



Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Plumas & Tehama Counties

In This Issue You Will Find:

- Bidwell Ranch: Great View with an Uncertain Future
- Yahi Conservation News
- Save the Sycamores and the Whales
- Names Carry On
- Clair Tappaan Update and Activities
- 2011 California Indian Conference
- Our Supporters

Yahi Summer/Fall 2011 Outings and Events

Coordinated by Alan Mendoza

Online Listings: <http://www.motherlode.sierraclub.org/yahi/outings-f.htm>

Print Version: <http://www.motherlode.sierraclub.org/yahi/newsletter/outings.pdf>

Yahi Group Wants Your E-Mail Address!

By David McKinney, Yahi Group Chair

In addition to establishing our online newsletter distribution, we are in the process of trying to update and increase our ability to use the internet to keep our members informed of the myriad of activities and other events that encompass an active Sierra Club group. At present, only about 25% of our membership has an e-mail address listed in our data base. As a part of this process, we are promoting an E-mail address drawing, with the prize being a free weekend at Clair Tappaan Lodge. Until Sept. 1 any E-mail submitted to Yahi Group and successfully added to our data base, will be entered into the drawing. Many people have already sent their e-mail address to us. A winner will be selected by a drawing at the EX-com meeting in September and the winner notified. Simple, right.

No this does not mean I am going to sell your address or you are suddenly going to start getting e-mails that promise you hair growth or other such spam, this is for the Sierra Club data base. Now it will mean you may very well start receiving notifications and action alerts for National Sierra Club, the good guys. But if this is too much for you, they give you the option of unsubscribing to those links. You will receive e-mail from us and probably Motherlode from time to time about relevant environmental issues, but after all that is what we do. The potential benefits are great. In addition to those already mentioned, it will allow us in the future to update and alter outings, change dates of events more easily, and contact members for any local activity that a rapid response is needed. Right now, we are involved in an anti-Fracking program and many members are having house parties about this very important subject. This would allows those individuals to "get the word out" more easily.

I hope you will all take the time to do this. If you are not sure that we have your address, send it anyway. Please send the E-mail to my address, David McKinney daviddryfly@comcast.net

As chair, I am the one that has to enter this into the data base. Now I am a busy guy, but am willing to do this, even though I realize I could have upwards of 6-700 e-mails sent to me. I should be so lucky.

From The Chair

Bidwell Ranch: Great View with an Uncertain Future

David McKinney ,Yahi Group Chair



This beautiful piece of land has been at the center of controversy for over 25 years and in many ways epitomizes the conflicts that all cities face when trying to balance the quality of life with the changing and shifting economic realities.

It is also home to a unique and diversified community of plants and animals, the importance of which are only now beginning to be understood. The Yahi Group sponsors a Bidwell Ranch Walk each year to support the ongoing

effort to preserve this beautiful and unique piece of urban wilderness. Even though this year it was cold, rainy and windy, there was still a terrific turnout. This year, we combined this event with docent training and were joined by John Dittes, Biologist.

A Brief History of the Ranch.

For most of us who have lived in Chico for any length of time, the subject of preserving Bidwell Ranch is at least somewhat familiar, even if we don't know the particulars; like me. My general understanding was that this is a large piece of "open space" just aching to be developed. I must admit that when I walk the property, I can definitely see what developers see. The area is scenic, to say the least, and is right next to the park. This then would make it fairly close to the urban area. At the same time, it also follows the the north boarder of the park back toward the foothills, allowing seclusion. Living here for the past 20 plus years, I can imagine proposals for scenic home sites, neighborhood, and golf courses. Why not?, it has happened all around the Park already. But not this time!

The whole "thing" started back in the 1980's when a development plan entitled "Rancho Arroyo" was proposed. There could or would be up to 4500 home sites developed in this area of approximately (750 acres). This was a time when Chico was actively growing and was a serious plan and so was given due consideration. At the same time, it struck a very strong cord with many Chico citizens that wished to keep and preserve the character of what make Chico unique. Ideologies collided, lines were drawn, and it was game on.

