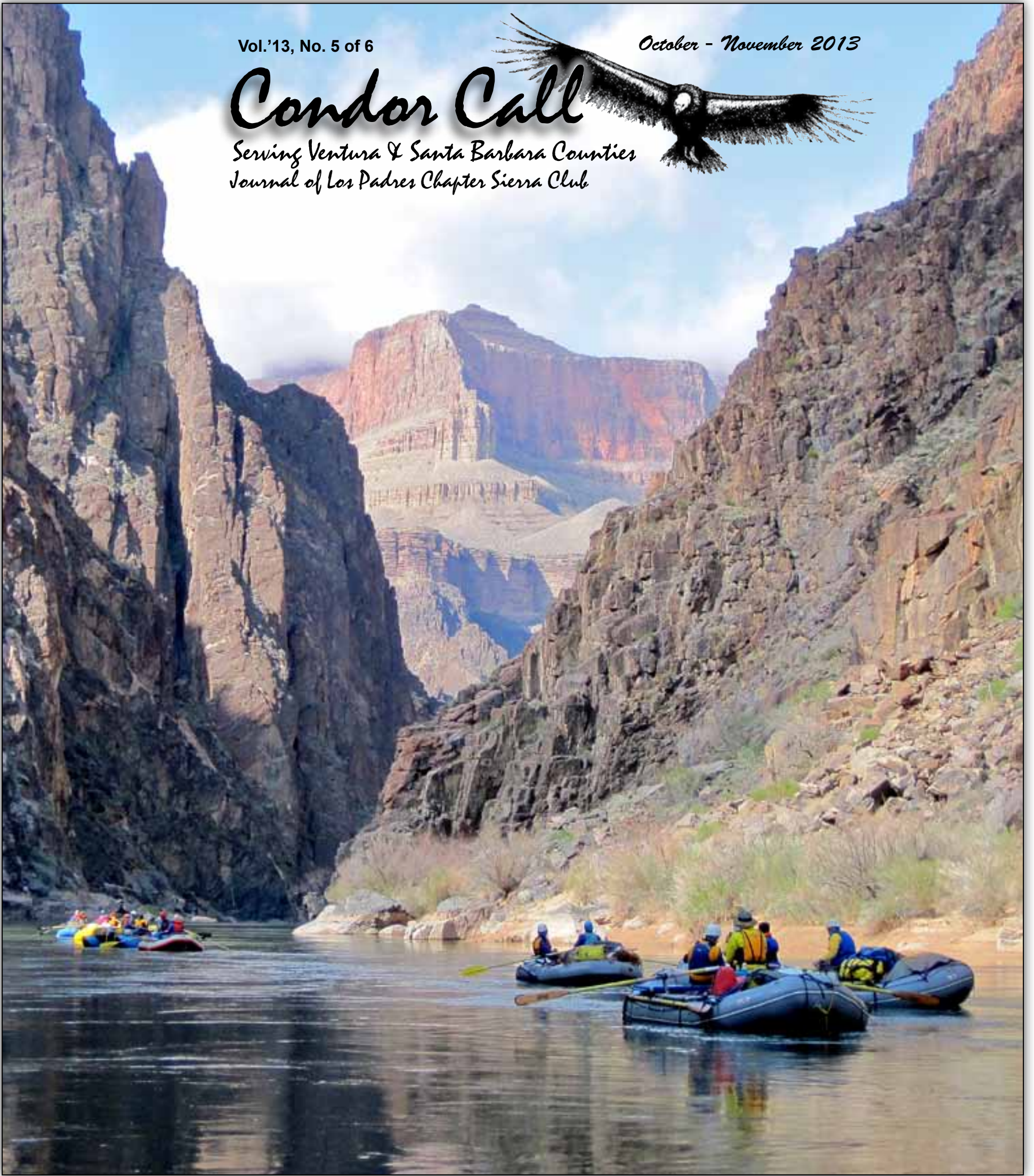


Vol.'13, No. 5 of 6

October - November 2013

Condor Call

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

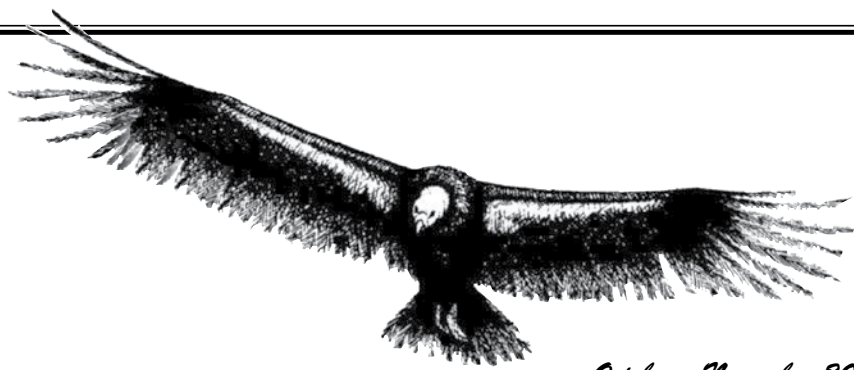


© Photo by Roger Steeb

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Condor Call

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October - November 2013

Alt. energy trumps dirty oil

By Robert Bernstein

The Climate rally that the Los Padres Sierra Club helped publicize came off very well on Sept. 21 in Santa Barbara, including getting two full minutes on the KEYT 11 p.m. news.

It was a very creative rally to raise awareness on climate change with two important messages: Yes to Clean Energy and No to the Keystone XL Pipeline.

Rally organizers created a one hundred foot long model of the Keystone pipeline, carrying it from Alameda Park to the Courthouse, through downtown and out to the foot of Stearn's Wharf. To see an amazing array of photos, go to:

<http://swt.org/act/climate-2013-0921>

Speakers included State

Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, Assembly Member Das Williams, Santa Barbara Mayor Helene Schneider, Environmental Defense Center lawyer Linda Krop and SBCC Student President Elie Katzenson.

All called for an increase in funding for sustainable, clean energy sources like solar and wind energy. And for reducing dependence on dirty, unsustainable fossil fuels.

They explained that the important issue with the Keystone pipeline is not the local environmental risk to the places it would pass through, though that is certainly an issue. The main issue is the devastating impact it would have on the global environment by releasing vast amounts of carbon from Canadian shale oil projects.

Stopping the pipeline is a top priority of the club; in fact it made an historical footnote in Washington, D.C. in February after police arrested Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune, Board of Directors President Allison Chin, and an amazingly broad coalition of almost 50 other climate-crisis activists outside the White House. This act of civil disobedience was the first in the Club's 120-year history.

The local speakers also pointed out that the Santa Maria Energy Project would be our own local version of Keystone. It would extract dirty shale oil and add the equivalent of 17,000 cars to our local roads in terms of the emissions just due to the extraction process.

They asked people to write to President Obama to stop the Keystone pipeline and to get involved in stopping the Santa Maria Energy Project through letters or live testimony at the county planning commission and Board of Supervisors hearings.

People should contact their elected officials to support clean, sustainable energy instead of petroleum based proposals, and to get involved by joining and supporting organizations like the Sierra Club and 350.org which are working to stop climate change through these means.

Editor's note: In Ventura County, a group called Citizens For Responsible Oil and Gas (CFROG) is pushing for adequate environmental review for new drilling permits in Ventura County, as well as modifications to existing permits.

"Just one oil company has signed 192 mineral leases covering 9,000 Ventura County acres in the last six months alone," according to CFROG. "Because much of the Monterey shale oil is extracted through hydraulic fracturing and other enhanced recovery techniques like acidization, adequate environmental protections must be in place as this latest oil boom takes off here."

The group is in concert with the Sierra Club's mission and can be reached via its website: www.CFROG.org



Opponents of the proposed Keystone pipeline and fracking who are proponents of alternative energy constructed a replica of an oil pipeline and marched it through downtown Santa Barbara to the beach. (Photo by Robert Bernstein)

Kayak Gaviota Coast

The Naples Coalition and Aquasports are combining forces to offer a unique guided kayak paddle along the wild Gaviota Coast from Haskell's Beach to Naples, and back.

The tour will skirt the Naples Reef in the newly designated Marine Protected Area and promises a variety of marine wildlife sightings. The event is on Sunday, Oct. 13, leaving at 10 a.m. and returning about 3 p.m.

