

Condor Call



♪ The hills are alive with a bounty of flowers ♪



This awesome shot of two whales playing reminds us that now's the time to see the migration of hundreds of whales in the Santa Barbara Channel ... and a good time to get involved in their protection. See notice page 6 on how. © Wildflower and whale photos by Denise Dewire Photography, (see more on Flickr).

Earth action...Jerry...Outings...Endorsements...Roots

Pg 1

Pg 2

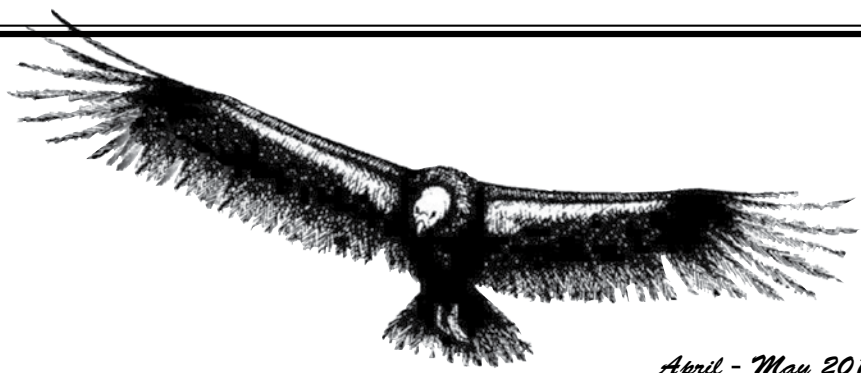
Pgs 3-5

Pgs 4&5

Pg 7

Condor Call

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



April - May 2016

We go where the action is

Compiled By John Hankins

From D.C to Sacto, SLO, SB and VTA, our Sierra Club members were busy during the last few months doing everything from restoring habitat to lobbying and enjoying the outdoors with our free outings and so much more. Here's a short list ... and join us whenever you can.

~ March 24 - **Youth Outings** Leader Nina Danza, brought 30 7th graders to Hedrick Ranch Nature Area to see, learn and do everything about riparian ecosystems. (See story on page 2)

~ March 22 - **Fish and Game** Commission meeting between its president Eric Sklar and our Chair Jim Hines was "very productive".

~ March 18 - **Channel Islands** National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council disappointed Hines over the issue of ships colliding with whales by instead focusing on the economic impact of moving the routes of international shipping lanes through the SB Channel.

~ March 17 - **Protect Wild**

Utah lobby invited Hines to DC to represent the Sierra Club and "Our advocating work paid off. We won. Major victory to stop anti-wilderness lands legislation from moving forward."

~March 11-14 - **Oil Train** issue attracted over 500 members of the public in San Luis Obispo voicing strong opposition to Phillips 66 Rail Spur Project that would allow mile-long oil trains carrying volatile crude through communities across

the State. A bus transported Santa Barbara activists like SB Group Chair Katie Davis and Arguello's Rebecca August.

~ March 11 - **Sustainable fishing** practices were adopted by the Pacific Fisheries Management Council that could lead to a ban on use of deadly drift gill nets off the SB Channel, which is a big campaign for our Los Padres Chapter.

~ March 9 - **Rim of the**

continued on page 2

Did you miss us?

The *Condor Call* printed edition is BACK! Did you miss us?

For the last couple of years, *Condor Call* published only an electronic version (except for paper copies in libraries). While its full-color features with hot links was admired, it reached only a fraction of our nearly 6,000 members. That is because we don't have emails for all those members.

And while the "open rate" for the email list was considered good, it represented only a fraction of our total membership. So the Los Padres Executive Committee

decided we weren't reaching enough of our members to meet the goal of communicating effectively with you.

The printed edition is much more expensive than an electronic version, but the ExCom decided it was worth the extra cost. (You can always advertise or donate to help out!)

Condor Call will still send out an electronic copy of the printed editions, and all our current and back issues are available on our website:

<http://lospadres.sierraclub.org>

A time to celebrate and educate

In Santa Barbara it's "One World," in Ventura it's an "Eco-Fest," in Ojai it's "Trees for Our Valley" and in Oxnard it was "Our Paradise," but no matter what you call it, to the Sierra Club "Every Day is Earth Day". But we sure love to celebrate it whenever there's a party for it. The official Earth Day this year is Friday, April 22, but most events are during the weekend.

Here's a synopsis of Earth Day events in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties.

Santa Barbara County

Santa Barbara - April 16 & 17: "This festival is the biggest environmental event of the year," said Santa Barbara Group Chair Katie Davis, and it's one of the oldest in the nation, at 46 years old.

Sponsored by the Community Environmental Council, it says that "In the wake of the Paris climate conference, festival theme 'One World' evokes solidarity in the fight to keep global warming well below two degrees."

Held at Alameda Park until 7pm Saturday and 6pm Sunday, it is busy indeed, with two full days of music, family fun with a Kids Corner, scores of booths, local farmers and sustainable food, ever-popular green car show, free bike tune-ups and valet, sports, celebrity appearances and the annual Environmental Hero Award.

That award on Saturday appropriately goes to Rep. Lois Capps and 5 Gyres.

Sierra Club will have a booth

there and could use some volunteers. To sign up, go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/SBearthdayvolunteers>
santabarbara.group@sierraclub.org

Keep current and learn about all details by following on:
Facebook.com/SBEarthDay
Twitter @SBEarthDay
www.SBEarthDay.org



Carpinteria April 16: Volunteers are needed for this event at Carpinteria State Beach, where the nonprofit State Parks Foundation has asked community members to help plant the east side of Carpinteria Creek and the dune area near the new boardwalk.

Working from 9am to noon, you can sign up as a volunteer:
calparks.org/help/earth-day

Santa Ynez Valley April 23: The Chumash are sponsoring this Earth Day from 10am to 2p.m. Saturday at Elders' Park, 100 Via Juana Lane, Santa Ynez. There will be all-age activities and vendors from around the county; also a creek clean-up, music, tree planting and more. Raffle prizes

available for those who participate. Details at:

www.syceo.org/chumash-earth-day-2016

Santa Maria April 23: The Santa Maria Natural History Museum has some special events and exhibits on Saturday, April 23 all for free. Address is 412 S. McClelland St. Website is: www.naturalhistorysantamaria.com

Ventura County

Ventura April 23: Held at Promenade Park by the ocean from 10am to 5pm, the Festival hosts numerous environmental displays with a wide variety of green exhibitors, interactive educational opportunities for children and adults, green auto expo, as well as an exciting and diverse live entertainment line-up.

Coordinated by the Ventura Charter School of Arts and Global Education -- a tuition-free public school and charity -- all net proceeds fund enrichment programs for its students, K - 8th grade.

Sierra Club will host a booth as usual.

Ojai April 23: In celebration of sustainable living, global awareness, and the joy of nature Food for Thought, Oak Grove School, Ojai Valley Green Coalition, and the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy are teaming up again to host this event with the slogan "Trees for our Valley."

It's at Oak Grove School, 220 W. Lomita from 11am to 4pm and yes, the Sierra Club will have a booth so come and say hi. Free rides available from Ojai



Kids from the seventh grade got quite the education from Mike Glenn (shown) and Jenny Marek of the US Forest Service, Sierra Club volunteers, Audubon and Friends of the Santa Clara River to help out in restoring the Hedrick Ranch Nature area in late March (see story pg. 2). Ventura Sierra Club's Nina Danza organized it all and will have a May 1 Volunteer Thank You Lunch Party for the Santa Paula students. (Photo by Nina Danza)



WE ENDORSE for June 7 ballot

See stories on pgs 4 & 5

Salud Carbajal
Congress, 24th Dist.

Julia Brownley
Congress, 26th Dist.

Hannah-Beth Jackson
State Senate, 19th Dist.

Henry Stern
State Senate, 27th Dist.

Monique Limón
Assembly, 37th Dist.

Christy Smith
Assembly, 38th Dist.