Bidwell Ranch is defined as the parcel of land positioned northwest of Upper Park, starting west of Wildwood Drive. Rancho Arroyo was originally proposed in 1986 by Crocker Development Company. They bought the land proposing 4400 units and later downsizing to 2994 units. After many contentious hearings, Chico City Council unanimously approved it. That could have easily been the end of it, but in a

citizens referendum in June 1988, 58% of Chico voters cast ballots against the proposal. I think it is interesting that a proposal that was unanimously supported by the city council, couldn't pass a public vote.

Things then stayed relatively quiet until a new proposal was brought forth in 1994. Developers were still interested in this prime location and proposed 1500 units on 450 acres with 200 acres set aside as open space. The project was now called Bidwell Ranch. During this time period, it was discovered that the property had invaluable wetlands with both plants and animals that were members of protected or endangered species lists. The city then voted to buy it in Dec 1997. In 2002, again a proposal to sell land was discussed in order to raise money to develop city parks. By April of 2005 Chico City Council voted to rezone the property open space. But even open space has to be managed, so a contract was granted to River Partners to develop a management plan, including mitigation banking and preservation of the biological integrity of the land. A plan was slowly developed, but with the economy slowing down, opportunities for mitigation banking diminished, as there was little ongoing building.

So nothing has moved forward, but efforts to permanently preserve Bidwell Ranch continue. A small group of Bidwell Ranch Conservancy/Bidwell Ranch Committee members are currently asking Chico City staff and Chico City Council members to put the property in a preservation plan that could never be undone, i.e. a conservation easement. For further information on the history of this project, there is a complete history available at the Chico Museum and there are a couple of complete articles on Rancho Arroyo/Bidwell Ranch in the Chico News and Review archives.

Flora and Fauna

The property is home to several species of wildflowers, one of which, Meadowfoam, is quite rare. It also possess an array of seasonal wildflowers, always an eye pleaser. In fact, the property has a wide variety of flowers every spring, and this land is famous for seasonal vernal pools.



These unique micro habitats develop when rainwater collects in depressions on soil that does not drain well. This occurs in the winter and the pools last into the spring (vernal). With the warming and drying of the season these vernal pools are then home to a variety of species that have evolved to that specific habitat. This as it turns out this is both a unique and rare habitat. If the area has too much water, it becomes wetland marsh; too little, more of a dry grassland. Unfortunately, this type of

environment is often at the base of the foothills and fairly easily developed, so much of this habitat is long since gone. In these small pools that only last for some number of weeks, entire lifecycles play out year after year, making it an important environment for diversification of species.

Preservation of this habitat literally saves many critters and plants that would otherwise vanish. Fairy and tadpole shrimp are such examples. In biology, extinction is forever.



The Future

For now the land is safe, but as anyone who has lived in California for any length of time knows, never bet against development. So the question becomes, is this land important enough to keep preserved for perpetuity. I was trained as a biologist in my early career, so the answer for me is easy, yes. I give the same answer about saving salmon, steelhead and old growth forests not because I am an environmentalist, but simply as an inhabitant of this small planet as are you.

The power of nature lies in diversity and sustainability. The notion that something as small and seemingly insignificant as a tadpole shrimp could be essential for our own survival is not so far fetched. Now does this mean we can never build another house, dig another swimming pool or design another golf course? Of course not. But we also can't just blindly charge ahead without considering the environmental cost.

At some point, there will be further attempts to develop this land. Political fortunes change, and we should never assume that just because currently it is considered open space, doesn't mean it always

will be. Yahi Group of the Sierra Club continues to support and remained involved in efforts to preserve this land. The local group that has for years fought this battle is always looking for new blood and is always receptive. If you are interested in more information, you may contact me at daviddryfly@comcast.net and I will forward it onto the Bidwell Ranch Conservancy/Bidwell Ranch Committee. See you at the next hike.

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Yahi Club News

Grace Notes: Yahi Conservation News

By Grace Maria Marvin, Yahi Conservation Chair

1- The Yahi Group is indebted to Yahi Executive Committee member Dave Garcia for spreading the word about the dangers of fracking to our water, air, and human and other species, and how widely spread the practice now is in the U.S.