The public is encouraged to take advantage of this rare opportunity

to paddle with others in a guided group setting along the untamed and scenic Gaviota Coast, which is a high priority for the Los Padres Sierra Club, a member of the Coalition.

Price of \$100 per person covers all equipment and all proceeds go to the Coalition to protect Santa Barbara Ranch from large development.

Advance registration is required. Call Janet at 683-6631 to register or email to: info@savenaples.org

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IF YOU DID NOT GET THIS ISSUE:
It means you didn't give us your email address for the electronic Condor Call!

So send us your email and phone number to CondorJohn@gnusman.com

(NOTE The e-version is always on our website: <http://lospadres.sierraclub.org>)

Marc Muench's photo of the Gaviota Coast won a lot of praise, kicking off our first all-electronic edition in fine style for the Aug/Sept edition. So please sign on to get the Condor Call every other month by email (otherwise it'll be on our website at <http://lospadres.sierraclub.org>).

WE ENDORSE for November ballot

See Stories Pg. 6

SANTA BARBARA CITY COUNCIL

- ✓ Mayor Helene Schneider (incumbent)
- ✓ Bendy White (incumbent)
- ✓ Gregg Hart (incumbent)
- ✓ David Landecker

VENTURA CITY COUNCIL

- ✓ Lorrie Brown
- ✓ Richard Francis
- ✓ Erik Nasarenko
- ✓ Mike Tracy (incumbent)



GREETINGS FRIENDS

Our area overflows with wild beauty

By Jim Hines

The area we know encompassing the Los Padres Sierra Club (Ventura and Santa Barbara counties) is a land of contrasts with precious and diverse ecosystems sustaining countless wildlife and great natural beauty.

Our region has some of the most unique ecosystems anywhere in the U.S. These are some of our great wild places which the Sierra Club is working to preserve:

~ We have the breathtaking Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge complex in northern Santa Barbara County, the largest coastal sand dune ecosystem in California.

~ On the South Coast, we are privileged to help protect the Gaviota Coast, one of our great wild places. This is the location of great ocean views and includes the parklands of Refugio, El Capitan and Gaviota state parks.

~ Offshore is one of the largest protected marine reserves in our nation, the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, teeming with a rich array of sea life. And rising out of the sea is one of our greatest natural areas, Channel Islands National Park consisting of five protected islands, each with their own rich and diverse ecosystems.

~ In Ventura County, there is a great ecosystem worth preserving: the Ormond Beach Wetlands Complex. It is the largest undeveloped coastal wetland left in southern California. Located between Port Hueneme and Pt. Mugu, the importance of this special area has made preserving these coastal wetlands a top Sierra Club priority.

~ Nearby where the moun-

tains meet the sea are the majestic Santa Monica Mountains, a range of contrasts sporting sandstone peaks, coastal canyons, coastal sand dunes and a seemingly endless public trail system.

~ At the far eastern edge of Ventura County, north of Agoura Hills, lie the great oak dotted savannahs of the 10,000 acre National Park Service holding known as the Cheeseboro/Palo Comado Canyons. It is

EAVESDROPS

"It's hard for the modern generation to understand Thoreau, who lived beside a pond but didn't own water skis or a snorkel."

~ Loudon Wainwright

home to giant oak trees, a seasonal stream and the largest concentration of birds-of-prey in southern California.

~ Rivers, yes we have rivers!

The Santa Ynez has campgrounds set along the river under the shade of giant sycamore trees and trailheads leading into the Santa Barbara backcountry.

The Ventura and Santa Clara rivers and their watersheds are sites where parkway plans are being developed to allow more public access and recreational

continued on page 2

COVER PHOTO

Cold front over the Inner Gorge of the Grand Canyon, near Phantom Ranch. The trip was organized by Ron Hudson of Sierra Club National Mountaineering, and photographer Roger Steeb was along for the beautiful ride. Check out his other outdoor photos at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/manzanita-pct>

Time to let dogs out into forest

Editor's note: Did you know that the Sierra Club allows dogs on some of our outings? Look for the phrase "dog friendly" in the outing descriptions (pages 4-6).

By Craig R. Carey

It's fall, which means it's finally time to get on our boots and head out to those favorite corners of the Los Padres backcountry that have spent the last few months languishing in one of the driest summers in memory.

But we bipeds aren't the only ones ready to get their hike on: dogs are eager companions for



The photographer's daughter Grace hangs out with their dog in the local backcountry. (Photo by Craig R. Carey)

trail miles. And with temperatures dropping and (hopefully) replenished water supplies, it's the perfect season for letting Rover answer the call of the wild.

"It's important to ensure you're doing your part to keep your dog safe and comfortable," says Hillary Conant DVM, a Santa Barbara-based veterinarian and frequent backpacker. "Talk with your veterinarian about what you can do to protect your dog from parasites (mainly fleas, ticks, and worms), water-borne infections such as giardia and Leptospirosis (which can be transmissible to people), and get tips to help manage sore joints or protect sensitive feet."

Rattlesnakes are one of the biggest concerns. Snake aversion training is popular and thought by some to be safer and more reliable than rattlesnake vaccine, but Santa Paula-based veterinarian M. Angele Blanton suggests hiking hounds nonetheless be vaccinated.

"Two shots the first year -- a month apart -- starting just before rattlesnake season [spring]," Dr. Blanton recommends, along with an annual booster (or more) every year thereafter.

Dr. Conant further recommends a few basic medications, such as Benadryl in case of bee sting or other allergic reaction, Pepcid AC for stomach upset, and a safe pain reliever such as Tramadol which can be prescribed by your vet. Many common medications (especially anti-inflammatories) can be



dangerous to dogs, so don't assume what's good for you is also good for them.

National Forest lands are among the most welcoming to dogs (unlike National Park lands where dogs aren't allowed on most trails, in the wilderness, or in waterways), but there remain some basic guidelines.

~ The Law. Know what the rules are for your destination. Every agency has different regulations, and even those vary from area to area (e.g., dogs usually must remain leashed in campgrounds, but along remote trails are allowed off-leash if under voice control).

~ The Conduct. Your dog should be well-trained and – when in areas dogs are permitted off-leash – always under voice control. Don't allow your dog to chase wildlife, tear up the landscape, or jump on other (unknown) hikers. And while most fellow hikers will enjoy the company of your well-behaved mutt, don't assume everybody will love your dog as much as you do.

~ The Duty. If you hike the front-country, you've likely noticed the dog waste bags lining the sides of trails like a procession of foul cairns. Don't be that hiker – if you can bag it, you can carry it. Deeper in the Los Padres, it is acceptable to bury your dog's waste as you would your own.

In the southern Los Padres, some of the best stretches of trail for dogs are along the Condor Trail – naturally! The Sisquoc route in the San Rafael Wilderness, the Gene Marshall-Piedra Blanca NRT and Sespe River trails in the Sespe Wilderness, and Santa Barbara Canyon in the Dick Smith Wilderness are all fantastic options for a hearty hound.

Water, shade, and relatively forgiving soil make any one of these routes an intrepid canine's paradise.

Release the hounds!

-- Craig R. Carey is a frequent wanderer of the Los Padres backcountry, LPFA Volunteer Wilderness Ranger, and author of "Hiking & Backpacking Santa Barbara and Ventura" (Wilderness Press, 2012). Read his idle musings at:

www.craigrcarey.net

Coastal Class

Two panels of experts and activists on why and how to protect the Gaviota Coast will be part of Santa Barbara City College's Lifelong Learning schedule.

Entitled "Coastal Treasures: Santa Barbara's Waterfront and the Gaviota Coast," the panels will be moderated by instructor Cathie McCammon on Oct. 9 and 16 starting at 5:15 p.m. on the Schott Campus, Room 31, 310 W. Padre St. in Santa Barbara.

Cost is a bargain at \$12; to register go to:

www.sbccc.edu/cll



While Ventura didn't specifically have a Climate Change rally in September, many of them joined the Santa Barbara event (see story on page 1), including members of our Ventura Sierra Club (Photo by George Vye)

Bioneers "Vision to Action"

"Vision to Action" is the theme for the 4th annual Central Coast Bioneers Conference, hosted by Ecologicals, Inc., to be held Oct. 25-27 at the Monday Club in San Luis Obispo.

