

Vol. '13, No. 4 of 6

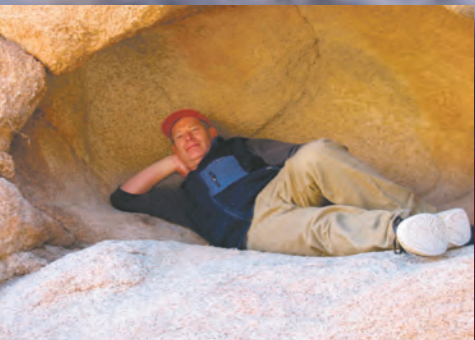
August - September 2013

# Condor Call

Serving Ventura & Santa Barbara Counties  
Journal of Los Padres Chapter Sierra Club



DUSK, GAVIOTA COAST © Marc Muench



**WELCOME** to the first all-electric edition of Condor Call, the Journal of the Los Padres Sierra Club serving Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. This is an historic and exciting leap for a publication that goes back at least to the 1950s, and yet, it makes perfect sense for the modern world. More details on page 3.

Your review is welcome; email [condorjohn@gnusman.com](mailto:condorjohn@gnusman.com).

## Condor Call

<http://lospadres.sierraclub.org>

EDITOR: John Hankins, 452-2885

260 Pacos St. Ventura CA 93001 • [condorjohn@gnusman.com](mailto:condorjohn@gnusman.com)

ADVERTISING: Contact Condor Call Editor

DEADLINES FOR ALL ISSUES:

Copy Deadline: 20th — Advertising Deadline: 22nd of month preceding publication.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE:

February/March, April/May, June/July, Aug/Sept., Oct./Nov., Dec./Jan.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Free to members

Non-members, \$6 per year. Contact:

Editor John Hankins (see EDITOR address, phone and email above)

**Photos, news, tips always welcome!**

## Sierra Club

• LOS PADRES SIERRA CLUB •

Post Office Box 31241, Santa Barbara, Ca 93130-1241

<http://lospadres.sierraclub.org>

Santa Barbara 965-9719 • Ventura 988-0339

Change of Address: Member Services

P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO, 80322-2968

or [address.changes@sierraclub.org](mailto:address.changes@sierraclub.org) or call (415) 977-5653

National Office: (415) 977-5500

85 2nd St., 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105-3441

Washington Office: (202) 547-5550

408 C St., N.E., Washington, D.C., 20002

• Steering Committee •

Gerry Ching (chair): 964-5411, [gching@cox.net](mailto:gching@cox.net)

David Gold (vice-chair): 642-7748 x6, [davidgold4@aol.com](mailto:davidgold4@aol.com)

Michael Stubblefield: 216-2630, [motodata@roadrunner.com](mailto:motodata@roadrunner.com)

Jerry Connor: 928-3598, [connor.gd2@verizon.net](mailto:connor.gd2@verizon.net)

Fran Farina: 681-8822, [ffarina@cox.net](mailto:ffarina@cox.net)

Trevor Smith: 469-9765, [trevor.smith@earthlink.net](mailto:trevor.smith@earthlink.net)

Stephen Dougherty: 574-9445, [stephen@lospadres.sierraclub.org](mailto:stephen@lospadres.sierraclub.org)

• Group Chairs •

Arguello: Jerry Connor, 928-3598, [connor.gd2@verizon.net](mailto:connor.gd2@verizon.net)

Conejo: John Holroyd: 495-6391, [backpacker2@earthlink.net](mailto:backpacker2@earthlink.net)

Santa Barbara: Jim Childress, 687-9418, [childres@lifesci.ucsb.edu](mailto:childres@lifesci.ucsb.edu)

Ventura Sierra Club: Jon Ziv, (818) 421-3988, [jzivdds@pacbell.net](mailto:jzivdds@pacbell.net)

• Club Services •

Forest issues: Jim Hines, [jhcasitas@gmail.com](mailto:jhcasitas@gmail.com)

Wilderness Basics Course: Teresa Norris, 524-7170, [TeresaHNorris@earthlink.com](mailto:TeresaHNorris@earthlink.com)

Air Quality: Michael Stubblefield, 216-2630, [motodata@roadrunner.com](mailto:motodata@roadrunner.com)

Conservation SBC: Jerry Connor, 928-3598, [connor.gd2@verizon.net](mailto:connor.gd2@verizon.net)

Conservation VC: Trevor Smith, 469-9765, [trevor.smith@earthlink.net](mailto:trevor.smith@earthlink.net)

Legal: David Gold, 642-7748 x6, [davidgold4@aol.com](mailto:davidgold4@aol.com)

Legal (Alt): Fran Farina, 681-8822, [ffarina@cox.net](mailto:ffarina@cox.net)

Media Coordinator: Jim Hensley

Outings: Michael Stubblefield, 216-2630, [motodata@roadrunner.com](mailto:motodata@roadrunner.com)

Political SB: Fran Farina, 681-8822, [ffarina@cox.net](mailto:ffarina@cox.net)

Political VC: David Gold, 642-7748 x6, [davidgold4@aol.com](mailto:davidgold4@aol.com)

Transportation: Michael Chiacos

Treasurer: Richard Hunt, 966-4157, [richardhunt@cox.net](mailto:richardhunt@cox.net)

Typography and production by Dan Fuller

**3 Gaviota cover story**  
In which the coast is clear

**4 Condor tour**  
Rappelling into a nest with mom

**5 Endangered species**  
More than a wild idea Mr. Nixon

**6 Group News**  
We're all outdoors now

**7 Street Fair**  
Thousands came to Green Street

**8 – 10 Outings**  
Where do you want to go?

**11 Permit tricks**  
Hit 'send' at midnight + 1

**12 Dog daze**  
Too hot to trot in forest

**13 Thanks donors**  
Generosity rebounds in action

**14 Drive on sunshine**  
EeeVee drive home

**15 Too Wild to Drill**  
Don't suck into our forests

**16 Climate change solutions**  
Sparkling dialog amid crisis

**17 Oil pants for permits**  
Will they ever give up? No.



**Stand your ground,** adventure awaits; see outings pages 8-10. (Photo by Robert Bernstein)



**Molly "nest finder" Astell** from the SB Zoo loves condors so much she got a tat. See page 4. (Photo by John Hankins)



Sierra Club is already gearing up to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act in 2014 and you can get into the act by joining its photo contest (page 5) or delving into the 'toolbox' of actions at [www.wilderness50.org](http://www.wilderness50.org)

# Condor Call

Journal of Los Padres Chapter Sierra Club  
Serving Ventura & Santa Barbara Counties



Aug-Sept 2013

## Developers give up (for now)

The most recent contenders for the crown of Gaviota have given up.

Spectra America and Cerberus Capital Management, which were working a deal with FirstBank of Missouri to purchase Santa Barbara Ranch (aka Naples), have terminated their plans to transfer ownership of the star-crossed property.

FirstBank acquired the property through foreclosure in 2010 from the prior developer of Santa Barbara Ranch, Matt Osgood, after he defaulted on outstanding loans. Since then, multiple development groups have reportedly entered into tentative deals with the bank, but none of these deals were consummated. In March of 2012, one group got so far as to ask the County Board of Supervisors to approve the transfer of a "development agreement" affecting a portion of the property. But the Board could not determine that the group was equipped to handle a property as unique as Naples, and eventually that developer withdrew in June 2012.

Most recently, a similar and more extreme scenario was presented to the County when Spectra America asked the Board to approve a transfer request on July 2; but this time the group presented no information about its ability to acquire, develop and manage Naples, and the developer did not even appear at the hearing. This time, the Board flat-out denied Spectra's request to transfer the development agreement.

The Santa Barbara Ranch is a 71 large lot residential development located two miles west of Goleta on the rural Gaviota Coast. It received approval by the Board in late 2008 despite unanimous opposition from the community

said Nathan Alley, attorney for Environmental Defense Center and Surfrider Foundation. "Our organizations (which include the Los Padres Sierra Club) remain committed to doing everything possible to preserve Naples in its undeveloped state."

Currently, there is a lawsuit pending at the Court of Appeal that could vacate critical project approvals and send the project back to square one.

To keep apprised this fight, go to: [www.SaveNaples.org](http://www.SaveNaples.org)

*Editor's note: The Naples Coalition, Surfrider Foundation and the Environmental Defense Center all contributed to this article.*

### COVER PHOTO

Photographer Marc Muench's Gaviota Coast photo perfectly captures its wild beauty and shows why it's so important to preserve this valuable coast from development. Marc is a local treasure, residing in Goleta. He is a world class photographer who creates National Park posters, books, conducts photo workshops and much more. Check out his talents at: [www.MarcMuench.com](http://www.MarcMuench.com)

"Development of this property has never made sense," said Naples Coalition attorney Marc Chytalo. "And it appears that the latest prospective purchasers have not figured it out. Naples is an area of national significance. Anyone attempting to develop there faces the unrelenting opposition of Santa Barbara's environmental community and must overcome an insurmountable series of hurdles, ranging from lawsuits, uncertainties over the effectiveness of approvals, a stringent coastal commission review, public rights of use and access based on historic prescriptive use of the property, and the absence of a certain water supply."

"Naples is irreplaceable,"

### EAVESDROPS

**"I will direct my Cabinet to come up with executive actions we can take now and in the future to reduce pollution, prepare our communities for the consequences of climate change, and speed the transition to more sustainable sources of energy."**

~ President Barack Obama indicating he is willing to use his presidential powers for environmental benefit, a statement that Jonathan Chait of *New York Magazine* called "a bombshell."



There's nothing like jumping into a cool pool in the backcountry during summer (and the hot sulfur springs are great in the winter). Here a handful of people were caught enjoying the Tar Creek pools. (Photo by Robert Bernstein)

## Jump into 1st e-version

By Gerry Ching  
Chair, LP Sierra Club

You are reading this in the first purely electronic version of the *Condor Call*.

We are planning to maintain our tradition of publishing 6 issues per year, but printing and mailing only one issue per year.

Many of you are receiving this because you gave your email to us, and you don't have to do anything else. Like today, you will get an email when a new issue has been published, with a link to our website:

[lospadres.sierraclub.org](http://lospadres.sierraclub.org)

There you can read online or download the new issue or back issues by selecting the Newsletter tab; back issues are also available there. For some of you who have previously elected to opt for the online version, this is a familiar

step. If for some reason an email does not reach you, the current issue will always be available on the website.

Our initial format conforms to standard-sized paper, an 11 X 8.5 in landscape, so if you like you can print out pages.

If you have comments or suggestions about the format, send them to the editor, John Hankins at: [condorjohn@gnusman.com](mailto:condorjohn@gnusman.com) If you know other members who have not sent us an email address, please remind them to do so and forward the issue to them.

The primary reason we converted to an electronic version is cost. In recent years, publishing and mailing the *Condor Call* has represented over half our annual budget. Many other Sierra Club chapters have taken this step in recent years.