(“After creating the typical vertical well, the [fracking] process curves the drilling path horizontally to reach more gas from a single ground surface point. To release gas trapped within tight rock formations, drillers inject chemicals into the ground at high pressure, along with large amounts of water and sand. While horizontal wells can decrease the number of vertical wells, and the associated environmental footprint directly above, the leaching of often undisclosed chemicals into groundwater is the main concern, ecologically and for public health.” www.smartplanet.com/blog/intelligent-energy/fracking.)

A Sierra Club staffer in S.F. told me why we aren't hearing more about club efforts to reduce the danger of fracking on a national level of the Sierra Club: the club is finding it more fruitful to fight on the state level. For example, New York and Pennsylvania have few regulations affecting fracking, and their club members have been “screaming” about the harms that fracking are causing. Working with the current House of Representatives in Washington, D.C., is proving futile. And of course, the country's recently increasing alarm about energy prices just whets the appetite of the oil and gas industries to explore for more oil and gas, no matter the dangers to the environment.

Yahi Executive Committee member, Dave Garcia, has been showing the film, “Gaslands” to raise our awareness. Please contact Dave Garcia to find out more about what WE can do. *Googling* the topic helps tell us the story, too.

2- Meanwhile, many Congressional leaders have been trying to gut the Endangered Species Act (ESA) passed in 1966. It has served to protect fish and other species. The emphasis has been on scientific research, a hallmark of the act, which is currently being attacked. From what I have learned, not until this year has Congress eliminated any species from protection; now, that is the case with the gray wolf. Moreover, efforts are underway to further weaken the act. The Sierra Club's relatively new national effort, the Resilient Habitats Campaign, is aimed at preventing further erosion of protections for both lands and species.

Locally, yours truly is getting the opportunity to convey (in person) a Sierra Club message to our Senate and House leaders and their Legislative Aides: the majority of the public do not support the environmentally harmful “riders” that the right wing is trying to attach to national budget legislation. I will be working with a team of Sierra Club members from across the nation to convince them of facts, such as the following:

A.- The current Administration’s Wild Lands Policy is supposed to help in the identification and management of land that has wilderness qualities. Yet, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is devoting about twice as much land to the development of oil and gas than to protecting wilderness. We must protect this wilderness as well as other public lands from environmental exploitation.

B.-Shortening the time for approval of drilling operations, as proposed by the GOP, will mean more threats to human safety and to environmental protection. Similar dangers would arise from the attempts to limit judicial reviews. 3- We must not allow the states to be the recipients of revenues resulting from oil and gas drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf. That would mean no accountability to federal taxpayers, while it would also induce affected states to support drilling without regard to the environment.

3— Local water activists continue to be involved in trying to ensure that the workings of the

Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (*IRWMP*) are both transparent and fair, We realize that both we, the activists, and other citizens must be vigilant in not allowing the state to unwisely and unjustly exploit water resources in the Sacramento Valley (and farther north) for the benefit of those who have not tried to conserve water appropriately. Already, we have won some concessions regarding transparency in deciding who the public representatives should be on the Technical Advisory Committee. And as Sierra Club representative to the Chico based Citizens Water Watch meetings, I have done some research for CWW's proposed "White Paper." Its goal will be to explain our mission. To put it simply, the major goal is to inform cities and our legislators why they must exert political and legal pressure to making sure water sellers and governmental leaders do not allow the north state to become another Owens Valley.

4- It was good to hear that citizens of Orland, who belong to Save Our Water Resources (SOWR), had their day in court at the end of May. Now, it will be up to the judges to give a final decision (in no longer than 90 days), about whether or not the Crystal Geyser bottled water plant will be built in Orland. From the viewpoint of SOWR, Butte Environmental Council, and Sierra Club members (including yours truly) who have given their support to SOWR, Orland has violated the provisions of the The California Environmental Quality ACT (CEQA), with the proposed plant causing environmental harm, *e.g.*, to the water and air. Moreover, the jobs available to locals that would be provided by such a plant would be very few.

