda the Sierra Club supported a successful election campaign to permit a wellness center for homeless and vulnerable seniors (see the article below for more details).
- The Climate Literacy Subcommittee of our Energy Committee works with local teachers and students to ensure that climate literacy is part of schools' curricula.

The new Environmental Justice Team will support all chapter groups, committees, sections, and other entities to build on and develop new shared goals and working partnerships with under-resourced and front-line communities.

Come join us! Please contact committee chair Elizabeth Lam at *elamberkeley@gmail.com* or William (Bill) Smith at *WJASmith@AOL.com* or 510-522-0390 to get involved. If you know any communities we should partner with to promote environmental justice, please let us know that as well.

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Sierra Club helps win campaign for homeless housing in Alameda

WILLIAM SMITH

In a special election on April 9th, City of Alameda voters reaffirmed a decision by their city council to permit a wellness center for homeless residents of Alameda County. By supporting this campaign, the Sierra Club advanced two of its core principles: the right of all people to a safe and healthy home environment and the reuse of functional buildings.

The Alameda Wellness Center will house 90 homeless seniors. It will also enable an additional 50 homeless seniors to continue their recovery after they are discharged from hospitals in Alameda County. A collocated resource center will help adult residents of the city facing homelessness locate appropriate housing and services.

Measure B, the competing "open space" measure that failed at the ballot box, was based on the false premise that there was an official plan for a park on the parcel. The measure was only meant to kill the project at this location next to a popular existing park.

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6514

Unpacking myths about housing development in the Bay Area

JULIA FOOTE

The nine-county Bay Area, currently home to 7.7 million people, is projected to add another 2 million new residents by 2040. Such growth comes with opportunities for innovation, vibrant communities, and a sustainable urban consolidation of people and resources. However, the growth of the Bay Area has also brought up legitimate concerns such as displacement, water scarcity, traffic, and threats to local control over development. It ultimately raises the question: can the region support this growth, and can it do so sustainably and equitably?

In this discussion I often hear folks turning to a rather controversial question: how we can stop population growth in the Bay Area? The fact of the matter is that it is highly unlikely that demand to live in the Bay Area will ease any time soon, given a booming economy and changing lifestyle preferences that favor urban areas. I would argue that a more productive question to ask as both environmentalists and socially conscious residents is: how do we plan for and accommodate this growth in the best possible way? For us at the Sierra Club, that means in the most equitable and sustainable way. We want to take a solutions-based approach to such concerns.

When planned well, compact urban areas allow for human populations to live much more sustainably than they would in sprawling suburbs. Building densely in infill areas not only helps preserve open space and the ecosystem services it provides, but it also allows us to conserve resources and energy because they are used more efficiently in dense areas. People living in cities have a much smaller ecological footprint. Adding density in existing communities that are already equipped with infrastructure like utility lines, police and fire protection, schools, and shops eliminates the financial and environmental costs of expanding those services out to sprawling communities.

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MYTH: TRAFFIC WILL GET WORSE

A major concern about adding more housing to our communities is traffic. However, compact urban design can actually reduce driving because it makes for more walkable neighborhoods and brings together the concentration of population required to make public transportation feasible. Traffic congestion in the Bay Area is so bad because of a jobs-housing imbalance in many cities; that means there are either too many jobs and not enough housing, or too much housing and not enough jobs. That imbalance causes many people to have to commute to work, often in cars when areas are not well served by public transit.

When planning for the growth of the region, the jobs-housing imbalance must be addressed by distributing jobs to cities with lots of housing and workers who currently commute to other job centers. Conversely, areas with a high concentration of jobs and insufficient housing should focus on building up housing supply to strike a sustainable balance.

MYTH: THERE ISN'T ENOUGH WATER

Water is a top concern when thinking about the growth of the Bay Area. Do we have enough water to sustain a growing population? Most water utilities actively work to secure sufficient water supplies for projected demand within about a 30-year planning horizon. If we accommodate growth in a strategic and compact way, we could actually reduce water use from a business-as-usual scenario. Sprawl areas consume much more water for residential and commercial use than

urban infill, mainly due to landscape uses. Compact development allows for shorter transmission systems, reducing leak losses and reducing energy needs for pumping and pressurization. Growing strategically also means optimizing our existing water supplies through efficiency, demand management, conservation, plumbing code changes and other efforts.

MYTH: ALL NEW HOUSING WILL CAUSE DISPLACEMENT

Part of the reluctance about new housing stems from an understandable resistance to gentrification and displacement. There is no doubt that new development is causing gentrification in many neighborhoods and has resulted in displacement of thousands of people. However, resisting

housing development is not going to stop new jobs and people from coming in. Stopping and slowing new housing development will only exacerbate the housing crisis and the displacement of longtime residents in at-risk communities — primarily low-income communities and communities of color — who can't compete with the rent check a newcomer can put down.

That is not to say the answer is to put up luxury condos in low-income neighborhoods; again, we need to take a solutions-based approach. We need to plan for a Bay Area that supports growth while protecting the right of current residents, especially at-risk communities, to remain here. That plan should include listening to vulnerable communities, continuously building upon strong tenant protections, and preserving existing affordable housing stock.

The Sierra Club has long lobbied for such measures, including initiatives that protect renters against evictions and cap rent increases. Market-rate units can be leveraged to subsidize affordable units; these "inclusionary requirements" can and should be updated to maximize the share of new construction that's affordable by people with low to moderate incomes. Opportunities to create more "missing middle" housing for people who don't qualify for affordable housing, but who can't afford market rate, should be explored — for example, rezoning areas to allow for accessory dwelling units or for duplexes and triplexes to go up in neighborhoods zoned for single-family houses. We can also push our cities and state to pass affordable housing bonds.

Addressing the housing crisis will take a portfolio of solutions, especially to curb displacement. While it is not as simple as building up supply to meet demand, stopping supply surely will not stop demand.

MYTH: BUILDING MORE MEANS TOTAL LOSS OF LOCAL CONTROL

Many Bay Area cities and residents fear that state legislation around housing development will eliminate local control over development decisions. Various proposals have emerged that would require cities to relax zoning density near transit and jobs — but in most cases almost every decision currently made by a local government on housing would continue to be made at the local level. Policies that would allow for more infill density near jobs and transit would still make new development subject to existing labor and employment standards for new construction, local development fees, local design standards, local inclusionary housing standards, local demolition controls, and local approval processes. (As of this printing the Sierra Club had not taken any positions on state-level

housing bills; refer to sierraclub.org/california for updates.)