Some condors ride the thermals, but this one caught a ride in an air conditioned vehicle during the special tour of Hopper Mountain's Condor Recovery Program. The area is off-limits to the public, except through these free tours by the volunteers at Friends of the Condors. Sign up for upcoming tours. (Photo by John Hankins)

# Condor tour delights with chick in sight

By John Hankins  
Editor Condor Call

We don't get to see endangered species very often in the wild because, well, they're endangered and they're wild and they don't keep zoo feeding schedules.

But when you go off to Hopper Mountain or Bitter Creek with Friends of California Condors Wild and Free, you get a chance to be amazed, surprised and even flabbergasted.

In late June, the chance turned enchanting for about a dozen of us as we saw U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) experts rappel down a cliff to a big hole in the rock to check on a month old chick and its mother.

And while we stood across the canyon staring into telescopes, a

condor rode the thermals above us, wondering what these two-legged creatures were up to, and just down the fire road another was perched upon a tree pole giving us the eye.

"This is quite a treat," said Vince Gerwe, one of the Friends' key volunteer guides who's been on many tours and declared this one particularly special. Another was Martin Fletcher, a landscape contractor who became enamored with North America's largest bird and takes off work to show the public why.

"If we solve the lead problem (from bullets), I think they'll make it," Fletcher said, a statement that was echoed by Gerwe. Earlier this year, the FWS's condor recovery coordinator, John McCammam, said the same thing during a

program hosted by the Friends.

The Sierra Club is right there with them, with a policy to get the lead out of forests whether it be bullets or fishing tackle and "through a combination of educational efforts, regulatory mechanisms, and market-driven solutions."

The Ventura/Santa Barbara area is a nexus for the recovery program, with the SoCal headquarters at Hopper Mountain above Fillmore. Currently, there are a total of 400 condors living, a huge increase from the 22 living in 1982 when they were captured for zoo-breeding programs.

Now about 232 condors are in the wild, 73 of who are flying free in our area.

In the 30 years since the recovery program started, much has been learned and success in bringing them back from the brink of extinction is evident ... if it weren't for lead.

The attraction to these big birds with nine-foot wingspans is captivating. Carol Langford, who organizes the tours for the Friends,

said she "fell in love with them while I was in elementary school when I saw the one hanging from the ceiling at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History."

Molly Astell, a condor technician from the Santa Barbara Zoo, was originally an intern with the program, left to study wildlife ecology and came back searching for a way to help the condors "because I just love them!"

You too can find out why in upcoming tours at Hopper Mountain on Oct. 13 and at Bitter Creek Oct. 19.

Get on the list by emailing Carol at [tours@friendsofcondors.org](mailto:tours@friendsofcondors.org) or go through the website:

[www.friendsofcondors.org](http://www.friendsofcondors.org)

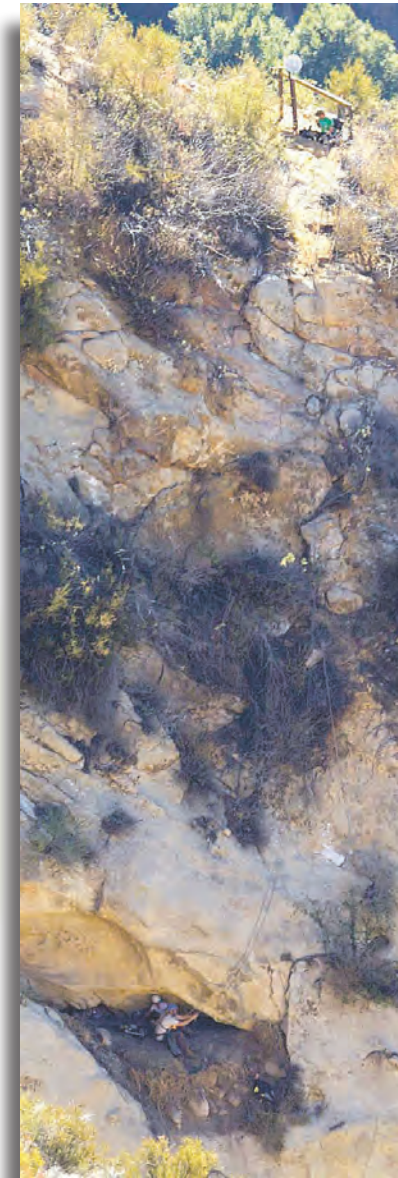
---

## EAVESDROPS

"I ask people why they have deer heads on their walls. They always say because it's such a beautiful animal. I think my mother is attractive, but I have photographs of her."

~ Ellen DeGeneres

---



A biologist from the Los Angeles Zoo and two skilled experts from the Condor Recovery program rappelled down a scraggy cliff face (above) to check on a month-old chick and its mother at their nest (left photo). There is a video camera disguised as a rock in there, but the mom defecated on the lens so that needed a wash. (Photos by Martin Fletcher)

## GREETINGS FRIENDS

# Endangered Species Act more than a wild idea

By Jim Hines

A majestic California Condor soaring over the Ojai Valley, furry sea otters playing in the Santa Barbara Channel, fast-footed least terns scurrying around Goleta Slough, arroyo toads setting quietly in the sands along upper Sespe Creek and steelhead trout bringing the Ventura River back to life again.



These wild creatures would not be here today if it were not for the federal endangered species act (ESA) signed into law 30 years ago.

As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of one of the major pieces of environmental legislation ever passed, we as a nation have had to take major efforts to change the way we manage habitat, design projects and use our public lands to make sure that all life in our natural world is protected.

On December 28th 1973, President Richard Nixon said, as he signed the ESA into law, that “no species in our nation should be allowed to become extinct.” And while we have made major strides in saving some of the greatest wild species in our nation such as polar bears, sea otters and the majestic whooping crane to name a few, we still have a long ways to go.

Right now there is a major environmental battle going on across our nation regarding removal of ESA protection from the North American Gray Wolf.

The ESA is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with Congressional oversight from the House Committee on National Resources. This means that the ESA is as political as any other piece of legislation and we see this being played out from budget cuts to ESA programs to bills to completely do away with the ESA.

The ESA mandates that all species, plants, insects, fish, birdlife and wildlife be protected. Many times species recovery plans require the closure of certain lands to energy and other types of development to protect species habitat and thus puts endangered species on a collision course with the modern industrial world around them.

This year is a time to celebrate what we have done to save thousands of species, also a time to reflect on our commitment to really protect the wild creatures which inhabit the natural world around us.

By not fully funding and carrying out the ESA protections, many of our wild creatures will become extinct and as we all know, extinction is forever.



Karen Abel

Ventura Photographer Karen Abel calls her photo “Window to the World,” which we take to mean the wilderness, a designation that came into legal being 50 years ago next year. Celebrations are planned, one of which is the photo contest below.

## Photo contest celebrates wilderness

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act’s creation, the Sierra Club, government agencies and other like-minded groups have joined together to sponsor a nationwide photo contest that will be exhibited in the Smithsonian.

In fact, two of the judges are from the Sierra Club: *Sierra Magazine’s* photo editor, Adina LoBiondo, and the club’s Washington Representative, Matthew Kirby.

The deadline to submit to the “Wilderness Forever” contest is September 3 and all the details are at: [www.naturesbestphotography.com/wilderness](http://www.naturesbestphotography.com/wilderness)

You can also call (703)467-9783

withquestionsoremail: [wilderness@naturesbestphotography.com](mailto:wilderness@naturesbestphotography.com)

The Santa Barbara-Ventura area is rich in wilderness-designated areas, all administered by the U.S. Forest Service. They include the Sespe, San Rafael, Dick Smith, Chumash, Matilija and, close by to the south, the San Gabriel Wilderness.

All winning images will be in a special publication produced to commemorate this golden anniversary event and promoted nationwide. Each of the four contest categories will have a Pro, Amateur, and Student winner, plus Honorable Mentions.

“What better way to celebrate the beauty and diversity of

nature than through the eyes of the public and their shared experiences in our wilderness areas,” said Steve Freligh, the editor-in-chief and contest judge.

The anniversary is intended to raise the public’s awareness of the importance of setting aside wilderness areas, which typically are free of human encroachment without roads or any other kind of development except for trails and campsites.

The Los Padres Chapter is planning local events to celebrate the anniversary, so keep tabs on the *Condor Call* for details. For a broad brush approach with many useful links, go to:

[www.wilderness50th.org](http://www.wilderness50th.org)

# Los Padres Group News

The public is welcome to our programs

## STEERING COMMITTEE

~ Usually meets the fourth Thursday of every month in Carpinteria. Email Chair Gerry Ching for the agenda and details: [gching@cox.net](mailto:gching@cox.net)

## ARGUELLO GROUP

~ Board meets first Monday of most months often with a program. All information on this North County Santa Barbara Group from Jerry Connor, 928-3598 or email: [Connor.gd2@verizon.net](mailto:Connor.gd2@verizon.net)  
Volunteers are needed as hike leaders and to monitor issues; your talents could make a difference.

## CONEJO GROUP

~ Get all information on this southern Ventura County Group from John Holroyd, 495-6391 or [backpacker2@earthlink.net](mailto:backpacker2@earthlink.net). On the web: <http://lospadres.sierraclub.org/conejo>

## SANTA BARBARA GROUP

~ Get the latest updates on events and issues of this South Coast Santa Barbara area at [www.SBSierraClub.org](http://www.SBSierraClub.org); also join our email list by contacting [Stephen@lospadres.sierraclub.org](mailto:Stephen@lospadres.sierraclub.org)

## VENTURA SIERRA CLUB

~ Up-to-date information about the northern Ventura County group at [www.VenturaSierraClub.org](http://www.VenturaSierraClub.org)

**JOIN PICNIC OCT. 26 (SEE BELOW)**

## VENTURA SIERRA CLUB

# Hot picnic now Oct. 26

The Ventura Sierra Club group was all set to have a picnic at Camp Comfort in Ojai on Saturday, June 29 but a heat wave struck the region and it was called off.

How hot was it?

“Hotter than the Hinges of Hell,” as my mother would say.

The Ojai temperature rose on Thursday to 97 degrees from a balmy 92 the day before. On Friday it hit 99 jumping to 106 on the Picnic Day (Saturday), and reaching its peak at 107 degrees on Sunday.

Hot dogs were on the menu, but the supermarket kindly took back all the food.

The picnic has been rescheduled for Saturday, October 26 from 1 to 5 p.m.

More details will be in our next issue. Many thanks go to Carol Marsh who arranged the picnic and then had to undo it all, but rescheduling it would keep the ‘comfort’ in Camp Comfort.

For more information, call

Carol Marsh at 984-3590, or [CleoCAMI776@aol.com](mailto:CleoCAMI776@aol.com). Contact her if you are willing to help or just to thank her.



## Free energy kit

SoCal gas has a “energy efficiency starter kit” for free, comprising three faucet aerators, a low-flow showerhead, a furnace filter whistle and a hot water gauge.

The low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators are simple and easy ways to save energy and water. These devices allow air to enter into the water stream, maintaining a high-pressure flow while reducing water usage.