Each morning, keynote lectures from the National Bioneers Conference in San Rafael will

Artists explore

This Fall the Wildling Museum dives into the Santa Ynez River and watershed with artists from The Oak Group and others to explore the beauty, cultural history, and conservation stories of our local water source.

Entitled "The Santa Ynez River and Watershed as Seen by The Oak Group," it is on view from Oct. 19 to Jan. 6.

From Nov. 9 to Jan. 13 it also features original watercolors by Hawaiian artist Marian Berger done in the style of John James Audubon.

The Ninth Annual Santa Ynez Valley Artists' Studio Tour starts with a reception on Oct. 25 followed by open artists' studios Oct. 26 and 27. Tour the Santa Ynez Valley by following the bright yellow round signs leading to private studios

The Museum is located at 1511-B Mission Drive, Solvang. For details call 688-1082 or: www.wildlingmuseum.org.



Northern pigmy owl (Photo by Linda Frazier)

See raptors

The public can visit the Ojai Raptor Center from noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 3.

A rare treat, all 26 of its un-releasable birds can be seen close up, along with educational presentations, an artists' sale and refreshments. It is excellent for families, so bring your children or your inner child and certainly a camera.

The ORC is located at 370 Baldwin Rd., Ojai. For details go to: www.ojairaptorcenter.org

be shown and the 16 afternoon workshops will feature six major topic areas: Eco-Science, Social & Environmental Activism, Food & Farming, Women's Leadership, Eco-Nomics, and Restoring Ecosystems.

Special guest will be Bioneers co-founder Nina Simons, on Changing the Story & Igniting Leadership: Mobilizing Change for a Healthy while the keynote speaker is Drew Dellinger, founder of Global Poets for Justice and author of *Love Letter to the Milky Way*.

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

There is a lot more going on, so for details call 548-0597 or visit: www.centralcoastbioneers.org

Our area... Continued from page 1

opportunities, as well as preserving the natural ecosystems. Recent actions such as taking out homeless encampments and removing arundo donax plants are a key in those efforts which will also help steelhead habitat.

~ The crown jewel of our region is the Los Padres National Forest, where a range of ecosystems exist from the coastal chaparral in the front country of Santa Barbara and Ojai to pine forests, wild rivers, and the alpine ecosystems of Figueroa Mountain and Mt. Pinos.

The forest has 1,257 miles of maintained trails which provide both day-use and extended backpacking opportunities. Much of the forest is primitive without roads, and has ten congressionally designated wildernesses area over 875,000 acres, nearly half of the whole Los Padres.

These include the Ventana, Silver Peak, Santa Lucia, Machesney, Garcia, San Rafael, Dick Smith, Sespe, Matilija and Chumash wildernesses. The varied habitats and terrain of the forest provide permanent or transitory refuge for approximately 468 species of fish and wildlife, of which most are non-game species and include 23 threatened and endangered animals.

Too, the Los Padres is a member of the California Condor Recovery Program and has been an active player in the reintroduction of California condors into the wild. Plus, the Forest contains some of the most extraordinary native rock art to be found anywhere in the world.

If you are not already a member of the Sierra Club, please join and help us protect these amazing areas right in our own "back yard."

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Photos, news, tips always welcome!

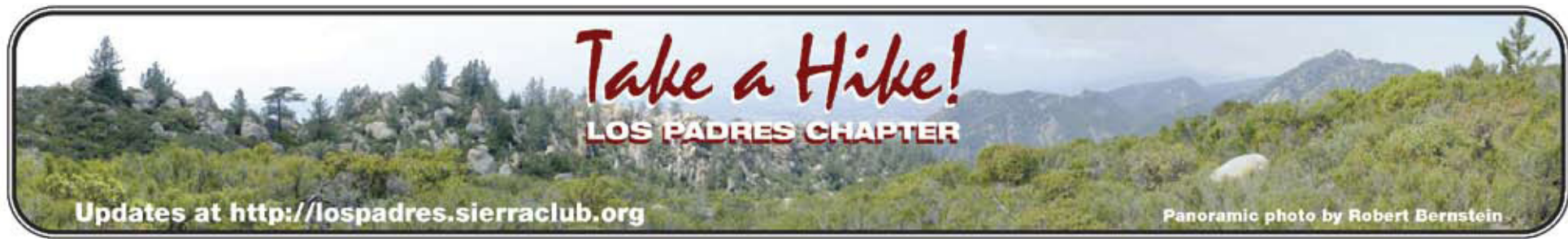
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Typography and production by Dan Fuller



Lizard's Mouth is a popular outing for the Sierra Club, which as usual welcomes the public to its free hikes, led by trained volunteers who can enlighten all about the backcountry. See page 3 for a story about our outings and how cool they really are, and check out these listings to experience our wonderful backcountry. (Photo by Robert Bernstein)

October 10
VENTURA HILL CLIMB: Join Wilderness Basics Course (WBC) staff, students, and friends to get a good mid-week hill climb workout and walk through scenic Ventura. About 4.5 miles, total gain about 500 feet. Bring water and a snack. Meet at 5:30pm across from the Mission San Buenaventura in downtown Ventura. For more info, call TERESA 524-7170 (VEN)

October 11
NICHOLAS FLAT TRAIL: This is a moderate 8-mile-round-trip hike with an elevation gain of 1800 feet. It takes about 4.5 hours. Although there is little shade, the ocean views and the wildflowers can be spectacular. Beautiful Nicholas Pond is the perfect place for a picnic. If you're adventurous, take the rough trail around the pond and peak over the rocks on the far side of the pond for a view of some stunning cliffs and the distant ocean. The first 3 miles of the trail are a steady upward march of about 1600 feet, so make sure you are in shape for this hike. To carpool from Ventura, meet in the parking lot between Carrows and the Chase Bank at the intersection of Seaward and Harbor at 8am. Bring 10 essentials, hiking boots and poles, 3 quarts of water, snacks and lunch. I recommend sunblock, a sun hat and insect repellent. Rain or a predicted temperature over 85 degrees F. cancels. For more info, contact PHILIP at 218-2103 (VEN)

October 12
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

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
www.SantaBarbaraTrailGuide.com
www.SantaBarbaraHikes.com
www.LPForest.org
www.VenturaCountyTrails.org
<http://Hikes.VenturaCountyStar.com>

St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. CHRISTINE 963-2347 (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, 310-477-6670. (CNRCC Desert Committee)

October 13
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)

October 14
MONDAY MORNING WALK: Meet at 9am at Oak View Community Center to walk North on bicycle trail. For more info call PAT at 643-0270 (VEN)

October 17
VENTURA HILL CLIMB: Join Wilderness Basics Course (WBC) staff, students, and friends to get a good mid-week hill climb workout and walk through scenic Ventura. About 4.5 miles, total elevation gain about 500 feet. Bring water and a snack. Meet at 5:30pm. across from the Mission San Buenaventura in downtown Ventura. For more info, call TERESA at 524-7170 (VEN)

October 18 - 19
FIGUEROA MOUNTAIN: Car Camp/day

hike in Figueroa Mt. area. Car camp at Figueroa Campground Friday night Oct. 18. Saturday Oct. 19 moderate day hike on Catway Road towards Zaca Peak, about 10 mrt, on graded dirt road. Beautiful views of San Rafael Wilderness. Figueroa Campground is located off Figueroa Mt. Road, in the Los Padres National Forest, about 12 miles NE of Los Olivos. No water (you'll need to bring your own), vault toilets. Happy hour Friday night with shared potluck. Saturday morning begin hike at 9am, lunch on trail, return to cars mid afternoon and drive home, stopping in Solvang for Danish pastries. Dog friendly trip. Rain/fire cancels. For more details and to sign up (you must sign up ahead of time), contact leader SALLY at 689-7820. (SB)

October 19
ROMERO LASSO: Plan 5-6 hours for this very strenuous, hot, and long 11 mile hike with 2600' elevation gain. We'll ascend by the 4 mile canyon trail to Romero saddle, make a 3 mile loop around and over the horn to the west of the saddle, then descend the way we came up. Bring at least 3 liters of water, a snack for ascent, and lunch for midway. Wear gaiters if you have them for the grass that encroaches on sections of the infrequently used trail over the horn. Good shoes are required for a few short but steep downhill sections, and walking poles may help. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. PAUL 886-1121 (SB)

October 19
CHANNEL ISLANDS HARBOR WALK: This is an easy-paced walk around the west side of the harbor. We'll stop at the new Maritime Museum for a docent-led tour (admission: \$5), then walk down to Channel View Park and back up Ocean Drive to our cars. Along Ocean Drive we'll view the beach homes of some early Hollywood stars, with pizza afterwards for those who want it. Meet at 1:30pm in the parking lot just south of Harbor Landing (2800 South Harbor Blvd.) at Channel Islands Harbor. This is an easy outing - flat and less than 5 miles round trip. Children over 8 years of age are welcome, but only if accompanied by a parent. Well-behaved dogs on leashes are also okay (but dogs are not allowed in the museum). Bring good walking shoes, a hat, sunscreen, a jacket, sun glasses and water. Also bring money for museum entrance and pizza. This is a provisional hike. For more info, contact CAROL at 984-3590.