The erosion of environmental review is a concern that's often tied to loss of local control. The CEQA process is one of the primary means for Californians to learn what is planned in their communities and weigh in to help reduce health and environmental impacts. The erosion of CEQA and its protections is a rational fear — and something that the Sierra Club is determined to prevent. But it's also true that CEQA is a living document and has been amended continuously since its enactment to make the review process function efficiently. CEQA and growth are not at odds; Studies have documented that since its enactment in 1970, CEQA has not prevented California from building and thriving. We can have both housing development and strong environmental review.

MYTH: NEW HOUSING WILL DESTROY LOCAL CHARACTER

As for local character; yes, there will be some visible changes to neighborhoods with new development. However, that doesn't necessarily mean the feel of a place will be lost. Some cities have adopted "form based codes" — land development regulations that set standards for form and scale and therefore help maintain a community's aesthetic continuity and sense of place.

A growing and changing Bay Area has evoked fear around what we have to lose; but if we address those concerns with a solutions-based approach rooted in good planning and policy, we can look forward to what this region has to gain. We can conserve our open space and natural resources while reducing emissions and traffic congestion if we promote dense, infill development and reliable, efficient public transit. We can use precious water more efficiently through compact growth, as well as education and policy measures that reduce consumption. We can combat displacement by taking a holistic approach to the housing crisis that emphasizes affordable housing and tenant protections while still building up our housing stock.

If we don't plan for the growth that is to come, we risk losing so much more: our teachers, city employees, service workers, and low-income neighbors who are already being priced out; open space and wildlife habitat to sprawl development; and the efficient use of our resources and energy in urban centers. Achieving an equitable and sustainable Bay Area will not be a one-size-fits-all solution, but we certainly will not get there if our approach is to resist change.

Julia Foote is a staff organizer with the Bay Chapter.

KNOW YOUR POWER PROVIDER?

Most Bay Area residents and businesses now get their electricity through a local **Community Choice Energy** program – and they may not know it!

Where you live:	MARIN COUNTY	CONTRA COSTA COUNTY	SAN FRANCISCO	ALAMEDA COUNTY
Your Community Choice program:	MCE Clean Energy My community. My choice.		CleanPowerSF Same Service • Cleaner Energy	community energy
Customer service:	(888) 632- 3674		(415) 554-0773	(833) 699-3223
What is Community Choice and how does it work?	Community Choice program buys energy, re		anity Choice programs are and renewable energy at dutility (PG&E). Profits are renewable energy infrastructure.	e administered by local prices that are competitive e reinvested back into the

KEY TERMINOLOGY TO HELP YOU DECODE YOUR ENERGY BILL*:

	This is DC 9 T/2 shows to deliver all atricity averture remains in linear resistain infrastructure and	
PG&E Electric Delivery Charges	This is PG&E's charge to deliver electricity over transmission lines, maintain infrastructure, and other fees to support customer service and billing. This is a charge you have always paid with PG&E.	
Generation Credit	This is the amount of money you have been credited back because you switched from PG&E t Community Choice energy provider and no longer use PG&E power.	
Electric Generation Charge	This is the cost of procurement of energy by your Community Choice energy provider. This is not an additional charge, simply the cost of energy you use. This charge replaces PG&E's past generation charge. Bonus: Your energy is cleaner overall!	
Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA)	This is a fee required by PG&E to subsidize the cost of the energy they purchased to supply to customers prior to these customers switching to a Community Choice program.	
Franchise Fee Surcharge	This fee is collected by PG&E to cover costs associated with the use of public streets to provide gas and electric service. This fee is factored into Community Choice programs' rate setting process to keep rates comparable to PG&E.	
Energy Commission Tax/ Energy Surcharge	Fee collected by the California Energy Commission that applies to all electricity customers regardless of their provider. This is a charge you have always paid with PG&E.	
Net Charges	This is the amount your Community Choice provider collects for your electricity usage.	
Minimum Delivery Charge	This applies to customers using minimal amounts of energy who do not see a generation credit on their bill. In this case customers do not pay retail cost per kilowatt hour for their energy, so PG&E does not issue a kilowatt per hour-based generation credit.	



DECODE YOUR ENERGY BILL



This worksheet will help you compare the savings you receive each month through your Community Choice energy provider compared to what you'd be paying for power sourced by PG&E. Savings depend on which energy mix you have selected; Community Choice energy programs ofter customers a tier of service options, with the most environmentally friendly being 100% renewable electricity for a small premium. Customers in the standard service will receive the most savings while still enjoying cleaner power than they'd get with PG&E.

Using the worksheet below, customers enrolled in their provider's standard service tier will calculate a *positive* number showing the amount they save per month with Community Choice compared to PG&E. Customers who have opted into their provider's 100% renewable energy service will calculate a *negative* number showing the small premium they pay monthly.

All Community Choice customers can choose an energy service with a higher percentage of renewable power. Find out how to "opt up" at sierraclub.org/sfbay/community-choice-energy.



NOTE: Customers with solar and those with a Minimum Delivery Charge (see facing page for definition) will not see a Generation Credit on their bill and will not be able to use this worksheet. Contact your Community Choice provider to see how you can save.

> Positive number = Savings Negative number = Premium

CALCULATE YOUR ENERGY SAVING / PREMIUM BELOW!

(Numbers typically found on page 3 or 4 of PG&E bill) 1) Find your **Generation** 2) Enter the PG&E Power **3)** Enter the Community **Credit** on your monthly **Charge Indifference** Choice Energy charges electricity bill. Your bill may Adjustment (PCIA) and the listed as Net Charges Franchise Fee Surcharge. list two Generation Credits on your bill. This is the Your bill may list two PCIA fee charged by your for two usage periods; make sure to add them and two Franchise Fee Community Choice provider to replace PG&E's together. Your Generation charges for two usage Charge is different from periods; make sure to add charges, hence the credit your Generation Credit. them together. you gain from Step 1. PCIA: Power Charge **Generation Credit** Franchise Fee Surcharge **Net Charges** Indifference Adjustment (Convert to a positive (Some bills may have two number. Some bills may (Some bills may have two fees listed. Add them have two credits listed for PCIA charges listed. Add together.) two usage periods. Add them together.) them together.)

QUESTIONS? Call your Community Choice program's cutomer service phone number printed on the facing page.

TOTAL (the difference from what you would have paid with PG&E)

De-vegetation isn't the answer to increased wildfire risk

NORMAN LA FORCE

The wildfires last year, especially the Camp Fire, have finally pushed local and State officials to focus on wildfire danger. Unfortunately, much of the response has taken the wrong approach. Just as happened after the Oakland hills firestorm of 1991, the main response has been a knee-jerk call to simply clear all vegetation within a set distance of 300 to 500 feet from any dwelling or development.

Don't get me wrong — homeowners should certainly work to create defensible space around their homes by clearing away dry vegetation and pruning trees near the house. But when we're talking about large-scale practices by land management agencies, this strategy could instead result in far worse danger in the years that follow.