Also available are cash rebates on clothes washers, dishwashers, attic/wall insulation, natural gas storage water heaters and furnaces.

To order your kit, go to:

[www.socalgas.com](http://www.socalgas.com)

## CONEJO GROUP

# Barry honored in Conejo Park

A special friend and member of the Sierra Club, Linda Barry, passed away June 8 and the Conejo Group honored her during its potluck meeting with photos and fond memories.

A pink Trumpet Tree was dedicated in her honor at the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden and a bench with her name on it will be installed next to the tree.

“Linda planned to donate her body for scientific research, so she will continue to help people as she has always done,” said Lynn Lively of the Conejo Group.

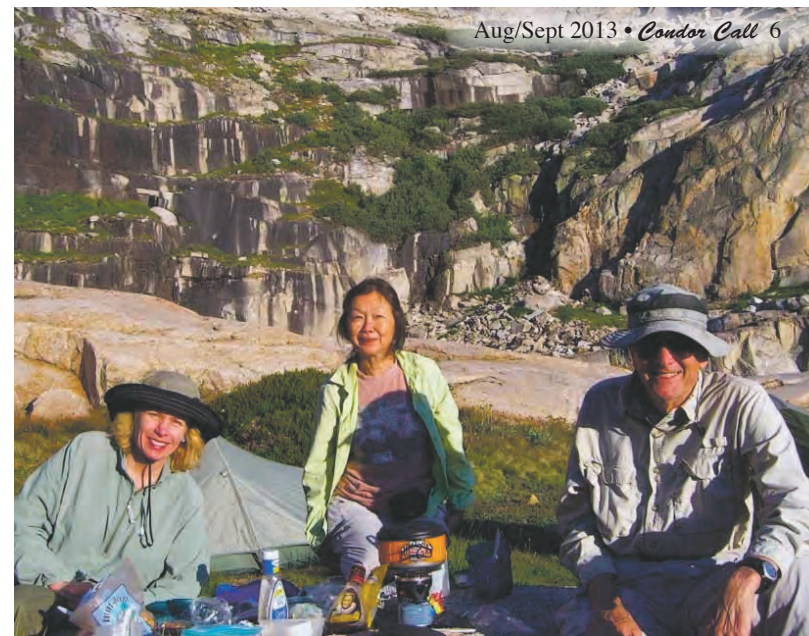
She was born in China in 1943 and came to the U.S. in 1965 to attend Southern Illinois University and while pursuing a career in Chicago met “a big Irishman named Jack Barry” and married him in 1973. After Jack passed away, Linda and their son Ed moved to Thousand Oaks where her parents had a home.

She worked at the Thousand Oaks library and decided to get involved with the Sierra Club where she met hike leader Tom

# Get the club's \$ card

The Sierra Club has joined with an environmentally responsible community bank to offer a new Visa platinum credit card.

A percentage of every purchase made with the card supports the club's mission. There is a points program too, redeemed for merchandise and travel, with free travel insurance built in and many



Aug/Sept 2013 • Condor Call 6

Cyndee Zahorik, Linda Barry and Hugh Warren of the Conejo Group on a trip to the Sequoia National Park. (Photo contributed)

## SEND WILDFLOWERS (acres of them)



Siebert and Lively during a club trip to the Grand Canyon.

“The three of us had the best time. We rode mules down the north rim and hiked all over. We formed the bonds of a long term friendship that included tea-smoked eggs and a spectacular trip to China,” Lively said.

“Now Linda is gone, but never to be forgotten. Her spirit and spunk have enriched us all,” Lively concluded.

other benefits.

The partners in this venture are One Pacific Coast Bank, founded as a community development institution with includes a nonprofit foundation, and TCM Bank which issues credit cards to community banks around the country.

To find out more or sign up, go to: [www.sierraclubcard.org](http://www.sierraclubcard.org)

Memorial or Commemorative gifts are a unique way to honor an individual or special event and at the same time provide important funding towards Sierra Club's long-term goals. And like the memories you hold, this is a gift that will last forever. For more information, call (415) 977-5653.

[planned.giving@sierraclub.org](mailto:planned.giving@sierraclub.org)  
Memorial/Commemorative Program  
85 Second St.,  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Chapter Contact  
Catherine Graham  
682-1357





# Condor Classifieds

Advertise your outdoor gear, trips or whatever in the Condor Call where you'll reach like-minded members. Just fill out adjacent form and mail it in with a check.



Electric vehicle owners Cathy and Kent Bullard are proud to show off their Nissan at the Sierra Club's "Green Block" on the Fourth of July. Cathy uses it to commute from Ventura to Thousand Oaks, a 45-mile round trip free of gas! Get more facts about EVs on page 14. (Photo by John Hankins)



## Green Block success

The Ventura Sierra Club's Green Block during the City of Ventura's 4th of July Street Fair was packed with people ...for good reason. Oh sure, there was a parade, crafts and food, but the Sierra Club ruled on Oak Street.

Larry Older organized the Green Block again and our alternative car show was the biggest ever (thanks

Michael Chiacos).

It featured groups working to improve our environment in other ways, including the Friends of the Ventura River, organic foods and gardens, home-friendly products, raised growing beds by member Kurt Preissler, our Wilderness Basics Course reps and even some politicians showed up.

**WHITNEY PERMIT:** I need hiking partner for Whitney. Have permit for 9/4/13. Email Linda at [ekback@att.net](mailto:ekback@att.net)

**MAMMOTH CONDO** \$100 per night summer; \$90 in May or October. Sleeps 6-8, 2 baths, washer, dryer. Add \$90 cleaning and 13 percent town tax. See photos and reviews at [www.VRBO.com](http://www.VRBO.com) No. 311725; questions call 907-5111.

**SEEK PARTNER(s)** for 52-foot Amel Mango Ketch in Ventura. (805) 650-7736.

**FIND YOUR SB HOME** at [www.SBHomeSearch.info](http://www.SBHomeSearch.info). Kevin Berni Coastal Properties, and UCSB '80. Call (805) 564-3400 or [www.sbre.com](http://www.sbre.com).

**ACUPRESSURE MASSAGE,** rest your back and feet. Call Paula, 687-4671.

**USED CELL PHONES** for sale as benefit for the Santa Barbara Group; only \$15 - \$35 for older cell phones with charger. Also chargers for older phones \$2. Guarantee: You have 3

days to get your cell phone connected; if for any reason you want to return it within that time, you'll get a full refund. Call 962-8415.

**SAVE THE TOWN** from demolition; go to SB city planning hearings, 630 Garden St. Gebhard room, agendas posted there or at [www.SantaBarbara.ca.gov/abr](http://www.SantaBarbara.ca.gov/abr) or /sfdb, /hic, /sho, /pc and city council. Very important Chumash burial grounds everywhere, don't add on to your house, no condos, no building. Go to the hearings or write comments and Save the Town!

**SAVE THE OLD GROWTH** redwood houses, shed and 1960s workshop at 1236 San Andres from massive condo project, also Val Verde. Call the SB City Planners at 564-5470, ask for Danny Kato. Tell your friends, call your legislators. Save all SB from demolition of similar historic houses throughout the city and Cottage Hospital. We need another Pearl Chase! Help now.

## Join Eco buyers

A new Conscious Consumers Cooperative called "Eco-Buyers Ventura" has launched in Ventura to help build a more vibrant, green, sustainable and secure local economy.

The Cooperative buys non-perishable basic goods that are eco-friendly, from companies that are in or as local as possible. Examples include household and personal basics such as printer paper, toothpaste and vitamins, and some dry goods.

Monthly Mixers are planned to pick-up products, brainstorm and network as co-owners. A delivery system to members is also a huge potential.

The cooperative is using Facebook as a primary contact, but you can also get ahold of Kendra Gonzales at 628-3198 or [earthworks\\_works@yahoo.com](mailto:earthworks_works@yahoo.com)

**Classified Ad Placement Form**

A classified ad in the Condor Call reaches over 6,500 Sierra Club members in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties.  
**Ads cost only \$6 for three lines, and 75¢ for each additional line per issue.**  
 Specify by circling the months below. Deadline for next issue is Sept. 24  
**Questions? Call the Condor at 452-2885.**  
 Enclose a check made out to the Condor Call, 260 Pacos Street, Ventura, CA 93001

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_


Number of Issues: \_\_\_\_\_ Feb/Mar • Apr/May • June/July • Aug/Sept. • Oct/Nov • Dec/Jan

# Take a Hike!

## LOS PADRES CHAPTER

Updates at <http://lospadres.sierraclub.org>

Panoramic photo by Robert Bernstein

### August 4

**THREE POOLS BEYOND SEVEN FALLS:** Primitive trail, some rock climbing. Bring swimsuit. Difficult but short 5 mrt. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ALEJANDRO 898-1240 (SB)

### August 4

**LA JOLLA CANYON TO DRY WATERFALL:** Easy, slow, family-friendly hike; children welcome! Only 1 mile up the La Jolla Canyon trail to a dry waterfall, through recovering burned area, then we'll have a snack. 2 miles round trip. Meet at the La Jolla Canyon parking lot in Point Mugu State Park, 4pm. Pay parking

fee or park on PCH. Bring water, snack, sunscreen. For more info call TERESA (524-7170) (VEN)

### August 10

**PIEDRA BLANCA:** Strenuous 8 mrt hike across the Sespe and up Piedra Blanca Creek, then some rock and boulder scrambling to our favorite swimming hole. Much of the hike will be in the creek bed, so expect to get wet. It can be very hot in August, so bring at least 3 liters of water, plus electrolytes. Also bring lunch, snacks, hat, swimsuit, hiking shoes, and sandals for water crossings. Meet at 9am. Ventura carpool lot (Seaward and Harbor between Chase Bank and Carrows). JIM 447-

1876/644-6934 (SB)

### August 10 – 11

**MODERATE BACKPACK** in Mt. Pinos area. Saturday: Meet at trail head in ski patrol parking lot 8:00 a.m. Backpack about 4 miles to camp, climbing and descending a few hundred feet net from trail head (8,300'). Arrive in camp at around noon and set up tents and have lunch. Optional day hike after lunch towards Mt. Able, additional 5 miles with additional gain and loss up to 1,500'. Sheep Camp is similar to many of the trail camps on the Mt. Pinos Ranger District. The camp is located in the Chumash Wilderness under a stand of Jeffery pines.