October 20
ISLAND VIEW LOOP: Outstanding view of the islands and the coastline are featured in this moderate 5 mrt hike. We'll start at Romero Saddle, hike down the Juncal Road a bit, then follow the motorcycle/ATV road to the start of the Island View trail (also known as the Romero Ridge trail). Bring water, a light lunch and sun protection. There is little shade and can be very warm, but bring a light jacket, just in case. This hike involves a long (45 minute) drive to the trailhead on mountain

(paved) roads. Rain cancels. Meet at 9am at the Bank of America parking lot, Hope Ave & State St. GERRY 964-5411 (SB)

October 21
MONDAY MORNING WALK: Meet at 9am at Cozy Dell trailhead to do uphill hike. For more info call PAT at 643-0270 (VEN)

October 24
VENTURA HILL CLIMB: Join Wilderness Basics Course (WBC) staff, students, and friends to get a good mid-week hill climb workout and walk through scenic Ventura. About 4.5 miles, total elevation gain about 500 feet. Bring water and a snack. Meet at 5:30pm across from the Mission San Buenaventura in downtown Ventura. For more info, call TERESA at 524-7170 (VEN)

October 24-26
DEATH VALLEY WILDERNESS RESTORATION: Come join us as we restore wilderness values in this beautiful and remote national park. We will meet early Thursday afternoon. That afternoon we will work on the Darwin Falls trail, then drive to our primitive camping area and set up camp. Work Friday picking up debris from an airplane crash. If needed, we will continue work on Saturday; otherwise, participants will be free to enjoy the park. Leader: KATE ALLEN, kj.allen96@gmail.com, 661-944-4056. (CNRCC Desert Committee)

EAVESDROPS
 "There's so much pollution in the air now that if it weren't for our lungs there'd be no place to put it all."
 ~ Robert Orben

October 26
SAN YSIDRO TO E. CAMINO CIELO: Fairly strenuous hike up to E. Camino Cielo for lunch. Great views of the back country and the coastline. Hike along creek for part of trip. Strenuous 9 mrt. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ALEJANDRO 898-1240 (SB)

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)

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.

October 27
PAUPER'S GRAVEYARD: Join us for a Halloween stroll along El Sueno Rd. up to a little known graveyard on a hill above Cathedral Oaks Rd. Children welcome, bring water and a snack. Slow paced, 2-3 mile hike. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. KEITH 965-9953 (SB)

October 27
POINT MUGU PEAK LOOP: This is a moderate 6.5-mile loop with a 1500-foot elevation gain. We'll start and finish at the Ray Miller trailhead in La Jolla Canyon. This big loop offers stunning panoramic vistas of La Jolla Canyon, La Jolla Valley, Sycamore Canyon, Boney Ridge, the Pacific Ocean and, on a clear day, the Channel Islands. We'll meet at the Ray Miller trailhead at 8.30am. La Jolla Canyon is about 10 miles south from Oxnard on PCH. You must pay to park in the parking lot inside the park gate, but you can park free on the PCH on either side of the park entrance (watch for and observe any posted "No Parking" areas). Bring snacks, lunch, water, sunhat, hiking shoes and your 10 essentials. Rain cancels. For more info, contact KULDIP at 509-0697 (VEN)

October 28
MONDAY MORNING WALK: Meet at 9am at Shelf Road in Ojai to do circle. For more info call PAT at 643-0270 (VEN)

November 2
MONTECITO PEAK: Hike up to a steep peak for a panoramic view of the South Coast. Strenuous 7.5 mrt. Bring lunch and lots of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. STEPHEN 574-9445 (SB)

November 2
CHORRO GRANDE: Enjoy phenomenal views as we climb to Chorro Springs for lunch. The trip is 8.6 miles round trip, with a 2350-foot elevation gain/loss. Rain cancels. Bring hat, sunglasses, water, lunch, sunscreen, 10 essentials. Meet at 8am at Ojai Rotary Park 'n Ride in Ojai (Intersection of Hwy's 150 and 33). For more info, call TERESA at 524-7170 (VEN)

November 2-3
LATE AUTUMN IN THE CARRIZO PLAINS: SERVICE AND EXPLORATION: This weekend is part of a continuing project to benefit pronghorn antelope in the Carrizo Plain National Monument. Our service on Saturday will modify several sections of fence to increase mobility for the benefit of these animals. 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 part of central California. Leader: CRAIG DEUTSCHE, craig.deutsche@gmail.com, 310-477-6670. (CNRCC Desert Committee)

continued on page 5

Planning class

The American Planning Association is conducting a "Planner Boot Camp" intensive land use course over seven weeks covering politics, permitting and design:

Called the Citizen's Planning Academy, it starts at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 8 and runs each week until Nov. 19 in Santa Barbara. Local experts have volunteered to teach this course.

There is a \$65 fee, which includes materials and meals for all classes. More information, such as a complete list of courses and instructors, can be found at:

www.openspace-cc.com
 This is an unparalleled opportunity for anyone who wants to learn about the planning and permit process in our South Coast region.

Outings...from page 4

November 3

INSPIRATION POINT: Hike up Tunnel Rd., then by trail to a point with beautiful views of the coast and mountains. Easy 3.5 mrt. Bring a snack and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. DAVID P. 705-3025 (SB)

November 4

MONDAY MORNING WALK: Meet at 9am at Matilija Canyon for a walk up the canyon. For more info call PAT at 643-0270 (VEN)

November 7

VENTURA HILL CLIMB: Join Wilderness Basics Course (WBC) staff, students, and friends to get a good mid-week hill climb workout and walk through scenic Ventura. About 4.5 miles, total elevation gain about 500 feet. Bring water and a snack. Meet at 5:30pm across from the Mission San Buenaventura in downtown Ventura. For more info, call TERESA at 524-7170 (VEN)

November 8

REYES PEAK: This is a moderate 7-mile-round-trip hike with an elevation gain of 1600 feet. It takes about 4 hours. This is a good hike, and you don't have to be in the best condition to do it. It offers some great backcountry views, peak vistas and great overlooks from saddles along the way. On clear days, you get some amazing looks at the Channel Islands. It's very close to the trailhead, and the peaks along this trail have numbers rather than names. Looking into the Piedra Blanca and the Sespe Wilderness is breathtaking; the mountainsides are rippled and beautiful. To get to the trailhead: From Ventura, take the 101 north, turn off on the Highway 33 and when you reach Ojai watch 33 turns off to the left (there's a small shopping center on your left and you'll see a 76 station across the street from it. Follow the 33 into the mountains for about 30 miles. After you pass the (now shuttered) Pine Mountain Inn, watch for Pine Mountain Road on your right (a big sign indicates the road). Take Pine Mountain Road, drive to the end of it and park. OR: To carpool from Ventura, meet in the parking lot between Carrows and the Chase Bank at the intersection of Seaward and Harbor at 8am. If you decide to drive up to Pine Mountain by yourself (directions above), meet us at the trail head at 9am. Please bring 10 essentials, hiking boots and poles, 3 quarts of water, snacks and lunch. Sunblock, sun hat and insect repellent recommended. Rain or predicted temperatures over 85 degrees F. cancels. For more info, contact PHILIP at 218-2103 (VEN)

November 9

LA CUMBRE PEAK VIA RATTLESNAKE TRAIL: Beautiful views from the highest peak on the front range. Strenuous 11 mrt. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. JIM 447-1876/644-6934 (SB)

November 9

PIEDRA BLANCA: This is a moderate 6-mile hike with an elevation gain/loss of about 700 feet. We'll hike from lower Lion's Camp (end of Rose Valley Road, off Hwy 33), cross three creeks (Sespe River) up to the Gene Marshall Trail and into Twin Forks camp. We'll pass through the majestic hundred-foot-high white rock formations, then into

the Piedra Blanca Creek watershed. You'll see Chumash pictographs and get a flora/fauna tour to boot! Bring water, lunch and sun protection. Meet at 9am at Mission Plaza Shopping Center, at the intersection of Main Street and Ventura Avenue in Ventura, or at 9:50am at the trailhead. For more info, contact ALISSE at 443-4367 (VEN).