Why? First, there will be no money to do the continued, periodic maintenance that *must* be done. We saw this after the Oakland hills firestorm when the same cry went out to de-vegetate. When this author and others asked the fire officials if they had money for regular maintenance in perpetuity, the response was blank stares and facial expressions of "Why are you asking me that question? Of course we don't." Without massive annual maintenance at a huge cost, the devegetation plan will simply result in more flam-

mable, non-native species taking over and creating an even greater fire danger.

The second reason de-vegetating is a problem is that it destroys habitat and the wildlife that depend on that habitat. That is a reason why the pro-de-vegatators want to stop any attempt to analyze the environmental impacts of these proposed methods; they know they will face huge adverse environmental impacts from what will be done.

Third, there's still a lot more that can be done in terms of building design and materials to "harden" homes against ignition from wind-blown embers. There are still communities where you can put a wood shake roof on your house — probably the most fire-dangerous practice one can undertake in California.

In the Bay Area, we now have calls for some kind of de-vegatating of the East Bay Regional Parks by fire officials in Orinda. The Chapter will be looking into these proposals to ensure that they follow our 3 R's: 1) Remove fire-dangerous exotic vegetation, 2) Restore native habitat that is less fire dangerous and less costly to maintain, and 3) Re-establish the biodiversity of these areas for the return of endangered and threatened species.

If you want to get involved, come to the East Bay Public Lands Committee meetings. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Chapter office. If you cannot physically be present you can call in to a conference number we can give you.

Norman La Force is chair of the Bay Chapter's East Bay Public Lands Committee.

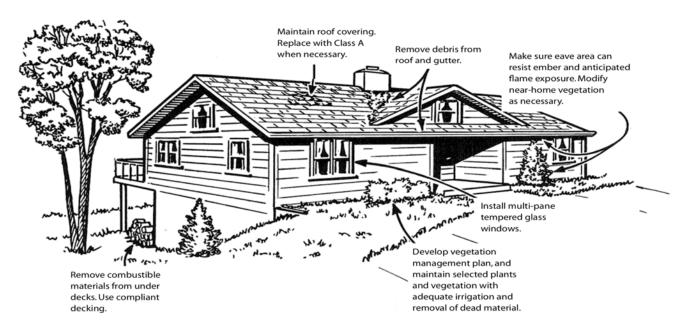


PHOTO CREDIT: Diagram of design features for hardening your home against wildfire from the University of California publication "Home Survival in Wildfire-Prone Areas: Building Materials and Design Considerations," available for download at www.firesafemarin.org/hardening-your-home.

Richmond plows ahead with plan to develop Point Molate

NORMAN LA FORCE

The future of Point Molate — the historic and ecologically rich peninsula at Richmond's western shoreline — continues to be the subject of a contentious legal and political battle. The Sierra Club, along with a strong activist group in Richmond called the Point Molate Alliance, continues to oppose the plan to develop the site into a large-scale community of luxury homes. We support the "Community Plan" for preserving most of Point Molate as park and open space with room for playing fields and some development (such as an educational, and historic destination district). This plan also has the support of the Point Molate Alliance, Citizens for East Shore Parks, Golden Gate Audubon, California Native Plant Society, SPRAWLDEF, and many local leaders.

Two local environmental groups, with the support of the Sierra Club, have sued the city over its secretive backroom deal to build at Point Molate for the financial benefit of a private developer. We are currently waiting for the federal court to set a hearing date for that lawsuit. If the lawsuit prevails, the illegal closed-door settlement would be nullified and the city would have to plan Point Molate's future in a truly open and transparent process.

Meanwhile the City plows forward like the Titanic in the North Atlantic with plans to develop the area. It just recently entered into an Exclusive Negotiating Rights Agreement with developer SunCal. Only council member Eduardo Martinez had the smarts to vote against it. SunCal is the same developer that proposed a project in the City of Alameda which then-mayor Beverly Johnson said would have had "devastating financial impacts" on the city — and





which the voters resoundingly rejected in 2009.

SunCal's Point Molate plan would build on some of the most sensitive ecological areas and would include a paltry 67 affordable housing units — just over 5 percent of a potential 1,200. Rather than building where residents would be dependent on long car trips to access jobs, schools, and shops, new housing should be concentrated in Richmond's urban core, near existing infrastructure, transit, and services.

For more information about how you can help save Point Molate, go to www.ptmolatealliance.org.



Dam relicensing offers a rare shot at environmental gains

BILL MARTIN & SUSAN FORD

Regular readers of the Yodeler know that water is perenially a hot topic in California. But even if you keep an eye on water issues you may not be aware of the implications of the relicensing of California dams — a process conducted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) every 50 years. Two dams on the Tuolumne River, the Don Pedro and the La Grange, are currently in the process of relicensing. The requirements placed on these dams as a condition of relicensing could have major impacts on the environment, public safety (think about the failure of the Oroville Dam spillway in 2017), and Bay Area water customers. Many Bay Area residents get their water from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir located upstream of the Don Pedro and La Grange dams.

With relicensing underway we are in the midst of a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to improve the management of the water that flows through these dams and win some important concessions for the environment. Some important environmental laws adopted since 1970 will now apply to the dams' relicensing: the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the National Environmental Quality Act. All three laws should figure prominently in FERC's decision-making process.

An additional wrinkle is the current State Water Board proposal to require about 40 percent of the water flowing down the Tuolumne to stay in the river rather than being diverted (by dams like the Don Pedro and La Grange, for example, which are managed by local irrigation districts for agricultural use). The proposed 40 percent unimpaired

flows would be a major improvement on the approximately 20 percent of water that's currently allowed to flow down the river to the SF-Bay Delta. More water is needed to feed important Delta ecosystems that are on the verge of collapse.

The State Water Board's proposal for Tuolumne flows could impact management of Hetch Hetchy water. The flow of the entire river is used in the calculations of unimpaired flow, regardless of where the dams are. California has significant input over FERC's decisions regarding these dams, and we should use that power to push for fewer diversions.

So where are we today? Earlier this year, FERC released the draft Environmental Impact Statement (over 700 pages). They held public meetings to present and receive feedback on the draft, and they took written comments. All of these comment periods are now closed, with a final draft underway.

My reading of the draft indicates that unfortunately, FERC fails to address California's proposed rule requiring about 40 percent unimpaired flows. If the final draft takes that stand, we could be in for some very interesting times — possibly another battle between California and the Trump administration regarding water management. I also do not believe that FERC's draft has fully addressed a significant problem on the Tuolumne: the huge drop-off in salmon and steelhead populations. That omission could leave it open to lawsuits filed under the Endangered Species Act.