Das Williams
S.B. Supervisor, Dist. 1

Joan Hartmann
SB Supervisor, Dist. 3

Steve Bennett
Vta Supervisor, Dist. 1

continued on page 2

Jerry Connor's heart lives on

Jerry Connor passed away on April 4 causing a downpour of sadness for this local Sierra Club legend.

He was one of a handful of long-time activists in the modest Arguello Group who were always outnumbered by Santa Barbara North County's conservative leanings. Often he'd be one of only a handful surrounded by a hundred or more oil workers during hearings. But he found a niche, such as serving on the VAFB environmental committee, leading outings, and organizing public programs.

Equally by his side was his wife Doris, and they shared a love of the outdoors. Jerry leaves his wife, son Daren, daughter Laurel, daughter-in-law Peggy and two grandchildren.

Los Padres Chapter members are sending emails and phone messages in sympathy and soon it will figure out the best way to honor a man who spent at least 20 years in the Arguello Group, creating programs, outings, clean-ups and so much more.

There will be a memorial service at 1pm Saturday, April 30 at the Gloria Dei Lutheran church, 4380 Orcutt Rd. in Santa Maria.

"He's been the backbone of our Arguello Group for at least 20 years," said Connie Geiger who is the group's perennial secretary in concert with Jerry being Chair, both of whom organized the outings.

And what a hiker, every week he'd go out but Connie said no matter, he loved his dogs so much he'd walk them before or after a hike. He was also a "great

weatherman," which he practiced in the military, and was relied upon for the hike forecasts.

Here's some other comments:

Rosemary Holmes: "It is hard to have a Sierra Club meeting, not hear his amiability and positive contributions and see his smile."

Fran Farina: "It won't be the same without his active participation."

Katie Davis: "Jerry was a gentle, but brave and dedicated force for good."

Jim Hines: "I am filled with sadness, but take comfort in knowing that Jerry is leading great hikes in a special place now. A great man who worked for so many many years on issues for us in north SB county and his outings trips were enjoyed by so many, many people over the years."

David Gold: "So saddened by this news. Happy though, that the ever-vigorous and engaged Jerry Connor hiked and attended meetings until nearly the end. An amazing and admirable person. The Sierra Club, Los Padres Chapter and Arguello Group owe him an enormous debt."

Mike Stubblefield: "Know how much we respected Jerry's boundless energy and enthusiasm that belied his actual age."

Condor John Hankins: "We lost a marvelous gentleman who had a huge heart and smarts besides. Imagine always swimming against the tide, his patience, attitude and testimony making way as the years went on. I'm going to seriously miss this guy."



Earth Days...

continued from page 1

Trolley to the event.

Speaking at this year's celebration is world-renowned eco-activist Vandana Shiva, a Time Magazine Environmental Hero. Also on tap is Supervisor Steve Bennett, running for reelection. A number of unusual musicians will also play.

For more details, visit:

www.ojaearthday.org

Camarillo April 22: This is a special event on a Friday from about noon to 1pm at Camarillo High School, 4990 Mission Oaks Blvd., organized by Naturally Green, the school's environmental club. This fair is meant to introduce students to a wide variety of aspects of environmentalism, and the Sierra Club will have reps there.

Oxnard April 9: Ooops, too bad, held too early to meet our deadlines so it's already done and gone. But it was held at Plaza Park and Sierra Club did have a booth. Assume we Left No Trace.

Students are an inspiration at river event

Sierra Club grows the next generation of environmentalists on the Santa Clara River, thanks to Nina Danza, our Youth Outings Leader.

She brought 30 seventh grade environmental science students to Hedrick Ranch Nature Area on March 24 to see, learn and do everything about riparian ecosystems. Kids tested the river water for dissolved oxygen, planted native species in a restoration area and spotted song sparrows during a bird watching lesson.

And that was just in the first hour!

Inspiration was provided in abundance due to the funding and expertise of Mike Glenn and Jenny Marek (USFW), and Sierra Club volunteers Irene Rauschenberger, Mike Stubblefield and Bruce Hunter. Thanks also to Sandy Hedrick of the host Friends of the Santa Clara River, and to Audubon members Betsy Bachman, Bruce and Joyce Schoppe who were voted the most fun science station.

UCSB had a restoration plant station; the students visited a full blown native plant nursery on site and were able to plant.

There will be one more trip for the 7th grade class this year on June 2 put on by Sierra Club and hosted by The Nature Conservancy. To volunteer, contact Nina at:

prettycheapjewelry@gmail.com

Help our effective efforts

Members and friends, a reminder to respond to our once-per-year fundraising appeal, sent out in March, to leverage our effectiveness as catalysts of change locally and nationally.

The Sierra Club has been at it since 1892, saving Yosemite and the Grand Canyon, helping to secure passage of the Wilderness Act, Clean Air Act, Endangered Species Act and so much more. Our local list of success is long and effective.

You may go online to give, click the DONATE tab at:

www.lospadres2.sierraclub.org

We go where action is...

continued from page 1

Valley Corridor legislation was the topic of a public meeting by Rep. Julia Brownley and we were there.

~ March 4 & 5: **Plug for club** in the *Ventura Reporter* story about the 7th annual Wild and Scenic Film Festival in Ventura. Alisse Fisher of WBC and Hines staffed a club table.

~ March 5: "**The Condor's Shadow**," a film by Jeff McLoughlin of Santa Barbara was shown at the Wildling Museum in Solvang, and who but Condor John attended (story to come next issue).

~ March 5: **Environmental Hero** award by our Ventura Sierra Club was given to Jan Dietrich of Ventura for her work in climate change actions, protecting our coastline from power plants and founding the Ventura County Climate Hub. VSC Chair Elisabeth Lamar presented the award during the Women's Empowerment Conference in Oxnard and Chapter Chair Hines spoke about "the important role which women have played and are playing in the environmental movement."

~ March 4 - **National Forest** Committee, made up of four SoCal Sierra Club chapters, met to hammer out issues over dwindling funds versus increasing usage of the forest areas. Our rep was again Hines, who during February also made

connections with the Ventura Surfrider Foundation on coastal protection, the Chumash Nation for support of a new Marine Sanctuary, Coastal Commission staff over land development and Channel Islands staff about proposed wilderness areas on the islands.

~ Feb 23 - **Big victory** for SB Sierra Club group and supporters of a bike plan when the city council approved a goal of encouraging bike commuters, which means improved bike lanes; kudos to Katie Davis and Robert Bernstein. (See story pg 7).

~ Feb 22 - **VC Star** printed a letter by member Irene Rauschenberger who pointed out that "residents overwhelmingly opposed the Oxnard City Council's Jan. 12th approval of the Devco housing project," which should instead be used for recreation and/or "a welcoming open gateway" to the Santa Clara River.

~ Feb 21 - **Ormond Beach** Coastal Wetlands event was led by Chapter ExCom leader Nina Danza.

~ Feb 7 - Biggest turnout ever saw 40 volunteers show up to clean-up and restore the Hedrick Ranch Nature Area on the Santa Clara River. Organizer Nina Danza said 30 were Santa Paula High students, others from Foothill Tech and Meetup notices.



We were at the Women's Empowerment Conference in Oxnard on March 5 in which we gave Jan Dietrich an Environmental Hero award. Shown are Irene Rauschenberger of our Wilderness Basics Course, Ventura Sierra Club Chair Elisabeth Lamar and Chapter Chair Jim Hines in front of the "Love is the Key" poster. (Photo by Elaine Fargosa)



Our Chapter Chair Jim Hines went to DC and met California Rep. Alan Lowenthal (3rd and fourth from left) along with a team of Utah Wilderness advocates. Their lobbying effort paid off. (Photo contributed)

Condor Call

<http://lospadres2.sierraclub.org> ~ All phone numbers 805 area code

EDITOR: 'Condor' John Hankins, 452-2885

260 Pacos St. Ventura CA 93001 • 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, \$20 per year. Contact Editor John Hankins

Photos, news, tips always welcome!