Hikers should be in good condition for this backpack because of the high elevation and steep pitches in the trail. There is a spring for water, which needs to be purified. Group potluck Sat. night, so bring something to share. Return to cars on Sunday by about 2pm. Trip limited to 10 backpackers. Call leader with questions or to sign up. SALLY 689-7820 (SB)

### August 11

**WEST FORK COLD SPRING TO LOOKOUT AND BEYOND:** Start on Cold Spring Trail, cross stream and hike west up to the Homestead. Moderate, but steep 5 mrt. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT 685-1283 (SB)

### August 17

**ENNISBROOK:** Morning walk through this Montecito area with large trees and plants near San Ysidro Creek. Flat, slow paced 2-3 miles. Children welcome, bring water and meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. VICKI 563-4850 (SB)

### August 17

**HUENEME LIGHTHOUSE HIKE:** We will tour the Hueneme lighthouse and learn the early history of the Hueneme beach, pier and dock area. Then, we'll head for the beach pier and the memorial to the Alaskan Airlines plane crash. After the hike, we'll enjoy the Beach Festival, then head for a great Vietnamese lunch nearby. Meet at 9:30am at Seaview and Ventura Road. For more info, call TED at 985-8963 (VEN)

### August 18

**SHORELINE PARK PICNIC AND WALK:** Share a potluck breakfast. Bring food to share. Coffee provided. Meet in the middle of Shoreline Park at 9am. Possible hike down to the harbor and back. (SB)

### August 18

**CONDOR CALL OUTINGS DUE SOON:** Outings leaders should be preparing their write-ups for the next Outings Schedule, covering the period of October 2013 thru January 2014 plus at least the first week into February. Submit them to your Group outings chair. Questions? Contact Gerry at [gching@cox.net](mailto:gching@cox.net)

### August 24

**CANINE HIKE RATTLESNAKE TRAIL:** Hike up a wooded canyon with scenic views to meadow. Mostly shaded trail. Moderate 3.5 mrt, 1000 ft. elevation gain. Well behaved dogs welcomed and encouraged; must be leashed. Bring snack and water for you and your canine companion. Hikers without dogs welcome too. Meet at B of A parking lot at 8am. NOTE EARLY START TIME. Hike limited to five dogs - please call to reserve your dog's place. Rain/fire cancels. SALLY 689-7820 (SB)

### August 25

**RINCON TO CARPINTERIA HIKE:** We'll start from Rincon Beach Park, hike a bluff trail above the beach with great views of the Channel Islands. After crossing the railroad tracks, we'll ascend to the Carpinteria Bluff Trail, following it to the seal viewing overlook. Lunch at Tar pits Park.

*continued next page*

## Ongoing Outings

### Ventura Every Monday Morning

**EASY WALKS:** Join Pat Jump at 8:30 a.m. every Monday morning for easy to moderate walks in the Ventura and Ojai areas. A long-time tradition, the walks will last about two hours and the group sometimes goes for coffee afterward. Call Pat at 643-0270.

### Ventura Every Wednesday

**URBAN EVENING HIKE:** Weekly hike in Ventura meets across the street from the Mission at 6:45 p.m. for a 4 ½-mile walk up to Father Serra's Cross for spectacular scenic views of Ventura, the Channel Islands and the sunset. It continues across the hillside, down to the ocean, to the end of the pier, then along the promenade looping back to the Mission. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Contact KURT PRESSLER 643-5902. (VEN)

### Santa Barbara Fridays, Wednesdays and Weekends

**SOCIAL HIKE** every Friday evening for an easy-to-moderate 2-4 mile roundtrip evening hike in the Santa Barbara front country, beach or back roads. Meet at 6 p.m. at the Santa Barbara Mission; we leave at 6:15 sharp. Bring a flashlight; optional potluck or pizza afterward. AL SLADEK, 685-2145. (SB)

**STRENUOUS** 5-10 mile roundtrip evening hike on Wednesdays. Meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Santa Barbara Mission; bring water and a flashlight, preferably head lamp. Hike is designed for conditioning. For details, contact BERNARD MINES, 722-9000.

**MODERATE AND STRENUOUS** hikes at 9 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Meet at Bank of America at State St. and Hope Ave.

### Monthly Programs

**ARGUELLO GROUP** offers slide shows, speakers and movies, the third Friday of each month. Call for details: 928-3598.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Help keep Highway 1 beautiful. Adopt-a-Highway trash pickup from the Lompoc 'Wye' to the Base boundary. Meet at Vandenberg Village Shopping Center parking lot at 9 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of odd-numbered months. Rain cancels. Contact CONNIE: 735-2292.

## Outing Notes

*Key to outing locations (noted in parenthesis at the end of each listing)*

- AR – Arguello Group (Northern SB County)
- SB – Santa Barbara Group (Southern SB County)
- VEN – Ventura Network (Northern Ventura County)
- CJ – Conejo Group (Southern Ventura County)
- LA – Los Angeles Chapter joint hikes

*The public is welcome at all outings listed, unless otherwise specified. Please bring drinking water to all outings and optionally a lunch. Study footwear is recommended. If you have any questions about a hike, please contact the leader listed. All phone numbers listed are within area code 805, unless otherwise noted. Pets are generally not allowed. A parent or responsible adult must accompany children under the age of 14.*

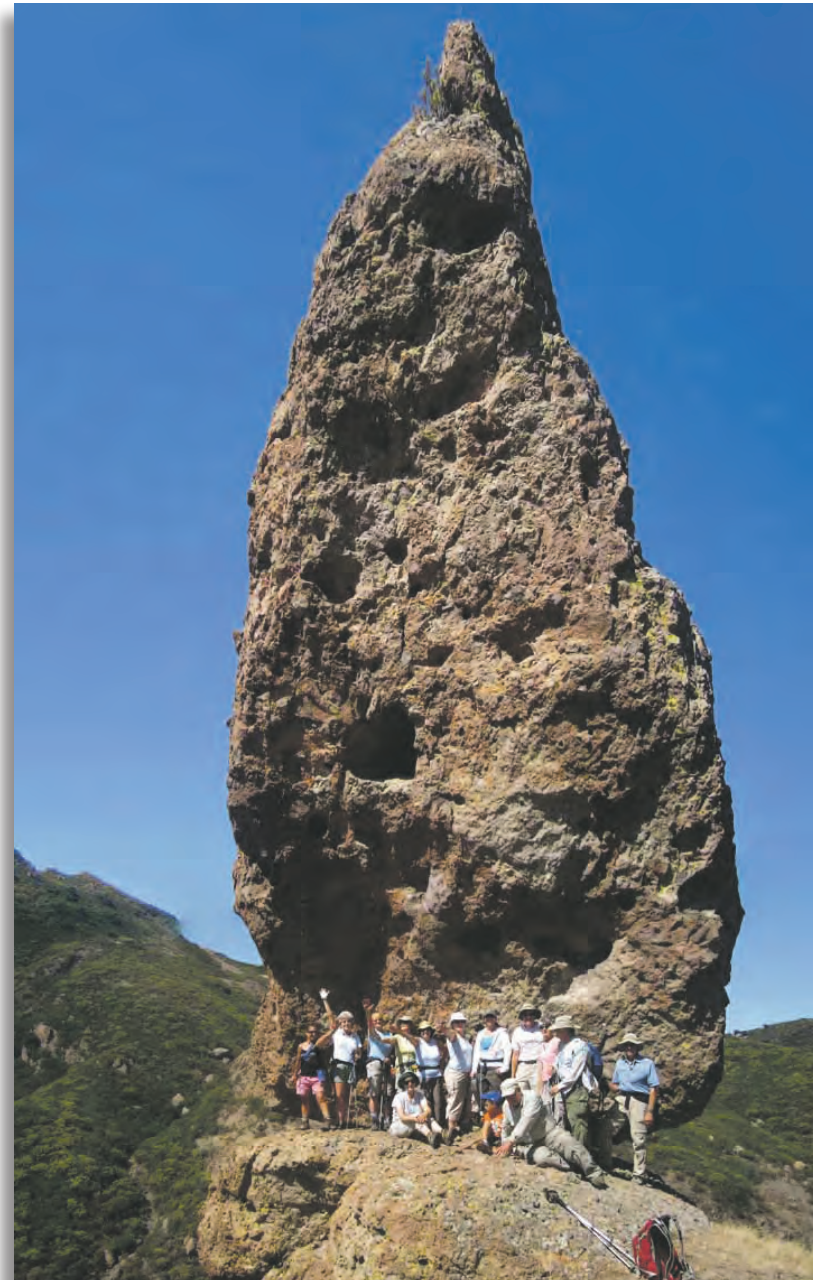
*A frequently updated on-line listing of all outings can be viewed at: <http://lospadres.sierraclub.org> This website also contains links to Group web pages and other resources.*



**September 15**

**CONDOR CALL OUTINGS DUE NOW:** Group outings chairs should send their write-ups for the next Outings Schedule, covering the *continued next page*

trail leading us to the 1200' high point. Meet behind the Bank of America on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. Bring a light lunch and water (it can get very warm). If you are coming from north of Santa Barbara, you can meet us at the trailhead. Call for instructions. GERRY 964-5411 (SB)



A Conejo Group outing got a lot of hikers to "Balanced Rock" via Mishe Mokwa and Short Use Trail in the Malibu area. (Photo by Hugh Warren)

**September 14-15**

**INDIAN WELLS CANYON SERVICE AND HIKE:** Indian Wells Canyon, north of Ridgecrest and adjacent to the Owens Peak Wilderness, has been impacted by erosion and by illegal ORV trespass. On Saturday our group will assist BLM Wilderness Resource Specialist Marty Dicks putting up barriers, concealing illegal routes, and placing signs. If the work has been completed adequately then Sunday will be used for a hike up into the Wilderness and perhaps to Owens Peak itself. The ponderosa forest and chaparral should provide a delightful diversion in the early fall. Leader: CRAIG DEUTSCHE, [craig.deutsche@gmail.com](mailto:craig.deutsche@gmail.com), 310-477-6670, Contact: TOM BUDLONG, [TomBudlong@roadrunner.com](mailto:TomBudlong@roadrunner.com), 310-476-1731. (CNRCC Desert Committee)

**September 14-15**

**BRISTLECONE PINES:** Come with us to the beautiful White Mtns to camp, hike and just relax. On Sat, we'll hike the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest on a moderate 5 mrt interpretive trail, followed by a picnic lunch and a short optional hike to a nearby old mining cabin. Back at camp, we'll enjoy Happy Hour, a potluck feast and a campfire. Sunday pack up and head home. Group size strictly limited. Send \$8 per person (check payable to Lygeia Gerard), 2 large SASE, H&W phones, email address, rideshare info to Ldr: LYGEIA GERARD, P.O. Box 721039, Pinon Hills, CA 92372; 760-868-2179 (CNRCC Desert Committee)

**September 15**

**BARON RANCH TRAIL:** A 7.5 mrt moderate hike on the Gaviota Coast. This trail leads us high into the foothills for great views of the coast and valley. We'll include the upper loop in our route. Although mostly on old ranch roads, the route starts rising steeply towards the rear of the valley, then transfers to a newly cut

**EAVESDROPS**

**"At least the war on the environment is going well."**  
~ Ms. Pretty, from the internet.

Hope Ave. at 9am. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT 685-1283 (SB)

**September 1**

**CONDOR CALL OUTINGS DUE SOON:** Group outings chairs should be preparing their write-ups for the next Outings Schedule, covering the period of October 2013 thru January 2014 plus at least the first week into February. Questions? Contact Gerry at [gching@cox.net](mailto:gching@cox.net)