California has over 1,400 named dams. Some of the largest, such as New Melones on the Stanislaus River and San Luis Reservoir near Los Banos, will be going through their relicensing process in the next few years. FERC's process on the Tuolumne is an important harbinger in how these subsequent dams may fare.

What can we do at this point? The best approach for these projects is to keep an eye on the FERC website (www. ferc.gov) for the final draft. You can also find information there regarding upcoming relicensing events.



Practical advice on how to divest from bad banks

SUSAN OSOFSKY

We're all worried, scared, and angry about the attacks on clean energy, climate action, and public lands. The big question that keeps coming up is: What can we do about it?

We can do a lot, of course, from contacting legislators to taking to the streets. But as we look at the actions of a presidential administration and Congress that are up to their chins in dirty-fuels money, one important thing we can do is survey our own financial affairs and see whether they're aligned with our values. For instance, are we banking and investing in ways that support clean energy and climate action or that undercut them? If the latter, why not do something about it?

The Sierra Club has decided to move away from financial institutions that finance the Dakota Access Pipeline and other high-profile fossil fuel projects. Across the nation, Sierra Club entities that have bank accounts — from the national level down to chapters, groups, and activity sections — are moving our banking and financing arrangements away from the following banking institutions: Bank of America, Citigroup, Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan Chase, PNC Financial, and Wells Fargo.

The Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter has divested from these institutions and our associated groups and activity sections are following suit. Will you join us?

To be sure, closing bank accounts is no small endeavor. But by doing so, we can demonstrate to banks that investing in egregious, destructive fossil fuel projects is an irresponsible thing to do. We can lead by example and make an impact at the same time by helping to keep fossil fuels in the ground.

TIPS FOR DIVESTING:

Here are some tips you might find useful when divesting from bad banks, compiled by Susan Osofsky, treasurer of the Inspiring Connections Outdoors section of the San Francisco Bay Chapter.

TIP 1: Moving bank accounts takes patience and perseverance. Keep in mind the larger picture and why we are doing this. Susan says, "From past experience, I knew going into the change that it would take time and not be smooth. So I waited until I had time and mental space to take care of it."



- **TIP 2:** When checking out local banks, ask about deals like free/no-fee checking account, how often they come up, when they expect the next one, etc. Totally worth doing.
- TIP 3: Expect opening an account to take multiple days (vs. just an hour). When I opened the account, I had all of the documentation they had said that I needed. They then needed to send it to a different department. It took me 2-3 days to determine whether they would open the account. Then they required *one more* piece of information. Double- and triple-confirm that no other paperwork other than what's on the list is required. Even then, understand that they might require something else.
- TIP 4: If you open multiple accounts on different dates, know that <u>all</u> signers need to present for each account that is opened.
- **TIP 5:** Ask for the fee structure. What services do you need? Do they have mobile app? Online access? Feefree? Will you be charged to download account transactions to Quicken/Quickbooks?
- **TIP 6:** Be aware that the change may cost some money. You'll need to pay for new checks and a new deposit stamp. Refer to Tip 1!
- TIP 7: If you represent a Club entity that hasn't yet divested, remember that the Sierra Club Treasurer's Manual provides some important details that you will need to open an account, including the Sierra Club EIN and wording required for a resolution to open a new bank account. If you run into trouble, contact chapter treasurer Roger Williams.

Introduction excerpted from an email by former Sierra Club board member Aaron Mair.

Judd Williams: "Why I give"

MATT BIELBY

Meet Judd Williams, a sustaining force behind the Bay Chapter's most successful campaigns. Judd has been a Club member since 2004, and his tax-deductible monthly donations from his Donor Advised Fund to the Bay Chapter's account at the Sierra Club Foundation support the important work we do to protect the local environment. In this Q&A Judd tells us how he got started as a donor to his local chapter and why it's a cause close to his heart.

Q: WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN THE LOCAL CHAPTER'S WORK?

Coal is a public health disaster. The pollution from the coal terminal in Richmond is a scandal and health danger to the local community. The coal industry has discovered that "grandfathered" facilities can be pumped up and operate with little oversight and ineffective pollution controls for years. The Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter has been there to support the people who live with the costs. This work is central to my hope for the future.

Q: WHY DO YOU GIVE TO THE CHAPTER?

I think the focus of the chapter is making a real impact on local solutions now. They bring broad resources and experience to helping eliminate environmental destruction.



Being able to do monthly transfers from my fund to their account with the Sierra Club Foundation has really allowed me to maximize my giving as well.

Q: ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO SHARE?

The broader efforts of the chapter to monitor the health of our wonderful home and fight for a cleaner better future for our kids and grandchildren makes me happy to support the work.

If Judd's story inspires you to make a one-time or ongoing tax deductible gift to the chapter, visit bit.ly/sfbay-taxdeductible. You can also contact Development Manager Matt Bielby at 510-848-0800 ext. 321 to make your gift over the phone or learn more about donating to the Chapter through your Donor Advised Fund or trust.

Solo Sierrans activity section looking for new leaders

The Solo Sierrans activity section of the Bay Chapter has been in operation since the late 1970s. We currently have 70 members. We are singles who care about each other and our environment. Our group is for all ages, with most participants over 60. A majority are in their 70s and 80s and enjoy easy hikes, picnics in the park, and the opportunity to socialize with other seniors. A quarter of us have been members for more than 25 years. Our weekly hikes at Lake Chabot and Lafayette Reservoir have been going strong since 1980.

We're hoping to expand our weekend hikes and other activities. Without leaders, our group will fail. For further information, contact Dolores Gruenewald at (510)351-6247 or *doloresgru@aol.com*.

Donate a vehicle, get a tax deduction!

The Sierra Club Foundation's SF Bay Chapter accepts cars, trucks, boats, RVs, and other vehicles as a form of support. The process is easy and we provide free and convenient pick-up. Call 844-6-SIERRA (844-674-3772) or visit *scfch.careasy.org* to get started now.