Sierra Club

• LOS PADRES CHAPTER •

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

<http://lospadres2.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 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

• Executive Committee •

Jim Hines (Chair): 340-9266, jhcasitas@gmail.com

Katie Davis (Vice-Chair): 451-4574, kdavis2468@gmail.com

Gerry Ching (Secretary): 964-5411, gching@cox.net

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

Alex Pujo (at large): 962-3578, alex@pujo.net

David Gold (at-large): 642-7748 x6, davidgold4@aol.com

Nina Danza (at-large): 901-1679, prettycheapjewelry@gmail.com

Michael Stubblefield (at-large): 216-2630, motodata@roadrunner.com

Rebecca August (interim Arguello Group Rep): rebeccaugust@mac.com

Hugh Warren (Conejo Group Rep): 341-6295, mail@hkwarren.net

Katie Davis (Santa Barbara Group Rep): 451-4574, kdavis2468@gmail.com

• Group Chairs •

Arguello: open

Conejo: Hugh Warren, 341-6295, mail@hkwarren.net

Santa Barbara: Katie Davis, 451-4574, kdavis2468@gmail.com

Ventura Network Liz Lamar, 667-7617, elisabethlamar@hotmail.com

• Club Services •

Forest issues: Jim Hines, 340-9266, jhcasitas@gmail.com

Wilderness Basics Course: Teresa Norris, 524-7170, lospadreswbc@gmail.com

Air Quality: Michael Stubblefield, 216-2630, motodata@roadrunner.com

Conservation SB: Open

Conservation VC: Jim Hines, 340-9266, jhcasitas@gmail.com

Legal: David Gold, 642-7748 x6, davidgold4@aol.com

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

Outings: Stephen Bryne, 794-1150, sbryne@gmail.com

Political SB: Fran Farina, 681-8822, ffarina@cox.net

Political VC: David Gold, 642-7748 x6, davidgold4@aol.com

Transportation: Michael Chiacos, 284-4179, mchiacos@gmail.com

Typography and production by Dan Fuller

Take a Hike!

LOS PADRES CHAPTER



WELCOME HIKERS

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 are 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 the chapter's website: <http://lospadres.sierraclub.org>

April 15
POINT DUME to PARADISE COVE EASY HIKE SERIES: Easy to moderate 5 mrt hike with 250' elev. gain. Lovely beach walk, up a small hill and down stairs to tide pools, and around corners to Paradise Cove and beyond. Tide 0.8' at 9:30am. Tide 1.2' at 12 noon. Bring water and food. Meet in parking lot near Freddy's on Hampshire Road just before the Shell Station in Thousand Oaks no later than 8:30am for carpooling. LILLIAN TREVISAN 498-1623 (CJ)

April 15
ROSE VALLEY LOOP HIKE: 14-mile loop, a challenging hike of about 7 hrs. Start out at the Rose Valley connector trail, hiking through Rose Valley campground, up the fire road to the Nordhorff fire road, then going east to the Middle Lion canyon trail and down Lion canyon, back across the connector trail to the cars. Approximately 3400 ft. of elevation gain. Meet at the Ventura carpool at Seaward and Harbor at 7am so that we can carpool to trail head. Park along Harbor Blvd. Hiking/trail boots, 3 qts of water, and snack/lunch required. Sunscreen, sun hat and insect repellent recommended. Extreme heat (above 85F) or rain cancels. PHILIP & LORA 218-2103 (VEN)

April 16
PINE MOUNTAIN LODGE: Strenuous 13 mrt hike with 3000' elev. gain/loss - experienced hikers only. Wear hiking shoes/boots, bring lots of water, snack, lunch. There's a good chance that there will be in snow at the top, so bring a

warm jacket, a hat, and gloves. Meet at Ventura carpool lot at 8:30am (Seaward and Harbor between Chase Bank and Carrows). If you're coming from Santa Barbara, meet at the Bank of America on State St. and Hope at 8am to arrange a carpool to the trailhead. JIM 479-7063/644-6934 (SB)

April 17
SAN YSIDRO TO THE FALLS: Hike past a favorite rock climbing location to a seasonal waterfall, then return to a pool for lunch. Moderate 5 mrt. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT 685-1283 (SB)

OUTINGS NEEDED: Get your June-Sep outings to your Group outings chair soon. Be sure to include the first week of October in your schedule.

April 20
WILDWOOD PARK LOOP - PARADISE FALLS: Moderate 4.5 mrt hike with approx. 700' elev. gain. A pleasant trail follows the stream up to the waterfall with steps leading down to the pool beneath Paradise Falls. Continuing upstream, there is a tranquil picnic area at Little Falls. Return by way of Indian Creek Trail. Bring water, food, and wear lug-soled shoes. Meet at 8:30am in the Wildwood parking lot at the west end of Avenida de los Arboles in Thousand Oaks. EUGENE BABCOCK 499-3487. (CJ)

April 22
OLD CABIN SITE - POINT MUGU STATE PARK: Moderate 8 mrt hike with 1000' elev. gain. Bring water, food and wear lug soled shoes. Meet at Potrero Road trailhead at intersection of Wendy Drive in Newbury Park no later than 8:30am. LILLIAN TREVISAN 498-1623 (CJ)

SPRING IN MATILIJIA CANYON: Enjoy spring scenery in Middle Matilija Canyon on this moderate-paced walk, about 8 miles round-trip, 808 ft. of gain. Sycamore trees, creek crossings, soaring canyon walls. Bring 2-3 qts. water, hiking poles, hat, lunch, sunscreen. Rain cancels. Meet at the Ventura carpool at Seaward and Harbor, 8am. TERESA 524-7170 (VEN)

April 23
BLUE PEAK: (3662', 10 mile round trip, 2700' elevation gain) We ascend Romero Canyon trail to the saddle, loop behind and over Blue Peak back to the saddle, and then descend also by the canyon trail. Bring plenty of water, lunch, and sun protection. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am PAUL 886-1121 (SB)

April 24
NINETEEN OAKS RIDGE ROUTE: Hike along a stream filled with beautiful spring

flowers and impressive exposed cliffs to 19 Oaks camp for lunch. Return via a low ridge and dirt OHV service road with great open views. Moderate pace 6 mrt, 1400' gain. Long commute to Upper Oso trail head, plan on late afternoon return. Rain cancels. Bring water, lunch, sunscreen, bug repellent, and sturdy shoes. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. MURRAY 967-8770 (SB)

April 29
PALO COMADO - ALBERTSON'S MOTORWAY - CHINA FLAT LOOP: Moderately strenuous 8½ mrt hike. Bring lots of water, food and wear lug soled shoes. Meet in parking lot near Freddy's just before the Shell Station on Hampshire Road in Thousand Oaks no later than 8:30am for carpooling. LILLIAN TREVISAN 498-1623 (CJ)

April 30
GAVIOTA PEAK/TRESPASS LOOP: Moderately strenuous 7 mile hike with an elevation gain of 2200. Get ready to see eye-popping views up and down the coast. We will ascend the fire road to the saddle and return via Trespass trail. We will hike at a moderate pace or about 2 miles an hour and stop at the saddle for snacks, returning to the trailhead at about 2pm. This is a fairly steep ascent so cardio conditioning is recommended. Under 18 must be accompanied by a parent. Wear hiking shoes/boots, bring 2 liters of water, snacks, and personal first aid. Rain cancels. Meet behind B of A on State St. at Hope Ave. 9am. KRISTI email: sbhikergirl@cox.net or 563-0349 (SB)

SIMI PEAK TRAIL to CHINA FLAT LOOP: Moderate 5½ mrt hike with 600' elev. gain. Bring water, food and wear lug-soled shoes. Meet at trailhead on Lindero Canyon Road ½ block east of King James Court. at 8:30am. Joanne Sulkoske 492-3061. (CJ)

May 1
GAVIOTA STATE PARK GRAND LOOP: A 4 mrt moderate hike in the Northwestern section of the park with great views of the eastern section and the Hollister Ranch. We'll include the newly re-opened Woodland Trail and the re-opened Yucca Trail. Bring a light lunch, water and sun protection. 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 or email for instructions. Rain cancels. GERRY 964-5411, gching@cox.net (SB)