November 9 - 10

McKINLEY SPRINGS CAMP: Springs Camp: Backpack to McKinley Spring Camp in San Rafael Wilderness. Sat. morning 9am meet at trail head - former site of Cachuma Saddle Guard Station at intersection of Happy Canyon Road (Forest Road 7N07) and McKinley Fire Road (Forest Road 8N08) for 8 1/2 mile, 2,500 gain backpack to McKinley Springs Camp, walking along dirt service road. Hopefully it will have rained by then and there will be water at the campsite - however, possibility that spring will be dry and we may need to bring water. Will verify a day ahead of trip. Campsite has tables, fire ring, latrine. Sat. night potluck. Sunday hike out, returning to cars mid afternoon. Although hiking on a dirt road, this trip is strenuous, due to length and elevation gain. Dog friendly trip. Rain/fire cancels. For more information and to sign up (you must sign up ahead of time), contact leader SALLY at 689-7820 (SB)

EAVESDROPS

"I think the environment should be put in the category of our national security. Defense of our resources is just as important as defense abroad. Otherwise, what is there to defend?"

~ Robert Redford

November 9-12

WESTERN UTAH EXPLORATION EXPERIENCE: Join the countdown to the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act with national Utah Wilderness Task Force and Utah Chapter in a visit to western Utah's Mountain Home Range and San Francisco Peaks—under consideration as new wilderness in a new BLM resource plan. Help document wild values in these remote ranges and enjoy car camping with central commissary over Veterans Day weekend. Experience desert solitude, darkest night skies, and the beauty of pinyon pine-covered desert peaks. Can meet Fri evening. Contact VICKY HOOVER, 415-977-5527, vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org. (CNRCC Wilderness Committee)

November 10

ROCKY PINE RIDGE - SHORT ROUTE: From Camino Cielo, hike into this wonderful pine tree/rock region and skirt along the ridge line. Moderate with some boulder hopping and agility required, 4 mrt. Bring water and lunch. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT 685-1283 (SB)

November 11

MONDAY MORNING WALK: Meet at 9am at Canada Larga for walk up the canyon. For more info call PAT at 643-0270 (VEN)

November 14

VENTURA HILL CLIMB: Join Wilderness Basics Course (WBC) staff, students, and friends to get a good mid-week hill climb workout and walk through scenic Ventura. About 4.5 miles, total elevation gain about 500 feet. Bring water and a snack. Meet

at 5:30pm across from the Mission San Buenaventura in downtown Ventura. For more info, call TERESA at 524-7170 (VEN)

November 16

WEST FORK COLD SPRINGS TO TANGERINE FALLS: Hike along the trail then do some rock-hopping up the creek to the falls. Difficult 3 mrt. Some climbing. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. DAVID P. 705-3025 (SB)

November 16

SISAR CANYON CLIMB: Join Wilderness Basics Course (WBC) staff, students, and friends as we hike up Sisar Canyon Road for 2 hours towards White Ledge camp, through forest and canyon. We'll have 2 groups, so you can choose a faster or slower pace. About 6-8 miles round trip, about 1500 to 2200 feet elevation gain, depending on group. Bring water, snacks and sunscreen, 10 essentials. Rain cancels. Meet at 8:45am at Sisar Road and Hwy 150, where we'll start. For more info, call TERESA at 524-7170 or ALISSE at 443-4367 (VEN)

November 17

SWEETWATER TRAIL: A hike from the Bradbury Dam lookout to the Lake Cachuma County Park. We'll explore a portion of the park before retracing our steps. Easy 5mrt. Bring a light lunch and water. Meet behind the Bank of America on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. If you are coming from north of Santa Barbara, you can meet us at the trailhead. Call for instructions. GERRY 964-5411 (SB)

November 18

MONDAY MORNING WALK: Meet at 9am at Lake Casitas to walk to the bench. For more info call PAT at 643-0270 (VEN)

November 21

VENTURA HILL CLIMB: Join Wilderness Basics Course (WBC) staff, students, and friends to get a good mid-week hill climb workout and walk through scenic Ventura. About 4.5 miles, total elevation gain about 500 feet. Bring water and a snack. Meet at 5:30pm across from the Mission San Buenaventura in downtown Ventura. For more info, call TERESA at 524-7170 (VEN)

November 23

SAN YSIDRO TO E. CAMINO CIELO: Fairly strenuous hike up to E. Camino Cielo for lunch. Great views of the back country and the coastline. Hike along creek for part of trip. Strenuous 9 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)

November 24

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. Alejandro 898-1240 (SB)

November 25

MONDAY MORNING WALK: Meet at 9am City Hall to do new trail to the cross. For more info call PAT at 643-0270 (VEN)

November 30

ULTIMATE HIKE: Very strenuous 17.5 mile hike. This up-and-down (5000') hike covers parts of 9 different trails on the front range. This is a fast paced hike for experienced, conditioned hikers only. Hike leader approval required. Plan for an all day trip. Wear good

hiking shoes, bring lunch and plenty of water. Contact the hike leader for details. TONY 455-4212 (SB)

November 30

HORN CANYON TO SISAR ROAD: Canyon hike near Ojai! Trail crosses Thatcher Creek several times in a forested canyon, and then climbs higher for great views. Our turnaround point is Sisar Road, about 8.2 miles round trip, 3240' gain/loss. Bring water, snack, sunscreen, 10 essentials. Rain cancels. Meet at 8:45am at Thatcher School trailhead. For more info, call TERESA at 524-7170 (VEN)

December 1

GAVIOTA CAVES EXPLORATORY: Hike from Gaviota beach to the caves and wind tunnels in the ridges above. Includes off-trail cross-country exploration on a challenging route! Some rock scrambling, bush-whacking and agility required. About 5 mrt. Wear long pants and bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT 685-1283 (SB)

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'Groaning' old outdoors

By Mike Stubblefield

Two years ago I led the popular Christmas potluck hike to the top of Topa Topa, but by the time I reached the upper end of White Ledge Trail -- a steep shortcut that brings you within a mile and a half of the summit -- my right hip was screaming "No mas!"

It's sobering to confront your body's slow but inevitable downhill slide into old age and painful, too. Would I ever climb Topa Topa again? I was skeptical. But I had no doubt that every extra step up the hill would simply prolong the duration, and the pain, of the inevitable trip back down the hill.

I was done for the day. I headed back. Going down the steep upper part of White Ledge was the longest, slowest, most painful descent I've ever endured, on any trail, ever.

In 2012 I stayed off the trails while I rehabbed, saw back and hip specialists, and did stretching exercises designed to loosen up my chronically sore lower back and my "iliotibial (IT) band," a band of fibrous tissue that runs from the hip to the outside of the knee. I learned that some of my activities -- like running, bicycling, spinning and long hikes in the mountains -- all irritated my right IT band, so I decided to walk at the beach instead, and avoid tough hikes.

By the end of the year, I felt the urge to hit the trail again. Almost exactly a year to the day after my ignominious last big hike, I was heading for the top of Topa Topa for yet another Christmas potluck. This time I made it to the party on top without incident. None of my issues were fully resolved, but everything

seemed manageable.