ABOUT THIS CALENDAR

Activities listed here are abbreviated. For full listings, 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 dav):

1. up to 6 miles A. under 1,000 feet B. 1,000 - 2,000 feet 2. 6 - 10 miles 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:

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

What to bring

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

Liabilities

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

Problem resolution

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

Carpooling

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

SUMMER 2019 OUTINGS CALENDAR

TUESDAYS

Lake Chabot Reservoir 1A bike. Scenic weekly three-mile hike followed by optional dinner at a local restaurant. MEET: 4 pm at boathouse/ cafe. Leader: Dolores Gruenewald, (510)351-6247 or doloresgru@aol. com. (Solo Sierrans)

WEDNESDAYS

Lafayette Reservoir 1A hike. We have both faster and slower walkers, or walk at your own pace. Optional dinner afterward. MEET: 4 pm in parking lot (takes five quarters or annual pass). Leader: Lee Cowden, (925)934-6357. (Solo Sierrans)

DEC 1 • SAT

Henry Cowell Fall Creek 2C day bike. Join Steve Bakaley on a leisurely to moderately paced day hike to the Lime Kilns and then on to Big Ben. Explore the Lost Empire (trail). Any rain cancels. MEET: 9:30 am at Henry Cowell Fall Creek Unit trailhead. Ends: 4:30 pm. Leader: Steve Bakaley, slbakaley@gmail.com. (Mount Diablo and Santa Cruz County Groups)

JUNE 2 • SUN

Mt. Diablo Round the Mountain 2C hike. This classic loop provides outstanding views of the Bay Area, the Great Central Valley and the distant Sierra Nevada, all unfolding as we circumambulate the Park's dominant peak. Late spring wildflowers should be abundant. 8 miles with a total elevation gain of about 2,000 feet. Steady, relaxed pace. Cost: \$10 car entry. Meet: 9:30 AM at entrance to Juniper Campground on Summit Road. LEADER: Jake Van Akkeren, (925)933-3486 or jvanakkeren@comcast.net. (Mount Diablo Group)

Mt. Tamalpais Northside hike. We will ascend one of the trails from Lake Lagunitas to the Northside Trail and move westward, possibly to the Laurel Dell area. Return through the lower woods. 11 miles with 2,000 feet of elevation gain. Cost: \$8 vehicle entrance fee at Sky Oakes Ranger Station. MEET: 9 AM at Fairfax Parkade to drive to Lake Lagunitas parking lot. ENDs: 4:30 PM. Leader: John Hermansky, (415)755-8211 (cell; may call or text leader at 7 AM day-of for hiking conditions) or *jhermansky@yahoo.com*. (Hiking)

JUNE 5 • WED

Sunset in Berkeley Hills 1B hike. Enjoy beautiful sunset views as we travel hidden stairways and pathways to Grizzly Peak Boulevard and back. Challenging 4.5 miles. Wear sturdy shoes (stairs can be slippery). MEET: 6 PM on the big lawn at the corner of Oxford and Addison streets. Ends: 8 PM. Directions: Downtown Berkeley BART station is 2 blocks from meeting place. Leader: Tamara Gurin, (949)400-1296 or ssmib57-tamara@yahoo.com. (Hiking)

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

JUNE 7 • FRI

*Queer California' at the Oakland Museum. Friday evenings at the Oakland Museum are super fun. What better way to see the 'Queer California' show! First pick your favorite food truck dinner, then at 7:30 PM we will gather at the ticket counter to enter as a group. Bring: Exact change in cash. Cost: \$11 each if our group is 10+. Otherwise \$21. Meet: 6:45 PM on the front steps of the museum on Oak Street. Leaders: Anita Bowen at click@anitabowen.com; Kat Zumbach at kzumbach@pacbell.net. (Rainbow Sierrans)

JUNE 8 • SAT

Golden Gate Park stroll and lawn bowling 1A hike. Join us for a 3-ish mile easy stroll around the east side of the park. Along the way we'll pass Children's Playground, Hippy Hill, McLaren Lodge, the new Oak Woodlands Trail, the Rhododendron Dell, and the AIDS Memorial Grove before fetching back up at the Sharon Art Studios. Weather allowing, optional picnic lunch and free introduction to lawn bowling to follow. Friendly, well-behaved dogs are welcome on leash. Any rain cancels. Bring: Lunch, water. Meet: 9:30 AM in front of the Sharon Art Studio (300 Bowling Green). Ends: 1:30 PM. Directions: It is a short walk from the 7-Haight or N-Judah MUNI lines. Leaders: Cindy Icke, cindyacu@sbcglobal. net; Pam LoPinto, pamlo@att.net. (Rainbow Sierrans)

Pescadero Creek County Park 3B/3C hike. Explore less traveled territory through first- and second-growth redwood forests, with the occasional panoramic view. Moderate pace. Choice of an 11.5-mile route with approximately 1,600' elevation gain or a 14-mile route with 2,100' elevation gain. Not for speed demons or gazelles, but not a beginner's hike. Meet: 10:15 AM at Sam MacDonald County Park parking lot. Ends: 7 PM. Carpool: Contact leader if you need or can offer a ride. Leader: Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

Piedmont 2A architectural walk. An architectural and historical walk past Piedmont mansions, emphasizing homes designed by Julia Morgan. Leisurely pace, but walk takes all day. Post-walk dinner at local restaurant. Any rain cancels. Bring: Money for post-walk dinner. Meet: 9:45 AM on Piedmont Elementary School lawn at corner of Piedmont Avenue and Echo Street, Oakland. Ends: 5 PM. Leader: Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

JUNE 9 • SUN

Plant trees with the Sierra Club! Make an immediate impact by planting trees along sidewalks and streets in Oakland. No experience is needed but you should be able to lift 30 pounds. Wear closed-toed shoes, clothes that you can get dirty, and a hat for sun protection; bring your own water and a snack. We'll provide the shovels, picks, brooms, and gloves. If you are bringing a minor, please let us know. We can plant in light rain, but if we decide to cancel because of heavier rain, we'll announce it at meetup.com/sanfranciscobay by 8 AM. MEET: 10 AM in the parking lot of Epic School, 1045 Derby Ave., Oakland (near Fruitvale BART). ENDS: 2 PM. LEADER: Soo-Rae Hong (650)505-0110 (call or text if you're lost or running late) or sctreeplanting@gmail.com. (Northern Alameda County Group)

Angel Island 2B bike. From Tiburon we will sail across Raccoon Strait into Ayala Cove and then hike up and around Mount Livermore. Afterwards we will head down to secluded Perles Beach. This hike features a wide variety of terrains and (weather permitting) spectacular views of the bay. Cost: \$15 cash for the Tiburon-Angel Island ferry (round trip), plus parking (\$5 and up). Meet: Meet at 9:30 AM at the Tiburon Ferry Terminal, 21 Main St., Tiburon. We will take the 10 AM ferry. For those coming from San Francisco, use Blue & Gold Fleet ferry from Ferry Bldg. (9:20 AM) or Pier 41 (9:45 AM) to arrive at Angel Island at 10:10 AM. Meet the group in front of the restrooms. Leader: Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 (no texts please; email only!) or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

JUNE 14 • FRI

Redwood Park Evening 1A bike. This 4-mile early evening hike features lush woods and expansive vistas. The terrain is hilly so be prepared for at least a light cardio workout. Friendly dogs welcome. Meet: 6:30 PM at Redwood Bowl Staging Area (about 40 feet from the entrance to the Chabot Space and Science Center), Roberts Regional Recreation Area, Skyline Boulevard, Oakland. Leader: Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)-599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