5- The Dyer Mountain case is still in process, and we can applaud the successes of Aqualliance, Butte Environmental Council, and other conservation organizations!

6- It was also good to see that our Plumas County point person, John Shower, is involved in an organization (*Moonlight Valley Alliance*) that is fighting a proposed mining operation.

7- The Yahi Group is very grateful to Yahi Executive Committee and other club volunteers who have helped promote conservation at various event, such as the Endangered Species Faire!

Newsletter Information

SIERRA CLUB YAHİ GROUP NEWSLETTER is published three time a year, in March, July, and November, by the Yahi Group of the Sierra Club, Post Office Box 2012, Chico, CA 95927 or 5590 Feather River Place, Paradise, CA 95969, Attn: Louise Casey.

For submissions, comments and inquiries, please write to Sierra Club, Post Office Box 2012, Chico, CA 95927 or contact Susan Sears at 532-0149.

For advertising in the Newsletter, please call John Woods (530-899-8607). For changes in membership address (which also affects the address for receiving the newsletter by mail) please write to Sierra Club Member Services, Post Office Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80328-2968; sending a mailing label for the old address will speed the process.

Submission Guidelines:

Please include name, phone, and address with each submittal. Short, single topic articles are preferred. Deadlines for proposed articles and letters to the editor: February 1, June 1, October 1. A one week extension is available if the submission is sent by e-mail and advance advisory has been provided that the article is forthcoming. Submissions will be returned if specifically requested and accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

The right is reserved to edit all submissions for reasons of space, clarity and potential libel. The opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Sierra Club or the Yahi Group.

The Conservation Forum

River Watcher: Save the Sycamores and Whales

By Rex Burress

Chico Park Commissioner Mark Herrera made a gallant effort to save the sycamore that was removed in Chico February 13, 2011. The world needs more trees for atmosphere, beauty, and a balanced environment—and more nature advocates—and all we can save the better.

Unfortunately, trees, like people, are not forever. At some point they are going to go down to lie on or in the ground. It is good to delay the demise of the living as long as we can, but eventually both trees and man go back into the enrichment of the earth...dust... and some trees are sacrificed sooner for the good of fuel, building houses...or roads. I think we all prefer a tree to a road, but civilization would be stymied without corridors for transportation, or wood for construction, so sometimes there is a hard choice...a lot like budgets.

That doesn't prevent us from enjoying living trees—or even dead trees—or planting new trees. Fortunately for Earth, both man and trees reproduce, although you can't get a human from a seed in the ground. Some things take devious ways to arrive and develop into maturity!

For a person to care emotionally about the welfare of a tree or other living thing, is the mark of compassion, that admirable trait perhaps unique to mankind. You see it in a person feeling sorry for a baby hummingbird on the ground; you see it in concern for oil-afflicted birds in a ship spill; you see it in a person who sees beauty in a rattlesnake; you see it in people wishing to save the whales, even though they seldom see them; and you often see it in people wanting to save a grand old monarch tree. A sycamore could be compared to a whale in that both are bulky and have a smooth texture...and are major star inhabitants of their environments.

There have been some notable tree lovers and protectors, especially John Muir and Joaquin Miller, who wrote some eloquent stories and poems about trees, and both spoke in defense of saving special trees and tree tracts. Both were keen on saving redwoods; Muir for the mountain Sequoia gigantea and Miller for the coastal Sequoia sempervirens. Both have wooded parks named after them.

John Muir loved all trees and the habitats that sheltered them. He said; "The woods are full of dead and dying trees, yet needed for their beauty to complete the beauty of the living."

Also; "I never saw a discontented tree. They grip the ground as though they like it, and though fast-rooted they travel about as far as we do. They go wandering forth in all directions with every wind, going and coming as ourselves, traveling with us around the sun two trillion miles a day, and through space heaven knows how fast and far!" It is easy to equate upright trees with upright man!

Muir's last journey took him to South America to see the Monkey-puzzle Trees, and then to Africa by steamboat to see the Baobab Trees. He wasn't early enough into California to discover new tree species, like David Douglas, but he left his mark in parks and preservation.