In 2013, I teamed up with fellow Los Padres member Catherine Rossbach, a serious and disciplined hiking partner, and together we banded out about a dozen peaks ranging in height from 6000 to 11,500 feet. Right after Labor Day we headed up the Mt. Whitney Portal Trail. We started before dawn and made it to Trail Camp by mid-morning.

From there, my hiking buddy continued to the top; I turned back. It was my hip/IT band double-whammy again. It had flared up several weeks before we hit the Whitney Portal Trail, so I wasn't totally surprised, just disappointed.

Does this mean that my days bagging the high peaks are over? Who knows? Those of us who are drawn to high summits do our best to stay healthy and strong, and adapt to the various infirmities that inevitably beset us as we age.

I first climbed Whitney in 1974, coming down the John Muir Trail from Yosemite. Pm the last day I made the Whitney summit, well over 20 miles, and it was no big deal. I was 27 years old and thought I could do anything. I'm over twice that old now.


Those of us who've played in the mountains since childhood are probably outliving our parents, but the flip side is that we're also lasting long enough to wear everything out.

Many of my older friends in the Club share the same litany, and yet, we just can't help ourselves; we just keep comin' back for more!

By the way, notice our Sierra Club hikes are rated easy, moderate and strenuous.

As for me, I hope to see you on top of Topa Topa on December 1!

PADDLE FOR PARADISE!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 FROM 8:30AM TO ABOUT 3:00PM
 KAYAKS AND GUIDES PROVIDED BY AQUASPORTS
 DOUBLE AND SINGLE KAYAKS DELIVERED TO THE SHORE
 \$100 PER PERSON
 100% OF PROCEEDS GO TO NAPLES COALITION
 CALL OR EMAIL TO RESERVE A SPACE
 (805) 683-6631
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CENTRAL COAST
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Central Coast Bioneers Conference
 is a local, self-organized Bioneers Network Event.
 To learn more about Bioneers, visit www.bioneers.org

Outings...continued from page 5

December 2
MONDAY MORNING WALK: Meet at 9am Ojai land conservancy Rice Road to do trail. For more info call PAT at 643-0270 (VEN)

December 5
VENTURA HILL CLIMB: Join Wilderness Basics Course (WBC) staff, students, and friends to get a good mid-week hill climb workout and walk through scenic Ventura. About 4.5 miles, total elevation gain about 500 feet. Bring water and a snack. Meet at 5:30pm across from the Mission San Buenaventura in downtown Ventura. For more info, call TERESA at 524-7170 (VEN)

December 7
SAN MARCOS FOOTHILL PRESERVE: This is an easy-moderate 3.5 mrt hike across the San Marcos Foothill Preserve, part of our County Parks system. We'll explore the parts of the current trail system. Bring water and a light lunch. Sun protection is recommended as there is limited shade. Meet 9am at the Bank of America parking lot, Hope & State St. GERRY 964-5411 (SB)

December 8
SAN YSIDRO MUTLI-TRAILS: Hike up San Ysidro, over to Cold Springs, down to Hot Springs to a primitive trail to Saddle Rock and McMenemy trails. Bring lunch and at least two liters of water. Strenuous 12 mrt. Prepare for an all-day adventure. This hike is not suitable for beginners or people with health issues. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. DIANE 682-8290 (SB)

December 8
TOPA TOPA CHRISTMAS POTLUCK HIKE: Join us for this annual Ventura Sierra Club tradition. This is a strenuous 14-mile-round-trip hike with a 4500-foot elevation gain. Starting at the Sisar Canyon trailhead (1867 feet), we'll hike up the canyon fire road to the White Ledge Trail to the Nordhoff Ridge Road then turn off the ridge road and take the switchbacks to the top (6367 feet). Bring enough clothing to protect you from cold, wind, rain or snow. Bring a warm hat and gloves, sunglasses, sunscreen, extra socks (just in case you step into the water during a stream crossing), your first aid kit and 10 essentials. And bring something yummy to eat! We will feast at the summit, with breathtaking views of the Channel Islands, the coastal range, the Santa Monicas, the Ojai Valley and, on a clear day, the Channel Islands and even the San Gabriels. This hike is a challenge to the mind and body but totally worth it! And it's the Big Social Event of the holiday hiking season! So don't miss out! Be at the Sisar Canyon trailhead, ready to go by 7:30am (I know, I know, some folks will hit the trail no later than 7 am). One more thing: The last quarter mile of the Sisar Canyon fire road is really beat up. If you have an American full-size pickup truck or van, a Jeep or even a Subaru, you'll be okay. But if you drive something low and sporty, park down at the water tank and walk up the last little stretch (or you might find yourself beached on a big boulder!). Or ride share with a buddy with the right kind of wheels. RAIN CANCELS. For more info, contact MIKE at 216-2630 or 988-0339 (VEN)

December 8
PLAN YOUR OUTINGS: Take a break from your holiday shopping to plan your outings for the next Condor Call outings schedule. It will cover Feb-May plus 2 weeks into June. Then get your writeups to your Group Outings Chair. Questions? Email Gerry Ching (gching@cox.net).

Join our Club

When you join online the club will send you a free field messenger bag as well as benefits such as a subscription to Sierra magazine, the local Condor Call, worldwide members-only outdoor trips and discounts on Sierra Club calendars, books, and other merchandise.

The cost per individual is usually \$25, but online it's only \$15 for a limited time. Most important, you will add your voice to the hundreds of thousands of Americans committed to leaving our children a living legacy — clean air, safe drinking water, and natural grandeur.

To join, go to:
www.SierraClub.org

NOVEMBER 5 ELECTION

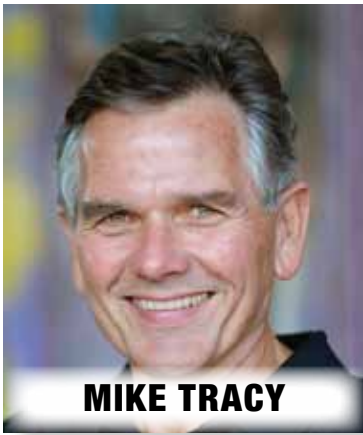
We suggest a 'fantastic four' in Ventura



RICHARD FRANCIS



ERIK NASARENKO



MIKE TRACY



LORRIE BROWN

RICHARD FRANCIS

Richard has been one of Ventura County's top environmental leaders for more than two decades, and has worked closely with Chapter leaders throughout that time, and so we proudly endorse him for Ventura City Council.

He is co-author of the SOAR (Save Our Agricultural Resources) initiatives that have made the county a national model for controlled growth. A former mayor of Ventura, he seeks a return to the City Council after years away while his children were young. Simply put, we could not identify a single issue on which Richard's position differs from ours.

Richard is an environmental lawyer who has won many victories under the California Environmental Quality Act. He is a trustee of the Ventura Hillside Conservancy, a member of the SOAR Board, and has served on the Board of the Environmental Defense Center.

From his time as a student at UCSB, when he gathered petition signatures for the Coastal Act and worked with the original Get Oil Out! to today, as he helps lead the effort for SOAR's renewal, Richard has been a devoted environmentalist. Please give him your support and your vote.

For details or to help with his campaign, go to:
www.francis4ventura.com

MIKE TRACY

The Sierra Club endorses Mike Tracy for Ventura City Council because in his first term on the council, he has shown himself to be a pragmatic and capable leader, eager to listen to all sides in trying to fashion the best solutions.

Mike wants to require that new developments make adequate provision for water supply, wants to improve storm water management, and supports the updating of SOAR. He has championed hybrid vehicle purchases and the use of solar energy by the city

Mike and his wife Linda, who taught in the local public schools, are lifelong Venturans. After the Army Reserve, Mike worked as a social worker in the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Program. He then joined the Ventura Police Department, where he served for

30 years, rising to chief.

On the Council, Mike has demonstrated the skills of one who rose to manage a large organization. He was elected Mayor two years into his term.

At a time when our political leaders show too little ability to work with people with varying points of view, Mike has shown that he can -- an all-too-rare pragmatic moderate. We urge his support.

For more information or to help with the campaign, go to:
www.miketracy.org



LORRIE BROWN

Lorrie Brown enthusiastically supports the causes the local environmental community holds dear. She supports the extension of SOAR, opposes hillside development, and wants to protect the beaches and local environment.