JUNE 14 • FRI - JUNE 16 • SUN

Lost Coast Backpack 2AT backpack. We will be hiking the 25-mile northern section of the Lost Coast Trail, between Shelter Cove and the mouth of the Mattole River. Often known as the "beach walk", much of the hiking will be along shoreline on varying consistencies of sand, pebbles, and rocks. Some of the trail is on land at the base of the King Range, and our campsites will be at creek estuaries along the route. See online listing for important trip information. Regis-TRATION: Open to 16 people. RSVP from online listing at sierraclub. org/sfbay/events (do not email leaders directly) to receive the application form. Cost: A share of the trip costs including wilderness permit, pre-trip campground, and satellite phone support. Bring: Individual commissary — you bring all your own food and equipment. Leaders: Roger Williams, (415)601-2079 or rogerwsf@outlook.com; Ann Brown, (415)246-7697 or awbrown@gmail.com; Sanjay Reddy, (925)828-3229 or reddysanjay@comcast.net; Thomas Meissner, (707)795-7980 or meissner.thomas@sbcglobal.net. (Backpacking)

JUNE 15 • SAT

Point Reyes pre-solstice celebratory 4C hike. Enjoy old-growth forests, ocean views, and the long days of June on this hearty but moderately paced 18+ mile loop with 2,800 feet of elevation gain in Central Point Reyes. NOT a beginner's hike. MEET: 9:30 AM at Bear Valley Visitor Center. ENDS: 8:30 PM. CARPOOL: Contact leader if you need or can offer a ride. LEADER: Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

JUNE 16 • SUN

San Bruno Mountain 1A loop hike. San Bruno Mountain is a hidden gem, with lovely views of San Francisco, the bay, and the Pacific. Easy/moderate (slow-ish) 4-to-5-mile loop hike. Any rain cancels. Cost: \$6 parking (cash if no ranger is present). Meet: 9:30 AM at San Bruno Mountain State Park parking lot, 555 Guadalupe Canyon Pkwy, Brisbane. Leader: Marina Dicerbo, (415)786-9205 or marina.dicerbo@gmail.com. (Rainbow Sierrans)

Moonlight on Mission Peak 2C hike. Moonlight hike from Ohlone College to Mission Peak summit on the Peak Trail. Headlamps or flashlights recommended for short sections but the objective is to enjoy hiking in the moonlight. Not a beginner's hike. 7 miles with significant elevation gain. Snow and or heavy rain will cancel the hike. Meet: 6:30 PM at Mission Peak trailhead near parking garage and tennis courts. Ends: 10 PM. Leader: William Yragui, (650)642-5150 (cell) or wyragui@missionpeakconservancy.net. (Southern Alameda County)

JUNE 23 • SUN

Bat talk and educational walk. Join Beth at the Yolo Basin Foundation for a Bat Talk and Walk event and learn all about these amazing and beneficial mammals. This is a family-friendly event. Must purchase tickets to attend. Cost: \$14. Meet: 6:40 PM at 45211 County Road 32B (Chiles Road), Davis. Ends: 9:45 PM. Leader: Beth Bittle, (510)759-6225 or callingu2@gmail.com. (Rainbow Sierrans)

JUNE 27 • THU

PRIDE NightLife at California Academy of Sciences. Celebrate love, equality, and the rainbow spectrum of self-expression at NightLife's annual LGBTQ Pride party. Featuring a drag show hosted by Heklina, founder of The Oasis' weekly "Mother" party. Enjoy music, butterflies, a living roof, humans over 21, food, and cocktails. Cost: \$22 (\$18 for Academy members). Purchase tickets (will sell out!) at tickets.calacademy.org/nightlife/pridenightlife. Meet: 6 PM at California Academy of Sciences, 55 Music Concourse Dr, SF. Ends: 10 PM. Directions: Email leader for cell number to text when you arrive. Leader: Pamela LoPinto, pamlo@att.net. (Rainbow Sierrans)

JUNE 28 • FRI

Redwood Park 1A evening hike. This 4-mile hike features lush woods and expansive vistas. Hilly terrain. Friendly dogs welcome. MEET: 6:30 PM at Redwood Bowl staging parking lot (about 40 feet from the entrance to the Chabot Space and Science Center), Roberts Regional Recreation Area, Skyline Boulevard, Oakland. Leader: Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

JUNE 29 • SAT

Big Basin 3B loop bike. Hike through giant redwoods, along babbling brooks, and around impressive falls. Optional 1/2-mile post-hike walk on interpretive trail to see redwood attractions. Any rain cancels. Cost: \$10 parking fee. Bring: Insect repellent advised. Meet: 10 AM at Redwood trailhead across from Big Basin Redwoods State Park headquarters, Boulder Creek. Ends: 6 PM. Leader: Steve Bakaley, slbakaley@gmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group and Santa Cruz Group)

Pink Triangle installation hike. Meet at Twin Peaks, where we'll show how butch we are as we help assemble dozens of pieces of pink canvas to create the large pink triangle that overlooks our city on Pride weekend. Afterwards, we'll take a 2-mile hike via public staircases, open spaces, and beautiful gardens enjoying gorgeous city views. Around 10:30, we'll return to Twin Peaks to enjoy a potluck brunch to the music of the SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, schmooze with elected officials and celebrities, and attend a commemoration before heading back down the hill on foot, car, or transit. MEET: 6:45 AM at 442-508 Twin Peaks Blvd, SF. Leader: Paget Valentzas, (415)271-2945 or pagetvalentzas@gmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

Corona Heights Natural Area habitat restoration. Join our regular volunteers as we nurture the extant natives, remove invasive plants, and/or perform light trail maintenance. All tools and gloves provided. Children welcome with adult. Wear long pants and sleeves and closed-toe shoes. No dogs. Rain or shine. MEET: 10 AM on north side of Randall Museum (parking lot is on south side) at end of Museum Way, just off Roosevelt Way. Short walk from Castro MUNI station. Ends: noon. Leader: Russell Hartman, (650)242-2679 or rph1917@comcast.net. (Rainbow Sierrans)

Waterfront, North Beach, Chinatown 1A loop hike. A scenic walk along the waterfront, returning through North Beach and Chinatown. Any rain cancels. Meet: 10:15 AM at Ferry Building, 1 Embarcadero, San Francisco. Ends: 3:30 PM. Directions: Take BART to Embarcadero Station or J,K,L,M, N or T Streetcars. Leader: Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