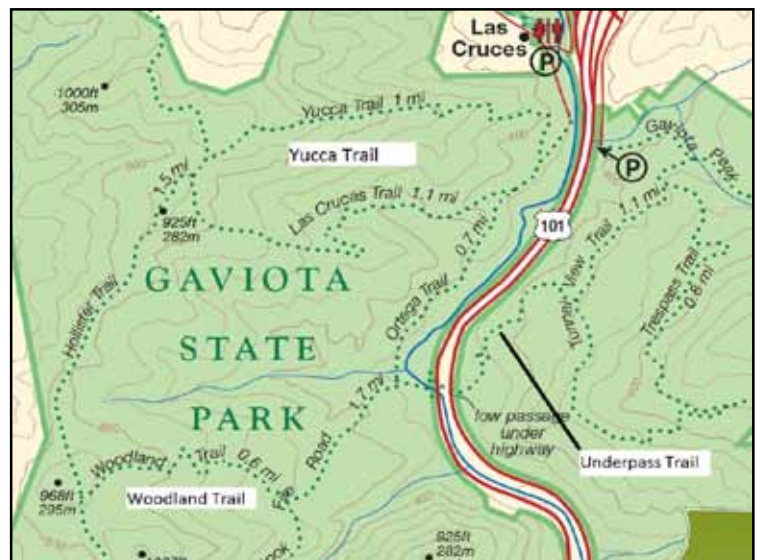
May 1
SANTA CLARA RIVER RIPARIAN HABITAT RESTORATION; 9am-noon; Prickly politics got you down? Make positive change right near home! Sierra Club is partnering with Friends of the

Santa Clara River and UCSB Riparian Restoration Program to return hundreds of acres around the river at Hedrick Ranch Nature Area (HRNA) to a long term sustainable condition. HRNA (near Santa Paula) is becoming a sanctuary to an increasing number of endangered birds, contains a wealth of stream-side plants, rare butterflies and more. We will probably be planting native plants or taking out invasive plants. Wear long pants and closed-toe shoes. Bring water and snacks. RSVP requested. Directions to HRNA, 20395 S. Mountain Rd, Santa Paula: Hwy 126 E to Santa Paula, exit 10th St. and turn left (go under

COZY DELL TRAIL, OJAI: Moderate 4 mile trail, rocky/steep start. Great views. Meet at 9:30am, Ojai Rotary Park and Ride at Hwy's. 33/150 intersection across from Von's. Snacks/water plus 10 essentials required. Rain or 85 degree forecast the previous day cancels. KIM HOCKING 983-2147 (VEN)

May 8
LA CUMBRE - CATHEDRAL PEAKS LOOP: Hike up Tunnel Trail to La Cumbre Peak for spectacular views. Then return on primitive trail to Cathedral Peak and back to Jesusita Trail. Very Strenuous 11 mrt. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet

Gaviota Trails open



Three Gaviota State Park trails have been re-opened: Yucca and Woodland trails, impassable and closed for 15 years, and the Underpass Trail which links the east and west sides of the park via an Hwy 101 undercrossing, reports our hike leader Gerry Ching. Work was performed by volunteers from the SB Trails Council, State Park Champions and Sierra Club, among others.

freeway), turn quick right on Harvard, turn right on 12th St., go 3.7 mi to the address, then turn left onto dirt road between farmland to the end (about 1/2 mi). Look for the 'Santa Clara River Event' banner. Contact NINA: prettycheapjewelry@gmail.com to sign up. (VEN)

OUTINGS DUE SOON: Group outings chairs should ready their outings for the next Condor Call schedule, covering the Jun-Sep plus the 1st week of October. Questions? Contact Gerry Ching (gching@cox.net).

May 4
HAWK CANYON to WESTERN PLATEAU LOOP: Moderate 5 mrt hike with 600' elev. gain. Bring water, food and wear lug-soled shoes. Meet at trailhead at 8am From Hwy 101 exit north on Rancho Conejo Blvd. and continue approximately 2 miles to City Recycling Center on Conejo Center Drive. Parking and trailhead are on the right. MELANIE ASHEN 497-6773 (CJ)

May 7
SUNBIRD MINE: (11 mile round trip with 1000 ft elevation gain) Long moderately strenuous hike follows road and trail past Gibraltar Dam to abandoned quicksilver mine (active 1860 - 1992). River permitting, the return trip will preview our Santa Ynez Swim hike. Bring plenty of water, lunch and sun protection. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. PAUL 886-1121 (SB)

CENTURY LAKE - ROCK POOL - MALIBU CREEK STATE PARK: Moderate approx. 5 mrt hike with 700' cumulative elev. gain. Enjoy a hike up Overlook Trail to Rock Pool and Century Lake to Cage Creek Trail back to Parking lot. Bring food, water and wear lug-soled shoes. Meet in parking lot near Freddy's just before the Shell Station on Hampshire Road in Thousand Oaks no later than 3:30pm for carpooling. Contact NIKI STOKOLS 907-8175 or nfstokols@gmail.com to RSVP or for more information. (CJ)

behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 8am. ALEJANDRO 898-1240 (SB)

May 11
HIDDEN MEADOWS TRAIL: Moderate 4.4 mrt with 400' elev. gain. Wonderful views on a clear day of the Santa Monica Mountains, Simi Valley, the Oxnard Plain and Channel Islands. Bring water, food, and wear lug-soled shoes. Meet at 8am at the trailhead at the end of Falling Star. Turn onto Falling Star from Kanan in Oak Park. FONTAYNE HOLMES 300-4590 (CJ)

May 13
OJAI: VENTURA RIVER PRESERVE: 8 mile loop, moderately-paced hike of about 4 hrs. Start at Riverview trailhead, hiking to Oso Ridge trail to the Preserve Highpoint (1,320 ft), then to Wills and Rice Cyn trails and back to Riverview trailhead. Some boulder hopping and stream crossings possible. Approx 1000 ft

continued on page 4

Support LP forest bill

The campaign to expand wilderness areas to lands in the Los Padres National Forest is getting a public hearing during the week of April 25 in Congress.

"This is good news as it forces movement of this important legislation. Our national Sierra Club office has made passage of this legislation its highest wilderness lands priority in 2016," said our chapter's chair, Jim Hines.

The bill is called the Central Coast Heritage Protection Act, sponsored by Senator Barbara Boxer who requested the hearing. Sierra Club intends to gear up support for this important act.

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

Los Padres National Forest Districts	
Headquarters	968-6640
Ojai District	646-4348
Mt. Pinos	(661) 245-3731
Santa Barbara	967-3481
Santa Lucia	925-9538
Other Areas	
Santa Monica Mtns. Area	370-2301
Conejo Parks	381-2737
Simi Valley	584-4400
Montecito	969-3514

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

Regional Hike Info
There are a number of websites that give you information as varied as outings, trail profiles, wildflower alerts, trail work opportunities, and much more. Here's a few:
<http://LosPadresSierraClub.org>
www.SBSierraClub.org
www.SantaBarbaraTrailGuide.com
www.SantaBarbaraHikes.com
www.LPForest.org
www.VenturaCountyTrails.org
<http://Hikes.VenturaCountyStar.com>

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.

RACES AFFECTING SB and VENTURA



Salud Carbajal
Congress, 24th Dist.

Sierra Club endorses Salud Carbajal to represent the Central Coast in California's 24th Congressional District. He is also endorsed by the area's long-time Rep. Lois Capps, who is retiring.

Salud has a proven track record of bringing Republicans and Democrats together to solve problems.

A leader in protecting our renowned coastline and natural environment, he's stood up against developments on the Gaviota Coast that threatened preservation efforts and has opposed new offshore oil development. Salud has worked to implement a Climate Action Plan for Santa Barbara County and made solar energy an affordable efficient option for homeowners.

He has promoted innovative solutions to address environmental stewardship and sustainability while strengthening the middle class by advocating for clean energy job growth.

Salud served on President Obama's task force on climate change to develop a range of sustainable solutions for implementation at the state and local levels.