**September 7**

**TEQUEPIS :** Hike up to West Camino Cielo from Santa Ynez Valley. View of Cachuma Lake and the Pacific Ocean. Moderate-strenuous 8 mrt. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. CHRISTINE 963-2347 (SB)

**September 8**

**RED ROCK TO GIBRALTAR DAM:** Hike up the road to Gibraltar Dam, then back past a popular swimming area. Moderate-strenuous 6.5 mrt. Bring swimsuit, wading shoes, lunch and water. Optional side trip to old mercury mine adds 4 miles. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ALEJANDRO 898-1240 (SB)

**September 14**

**HIKE LEADER BBQ:** This is an opportunity for our hike leaders to get together and enjoy and learn from one another. If you are a hike leader, want to be a hike leader, or are a friend of a hike leader, you are welcome to join us for this pot luck BBQ. Please call for details TONY 682-8290 (SB)

**August 31**

**SAN YSIDRO TO THE FALLS:** Hike past a favorite rock climbing location to a seasonal waterfall, then return to a pool for lunch. Easy 5 mrt. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. PAUL 886-1121 (SB)

**September 1**

**ROMERO CANYON TO BUENA VISTA BENCH:** Short but steep 3 mrt morning walk to hidden bench. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at

**Check Conditions**

Any number of campgrounds and/or roads in the Los Padres National Forest may be closed or have restricted (no autos) access due to protection of habitats, repair or adverse weather. Before you go into the local backcountry it's a good idea to check conditions with rangers. Numbers to call (unless noted, all are 805 area code):

**Los Padres Forest Districts**

Headquarters	968-6640
Ojai District	646-4348
Mt. Pinos	(661) 245-3731
Santa Barbara	967-3481
Santa Lucia	925-9538

**Forest Notes**

For updated information, news releases, maps and many other goodies, go to the Los Padres National Forest's website: <http://fs.usda.gov/LPNF>

**Other Areas**

Santa Monica Mtns. Area	370-2301
Conejo Parks	381-2737
Simi VGalley	584-4400
Montecito	969-3514
Channel Islands	966-7107

**Local Hiking websites**

There are a number of websites that give you information as varied as outings, trail profiles, wildflower alert, trail work opportunities and much more. Here's a few:

- <http://LosPadres.SierraClub.org>
- [www.SBSierraClub.org](http://www.SBSierraClub.org)
- [www.SantaBarbaraTrailGuide.com](http://www.SantaBarbaraTrailGuide.com)
- [www.SantaBarbaraHikes.com](http://www.SantaBarbaraHikes.com)
- [www.LPForest.org](http://www.LPForest.org)
- [www.VenturaCountyTrails.org](http://www.VenturaCountyTrails.org)
- <http://Hikes.VenturaCountyStar.com>

# Coalition creates eco-library

p.m. at 206 N. Signal St. Suite S in Ojai.

Credit goes to Evergreen Hendricks for seeding the idea and the coalition's steadfast weekly volunteer, Laurie Walters Slade, for getting everything cataloged and organized.

A Library Launch was conducted in July celebrating the opening in which participants read passages from their favorite environmental books, poems or original writing. "The reading 'salon' part of it was so appreciated that we're likely to do some future readings, perhaps even once a month," Slade told *Condor Call*.

Meanwhile, you can check out its catalog online:

<http://ojaivalleygreencoalition.com>



Laurie Walters Slade has generously volunteered her time to get the Eco-library up and running. A grand opening that included readings from the books was a success, so that may continue on. (Photo by Ojai Green Coalition)

B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT 685-1283 (SB)

## October 12-13

EXPLORE AND SERVE IN THE CARRIZO PLAINS: This weekend is part of a continuing project to aid the mobility of pronghorn antelope in the Carrizo Plain National Monument. Our service on Saturday will either remove or modify several sections of fence for the benefit of these ungulates. Sunday will be, at the choice of the group, either a hike in the Caliente Range or else a tour of popular viewing areas in the plains. This is an opportunity to combine carcamping, day-hiking, exploring, and service in a relatively unknown wilderness. Leader: CRAIG DEUTSCHE, [craig.deutsche@gmail.com](mailto:craig.deutsche@gmail.com), 310-477-6670. (CNRCC Desert Committee)

## October 26-27

GHOST TOWN EXTRAVAGANZA: Spend Halloween weekend with the ghosts of California's colorful past. Primitive camp at the historic ghost town of Ballarat in the eerie desert landscape near Death Valley. On Sat, do a challenging hike to ghost town Lookout City and hear tales of this wild west town from historian Hal Fowler. Return to camp for Happy Hour and a potluck feast, followed by a midnight visit to Ballarat's graveyard. On Sun, a quick visit to the infamous Riley townsite before heading home. Group size strictly limited. Send \$8 per person (check payable to Lygeia Gerard), 2 large SASE, H&W phones, email, rideshare info to Ldr: LYGEIA GERARD, P.O. Box 721039, Pinon Hills, CA 92372, 760-868-2179. (CNRCC Desert Committee)



## EAVESDROPS

"Only you can prevent faucet fires."

~ A parody on Smokey Bear's "Only you can prevent forest fires" slogan relating to fracking for oil on national forest lands that got activist Lopi LaRoe in trouble with the Forest Service, whose attorneys sent her a cease and desist letter. Admitting "this is the radicalization of Smokey" who should be fighting corporations misusing the land, she had to grin when telling a reporter her parody "spread like wildfire."

## September 28

ROMERO CANYON TO CAMINO CIELO: Walk all the way up this mostly tree shaded trail to the top. Great views of back country. Moderate-strenuous 9 mrt. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. PAUL 886-1121 (SB)

## September 28

DOUGH FLAT TO ALDER CREEK: 15 mile round trip hike, 2400' gain/loss through the Sespe Condor Sanctuary corridor to Alder Creek Camp. Fantastic rock forms! Meet 7:45am in Fillmore for 1 hour drive to trailhead in Los Padres National Forest. Rain cancels. Bring lunch, 3-4 liters of water, 10 essentials. For more info, call TERESA (524-7170) (VEN)

## September 29

LIZARD'S MOUTH CLEANUP: Have fun exploring while making this popular spot a bit cleaner! Beautiful rock formations and wind caves are a pleasure to enjoy and restore! Short Easy hike with some boulder hopping. Bring a snack and water. Gloves and trash bags will be provided. Rain cancels. Meet behind

## September 21

COASTAL CLEANUP DAY: Join us cleaning up a local beach on California Coastal Cleanup Day. Beach TBD STEPHEN 574-9445 (SB)

## September 22

ALISO CANYON: A leisurely loop from Sage Hill campground on a marked trail alongside a stream. Easy 3.5 mrt. Optional descent to Upper Oso adds 1.5 miles to hike. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. VICKI 563-4850 (SB)

## September 22

TED'S FAMOUS BEACH HIKE AND STEAK FEED: Join Ted for an easy six-mile-round-trip walk along the beach from Rincon to Carpinteria. Then cook your own steak, chicken or fish at The Palms. To carpool, meet at 1:45pm at the Carrows parking lot, between Carrows and the Chase Bank, on the corner of Seaward and Harbor Blvd. in Ventura. Or meet us at the starting point for the hike, at Bates Beach/Rincon parking lot. For more info, call TED at 985-8963 (VEN)

## September 27-29

SERVICE AND HIKING IN THE CARRIZO PLAINS: This is an opportunity to visit and to assist an outstanding and relatively unknown national monument. There will be an optional and scenic hike high in the Caliente Mountains on Friday. Others may join us for National Public Lands Day on Saturday when we will participate with other volunteers doing trail maintenance. On Sunday we will tour a number of the historic, prehistoric, and geologic sites in the Monument. Leader CRAIG DEUTSCHE, [craig.deutsche@gmail.com](mailto:craig.deutsche@gmail.com), 310-477-6670. (CNRCC Desert Committee)

period of October 2013 thru January 2014 plus at least the first week into February. Send to Gerry at [gching@cox.net](mailto:gching@cox.net)

# Know the tricks for popular permits

**By Mike Stubblefield**  
**Outings Chair**

Securing a hiking or camping permit sometimes isn't easy, but it's a prudent and sensible thing to do every time you head out into the wilderness.

Without it, local authorities might not find you if a loved one calls and says that you didn't make it home.

Times have changed; those halcyon days when you could just show up and get a permit for the same day are pretty much over. Forty years ago you could drive to Yosemite, Sequoia-Kings Canyon, Lone Pine or Bishop, walk into the local ranger station and obtain a permit for a weekend or a week in the high country. While today you might get a permit from some ranger stations at the last minute, don't count on it.

For local permits in the Los Padres National Forest and to get up-to-date information about weather conditions, road closures etc. you can call ranger offices during normal business hours (see list on page 9) or go online:

[www.fs.usda.gov/lpnp](http://www.fs.usda.gov/lpnp)

On some hikes, like the popular Devil's Slide Trail from Humber Park above Idyllwild, to the top of 10,800 Mt. San Jacinto, you can simply stop by the Idyllwild Ranger Station on your way out of town and issue yourself a permit. Keep the original and drop the carbon copy into a slot. Rangers do patrol this popular trail and they'll send you back down if you don't have a permit. For weather reports etc., call the Idyllwild Ranger Station at (909) 382-2921.

On less well known but increasingly popular trails like the rugged Vivian Creek Trail -- the shortest route to the top of SoCal's tallest peak, 11,500 ft. Mt. San

Gorgonio -- you must apply in advance for a permit whether you plan a same day trip or spend the night at one of the two campsites. Apply at least a month ahead by filling in the online form, print it and fax or mail it. For questions, call (909) 382-2882 or go to:

[www.fs.usda.gov/main/sbnf/home](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/sbnf/home)

**High Sierra permits**

For more ambitious outings in the High Sierras you must plan ahead,

**EAVESDROPS**

**"Fall is my favorite season in Los Angeles, watching the birds change color and fall from the trees."**

~ David Letterman

sometimes way ahead. On popular trails like the Whitney Portal Trail you must apply *months* in advance, via the internet, and there's no guarantee that you'll get the date that you want, or even *get* a date at all.

(Little known fact: About 40 percent of the daily permits on the Whitney Portal Trail are for "walk-ons," folks who like to roll the dice and bet that they'll get one. They're handed out on a first come-first serve basis, and you will be competing with high school and college kids from all over the planet who are willing to sleep on the sidewalk to get one of those precious permits. But you could get lucky.)

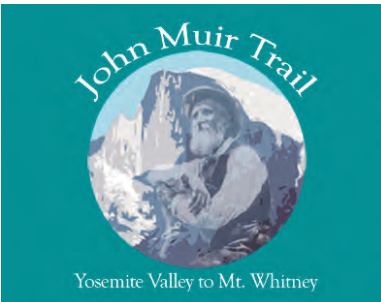
No permit is required for spending the day on any East Side Sierra route except the Whitney

Portal Trail; but if you plan to head up into the high country and camp out, you must get a permit because campsite capacities are limited. Initiate all permit questions regarding the East Side of the Sierra with the Inyo National Forest District Office in Bishop. The Inyo website also works for a trip to Mt. Whitney or Mt. Langley.