Born and raised in Ventura, Lorrie has a deep interest in preserving the natural beauty of the ocean, the hillsides, the rivers and the open space. She takes great pride in having passed those same values on to her children, as her father did to her. She recalls watching a rural community begin to sprawl, and wondering who the decision makers were, and what she could do about it. Today she is ready to join the fray.

Lorrie is an experienced administrator in both the public and non-profit sectors, with a history of activism on women's issues. She is a charismatic and energetic newcomer to electoral politics who shows great promise as a future leader.

Lorrie favors requiring any new development to provide for its water supply, to utilize green technology and to practice water reclamation. Please give Lorrie your vote.

For more information or to help with her campaign, visit:
www.brownforventura.com

ERIK NASARENKO

As a longtime aide to Congress member Tony Beilenson (author of the legislation creating the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area), Erik Nasarenko worked to protect open space and conserve land.

Later as a member of the Los Angeles school system's Safety team, Erik toughened the district's policy for investigation and evaluation of possible toxic pollution on potential school sites.

Erik is an enthusiastic supporter of the SOAR growth controls and the Ventura River Parkway initiative, and an opponent of annexations of open space for purposes of development. Protecting the hillsides from development is a

major priority of his.

He knows how to get things done. In addition to being a longtime activist, he is an Assistant District Attorney for Ventura County who prosecutes child abuse and domestic violence crimes.

Erik supports seeking funding to divert storm water to treatment before it reaches the sea, and is a proponent of increased efforts to keep Ventura's beaches clear of litter.

A dad with children in the Ventura schools, Erik wants to protect our beaches, hills and parks for the future. Please give him your support. For more information, or to help with his campaign, go to:
www.eriknasarenko.com

And 'fabulous four' in Santa Barbara

HELENE SCHNEIDER FOR MAYOR (PREVIOUSLY ENDORSED)

BENDY WHITE (PREVIOUSLY ENDORSED)



DAVID LANDECKER



GREGG HART

David Landecker is endorsed because of his long-time environmental record, beginning in high school.

While at Georgetown University Law Center, he focused on local government and the emerging field of environmental law. He moved to Santa Barbara in 1980, where he worked as a lawyer, businessman, non-profit executive and community activist.

"Advocacy for the environment, in partnership with the Sierra Club and many other environmental groups, is my passion," he said.

As a young lawyer David worked as a volunteer lawyer for the Environmental Defense Center (EDC), successfully stopping the Exxon Santa Ynez Unit Project. David joined with Sierra Club attorneys in representing the state and national environmental movement negotiating air quality rules for the Outer Continental Shelf.

He served as a board member, officer and president of the Citizens Planning Association for over 25 years and helped write the original City of Santa Barbara Growth Control Ordinance (Measure E). More recently, David was the Executive Director of EDC, working closely with the Sierra Club on a variety of important cases including Ormond Beach, fracking, Santa Maria Energy and many more.

For more information or to help with his campaign, visit:
www.davidlandecker.com

Gregg Hart has lived in Santa Barbara for the past 48 years, attending public schools, raising his family, and running a small business. He served two full terms on the Santa Barbara City Council and eight years on the City Planning Commission.

While on the council, Gregg worked to create legislation that has improved water quality and the health of our beaches by authoring the City's Clean Creeks Initiative. He led the Council's efforts to save the City's last remaining open space and make the Wilcox Property a city park. He's been innovative on sustainability by increasing recycling and promoting energy efficiency through the Compact Florescent Light Bulb Exchange Program.

Gregg has also been a leader in the effort to provide incentives and alternatives for people driving their cars. While on the Council, he was a leader in expanding bus service and funding for bicycle and alternative transportation programs.

The Los Padres Sierra Club endorsed Gregg in both his previous campaigns.

"I am honored to have the Sierra Club's endorsement. I look forward to working with the Sierra Club for a better Santa Barbara by advancing our shared environmental agenda," he said.

For more details or to help with his campaign, visit:
www.Hart4SB.com

MEMBERS CHOOSE LEADERS FOR 3 GROUPS

S.B. GROUP STATEMENTS

ROBERT BERNSTEIN

Building a sustainable world means having a positive vision of what we want, not just opposing projects. My vision: A community that is more walkable, bike-able and transit friendly and for social justice as well as for environmental reasons. It's a vision where we locally produce much of our own food and renewable energy. A vision where we can access nature in a way that enriches us, yet with minimal damage to our natural ecosystems.

Global climate change is largely the result of human policies and activities and I want us to do our part on a community level.

I am a Life member of the Club and have been on our Group ExCom since 1998. I am Group Vice Chair as well as Environmental Justice Chair and Transportation Chair. Also I am a hike leader and a photographer and occasional writer for the *Condor Call* newspaper.

I ask you please to vote for me and also for Alex Pujo, Katie Davis and Bernard Mines.

JIM CHILDRRESS

It has been my privilege to be on the ExCom the Santa Barbara Group for ten years or so and I have also served on the Chapter ExCom.

The ExCom is involved in overseeing the Outings program, following and taking positions on conservation issues locally (oil developments, community plans, Goleta Beach, transportation, etc.), endorsing local political candidates, as well as supporting programs and events.

Most recently I've been involved in going to hearings and expressing our positions on the proposed Gaviota community plan and the Goleta Beach issue. With regard to Goleta Beach we have taken a position at odds with some other local environmental groups in that we believe that the park itself should be preserved in its present form as long as is reasonable as the community strongly desires. We see this as an environmental justice and accessibility issue.



It is important that we continue to have representatives who are experienced, committed and knowledgeable about Sierra Club and how it works. I ask for your vote to continue this work and hope that you will join me and volunteer your time as well.

KATIE DAVIS

John Muir, the founder of the Sierra Club, said, "The battle we have fought, and are still fighting for the forests, is a part of the eternal conflict between right and wrong."

Today the protection of our forests and ecosystems is more critical than ever. I believe Santa Barbara, with its long environmental record and diverse habitats, has a powerful role to play in creating a more sustainable future.

As a trained presenter with Al Gore's "Climate Reality Project," I have been giving numerous climate presentations around Santa Barbara County and have been inspired by the many people I've met and local organizations ready to face the challenges ahead.

As a VP at tech company Citrix, I enjoy applying technology and teamwork to environmental education and action. I created a YouTube video that was a top result for "climate change video," led volunteers in creating an educational website on Ocean Acidification and free ocean education-related iPhone apps in coordination with the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and UCSB Marine Sciences.

I have served on advisory boards for a number of environmental groups and was awarded second place in the 2012 Cox Conservation Hero awards. I look forward to serving the Sierra Club in its mission to move us beyond fossil fuels and to conserve our local and global resources.

FRAN FARINA

I've been a Sierra Club member continuously since 1974 and have served six years on the Santa Barbara Group ExCom.

During that time, I was responsible for scheduling programs, new member events and social activities to help raise our visibility.



I became Vice-Chair and assisted with meeting agendas while also addressing local development and energy issues. I now serve as the Political Committee Co-Chair and work with a superb committee evaluating candidates for local elections.

I was appointed by the National Board to serve on the Los Padres Steering Committee and I represent us at Environmental Coalition meetings and make recommendations on energy projects. I have relied heavily on my legal experience to evaluate the proposals.

It is important that we continue to have representatives who are experienced, committed and knowledgeable about Sierra Club and how it works.

I ask for your vote to continue this work and hope that you will join me and volunteer your time as well.

BERNARD MINES

I am a volunteer hike leader with the Sierra Club who has been leading hikes for most of the last decade, continuing the Wednesday night hiking tradition.

I have also co-led some snow expeditions with the LA chapter.

I have a great appreciation for the outdoors, and a passion for adventure and would like to share some of my energy and enthusiasm by serving on the ExCom.

Growing up in Santa Barbara, I bring to the table an intimate knowledge of our wilderness areas, as well as a wide variety of friends and contacts.

I am also an active volunteer participating in trail maintenance projects with the Los Padres Forest Association.

ALEX PUJO

Much has changed since I came to Santa Barbara in 1974. Strong policies protected us from the rapacious growth; however, we live in an area that exports its impacts to surrounding communities and places little value on environmental justice.