Poet Joaquin Miller made his last stand in the "Hights" of the Oakland CA Hills, where he planted thousands of new trees on the barren land. New redwoods had grown from the roots of lumbered giants of the 1850's and now are featured in the 400-acre Joaquin Miller Park. He wrote; "Oh, the glorious, all-protecting trees! A tree standing to the four winds of heaven, holding up its great strong arms in mute prayer, waiting the rain and the sun, and the majestic march of the seasons, how grandly upright, patient, appealing, faithful, and true! No architect that ever has been could build a tree."

*"No small part of the prosperity of California depends upon the preservation of her water supply;
and the water supply cannot be preserved unless the forests are preserved."*

—Theodore Roosevelt

"Going to the woods is going home." —John Muir

The Conservation Forum

Names Carry On

By Rex Burress

The year 2011 marks the 18th year since I retired from the Lake Merritt Wildlife Refuge in Oakland and moved to Oroville on the Feather River. Time does bring changes, and in looking at a 10th anniversary copy of the Bay Area's 2011 Bay Nature magazine's list of nature supporters, I didn't recognize any names!

During my 32-year term with Oakland Parks, I personally knew the fleet of Bay Area nature people in the 1960s, 70s, 80s, but two decades produces quite a turnover. Old trail comrades, old flames, and old naturalists sort of fade away, leaving space for a new surge of plant and animal lovers to keep alive the flame of environmental education and promoters of the aesthetical wonders of nature.

In Oroville, I have rediscovered a fleet of Butte County nature advocates so new names have replaced the previous. Thus it is wherever you are, there is that contingent of people showing admiration and concern for the wildlife world. "Think globally; act locally!"

Experienced oldtimers can contribute a lot of ideas and input, and generally people like John Muir, John Burroughs, and Roger Tory Peterson produced some of their best writings and observations when in their "declining" years. But the energy and zest of young naturalists becomes a vital component in the continuation of nature advocacy and promotion.

Those new names of people with Bay Nature, Audubon, Sierra Club, Native Plant Societies, and other individual "nature disciples" keep the nature interpretive efforts alive, and some devotees will rise to become outstanding contributors. Who will be the next "John Muir?" Already we have a young man rising to stardom, no less than "John Muir Laws!" His nature guidance and art was featured in the Snowgoose Festival at Chico, CA, in 2011, and he has offered several field guides in the David Sibley, Arthur Singer, and Peterson tradition.

Several experienced environmental standouts from the Bay Area archives are still prominent on my list, such as Kurt Rademacher with Nature Conservancy, Jim Covel with the Monterey Bay Aquarium, Patricia Donald with the Shoreline Nature Center at Berkeley, and Rich Stallcup with Point Reyes Bird Observatory. Refuge Naturalist Stephanie Benavidez still has ties with "my" Rotary Nature Center in Oakland, although she has been shuffled away to a Recreation Supervisor position, just as the original 1961 full-time staff of four has been culled.

Jim Covel is the son of renowned naturalist Paul Covel, and Rich Stallcup's uncle was naturalist Lee Stallcup. The environmental torch has oft been passed forward.

Since John Muir inspired the world of outdoor advocates in the 1800s right into the 20th century, land conditions and populations and politics have been drastically altered, but John's basic enthusiasm for fundamental nature discoveries and sense of conservation lives on forever. He had that fire for the exploration of nature's wonders and a preservation instinct for future habitats and parks, much like Conservation Hall of Famer Rachel Carson, or Theodore Roosevelt. The Nature Movement would do well to follow Muir's examples of inspirational zest for "enticing others to look at nature's loveliness with 'interpretative understanding.'"

"Calypso borealis...Hush! We won't mention their names, for so rare were they, so delicate, so fragile, and so altogether lovely, that even to mention their names might frighten them away."