The Inyo number is (760) 873-2400 and the website:

[www.fs.usda.gov/main/inyo/home](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/inyo/home)

Even if you're just planning a local day hike in the Los Padres National Forest into an area for which no permit other than an Adventure Pass is required, or a one-day peak bagger like Mt. Baldy above Claremont (which requires no permit), it's still a good idea to let



someone know.

Give your contact person the number and email of the pertinent ranger office, where you plan to go, trail names, estimated exit time, and your vehicle description. Then if you don't show up, your contact can call the local authorities, report you missing and provide detailed information that will help rescue teams find you more quickly.

It could save you grief.



This is what our ENVI award looks like, given out this year by the Environmental Defense Center for all the hard work we do. (Photo by John Hankins)

## We're the ENVI Join the Club

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club.  
 Please charge my:  Visa  Mastercard  AMEX

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
<b>Special Offer</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

**Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!**



Contributions, gifts and dues to Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to SIERRA magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletters.



F94Q W 1000 1

Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968 or visit our website [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org)

**High fire danger  
in forest area**

Due to extremely dry vegetation and an increasing fire danger, Los Padres National Forest officials have imposed increased fire restrictions.

The following restrictions will be rigorously enforced until the end of the declared fire season:

- ~ Wood and charcoal fires are prohibited in all areas of the Forest including designated Campfire Use sites; however persons with a valid permit are allowed to use portable stoves and lanterns. Free permits and details of all restrictions are available at: [www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf)

- ~ Recreational target shooting is prohibited in all areas unless specifically authorized by a special use permit; however, hunting with a license during open season is exempt.

- ~ Smoking is prohibited except within an enclosed vehicle building, or designated Campfire Use Site. Fireworks are prohibited period.

**No fee days  
Sept. 28, Nov. 9-11**

You won't need an "Adventure Pass" for the Los Padres National Forests' Fee Free days on Sept. 28 nor Nov. 9-11.

That is, except for the Santa Barbara Ranger District's Lower Santa Ynez Recreation Area, where the pass will still be required.

This year's Fee Free days are National Public Lands Day (Saturday, Sept. 28) and Veterans' Day weekend (Saturday through Monday, November 9-11).

Other fees such as campground, reservation and group site fees may still be applicable. For questions, contact the applicable ranger district (see page 9).



A gala 'party' at the top of Topa Topa had some participants dog tired, but Gene Ball and Pete Scifres (background) are still standing. When the backcountry gets too hot, though, there are other things you can do. (Photo by John Wilson)

up your next adventure while letting a book take you to the trail.

7. Get on the Water – There are many reservoirs near the Los Padres that have water activities to keep you busy. Pick up a fishing license and try your luck. There's a nature tour at Lake Cahuma. Hit the websites for Lake Cachuma or Lake Casitas to see what other activities might appeal to you.

8. Wheeler Gorge – Do you have little ones? Check out the weekend calendar of events at the Wheeler Gorge Visitor Center. Not only will you learn a few things about nature, but you'll keep your kids busy at the same time – plus they have air conditioning!

9. Camp Scheideck – Haven't heard of Camp Scheideck, Reyes Camp or the famous Reyes Creek

Bar and Grill? Year round water, fantastic burgers and a place like no other right in the heart of the Los Padres. Needs to be on your to-do list.

10. Car Tours – Even a day spent in the car touring the roads that wind through the Los Padres can be an adventure. Grab a map, fill up your tank, pick up some friends and get on the road. Guaranteed to be a day to remember and an adventure in itself.

\*\*\*

And most important is to drink plenty of fluids or as they say: Hydrate or Die.



# How to beat the hot summer dog daze

By Bryan Conant  
Condor Trail Assn.

July through September is generally referred to as the "dog days of summer."

It's the time when the warm nights no longer seem different and you realize baseball has 162 games



to play in the regular season (yes, that many!).

The dog days for the Los Padres hiker is also the time of the year when the backcountry essentially shuts down. With the creeks being mostly dry and summer temps reaching triple figures, it's much easier to retreat to the Sierras or spend the day on the beach.

This year, in particular, has some of the worst summer hiking conditions. With the previous year's rain totals being less than half of normal, it's got us all fearing that even the most reliable of springs might be dry. So what is a Los Padres explorer supposed to do in hard times like these? Here are 10 quick ideas to keep you involved in the mountain scenery:

1. Hike to Water – Even the driest of years can't completely suck the water out of all the creeks. Some

offer year round pools to swim in, such as Matilija, Piedra Blanca and portions of the Manzana. The Los Padres Forest ranger offices should know (see contact list on page 9)

2. Ocean Views – The Santa Barbara front country has dozens of trails to choose from that stay relatively cool compared to their backcountry counterparts. Pick a trail with ocean views, but remember it can get plenty hot on the coastal mountains too.

3. Night Hike – Another way to beat the heat is to do your hiking while the sun is asleep. Choose a trail you are familiar with, grab a friend and an extra set of batteries for your headlamp.

4. Hike Early – Plan a nice 5-mile hike and get on the trail before sunrise. You'll get your miles in, be home before breakfast and probably have the trail to yourself at the same time

5. Go High – The Los Padres is also home to extensive high elevation coniferous forests. While water might still be scarce in these high country zones, the altitude and shade providing trees usually make the air temperatures bearable. Check out Pine Mountain, Figueroa, Grade Valley or the Chumash Wilderness.

6. Read a Book – There are many books that talk about the history or extol the trails and canyons of the Los Padres. Dream

**EAVESDROPS**

**"Oh Beautiful for smoggy skies, insecticided grain,  
For strip-mined mountain's majesty above the asphalt plain.  
America, America, man sheds his waste on thee,  
And hides the pines with billboard signs, from sea to oily sea."**

~ Comedian George Carlin, now acting as (mostly) organic fertilizer.

## March Appeal 2013 Contributors

Contributions to our local chapter have been coming in ever since the March Appeal letter, and below is an update on our generous donors. A heartfelt “thank you” to all those who contributed, whether or not through money or time.

The donations support the incredible work our volunteers are doing in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties, which includes hundreds of free outings per year and first-class activism keeping our air and water safe from threats like pollution,

fracking, off-shore oil drilling and unrestrained development.

To add your name to the list, simply send your contribution to: Los Padres Sierra Club, PO Box 31241, Santa Barbara, CA 93130-1241.

There are two ways to contribute: To support our effective action programs (not tax-deductible), make a check out to “Los Padres Sierra Club,” and for a tax deductible donation, make it out to “Sierra Club Foundation.”

Debra Fontana  
Mary Freed  
Bonnie Freeman  
Knut Garcken  
Connie Geiger  
June Gill  
Carole Gillin  
Florence Gillman  
Richard A. Glenn  
Larry & Shirley Godwin  
Jeremy Gold  
Herbert Goldman  
Carolyn Greene  
Mary Jo Haffner  
Paul F. Hallam  
Mary Harrison  
Peter L. Hasler  
Glenn Havskjold  
John Heston  
Kiyoko Hirmatsu  
John Holroyd  
Susan Horne  
Arthur T. Hubbard  
Anna Huber  
Richard & Nina Hunt  
Stephen Hurlock  
Barbara Janelle  
Willoughby C Johnson  
Deborah Johnson  
Calvin H. Johnston  
Joy Jones  
Donna & Robert Jordan  
Melissa Juarez  
Richard & Jana Julian  
Wilhelm Kapp  
Rebecca Kaspar  
William Kauth  
Kevin Kearney  
Dr & Mrs Kalon Kelley Sr  
Sarkis Keochekian  
Sharon Kinnee  
Dorothy Kirkelie  
Linda Krop  
Elizabeth & Philip Kryder  
Philip Kuipers  
Joni Kusnierz  
Joyce La Mers  
Randy Lane  
Peter & Julia Laraway  
Donald T. Lauer  
David Lawrence

Richard Leuba  
Sharon Levine  
Annette Lindeman  
Barbara Lindemann  
Nancy Lynch  
Miranda MacDonald  
MJ & Chris Macleod  
Dr. Robert Magnuson  
James A. Malone  
Steven Marquez  
Carol A. Marsh  
Patrick Martin  
Charles Maunz  
Thomas Maxwell  
Catherine McCue  
Linda McNeel  
Terry McQueen  
M Susan Mellor  
James & Katherine Merrill  
Wieke Meulenkamp  
Antoinette Middleton  
Bill Miley  
Roy E. Mintzer  
Russel K. Mish  
Jo Ann H. Monak  
Kevin Moore  
Jeanne Morgan  
David Morris  
Jim Munroe  
Ralph & Dale Nutter  
Helen C. Olson  
Helen O'Neill  
Beatrice Oshika  
Melvin G. Oster  
Grace Romero Pacheco  
Jonathan & Marilyn Palo  
M. Van Patten  
John A. Patterson  
Wayne Pendrey  
William D. Pennycook  
Sue Pherson  
Kenneth J. Platner Sr.  
Marjorie Popper  
Kyla Puklus  
Jose Angel Quintanilla  
James E. Randolph  
Ben Rasnick  
Eleanor Rasnow  
Tom Ritch  
Curtis B. Roads  
Evalyn Robbins

Timothy Robinson  
Cheryl Rodgers  
Nancy Rohrer  
Mary R. Rose  
Chris & Kathleen Royce  
Suzanne Ruffner-Blum  
Heather Sanders  
Jack & Spencer Sawaske  
Martha Saxe  
Trigg Schaefer  
Patricia Scharch  
Dewey Schorre  
Nancy Settle  
Art Shaffman  
Tobey Shaw  
Mark Sherwin  
Dmitri Siegel  
Norm & Sharon Simmonds  
Mr/Mrs Stephen Simons  
June Sochel  
Stephanie Sproul  
Lynne E. Stark  
Denise Stevens  
Frank & Kay Stevens  
Janet Stich  
Ethan Stone  
R. Sturgeon  
Dae Sook Suh  
Natalie Swan  
E. Swanson  
Barbara Swetek  
Jeanne & A. Templeton Jr  
Eleanor Thomas  
Jane Tolmach  
Mrs. R. Tracy  
Robert Trimble  
Diana Troik  
Michael Warren  
Jeff Waxman  
C. A. Graham & R. Wichman  
Michael & Evelyn Williams  
Barry Wolin  
Alan Woodbury  
Judith Writer  
Terry Yandell  
Charles Youmans  
Robert & Katy Zappala



Mr/Mrs Charles Abell  
Jose F. Aldana  
William Allard  
Donna Alsobrook  
Michael Neal Arnold  
Daniel & Cassandra Auerbach  
Barbara Avery  
John Ballor  
Bettina Barrett  
Arthur W. Barron  
Eldora Barton  
Dr. George W. Bates  
Susan Bee  
Margaret Beebe  
Dennis Bevan  
Russell Bishop  
Bill Blackburn  
Cecily A. Blake  
Howard & Hallie Blau  
Tina Boradiansky  
Jorgia Bordofsky  
Marion R. & Mary V. Bottorff  
Alton & Anna Brann  
Ralph Davies Brehm  
Donn & Grace Browne  
Doug & Lee Buckmaster  
Chris Caretto  
Laura D. Chambers  
K. Charnofsky  
Susan Chatterjee  
Alice Chesley