JULY 7 • SUN

Oakland Art Deco 2A bike. An urban walk featuring architecture and history of downtown Oakland. Leisurely pace. Walk takes all afternoon, ending near 12th St. BART. Post-walk dinner at local restaurant. Any rain cancels. Bring: Lunch and water (no good place to buy lunch), \$1.85 for return to Lake Merritt BART, and money for post-walk dinner. Meet: 11 AM at 10th and Fallon St. side of Oakland Museum next to statue of nursing bear. Ends: 5:30 PM. Leader: Guy Mayes (510) 522-1590. (Hiking)

JULY 8 • MON - JULY 12 • FRI

Calaveras Big Trees State Park car camping. Camp just past Arnold in the Sierra foothills. Walk through some of California's best redwood groves, cool off in a nice creek, and hike a variety of trails. Flush toilets and coin-operated hot showers. Important details on online calendar listing. Registration: 25-person limit. Sign up via event listing at sierraclub.org/sfbay/events. Cost: \$50/person plus food costs. Leader: Howard Herskowitz, (510)658-1176 or howard@itsolutions. net; Maurie Ange, (510)527-9343 or mjange@msn.com. (Solo Sierrans)

JULY 10 • WED

Sunset in Berkeley Hills 1B hike. Enjoy beautiful sunset views of the Bay as we travel through the hidden stairways and pathways to Grizzly Peak Boulevard and back to start. A challenging 4.5 miles. Meet: 6 PM on the big lawn at the corner of Oxford and Addison Streets, UC Berkeley. Ends: 8 PM. Directions: Downtown Berkeley BART station is 2 blocks away from the meeting place. Leader: Tamara Gurin, (949)400-1296 or ssmib57-tamara@yahoo.com. (Hiking)

JULY 12 • FRI - JULY 15 • MON

Emigrant Wilderness 1A1 family backpacking. Take your children backpacking in the company of other children. Our hikes in and out include easy introductory off-trail travel. In between, two full days in the scenic granite valley of Piute Creek, where will play, swim, climb and explore. We can offer some advice for families with limited backpacking experience, but this is NOT a beginner's trip. Cost: \$20/person. Bring: All food and gear. More important information on online listing. Registration: Must RSVP via calendar listing at sierraclub.org/sfbay/events to receive application. Leader: Brian Gunney, (925)667-5236 or brian@gunney.net. (Backpacking)

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

JULY 14 • SUN

Mount Tamalpais 2A pancake hike. Leisurely 8-mile hike from Rock Springs to the East Peak of Mount Tam via West Point Inn, where we will stop and enjoy one of their famous pancake breakfasts. This festive event serves as a fundraiser to help maintain and improve this historic site. Scenic views and live music. Cost: Breakfast is \$10/adult or \$5/kid. Meet: 10:30 AM at Rock Springs parking area, Mount Tamalpais State Park. Leader: Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 (No texts please; email only!) or amagi@pachell.net. (Sierra Singles)

JULY 17 • WED

Moonlight on Mission Peak 2C bike. Moonlight hike from Ohlone College to Mission Peak summit on the Peak Trail. Headlamps or flashlights recommended for short sections but the objective is to enjoy hiking in the moonlight. Not a beginner's hike. 7 miles with significant elevation gain. Snow and or heavy rain will cancel the hike. Meet: 6:30 PM at Mission Peak trailhead near parking garage and tennis courts. Ends: 10 PM. Leader: William Yragui, (650)642-5150 (cell) or wyragui@missionpeakconservancy. net. (Southern Alameda County)

JULY 19 • FRI

Redwood Park Evening Hike. This 4-mile hike features lush woods and expansive vistas. Hilly terrain. Friendly dogs welcome. MEET: 6:30 PM at Redwood Bowl staging parking lot (about 40 feet from the entrance to the Chabot Space and Science Center), Roberts Regional Recreation Area, Skyline Boulevard, Oakland. Leader: Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

JULY 20 • SAT

Hidden Golden Gate Park 3A hike. A lengthy walk in seldom-seen parts of Golden Gate Park. Lunch stop is in Dutch Windmill garden at northwest corner of park. Leisurely pace, but walk takes all day. Any rain cancels. Bring: Money for post-walk dinner at local restaurant. Meet: 9 AM at entry to SF Botanical Garden (Strybing Arboretum) inside Golden Gate Park near Ninth Avenue and Lincoln. Ends: 6 PM. Directions: By MUNI, take N-Judah from downtown BART Stations to Ninth Avenue and walk into park. Leader: Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

Central Point Reyes 3C loop hike. Scenic day hike through varied terrain. Highlights include the top of Mount Wittenberg and Kelham Beach. Any rain cancels. Meet: 9:30 AM at Bear Valley trailhead, Point Reyes National Seashore. Ends: 7:30 PM. Leader: Steve Bakaley, slbakaley@gmail.com. (Hiking and Santa Cruz Group)

JULY 26 • FRI

Redwood Park 1A evening hike. This 4-mile hike features lush woods and expansive vistas. Hilly terrain. Friendly dogs welcome. Meet: 6:30 PM at Redwood Bowl staging parking lot (about 40 feet from the entrance to the Chabot Space and Science Center), Roberts Regional Recreation Area, Skyline Boulevard, Oakland. Leader: Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

JULY 27 • SAT

Corona Heights Natural Area habitat restoration. Join our regular volunteers as we nurture the extant natives, remove invasive plants, and/or perform light trail maintenance. All tools and gloves provided. Children welcome with adult. Wear long pants and sleeves and closed-toe shoes. No dogs. Rain or shine. Meet: 10 AM on north side of Randall Museum (parking lot is on south side) at end of Museum Way, just off Roosevelt Way. Short walk from Castro MUNI station. Ends: noon. Leader: Russell Hartman, (650)242-2679 or rph1917@comcast.net. (Rainbow Sierrans)

Presidio of San Francisco 2B hike. Many scenic trails and views, and a little history along the way. Any rain cancels. Meet: 10 AM at Lombard Street Gate and Lyon Street, San Francisco. Ends: 4 PM. Directions: Take 43 Muni or 45 Muni to Lyon Street and walk one block north to Lombard Street Gate. Leader: Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

AUG 2 • FRI

Redwood Park 1A evening hike. This 4-mile hike features lush woods and expansive vistas. Hilly terrain. Friendly dogs welcome. Meet: 6:30 PM at Redwood Bowl staging parking lot (about 40 feet from the entrance to the Chabot Space and Science Center), Roberts Regional Recreation Area, Skyline Boulevard, Oakland. Leader: Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