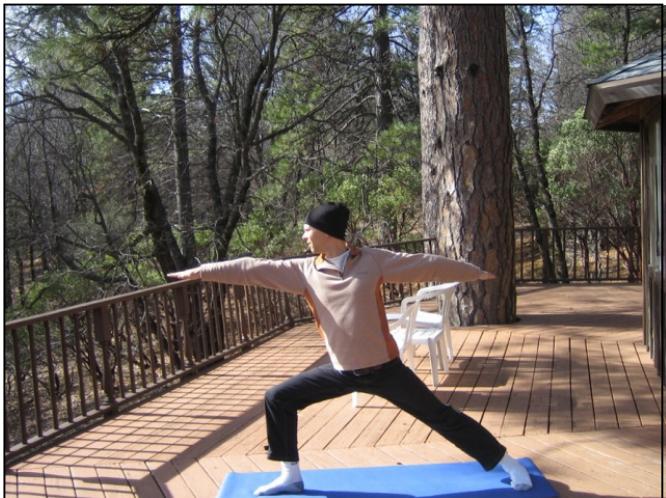
*"Who publishes the sheet-music of the winds or the music of water written in river-lines?
Going to the woods is going home; wildness is a necessity...and mountain parks and reservations
are useful not only as fountains of timber and irrigating rivers, but as fountains of life."*

—John Muir

Claire Tappaan Lodge

Clair Tappaan Activities

By Chuck Shackett, Member Clair Tappaan Lodge Committee



Stefan Stadler, organizer of the Fitness Weekend, doing on Yoga pose on the deck outside the living room at Clair Tappaan Lodge

obvious, the Lodge is now offering weekend specialty activities for which people can reserve a space.

In the early fall, the Lodge will be hosting a yoga retreat. Participants will do yoga outdoors, learn Tai Chi, take guided hikes, and enjoy the beautiful fall weather. On that same weekend, September 16-18, the Lodge will host a fly fishing weekend, designed for total beginners to learn all about tackle, rods, and reels, with two days of instruction and demonstrations. The weekend will conclude on Sunday with a fish-out.

Later in the fall, the Lodge will be hosting a very exciting Plein Air Painter's Weekend, that will include outdoor painting technique demos in watercolor, pastel, and oil painting by local artists. And in that same month, the Lodge will feature "Chix in the Stix"—an opportunity for women to gather for hiking, crafts, and short programs.

If you want to bring your family for Halloween weekend, the Lodge is hosting a Halloween Treats weekend with a special holiday menu (maggots and cockroaches, yum...). Saturday afternoon will include games and pumpkin carving with a prize for the most creative, a campfire ready for roasting hot dogs, and an after-dark hike to a party at the Witches Den.

Also specifically scheduled for families is a Nature Weekend that will include hiking, swimming, photography, and rock climbing, run by Peter Mayfield, director of the Gateway Mountain Center.

All of these activities and more can be found on the Clair Tappaan website: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/lodges/ctl/>

The Sierra Club's Clair Tappaan Lodge sits just above Donner Pass, at approximately 7000 ft elevation, and although it's busiest in the winter with all the great skiing in the area, it's a place for activities in all seasons. My favorite activity there is hiking—especially in summer for a refreshing swim in one of the many small lakes that dot the area. Hiking, however, is my 11-yr-old daughter's least favorite summer activity; she would rather drive to nearby Donner Lake and rent a pedal boat.

On the other hand, if your favorite activity is to breathe fresh mountain air with either a good book, a good view, or a good beverage, you could hardly do better than the Clair Tappaan Lodge. There's always great food, a hot tub to relax in, a nice fire in the community fireplace, or the quiet of the library. And, while the do-it-yourself activities are



Susan Barry instructing Diane Boyer and another student in the meadow at Clair Tappaan Lodge. Photo by Jane Risk.

Clair Tappaan Lodge

Clair Tappaan Lodge Weekend Activities



Susan Barry the instructor demonstrating a technique to her class on a hill top. Photo taken by Jan Risk.

Check out the new Clair Tappaan Lodge weekend activities below, each with a special theme, and select your favorites. More details on webpage at "activities". Call the lodge now to make your reservations for fun filled adventure! **800-679-6775**

WINE AND CHEESE TASTING **June 11-12, 2011** A presentation of wines by a local winery plus selected savory cheeses. \$75 per person includes one nights lodging and the tasting event. RSVP by May 28th to save your spot.