Lee Chiacos  
Gerry & Beverly Ching  
John F. Cinatl  
Barbara Clark  
Philip & Lora Clarke  
Austin & Sharon Cline  
Addison Cook  
Mindy Cooper-Smith  
John & Patricia Coppejans  
Chris & Linda Coudert  
Suzanne Cox  
Lesley Pamela Culhane  
Duane Dammeyer  
Robert Dautch  
Susan Davidson  
Norman Dittmar  
Thomas Dockus  
Boyd Dron  
Nancy Edebo  
Joan Edwards  
Edwin E. Edwards  
S Ehrlich & B. Elliott  
Ned & Barbara Elliott  
Canda & Bruce Emmeluth  
Sheila Enelow  
John A. Ernest  
John Everts  
Doris & Tom Everhart  
Adelel Fergusson  
Stephen Ferry  
Bob Field

# Electric Cars Available Now

## ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFORMATION



**CHEVY VOLT**  
Four Door Hatchback



**NISSAN LEAF**  
Four Door Hatchback



**TESLA MODEL S**  
Four Door Sports Sedan



**TOYOTA PRIUS PLUG-IN**  
Based on Toyota Prius



**FORD C-MAX ENERGI**  
Four Door Hatchback



**FORD FUSION ENERGI**  
Based on Ford Fusion



**FORD FOCUS ELECT.**  
Based on Ford Focus



**HONDA PLUG-IN ACCORD SEDAN**  
Based on Honda Accord



**HONDA FIT EV**  
Based on Honda FIT



**TOYOTA RAV4 EV**  
Based on Toyota RAV4



**MITSUBISHI i**  
Sub-compact



**TESLA ROADSTER**  
Two-seat Roadster



**SMART ED**  
Coupe



**BMW ACTIVE E**  
Sedan



**FIAT 500 ELECT.**  
Based on Fiat 500



**FIISKER KARMA**  
Four Door Sports Sedan

## PLUG-IN DAYS: SEPT 28-29

# Drive on sunshine

By Michael Chiacos  
**Transportation Chair**

The Sierra Club is an organizer of National Plug in Day and we are planning local events in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties.

You are invited to attend with your EV or just show up at one of the two events the weekend of September 28-29 to learn more. Why go electric vehicle (EV) you might ask? Because driving on sunshine is just about the cleanest way to get around after biking or walking.

Driving an EV (after driving less of course) is likely the largest environmental choice you can make each day, as our cars are the most significant way we use resources and emit carbon on a daily basis.

Electric vehicles achieve the equivalent of over 100 mpg while producing zero tailpipe emissions. They also reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 75 percent compared to a gas car when charged up on California's relatively clean electric grid. Taking it a great step further, many EV drivers (39 percent, according to the latest survey) also go solar.

Electric cars and solar are increasingly affordable. EVs like the Nissan LEAF, Chevy Spark, Fiat 500e and Smart Electric can now be leased starting at \$199 month, with as little as \$999 down for some models. Due to the California \$2,500 EV rebate, some smart commuters use this rebate to pay their down payment and drive for months for free, then use the hundreds of dollars they are saving each month in gasoline costs to pay for the lease.

Solar prices have dropped dramatically and now for about \$7,000 a homeowner can add 2 kilowatts of solar to their house, which is sufficient electricity to power an EV for 12,000 miles per year. Purchasing gasoline over 25 years could be \$50,000 or more in today's dollars, so driving on sunshine is a very smart economic choice.

Many EV drivers, myself included (I have a Chevy Volt and a solar array that powers my house and car) also switch to Time-of-Use rates through Southern California Edison, which enables us to charge our cars at cheap super-off-peak rates at night for as little as 9 cents/kWh, and our solar generates valuable peak power that is credited to our account at up to 47 cents/kWh. This makes the financial payback for going electric vehicle and solar much faster.

If you are interested in learning more about how going green can save you some green, come by the Plug in Day events to check out some EVs, talk to owners, and learn more.

One event is tentatively scheduled on Sunday, September 29th at the Goleta Farmer's Market at the Camino Real Marketplace. The Ventura County event is in the planning stage. Our events are part of 100 around the nation this year, so plug in and be part of the EV movement.

Mark your calendar for September 28-29th and for more information email [mchiacos@cecmail.org](mailto:mchiacos@cecmail.org) or go to [www.PlugInDay.org](http://www.PlugInDay.org) and select the local events to get the latest info.



**livinggreen**  
for a healthier home and lifestyle



Community  
Environmental  
Council

# “TOO WILD TO DRILL”

## No oil in forest report

The Wilderness Society crafted a report that identifies a dozen wild places where oil drilling should be banned, one of which is in our own backyard: The Los Padres National

Forest.

“There are many places where the natural benefits outweigh the scant amounts of oil and gas that could be found,” notes the report, released in July. “They aren’t household names like Yellowstone

or Yosemite – yet. This report highlights twelve such places, where the natural values and wildness of these lands will be treasured by future generations.”

It cites the advances made by hydraulic fracturing (fracking) that make extracting oil and gas from wilderness possible ... and profitable.

Besides the Los Padres, those areas are: Arches National Park (Utah), Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (Alaska), Chaco Canyon (New Mexico), Desolation Canyon (Utah), Greater Dinosaur Region (Colorado), George Washington National Forest (Virginia), North Fork of the Flathead River (Montana), Otero Mesa

(New Mexico), The Red Desert (Wyoming), Thompson Divide (Western Colorado) and the Wyoming Range.

The report on the Los Padres is reprinted below. To access the full report and to sign a petition, go to: [www.wilderness.org](http://www.wilderness.org)



## CALIFORNIA: LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST

Just barely outside the Los Angeles metropolitan area is a hidden gem of our national forests: the Los Padres National Forest. Covering more than one and three quarter million acres, the Los Padres is a haven for wildlife and adventurers alike.

The Los Padres was where one of the last wild California condors – one of the most endangered birds in the world – was found and reintroduced; and nearly two dozen other endangered species reside in the forest. It’s one of the most biodiverse landscapes in the world, with ecosystems ranging from coastal habitats to classic California redwood groves.

However, the hydraulic fracturing rush is coming to California, and companies are looking to frack this

wild forest to get to the oil deposits far below the surface. Drilling in the forest could have disastrous effects far downstream – the Los Padres is the headwaters of five rivers that make up more than 70% of the drinking water for the city of Santa Barbara. Water-intensive operations like fracking could leave the city and surrounding farms and vineyards high and dry. There is also a risk of groundwater contamination from fracking and storage of the used fracking fluid, which is laced with industrial chemicals.

### Chris Danch – Forest Advocate and Co-Creator of the Condor Wilderness Trail

“The Los Padres National Forest may be one of the most under-appreciated forests in the United States. People look at it and just see these scrubby, brushy hills and mountains – they don’t realize that what they’re seeing is a chaparral ecosystem that is one of the most diverse, resilient ecosystems in

the world. The Los Padres National Forest is also one of the most pristine watersheds in the world serving millions of people in a semi-arid desert region. As I relax by, and in, the North Fork Matilija Creek that perennially flows through my property, I am grateful for the incredible aquifer perched high above in the forest. Maybe most amazing is that here, just 60 miles from Los Angeles, you can go into the forest and not see another person for more than a week.



“This place is so amazingly special, I took each of my children backpacking in the Los Padres National Forest as soon as they were old enough to carry a pack (age 4). Introducing them to such a wild landscape at a young age is critical for cementing a love of wilderness and wild places in them for their entire lives. There is also no question that their wilderness experience was fundamental to them becoming the outstanding adults they are today. And it was seeing the Los Padres through my kids’ eyes that changed my life, compelling me give up a successful full-time legal career to focus on protecting this landscape and sharing it with others.

“We have a lot of places to be proud of, and protect, in America, but wild places like the Los Padres National Forest are what we should be proudest and most protective of.”

### Economic Benefits

The Los Padres National Forest has something for everyone. Coastal tidal pools are home to sea otters and shorebirds, and elk, and black bears prowl the mountain peaks, making the forest a wildlife watcher’s paradise. Backpacking into the Los Padres backcountry provides amazing solitude, just 60 miles from Los Angeles.

Outdoor adventures in California contribute more than \$85 billion to California’s economy, and support more than 700,000 jobs. These adventures depend on places like the Los Padres National Forest being kept wild. Drilling in the Los Padres would threaten these adventures, and the economic benefits that come with them.

### Threats to The Los Padres National Forest

The Los Padres National Forest is the main source of drinking water for the Santa Barbara area – the majority of the area’s water starts in the hills and valleys of the Los Padres. Water from the forest supports two huge industries in California – farming and winemaking. Tourism is also a huge draw to the area, but tourists generally come to see nature, not oil rigs.

The forest itself is incredibly unique. Already, 875,000 acres of the forest are designated wilderness areas – the highest form of protection available for federal lands.

But leasing decisions in the area could open more than 52,000 acres to oil drilling. Drilling would be limited to 5,000 acres of surface occupancy, making horizontal drilling and fracking almost required for the wells. Drilling would also threaten the habitat of the endangered California condor - three of the drilling areas are right next to essential condor habitat.

The oil industry already has 180 operating wells in less sensitive parts of the Los Padres – they don’t need to drill in fragile environmental areas.

### How to protect the Los Padres National Forest:

The USFS and BLM should fully consider the impacts of drilling in the wildest places of the Los Padres National Forest, and prohibit or restrict drilling where it would have a serious impact on water and wildlife.

# THE 2013 CENTRAL COAST BIONEERS CONFERENCE

**October 25-27, 2013**  
Historic Monday Club, San Luis Obispo

**TURNING VISION  
INTO ACTION**

[www.centralcoastbioneers.org](http://www.centralcoastbioneers.org)



Central Coast Bioneers Conference  
is a local, self-organized Bioneers Network Event.  
To learn more about Bioneers, visit [www.bioneers.org](http://www.bioneers.org)

“Vision to Action” is the theme for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Central Coast Bioneers Conference, hosted by Ecologistics, Inc., to be held October 25-27 at the Monday Club in San Luis Obispo.

The sixteen afternoon workshops will feature: Eco-Science, Social & Environmental Activism, Food & Farming, Women’s Leadership, Eco-Nomics, and Restoring Ecosystems.

Keynote speaker on Friday night is Drew Dellinger, founder of Global Poets for Justice and author of *Love Letter to the Milky Way*. In his lecture, “The Mountaintop Vision: The Cosmology of Dr.

Martin Luther King,” Dellinger will examine ecological dimensions of King’s vision that have been largely overlooked.