In Congress, Salud will continue to say no to any new offshore drilling and instead encourage efforts to move toward cleaner energy solutions that help create new jobs, like the new solar power facilities have done locally. He will also work to bring more wind and biofuel initiatives to market and encourage more efforts for residents to retrofit their homes, making them more energy efficient to save consumers money and reduce energy usage.

To help go to:

www.saludcarbajal.com



Hannah-Beth Jackson
State Senate, 19th Dist.

State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson is running for re-election to the sprawling 19th District, which covers all of Santa Barbara County and a huge swath of Ventura from Camarillo and Fillmore west through the city of Ventura.

Hannah-Beth is a leader in the fight to protect California's clean air and water, our beaches and open spaces—and she co-authored the most important legislation to promote alternative energy and green jobs.

During her service in the Assembly, she chaired the Assembly Natural Resources and Environmental Safety Committees, and wrote the law banning risky oil barges along our coast.

And to prevent another accident like the May 19, 2015 Refugio Oil Spill, she wrote critical legislation to require annual pipeline inspections (SB 295) and to dramatically improve coordination in response to future oil spills.

Hannah-Beth successfully fought to regulate the use of pesticides near schools and communities. She'll continue to fight for strong standards in monitoring the water we drink and the air we breathe.

That's why she was named "Environmental Hero" by Santa Barbara's Environmental Defense Center, "Legislator of the Year" by the California League of Conservation Voters, and both "Guardian of the Coast" and "Coastal Champion."

That's why oil companies and polluters are always spending so much money against her. We are again supporting Hannah-Beth because she stands up to the powerful special interests.

For details and to help, go to:

www.hannahbethjackson.com



Monique Limón
Assembly, 37th Dist.

Assembly District 37 is an open seat with Das Williams running for Supervisor. Sierra Club endorses Monique Limón to be our new representative in Sacramento.

Monique was born and raised in Santa Barbara and has dedicated much of her career to improving education.

Monique stood up to attacks on our environment by taking public positions discussing the dangers of fracking and extreme oil extraction during the 2014 Measure P campaign. She has demonstrated her commitment to renewable energy and stronger action on climate change, and worked to build a broader coalition of environmentalists to protect our natural resources.

While on the school board, Monique supported leveraging the California Clean Energy Jobs Act (Prop. 39) funds to increase energy efficiency and alternative energy projects, along with related improvements resulting in reduced operating costs and improved health and safety conditions in public schools.

While serving on the board of the California Latino School Boards Association in 2014, Monique moved forward a resolution to support the Salton Sea Renewable Energy Initiative and highlighted the connection between poor air quality, children with asthma, and underserved communities.

"I am honored to have the endorsement of the Sierra Club and know that we will work to not only protect our environment and support clean and renewable energy alternatives, but also bring people together to ensure we preserve California's natural resources."

Learn more at:

<https://limonforassembly.com>

SANTA BARBARA RACES



Das Williams
SB Supervisor, Dist. 1

During his time on the Santa Barbara City Council and in the State Legislature, Das Williams earned a reputation as a champion for renewable energy, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and protection of the environment.

In the Assembly, Das was the lead co-author of SB 350, landmark legislation requiring that 50% of the state's energy come from renewable sources by 2030 – one of the highest climate change reduction goals in the world.

Das has been a lifelong advocate for our coast and championed mandatory testing of groundwater before, during, and after hydraulic fracturing. Das also successfully advocated for dedicated funding in this year's state budget to cap the leaking Becker Oil Well off Summerland Beach.

Following the oil spill off the Gaviota Coast at Refugio Beach, Das sponsored legislation requiring oil pipeline companies to use the best available technology to lessen the damage caused in the event of a spill. He successfully pressured Plains All-American Pipeline Company to revoke their claim that they were an interstate pipeline and immune from state regulations. This ensures tougher state and county regulations.

Sierra Club endorses Das Williams for Santa Barbara County Supervisor in District 1 to continue this environmental legacy at the County level. We've already made California the leader in the world on renewable energy policy; now it's time to make Santa Barbara County the leader within the state.

For more information and to help out, go to:

<http://www.daswilliams.com>



Joan Hartmann
SB Supervisor, Dist. 3

There is an environmental champion running for the critical Board of Supervisors' 3rd District in Santa Barbara County: Joan Hartmann, J.D. and PhD.

She served as Supervisor Doreen Farr's Planning Commissioner until January of this year, and built a solid record opposing offshore oil development, standing up for Community Plans, and protecting the Gaviota Coast. She fought to restrict air emissions from oil extraction and opposes trucking of oil through our community.

An advocate for Community Choice Energy, Joan will also work with the community on the development of micro-grids. She believes the County needs to expand water conservation efforts, particularly from agriculture, and will explore options for groundwater recharge and direct potable reuse.

Joan began her career in the academic world. After earning her PhD., she helped establish the public policy program at the Claremont Graduate School and the environmental studies program at Oberlin College. She left the academic world to work in the policy and budget offices and as legal counsel for several federal government agencies, including the Department of the Interior and EPA.

In 2008, Joan led efforts to establish Buellton's urban growth boundary, placing decisions about the City's growth in the voters' hands. She also advised the Goodland Coalition on their successful initiative protecting Goleta's agriculture. For more information and to help out, visit:

www.JoanHartmannforSupervisor.org

Outings...from page 3

elevation gain/loss. Meet at the Ventura carpool at Seaward and Harbor at 8am so that we can carpool to trailhead. Park along Harbor Blvd. Hiking/trail boots, 3 qts of water, and snack/lunch required. Sunscreen, sun hat and insect repellent recommended. Extreme heat (above 85F) or rain cancels. PHILIP & LORA 218-2103 (VEN)

May 14

INDIAN CREEK: Long carpool to the trail head. Follow Indian Creek up a canyon and enjoy some rarely seen back country. The creek abounds with wildlife, especially frogs and the western pond turtle. Bring a swimsuit if you're interested in taking a dip in the creek or relaxing in the Little Caliente hot springs at the end of the hike. Moderate terrain, but long 12 mrt hike. There will be many creek

crossings, and you may get wet, so bring water shoes for the crossings. Also, bring snacks and lunch and at least three liters of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. JIM 479-7063/644-6934 (SB)

LAKE PIRU WALK: Walk beside Lake Piru on closed road for about 2 hours. Slow pace, suitable for seniors or families with children (strollers OK). Beautiful views of lake and mountains. Bring hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, water, and snack. Rain cancels. Meet at 8:30am in parking lot behind 330 Central Avenue, Fillmore. TERESA 524-7170 (VEN)

May 15

TUNNEL TRAIL TO RIDGE LINE VIEWPOINT: Hike up busy Tunnel Trail and wide connector road to power line clearing. Option to continue up steep knife edge ridge just beyond the power lines for lunch. Beautiful views of Mission Canyon and Santa Barbara. Moderate pace 4 mrt with 1200' gain to clearing, strenuous 0.7 mrt, 500' gain to ridge viewpoint. Rain

cancels. Bring water, lunch, sunscreen, and sturdy shoes. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. MURRAY 967-8770 (SB)

OUTINGS DUE: Outings for inclusion in the Condor Call are due NOW. All Group outings chairs should send their Jun-Sep outings to Gerry Ching (gching@cox.net)

May 21

PARMA PARK LOOP: A pleasant four mile morning hike through Santa Barbara's largest and least used park. Dirt roads and primitive trails, sometimes steep. Bring water and a snack. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. VICKI 563-4850 (SB)

May 22

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)

May 25

LOWER NEWTON CANYON: Moderate 5.4 mrt hike with 600' elev. gain. Rolling trail, down to the lush canyon creek and up with good switchbacks. Bring water, food, and wear lug-soled shoes. Take Kanan Road south from the 101 Fwy. Meet at 8am at the Newton Canyon Parking Lot just before the third tunnel. Red flag warning cancels. FONTAYNE HOLMES 300-4590 (CJ)

May 27-30

BLACK ROCK RENDEZVOUS This annual event makes a great first trip; it typically includes speakers, guided tours, hot springs, rocket launches, rock hounding, Dutch Oven cook-off etc.. Co-Sponsored by Friends of the Black Rock, BLM and Friends of Nevada Wilderness; Bring your RVs, HAM radios,

continued on page 5

Trail Prints

... No two trails are the same

Attractive, Accurate and Easy to Read Hiking Trail Maps of the Front Country and the National Forest

805-708-1421 • www.trail-prints.com





Julia Brownley
Congress, 26th Dist.