I work in a small architectural firm (www.pujo.net) where I learned that the space for people is that small area left over after everything else is occupied by vehicle circulation and storage. Our older neighborhoods are convincing proof that life is better for all living organisms when we live close to town, drive less and walk more.

In 1992 my wife and I and a few others ("Grassroots 101") led the opposition to the widening of Highway 101 south to Ventura. We managed to reduce project impacts, allocate funding to service roads and bikeways, and update transportation policies.

From this effort evolved the Coalition for Sustainable Transportation (COAST) to improve rail, transit, bicycle and pedestrian access in Santa Barbara; I was its first president. I am also a member of the Bicycle Coalition since 1994.



ARGUELLO GROUP MEMBERS ONLY VOTE

Arguello Group Executive Committee Ballot

(See candidate statements this page)

NOTE: Only members of the ARGUELLO GROUP can vote for the candidates below. A second box is provided for households with dual memberships who get only one *Condor Call*. You may photocopy or cut this ballot from the *Condor Call*.

Mail ballot before Nov. 30 to:
Arguello Group, Sierra Club,
P.O. Box 333, Lompoc CA 93438-0333

Vote for NO MORE THAN 5 (FIVE) persons,
including write-in option if you wish.

In reverse alphabetical order:	1 st member	2 nd member
Rosemary Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connie Geiger	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Doris Connor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jerry Connor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Write in candidate if desired: _____

Enter your Sierra Club member ID # (from Condor Call label or membership card) _____

(Number is only to ensure a valid confidential vote. It will not be tied to your name.)

ARGUELLO GROUP STATEMENTS

JERRY CONNOR

As in many past years, I hope to continue to serve the Arguello Group as a member of its ExCom, the Los Padres Chapter leadership, and as a delegate to the annual Sierra Club California convention and the California-Nevada Regional Conservation Committee.

I also serve in organizations working in concert with the Sierra Club.

We have some immediate challenges as the County is faced with issues of land use that can be incompatible with open space or agricultural needs, and oil development in unsuitable locations with several related water and emissions problems.

I will be defending our conservation positions in writing or speaking at hearings with County Supervisors, City Councils, and the Planning Commission as needed.

Additionally, we have opportunities to highlight the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act next year. I have made contact with the Wildling Museum and the Arguello Group can be supportive, including leading some special hikes to give insights into our more accessible local wilderness areas.

DORIS CONNOR

Doris has been in the Sierra Club for more than 40 years, with 14 years in the Northern Rockies and then 27 years in the Los Padres Chapter.



She has been especially active in outdoor activities, including hiking, skiing, canoeing, rafting, and backpacking. Doris has served as Arguello Group Treasurer for several years, and has been involved in all activity plans.

CONNIE GEIGER

Member of Arguello Group since 1974; hike leader for many, many hikes; Chairman of Adopt-a-Highway (AAH) for 17 years, and have served continuously as Secretary of Arguello Group ExCom for many years also.

ROSEMARY HOLMES

With our coastal California in such danger from such things as offshore drilling, fracking, and our lives in general threatened by pesticides, traffic air pollution, and an infinite and varied additional range of toxics, I think environmental activism continues to be a necessary response.

In the past I have written articles for the local press, worked to set up community forums and Sierra Club programs and have worked with other community organizations such as our local botanical society.

I am happy to make these small contributions. As a board member I can help determine the foci of the Arguello Chapter, as well as assist with the many small things that keep it going logistically.



SANTA BARBARA GROUP MEMBERS ONLY VOTE

Santa Barbara Group Executive Committee Ballot

(See candidate statements this page)

NOTE: Only members of the SANTA BARBARA GROUP can vote for the candidates below. A second box is provided for households with dual memberships who get only one *Condor Call*. You may photocopy or cut this ballot from the *Condor Call*.

Mail ballot before Nov. 30 to:
Santa Barbara Group, Sierra Club,
P.O. Box 31241, Santa Barbara CA 93130

Vote for NO MORE THAN 4 (FOUR) persons,
including write-in option if you wish.

In alphabetical order:	1 st member	2 nd member
Alex Pujo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bernard Mines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fran Farina	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jim Childress	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Katie Davis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Robert Bernstein	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Write in candidate if desired: _____

Enter your Sierra Club member ID # (from Condor Call label or membership card) _____

(Number is only to ensure a valid confidential vote. It will not be tied to your name.)

CONEJO GROUP MEMBERS ONLY VOTE

Conejo Group Executive Committee Ballot

(NO CANDIDATE STATEMENTS AVAILABLE)

NOTE: Only members of the CONEJO GROUP can vote for the candidates below. A second box is provided for households with dual memberships who get only one *Condor Call*. You may photocopy or cut this ballot from the *Condor Call*.

Mail ballot before Nov. 30 to:
Conejo Group, Sierra Club,
643 Old Farm Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Vote for NO MORE THAN 3 (THREE) persons,
including write-in option if you wish.

In alphabetical order:	1 st member	2 nd member
Melanie Ashen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
John Holroyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephanie Scher	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joanne Sulkoske	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Write in candidate if desired: _____

Please write in your Sierra Club member ID # (from Condor Call mailing label or your membership card) _____

(Number is only to ensure a valid confidential vote. It will not be tied to your name.)

How should we treat wilderness?

By Teresa Norris
Wilderness Basics Course Chair

While camping with my granddaughter this past summer at Gaviota State Beach, I reconnected with my reasons for volunteering with the Wilderness Basics Course.

It was almost 10 p.m. one night and Kaitlyn was going to bed in our tent, when I heard what sounded like chopping coming from one end of the campground. I was just going

to let it go, and put up with the noise, but then I thought, "Who is going to speak for these trees if I don't?" That thought empowered me to grab the big flashlight and walk toward the sound of the noise. (Husband Tom says that I sound like the Lorax.)

I saw a woman in a campsite near the hillside, and said to her, "It sounds like someone is up there, chopping a tree." She answered, "Yes, there is someone up there chopping a tree." I

started to walk up the hill, but then I realized that she seemed to know something about it. So I asked her if it was someone in her family. "Yes, my grandson is up there, chopping a tree," she replied.

At that point, I decided that I didn't want to confront a young man carrying an ax in the dark. But I said to her as I left, "I hope that he isn't cutting down a live tree."

The next morning, I found the camp host, who hadn't been there the night before, and told him what had happened. He told me that they had been cited for several different things. "I wish that there was some kind of class that people could take before they could get a campground reservation," he said. I agreed, and reflected on the thought that people love nature and the

wilderness, but then they don't always know how to act once they get there.

I hope that most of you know better than to chop down trees in a campground. But many of us have done things that we wish we could go back and do over again. How can we find out how to act in the wilderness?

We structure WBC to maximize learning and enjoyment. The course includes eight nights of class, plus weekend outings in our local wilderness areas. Our outings range from easy to strenuous. Our all-volunteer staff are passionate about developing your wilderness skills. You'll build friendships and have a lot of fun too.

To help you prepare for the hikes ahead, we're having some evening and weekend conditioning walks. Check the *Condor Call* or our website for details. Come get some exercise along with members of our staff and bring your questions too.

You know you want to do it! Go ahead and reward yourself. Come join us for the fifth Wilderness Basics Course, scheduled to start the first week of February. Sign-ups will start soon; for details visit:

www.lospadres.sierraclub.org/wbc



WHAT REALLY GOES ON in the halls of our State Legislature in Sacramento? Find out next issue as editor 'Condor' John Hankins reports on Sierra Club California's Lobby Day, in which scores of our members spoke with legislators and their staffs. Bottom line is you can make a difference. To ensure you get our next and subsequent issues (which will not be printed), send your email to condorjohn@gnusman.com and you'll get a link only six times per year. (Photo by John Hankins)

EAVESDROPS

"We care because the condors are freakishly wonderful birds with scrotum-like faces and 10-foot wingspans."

~Angry Poodle columnist Nick Welch of the **SB Independent**, writing about a proposed bill (AB 711) that would ban lead bullets throughout the state, strongly opposed by the powerful National Rifle Assn., which Nick says is using "wet-your-pants rhetoric." Ironically, a Pentagon report says the "green" copper bullets are better for killing game.

Next issue of
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