PLEIN ART RETREAT FOR ARTISTS **July 15-17, 2011** Artists will be introduced to outdoor painting in the mountains by Nevada City artist Susan Barry and includes painting demonstrations in watercolor, pastels, and oil. Weekend event cost is \$175 per person.

CELEBRATING CLAIR TAPPAAN LODGE **August 19-21, 2011** Our annual mid summer weekend celebration will be based on theme hikes from Friday afternoon through Sunday. An art exhibit, an archaeology tour and lecture with artifacts, a barbecue dinner, and campfire entertainment are additional features. All inclusive weekend cost is \$145 per person.

OPERA IN THE MOUNTAINS **August 26-28, 2011** A program of popular and rare recordings, videos, and comments by lecturer Gil Deane. Experienced opera lovers and neophytes will be treated to 5 sessions of wonderful music. Weekend cost is \$135 per person.

YOGA, TAI CHI, AND HIKING **September 16-18, 2011** We will do Yoga outdoors, learn Tai Chi, take guided hikes, and enjoy the beautiful fall weather. Join us for this fun fitness experience in the mountains. Weekend cost is \$135 per person.

FLY FISHING FUN **September 16-18, 2011** Two days of instruction and demonstrations, with an optional non-fishing hike, designed for total beginners but all are welcome. Concludes on Sunday with a fish-out. Space is limited. Fishing license required. Weekend cost is \$145 per person.

PLEIN AIR RETREAT FOR ARTISTS **September 30 - October 2, 2011** Artists will be introduced to outdoor painting in the mountains by Nevada City artist Susan Barry and includes painting demonstrations in watercolor, pastels, and oil. Weekend event cost is \$175 per person.

CHIX IN THE STIX **October 7-9, 2011** An event especially for women in the mountains is a fun opportunity to gather for hiking, crafts, and short interesting programs. Organized by certified outings leader Trudy Boardman. All inclusive cost for the weekend is \$135 per person.

HALLOWEEN TREATS **October 29-30, 2011** Our kid-safe, family oriented Halloween Party will have a special holiday menu, games, pumpkin carving, costume contest with prizes, and an after-dark hike to a party at the Witches Den.



2011 California Indian Conference

2011 California Indian Conference

The California Indian Conference is an annual event for the exchange of perspectives and knowledge concerning the first peoples of the place now known as California, past to present.

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The 26th Annual Conference will be held on the campus of **CSU, Chico**, October 27-30, 2011. We are developing a full schedule of presentations, workshops, entertainment, and events. Please check out our website for the latest updates to the **conference program**.

For complete information and registration, visit :
<http://rce.csuchico.edu/conferences/2011-california-indian-conference/>

HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA INDIAN CONFERENCE

Founded at UC Berkeley in 1985, the California Indian Conference began as a two-day event in which California Indians, Anthropologists, Historians, Students, and members of the public shared information.

Over the past 25 years, the conference has been held at institutions across the State, including Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History; Humboldt, San Francisco, and Sonoma State Universities; University of California Davis, Los Angeles, and Riverside; Questa, Chaffey, Cabrillo, and Palomar Colleges; and Dominican University.

The conference typically includes presentations on a wide range of subjects pertaining to California Indian issues including, for example, Revitalization of Basketry, Health Forums, Language History and Culture, and Natural Resource Issues. Elders circles and movie screenings are often a conference component, and hosted receptions and meals may be included.

The California Indian Conference also provides space for vendors, cultural demonstrators, and information booths; often includes performers such as traditional dancers and singers; and may also feature field trips such as library, museum, and park tours.

The Last Word

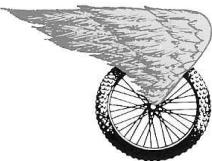


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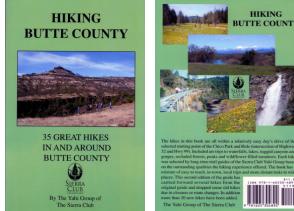
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