Julia Brownley is one of the most consistent defenders of the environment in Congress, and her district is among the most competitive battlegrounds in the country.

That's why the Sierra Club is endorsing her again for her Congressional District 26, which covers most of Ventura County.

Julia has worked alongside Los Padres Chapter's activists on many issues. Protecting our coast and open space are among her top priorities. Working with Los Padres leaders, she helped lead the fight to stop the LNG installation off the coast of Oxnard, and to stop construction of the Oxnard electricity peaker plant.

She continues to be deeply involved in cleaning up chemical and radioactive contamination at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory and at the former Halaco metal smelting facility to better protect the health and safety of our community. Julia is a co-sponsor of the Arctic Wilderness Act, the Coastal State Climate Change Planning Act, and the Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act, among others.

She has battled to prevent oil drilling off the coast, advocated for rebates and other economic incentives to encourage the use of renewable energy, and worked to protect the purity of our drinking water.

She says, "Ventura County is one of the most beautiful districts in the nation to live, work, visit and raise a family. I've worked hard to ensure we preserve our coastlines and open spaces, our air and water quality and to plan responsibly for climate change."

We urge you to support her; to learn how visit:
<http://juliabrownley.com>

VENTURA COUNTY RACES



Henry Stern
State Senate, 27th Dist.

As environmental policy adviser to termed-out Senator Fran Pavley, Henry Stern has helped lead many battles on behalf of the residents of District 27, which covers the eastern portion of Ventura County from Thousand Oaks, Moorpark and Simi Valley into L.A.

The Sierra Club endorses him to succeed her.

An environmental lawyer, sixth-generation Californian, and native of the district, Henry has taught environmental law and policy at UCLA School of Law. He has harnessed that expertise to play an important role on many issues.

A major priority of his has been the fight to preserve open space in the Santa Monica Mountains and elsewhere in Ventura County. Another priority is his effort to speed and ease the transition from polluting fossil fuels to clean, job-creating renewable energy.

He began this work before signing on with Sen. Pavley, helping businesses build clean energy projects. Working for the 27th District, he helped enact legislation to reduce the costs of low-polluting cars and trucks that run on alternative fuels

He has also focused efforts on protecting California's strained water supply, including legislation to preserve groundwater, and legislation to invest in water recycling, groundwater cleanup, and stormwater capture.

Henry hopes to continue his work for common sense policies to protect our air and water, and our open space. Please give him your support. To learn more or support, go to:

www.henrysternforsenate.com



Christy Smith
Assembly, 38th District

The Sierra Club endorses Christy Smith to fill the vacated seat in Assembly District 38, which is mostly L.A. but includes the Simi Valley in Ventura County.

Christy's highest environmental priority is to secure the Aliso Canyon natural gas facility (whose disastrous leak so disrupted the lives of some district residents) and to substantially improve its monitoring.

She wants to put the state on a path to a green energy future. A steadfast opponent of fracking, she is especially concerned about the risk its waste water causes for our fragile water supply. Toward that end she would support: a moratorium on extreme oil extraction methods, greater environmental regulation of the oil industry, and restriction of oil waste into aquifers. She opposes offshore oil drilling, and instead supports underwriting a dramatic expansion of solar energy use.

Christy wants the legislature to step up to the challenge of the drought by more effectively protecting natural watersheds, facilitating aquifer recharging, and making California's system of water distribution more rational and more efficient.

"As a mother and a someday grandmother, and a long-time earth lover, I take my role as a steward of the planet very seriously. We get one shot at keeping this planet alive. I want to be a part of building a future in which our first economic and environmental priority is to do no harm."

We couldn't agree more.

For more information or to help out, go to:
www.christysmithforassembly.com



Steve Bennett
Vta Supervisor, Dist. 1

Steve Bennett is a visionary leader who has spearheaded environmental protection in Ventura County for two decades. The Sierra Club again proudly endorses him for Ventura County Supervisor, District 1, because his list of environmental achievements is long.

When Steve saw urban sprawl spreading into the County in the early 90s, he brought people together to pass the SOAR initiatives. The initiatives have protected greenbelts and agricultural land by giving citizens the right to vote before development takes place on open space outside city boundaries, encouraging strategic development within our cities instead.

Steve has led the Board of Supervisors in slowing the dangerous over-drafting of water from groundwater basins, some of which are so severely depleted that they are at risk of drawing in toxic contamination, threatening the quality and safety of our drinking water. In doing so he has stood up to powerful entrenched interests who have viciously attacked him in a failed attempt to preserve their veto power over groundwater policy.

Steve has also been a leader in the promotion of alternative fuel use. He has led in the development of Climate Change Action plans, made the county fleet more efficient with hybrid vehicles, and has introduced solar power and enhanced energy efficiency into county buildings.

He has spearheaded the county's effort to remove the Matilija Dam, and to restore and protect the Ventura River watershed. He also wrote the county resolution opposing the

opening of more offshore oil leases and led the county to ban the use of Styrofoam in county facilities.

Steve's environmental leadership has drawn extremely well-financed opposition from developers and other entrenched special interests. Please join us in supporting him.

For details or support, go to:
<http://bennettforsupervisor.com>

Soar fights urban sprawl

Thanks to SOAR, Ventura County enjoys America's most effective protections against the loss of open space and agricultural land to urban sprawl.

SOAR (Save Our Open Space and Agricultural Resources) will be expiring soon, so backers have launched a major effort for renewal.

In the '90s, environmental leaders recognized that Ventura County's open space would disappear due to the same development pressures that had re-shaped the San Fernando Valley and Los Angeles. In response they developed the SOAR initiatives – one for each of the eight cities in Ventura County, and one for the County as a whole. The initiatives passed by landslide votes.

The initiatives require a vote of the people before open space or agricultural lands could be rezoned for development in Ventura County's unincorporated areas, and in the buffer zones between cities. The result has been to preserve the special character of Ventura County and its land.

The initiatives had sunset provisions, meaning that for them to be extended, renewal initiatives must be passed. Major petition drives have been under way, and hopefully in the fall, Ventura County's residents will have the opportunity to vote for Ventura County SOAR renewal, and for the renewal of their city's SOAR.

The passage of these measures is one of the Los Padres Chapter's highest priorities. They face intense opposition from development interests, who are compiling an enormous war chest to try to defeat them.

Please help in any way that you can in the battle to extend SOAR. To see how you can help, go to <http://www.soarvc.org>

Outings...from page 4

dogs on leash. Primitive camping but w/ portable toilets. May be Kid's Camp activities. Questions? Go to: www.blackrockrendzvous.com. DAVID BOOK 775-843-6443 (Great Basin Group/CNRCC Desert Committee)

May 28
REFUGIO BEACH TO EL CAPITAN: Car pool to Refugio Beach and walk to El Capitan or beyond. Easy 6 to 8 mrt. Bring old shoes, lunch, and water. Share parking fee. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. DAVE 563-4850 (SB)

NATURE WALK - WILDWOOD PARK: Moderate approx. 4.5 mrt hike with 680' cumulative elev. gain. Enjoy a nature walk while looking for wildflowers as we hike along Stagecoach Bluff down past the water treatment plant, above Paradise Falls, along the creek to Indian Creek Trail and back to the parking lot. Bring water, food and wear lug-soled shoes. Meet at 4pm in the Wildwood parking lot at the south end of Avenida de los

Arboles in Thousand Oaks. Contact: NIKI STOKOLS 907-8175 or nfstokols@gmail.com. com to RSVP or for more information. (CJ)

May 29
SANTA YNEZ SWIM: (6 mrt with 400 ft elevation gain) Moderately strenuous hike follows road and trail to Gibraltar Dam, then returns along the Santa Ynez River for a picnic and swim. Bring plenty of water, lunch and sun protection. It is most convenient to hike in your swimming suit (under your hiking clothes). Wading shoes may be useful for river crossings in wet years. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. PAUL 886-1121 (SB)