Field trips this year will include a tour of the Life Lab Garden at Laureate School, The Ranch and Ocean Friendly Gardens. The popular pre-conference field trip will be to the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Early bird reduced rates for conference passes through August 15. For more information, go to [www.centralcoastbioneers.org](http://www.centralcoastbioneers.org)



## We have solutions to climate change

Sparkling dialogue and action on solutions to the climate crisis that are ethical and do not involve fossil fuels is assured at an event Friday, Aug. 23 in Ventura which will include the documentary “Do the Math.”

Hosted by Ventura350 with the Ventura Film Society, sponsors include the Ventura Sierra Club, iMatter Kids, Citizens Climate Lobby and VCCOOL, among others, all of whom will have a presence at the event.

It will also feature two speakers -- Ventura City Council member Brian Brennan and Pasadena Citizens Climate lobbyist, James Waterhouse –

### It’s a deal, go solar now

The Sierra Club’s “Rooftop Revolution” campaign to add more solar power is continuing with an offer of a free solar evaluation for your home, a cash gift card of \$750 and donations to the club for its own use.

“We continue to be amazed by the number of people interested in going solar with Sierra Club,” according to the campaign.

So far this year, 288 people in or near the Los Padres Sierra Club have requested a solar quote. You can lock in your electricity rate for the next 20 years, free yourself from dirty energy, and do it all with no upfront investment. “Most homeowners start saving on their power bills immediately,” according to the campaign. Sungevity is the company that will assess and install the system, and it has a leasing program. Get a free quote from them that will detail your solar options, show you what your home would look like, and how much you would save at: <http://sierraclub.org/solar/sungevity>

and opportunities for discussion and questions that could lead to action.

The number comes from scientists who believe that 350 parts per million CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere is the safe limit for humanity. The globe is already over that limit.

The event starts at 7 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 23 at the Film Society’s screening room, 420 E. Santa Clara at Oak Street in Ventura. Come early to meet the sponsors.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors and \$5 for youth. Tickets can be purchased in advance (call 628-2299) or at the door.

ventura 350 & VENTURA FILM SOCIETY present

# “DO THE MATH”

A fast-paced and inspiring film about the rising movement to solve the climate crisis. Join us in sparking dialogue, cooperation and action among your fellow citizens of Ventura County, to work for solutions to the climate crisis that are just and do not involve fossil fuels.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 7:15PM**

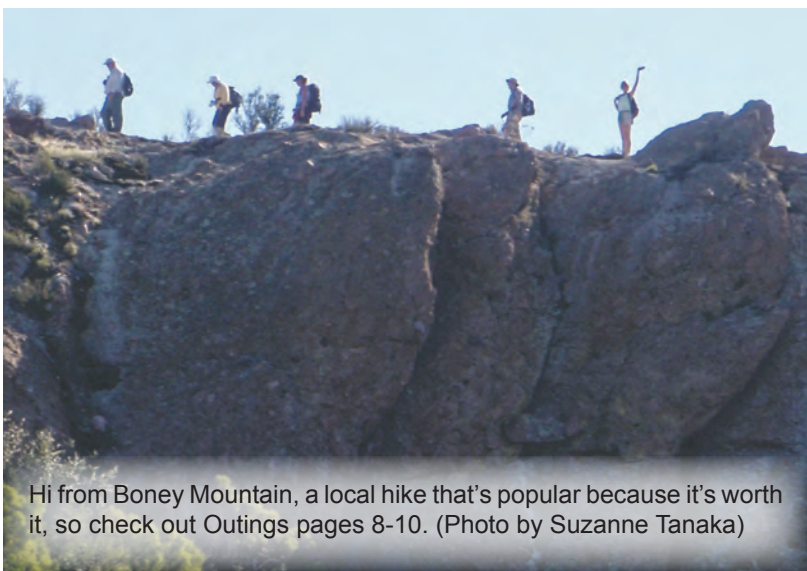
With Speakers:  
**BRIAN BRENNAN**, Ventura City Councilman  
**JAMES WATERHOUSE**, Citizens Climate Lobby

**VENTURA FILM SOCIETY SCREENING ROOM  
420 E SANTA CLARA AT OAK  
DOWNTOWN VENTURA**

Tickets (\$10 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors, and \$5 for students) can be purchased in advance through [venturafilmsociety.com/tickets.html](http://venturafilmsociety.com/tickets.html) or at the door or call 805-628-2299. To learn more visit [ventura-350.org](http://ventura-350.org) or call Jan 805-643-3640

posted by studio [www.studio.com](http://www.studio.com) 805.641.1085





Hi from Boney Mountain, a local hike that's popular because it's worth it, so check out Outings pages 8-10. (Photo by Suzanne Tanaka)

# Oil projects won't go away

There's a lot of oil in the Santa Barbara and Ventura county regions and despite more attention to alternative sources, oil is still the drug of choice for petroleum based companies.

Here's the latest update:

~"Lots of eyes are on the Santa Maria Energy project," said Doug Anthony of the county's Energy Division. That's because it's the largest project to come before the county since the state passed the Global Warming Solutions Act in 2006.

The company plans to drill 110 wells near Orcutt and inject steam into them to coax oil out of diatomaceous earth.

In April, county staff had recommended approval, but on a 3-2 vote, planning commissioners wanted more analysis of what could become a county standard relating to greenhouse gases, so a report may come in August.

~ Venoco has brushed off its Paredon project, in which oil wells would be drilled from the Carpinteria

shore into the ocean, even though it was rejected by popular vote in 2010.

But so far its new iteration ("meet the new boss, same as the old boss") has got the brush-off from the city of Carpinteria and State Lands Commission, which decided the application was incomplete.

~ Another slant drilling project is eyed off of Vandenberg Air Force Base by Sunset Exploration and ExxonMobil into State Waters (within 3 miles near the shore).

Attempts to drill from within VAFB into the ocean have been made before but the Air Force rejected them. However, now it is willing to take another look possibly because of military budget cuts.

Ironically, it would drill into the same Tranquillon Ridge waters eyed by PXP, which would have drilled from PXP's existing platforms in federal waters. That project was backed by many environmental groups and Santa Barbara County in exchange for a firm deadline to abandon the rigs, but the

State Lands Commission rejected it.

~ Since Santa Barbara County required a permit and environmental review for hydraulic fracturing in 2011, the practice hasn't been fracking, but not necessarily in Ventura and Kern counties.

Meanwhile, local State Sen. Fran Pavley (D-Agoura) has the only fracking bill still standing. It would require public notice, disclosure of chemicals used and tests before and after a well is fracked to determine if any groundwater was contaminated. A state agency is also considering regulation.

~ Alternatively, there are a handful of commercial size solar projects proposed locally and even a hydropower proposal by the city of Santa Barbara to use its Gibraltar Reservoir.

However, the Lompoc Wind Energy project is stillborn as the company decided not to pursue it.

~ By John Hankins

## Fed up with gun garbage

Los Padres National Forest officials intend to enlist help, increase police presence and levy fines at the Arroyo Burro shooting area on the Santa Barbara Ranger District.

The area is commonly known as the "Glass Factory," and is one of Santa Barbara's more popular destinations for target shooting. However, the area has also attracted an unwanted accumulation of garbage which has created the appearance of an illegal dump site.

"If the current trend continues, and we're unable to curtail the amount of trash being left on site, there may be no other alternative than to declare the area an illegal dump site and close it altogether," said Santa Barbara District Ranger Pancho Smith.

Signs are now posted advising the public that any visitor observed leaving behind trash or illegally dumping garbage will be issued a citation carrying a maximum penalty of \$5,000 and/or six months in jail.

## Wildling's new Solvang home

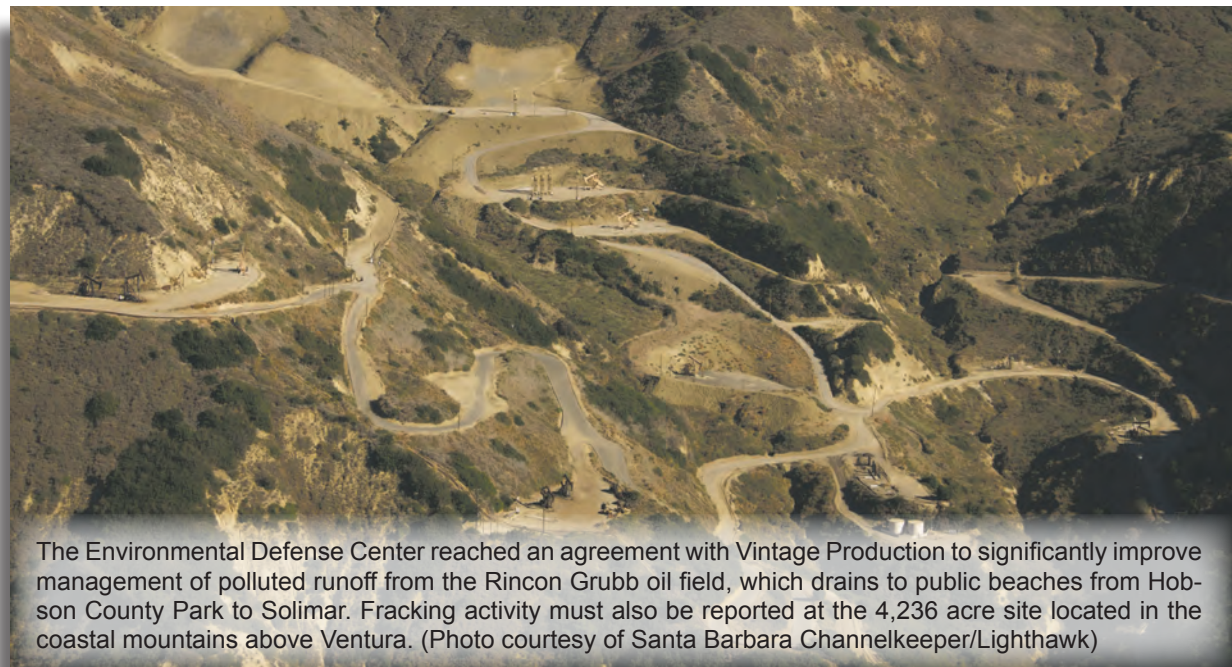
The Wildling Museum, where art and nature meet, has moved to Solvang and will celebrate with a public grand opening on Saturday, August 24; museum open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with special programs from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The museum opens with five exhibitions because the new location has almost tripled the amount of gallery space as the former facility in Los Olivos. It will feature a retrospective of the past 40 shows,

winners of the annual photography competition, the watercolors and ceramic sculptures of California native plants loaned by the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, a small selection of sculptures by Bud Bottoms, and student art of the night skies done by third-graders in the Santa Ynez Valley.

The new address is 1511-A and B Mission Drive in Solvang; phone is 686-8315 and the website:

[www.wildlingmuseum.org](http://www.wildlingmuseum.org)



The Environmental Defense Center reached an agreement with Vintage Production to significantly improve management of polluted runoff from the Rincon Grubb oil field, which drains to public beaches from Hobson County Park to Solimar. Fracking activity must also be reported at the 4,236 acre site located in the coastal mountains above Ventura. (Photo courtesy of Santa Barbara Channelkeeper/Lighthawk)