AUG 9 • FRI - AUG 12 • MON

Fast and light Emigrant cross country 3D3 backpack. A trip for very fit backpackers practicing Ultralight Ethic. We'll skirt around the worn trails of the Emigrant/Yosemite backcountry to experience its glorious granitescape in solitude. Tom's Canyon, Wire Lakes, Pruitt Lake, Inferno Lake, Boundary Lake, Cherry Creek, Piute Creek, Bartlett and Mercur Peaks. Athletic pace. We will challenge ourselves and leave time in between to enjoy inviting lakes, playful streams and panoramic views from open peaks. Registration: Email trip leader or RSVP via event listing at sierraclub.org/sfbay/events. Cost: \$30 per participant. Leaders: Brian Gunney, (925)667-5236 or brian@gunney.net; Carol Clark, (415)205-0150 or gogetoutandrun@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

AUG 10 • SAT

Muddy Hollow / Limantour Estero / Drakes Head Day 3B hike. Follow in what may have been Sir Francis Drake's footsteps as we explore the Estero Trail in Point Reyes. We may see tule elk. We'll certainly hear them as they announce the start of rutting season. We will likely also see manta rays, leopard sharks, and seals. Any rain cancels. Meet: 10 AM at Muddy Hollow trailhead, Point Reyes National Seashore. Ends: 6 PM. Leader: Steve Bakaley, slbakaley@gmail.com. (Hiking and Santa Cruz Group)

AUG 13 • TUE

Golden Gate Park eastern end 1A bike. Hike through the Eastern End of the Golden Gate Park including the famous Botanical Gardens. Any rain cancels. Meet: 10:15 AM at northeast corner of 9th and Irving Streets, San Francisco. Directions: Take N Judah or 44 Muni. You also can take 6 or 43 Muni and walk one block north to 9th and Irving, or 7 Muni and walk one block south to 9th and Irving. Leader: Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

AUG 15 • THU

Moonlight on Mission Peak 2C bike. Moonlight hike from Ohlone College to Mission Peak summit on the Peak Trail. Headlamps or flashlights recommended for short sections but the objective is to enjoy hiking in the moonlight. Not a beginner's hike. 7 miles with significant elevation gain. Snow and or heavy rain will cancel the hike. Meet: 6:30 PM at Mission Peak trailhead near parking garage and tennis courts. Ends: 10 PM. Leader: William Yragui, (650)642-5150 (cell) or wyragui@missionpeakconservancy.net. (Southern Alameda County)

AUG 17 • SAT

Oakland Hills 2B stairway walk. Explore pathways and stairs in the Oakland hills. Much of walk is in the area of the 1991 Oakland Hills Fire. Leisurely pace, but walk takes all day. Walk returns to College Avenue not far from Rockridge BART at about 4:30 PM for post-walk dinner at local restaurant. Any rain cancels. Meet: 11 AM at Rockridge BART station near base of escalators. Leader: Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

AUG 26 • MON - AUG 30 • FRI

Lassen National Park car camping. Lassen offers over 150 miles of hiking trails for all levels. Discover the devastation of Lassen Peak's last eruption and explore Lassen's largest hydrothermal area on the Bumpass Hell trail. Vault toilets at our campsite. Showers, swimming, fishing and kayaking at Manzanita Lake, 5 miles away. Cost: \$50/person plus food costs. Registration: RSVP via online event listing at sierraclub.org/sfbay/events. Leaders: Stanley Wong, (925)686-2046 or swong522@sbcglobal.net; Diane Burke, (530)227-5052 or diane.burke@sbcglobal.net. (Solo Sierrans)

AUG 30 • FRI - SEPT 2 • MON

Desolation Wilderness: Meeks Bay to Bayview 2CT backpack. Camp at a different lake each night as we tackle the northernmost section of the Tahoe-Yosemite Trail. REGISTRATION: Find details and RSVP via online event listing at sierraclub.org/sfbay/events. Do not email leaders directly. Cost: \$45. Leaders: Ann Brown, (415)246-7697 or aewbrown@gmail.com; Rodney Omachi, (415)518-6503 or rodomachi@yahoo.com. (Backpacking)

OUTDOOR ED. & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

WILDERNESS FIRST AID

Sat, July 27, 8 am - 5 pm and Sun, July 28, 9 am - 5pm Bay Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave, Suite I, Berkeley

Two options: Take the two-day class for WFA certification (\$80 for members/\$100 for non-members); or the one-day class for Basic WFA certification (\$50/\$60). These are practical courses that prepare you to recognize and avoid wilderness hazards, and do first aid outdoors with whatever equipment you have or can improvise. The two-day class adds many more hands-on skills and role-playing scenarios to help you put your skills together.

Textbook by Steve Donelan, available on Amazon: Wilderness Emergency Care, Third Edition Revised (which has everything) or Wilderness First Aid (which has just what's taught in WFA). You can use the old edition of Steve's WEC book if you have it.

REGISTRATION:

Current chapter outings leaders should call (510)848-0800 or email firstaid@sfbaysc.org. Then mail a \$50 deposit check to the chapter office (it will be returned in class). The chapter pays for both days. All others should email Steve Donelan (donelan@sonic.net) and pay him in class (cash or check).

Steve's website is: www.wildernessemergencycare.com.



MOUNT DIABLO GROUP

Wed, July 10 - Exploring Lassen and Lava Beds

MEET: 7:00 PM at Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek. Programs are free and open to all and no reservations are necessary. Leader: Ken Lavin, (925)852-8778 or ken_lavin@botmail.com.

Join the Mount Diablo Group at our next meeting to discover the beautiful and diverse volcanic landscapes of Northern California. Geologist John Karachewski will lead us on a photographic tour of lava domes, shield volcanoes, cinder cones, lava tubes, and an extinct stratovolcano.

Lassen National Park has the most active hydrothermal features and largest hot spring system west of Yellowstone. The 1914 to 1921 eruptions of Lassen Peak led to the creation of the park. Over the last half-million years, volcanic eruptions on the Medicine Lake shield volcano have created a rugged landscape at Lava Beds National Monument, with more than 700 caves, Native American rock art sites, historic battlefields, and a high desert wilderness.



Samuel Lui captured the fresh greens of spring in this photograph from a May 11th hike to Mission and Monument Peaks led by Bob Solotar of the Bay Chapter's hiking section. For a chance to see your snapshot to be featured in the next issue of the Yodeler, share pictures on Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook with hashtag #SierraSnapshots, or email photos to yodedit@sfbaysc.org. Please tell us where and when it was taken and include the names of anyone in the photo.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

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SIERRACLUB.ORG/SFBAY

Our website is home to helpful information and resources including:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Senator Kevin de León to headline David Brower Dinner – tickets available now (p. 4)
- Final Oakland tree-planting event of the season on June 9 (p. 3)
- Volunteers needed to help out with our educational program for kids (p. 3)
- Next Wilderness First Aid class will be held July 27-28 (p. 23)

EMAIL

Visit sierraclub.org/sfbay/email to sign up for Bay Chapter emails, including monthly bulletins and action alerts.