June 2
VOLUNTEER AT ENVIRO SCIENCE SCHOOL FIELD TRIP: 8am-2pm; Los Padres Sierra Club is providing field trips on the Santa Clara River for 7th grade environmental science students at Rio School District. Volunteers are needed to be 'station leaders' at the field trips. A 'station leader' will be with a small group

of the class to observe, learn and take notes on a subject (such as river plants, amphibians/reptiles/insects, pollution). No experience necessary! Lesson information already developed. Bring a love of nature and enthusiasm to be with the future stewards of our earth. Contact NINA prettycheapjewelry@gmail.com to sign up. (VEN)

June 4
ROMERO CANYON/ ISLAND VIEW LOOP: Strenuous hike up to a ridge line with the most gorgeous views in SB, Old Island View trail to an OHV road and Juncal, looping back to Romero, 11 miles rt, 3000' gain, About 5-7 hours at a moderate pace with several steep spots and some minor height exposure. Experienced and Intermediate hikers only. 18- must be accompanied by a parent. Wear hiking shoes/boots, bring 3 liters of water, lunch, snacks, weather protection, and personal first aid. Rain cancels. Meet behind B of A on State St. at Hope Ave. 9am. KRISTI email: sbhikergirl@cox.net or 563-0349 (SB)

June 5
MISSION RIDGE: Hike from Tunnel Trail up to near the Rattlesnake Connector and then up a primitive trail to the top of a ridge. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ALEJANDRO 898-1240 (SB)

June 7
RAY MILLER TRAIL - POINT MUGU STATE PARK: Moderate 5.4 mrt hike with 700' elev. gain. Fabulous ocean views, good switchbacks, up the first half of the hike, with a downhill return. Bring, water, food and wear lug-soled shoes. Meet

Visions of the Gaviota Coast
The Jewel in Our Backyard

Art show & sale to benefit Naples Coalition and Gaviota Coast Conservancy
May 13 and 14, 2016
Friday 1 - 8 pm & Saturday 10 am - 5 pm • Reception Friday, 5 - 8 pm
www.c-a-p-e.org • (805) 683-6631
Bacara Resort & Spa, 8301 Hollister Ave, Santa Barbara, CA 93117

Camp is easy (going)

Editor's note: There is a full complement of fifty students now honing their skills for comfort and confidence during our annual wilderness course. While still ongoing at press time, here's an account of how much fun and information is given on a simple drive-in camping trip. Follow their adventures on Facebook at: lospadresWBC.

See photos back page

By Teresa Norris

"What is Car Camp anyway?" one of the Wilderness Basics Course (WBC) students wondered. She found out that it's where you just drive to a campsite and stay right there, in this case Sage Hill Group Campground in Santa Barbara County.

A duck waded in the water



as I drove on the raised roadbed through the Santa Ynez River to the campground. The surrounding hills and fields were a lush green, with fields of California poppies decorating the hillsides.

The first thing to do was to set up our tents on a dewy field, but ground cloths helped keep the tents dry. The fog was just lifting as we walked back across the river for map and compass practice. It's much easier to understand the features on the map, such as Sage Hill, when you can see them in front of you.

After a picnic lunch under the oak trees, we gathered at the tables to talk about how to choose and set up camp at both developed and backcountry sites with minimal impact. The afternoon sun was getting warm when we had an informative tour of the tents everyone had brought.

Next we sat down to talk about

trails and camping resources, such as websites, maps, Meetup groups and books. Several members of the staff discussed field repairs they had done to their equipment, using materials such as duct tape and first aid tape.

After that, the students saw how water purification pumps worked while others opted for extra map and compass practice and some simply rested in their tents. A small group took a walk in a dry riverbed and spotted a King snake.

We gathered for a stove show before dinner, where the students and staff discussed the stoves they had brought. Then we learned how to start a fire using a flint to strike a spark onto dryer lint. After that everyone got out their food and cooking supplies and made their own dinners.

Later in the evening, we enjoyed guitar music and some good jokes too. Some students made s'mores, and people seemed content to sit around the fire. We heard some owls during the night, and the frogs set up quite a chorus.

After an early breakfast Sunday morning, we packed everything up and split up into groups for our hikes to the Aliso Loop, the Snyder Trail, and Nineteen Oaks. The groups did more navigation practice during their hikes, and the staff also pointed out the flowers and plants in bloom. One leader spotted a large and beautiful rattlesnake on the trail, and the group watched it until it left.

After the hikes, everyone headed for home. It had been a lot of fun, but it was time to go ... until the next WBC adventure!

There are a lot of skilled volunteers who make WBC happen. For this car camp we thank Lora Clarke, Philip Clarke, Jim Danza, Jim Duliakas, Alisse Fisher, Tim Grant, Arturo Hernandez, Marc Hertz, Kim Hocking, Kristi KirkPatrick, Shira Kronfeld, Chrissy Magee, Heather Nicksay, Teresa Norris, David Peacock, Cara Peden, Annette Preciado, Murray Ruben and Jean Paul Tümmeler.



Sierra Club members and others filled a bus from Santa Barbara to join folks in San Luis Obispo for a protest and testimony against up to five oil trains per week going through our communities with toxic emissions and risk of explosion. Advice by the SLO planning commission on the Phillips 66 Rail Spur Project was delayed until May. (Photo by Katie Davis)

Oil leaks and tweaks

By: Fran Farina

Ripples of oil: The repercussions from the May 19, 2015 Refugio oil spill continue. Plains All-American Pipeline has made no decision to reopen its Lines 901 and 903 as it continues with oil purging and repair activities.

Meanwhile, Exxon began a trucking operation from the Las Flores Canyon facility in mid-March that could continue to October. A limit of 30 trucks per day is authorized by the county permit.



Train spurs: It took four days of hearings in San Luis Obispo for the County Planning Commission to hear from over 500 members of the public voicing strong opposition to Phillips 66 Rail Spur Project that would allow mile-long oil trains carrying volatile crude through communities across the State.

The Commission began deliberating on March 11 which continues on April 15 and May 12.

Beach leaks: Great news for Summerland beach! Money is included in this year's State budget for remediation of the Becker well, a coastal legacy well that leaks due to inadequate capping procedures.

This is one of dozens of legacy wells. With support from the State Lands Commission, Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson introduced SB 900 to create a legacy well fund so that monies will be available to address this ongoing problem.

Legacy wells exist in the Goleta Ellwood area, Summerland, and Huntington Beach.

Venoco bankrupt: And there's more good news for Goleta. Efforts to remove Venoco's Ellwood Onshore Facility (EOF) should proceed since Venoco's investment was fully amortized in 2009 according to a study.

What effect, if any, Venoco's recent bankruptcy filing will have on the City Council moving forward with an order terminating this nonconforming use is being monitored by Sierra Club.

Community Choice Energy (CCE) effort for the tri-county area is proceeding a bit more slowly so the feasibility study won't be done in time for this year's budget cycle. Once implemented, it means we will have local representatives determining our energy portfolio and the rates we pay for it.

Pollute suit: Environmental Defense Center filed a lawsuit against California Resources Corp. (CRC) for violations of the Clean Water Act at its 5,757-acre South Mountain oil field near Santa Paula.

The facility's runoff drains to the Santa Clara River and Calleguas Creek watersheds and, for at least the past five years, CRC has consistently reported storm water runoff containing pollutants at levels that exceed legal limits and pose risks to fish, wildlife and human health, according to EDC.

Fran Farina represents the Sierra Club's Los Padres Chapter on the Santa Barbara Environmental Coalition. The Coalition monitors all energy activity in three counties.

New peaker plans cont'd

The proposal to build a natural gas-fired generating 'peaker plant' near Santa Paula instead of at Ormond Beach is still alive because the California Public Utilities Commission delayed a decision until May 12.

That means it is still open for comments, which was addressed by the Los Padres Chapter when activist Nina Danza wrote that the proposed Mission Rock Energy Project location "is extremely incompatible with the thousands of adjoining acres owned by The Nature Conservancy," and would be within a 100-year floodplain.

Another key issue is why are power plants predominantly located in low income communities? If that social justice theory applies to NRG's proposal along the Oxnard shore, then it may apply to the Santa Paula project too.

You can comment or read others at: <http://tinyurl.com/MissionRockEnergyCenter>

Ocean needs our help

The Los Padres Chapter is continuing to expand its campaign to find ways to avoid ships from colliding with whales in the Santa Barbara Channel, and has proposed to move international shipping lanes while others advocate reduced speeds.

We also advocate a ban on deadly drift gill nets off the coast. Both issues have met with resistance, but are currently undergoing analysis. To get involved, contact Jim Hines at:

Jhcasitas@gmail.com

Too, strong grassroots support from citizens and groups such as the Sierra Club are the driving force behind the initiative to establish the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary, which would be offshore from Cambria to Goleta.

Now being considered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, you can add your voice to the sanctuary issue by going to:

<https://chumashsanctuary.com>

Condor can on cam

Condor Chick was just hatched and you can see it on YouTube.

You can watch a rare live video of a California Condor chick hatching in front of its doting parents high above Kofords Ridge in the Sespe Condor Sanctuary on April 4.

Just minutes after the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service posted the live streaming web cam of a California condor nest in Ventura County, the chick hatched. The cam was installed on March 2

and alerted biologists on March 20 that the condors egg was missing. They sprang to action, first replacing it with a fake egg (so that the pair continued to nest) then on April 2 replaced it with a real egg from the L.A. Zoo.

The condor cam is a collaboration between the Santa Barbara Zoo, Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Watch it live at: <http://allaboutbirds.org/condors>

GO SOLAR The Sierra Club has partnered with Sungevity to make it easy and affordable for rooftop solar systems, and \$750 will go to your local chapter. Get a free quote and details at: <http://tinyurl.com/LosPadresSolar>

EVENTS

EDC's annual

Santa Barbara Environmental Defense Center is again having its biggest and most fun annual fundraiser known as the "Green & Blue, A Coastal Celebration" from 2-5:30pm June 12 at Rancho La Patera & Stow House, 304 N. Los Carneros Rd., Goleta.

Guests will enjoy music, live and silent auctions and socializing, along with celebrating this year's Environmental Hero. For tickets, go to: www.EnvironmentalDefenseCenter.org

Meanwhile EDC's lead attorney, Linda Krop has been honored as the 2016 Woman of the Year by State Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson and Assembly member Das Williams.

Ojai Wild

ForestWatch is having its 9th Annual Ojai Wild fundraiser at the Thacher School in Oja from 4-7pm on Sunday, June 5 at the Thacher School in Ojai.

The location has spectacular views of Ojai Valley and the Los Padres National Forest where a fun afternoon is planned featuring local craft beer and wines, live music, a gourmet supper, silent and live auctions, and more.

All proceeds from the event will benefit Los Padres ForestWatch in our efforts to protect and preserve our local backcountry. For info and reservations go to:

www.lpfw.org

Gorge opens

The Wheeler Gorge Visitor Center invites all to an open house during the afternoons of Saturday and Sunday, April 16 and 17, where you'll learn a lot about the Los Padres National Forest, with hands-on exhibits for young and old.

The center is managed by the Los Padres Forest Association with the goal of teaching how to take care of the forest and providing information for all user-groups of the forest. It's packed with information about the flora, fauna, geography, geology, natural history and trail/camp information of the Los Padres.

It is located about eight miles from the Ojai 'Y' intersection on Highway 33 (Maricopa Highway) just after going through the three tunnels

Backpack knack

Los Padres Forest Association is starting a new series of talks, films and mixers focused on the Los Padres Forest.

The first event is by columnist James Wapotich on backpacking the trails within the Santa Barbara wilderness areas at 6:30pm Tuesday, April 19 at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 112 W. Cabrillo St. in Santa Barbara.

The event is free for LPFA members or \$10 for non-members; all proceeds go to the LPFA Trail Care program. For details or to purchase tickets, go to: www.LPForest.org

GREETINGS FRIENDS

Our roots are local groups

By Jim Hines

One of the most powerful things about the Sierra Club is that we work on environmental issues starting at the local level right in the area which you live in.

Our Los Padres Chapter has four local groups in our chapter region of Ventura and Santa Barbara counties, two groups each in both counties. These groups are a great way for you to be involved in local areas of



interest to you.

(See box below for contact info on each group.)

Santa Barbara County

The **Arguello Group** represents northern Santa Barbara county. Currently chaired by Rebecca August this group works on issues in the Santa Ynez Valley, Santa Maria and Lompoc regions. Ongoing issues of oil drilling, protection of open space, wildlife protection and coastal issues are some of the many ongoing issues.

The **Santa Barbara Group** represents the coastal side of the Santa Ynez Mountains.

Chaired by Katie Davis, issues run the gamut from protecting the majestic Gaviota Coast down to the beautiful beaches of Carpinteria. On- and off-shore oil drilling, the drought, marine protected areas, coastal access and urban sprawl are just a few of the major issues confronting the Santa Barbara South Coast.

Ventura County

The **Ventura Sierra Club's** turf is in the western county area including Oxnard, Ventura and Ojai region consisting of Ormond Beach, Santa Clara and Ventura rivers, Los Padres National Forest and Channel Islands National Park. It is chaired by Elisabeth Lamar. Issues include on- and off-shore oil drilling, restoring Ormond, protecting the rivers and discouraging urban sprawl, among others.

Conejo Group works on issues in eastern Ventura County such as Santa Susana and Santa Monica mountains, Rim-of-the-Valley Corridor, and Liberty Canyon Wildlife Overpass over the 101 freeway. Chaired by Hugh Warren, the Group also hosts great trail maintenance events, such as adopting the Triunfo Canyon Trail near Thousand Oaks.

Join our Outings

These are just some of the many issues our chapter's four groups work on, and that's not all we do, we have fun and learn about nature as well.

Our Chapter has a great Outings Program, where Sierra Club hike leaders offer hikes for all levels into our natural world to enjoy, learn about and appreciate the natural beauty which we all work to protect. Current hikes are listed in the center section of this newsletter and always available on the website:

www.lospadres2.sierraclub.org

So if you would like to take part in one of the groups in the area you live in, please contact the group leaders listed in the directory on page 2. By working together, we can make our part of the world a model for protecting our great wild places and precious wildlife



Birdie 'caught' by a calf after a game of zig-zag, chasing each other, an image that speaks volumes about protecting the Gaviota Coast. (© Photo by Reeve Woolpert)

Right at home

By Reeve Woolpert

Stretched out with my back on the ground in a seaside Gaviota meadow, chewing on a stalk of wild rye, it's easy to feel boyish. Surrounded by acres of cows and rolling ranchland, lying in a green pasture with my gal, my hat and a happy puppy, it's easy to feel cowboyish.

Birdie, our Irish Setter, visited this wonderful place for the first time this morning. I've visited this place for half a century, making experiences and taking pictures and advocating its preservation. I've wanted it under my skin, to really know my home ground before they build their mansions and trails, or it becomes another park.

Carole and I love being here; we have particularly enjoyed the opportunity to embrace an empty place not far from home. That feeling is changing though. Folks are coming. Over the last couple of years when I drive by searching further for that elusive elbow room and photographs, I count more and more parked cars at the gate.

All morning, Birdie had been having one of her joy fits, running in grass so broad and deep she seemed underwater. With a swoosh she'd suddenly zoom nearby, parting the sea of green like a red torpedo on a fated course. Having met her first cow, having rolled in her first cow pie, she lay for a while at our feet. After some time, a particularly curious calf eased up to where she and Birdie, tentatively and nose to nose, could smell and lick the muck on each other's faces.

A dozen or so cattle were soon around us when one a yard

away suddenly seemed too close. Carole stood up. The cow began dogging Birdie so she stood up. Then Birdie saw a chance for more fun. She and the cow ran this-away, then that-away, the two alternating who was chasing and being chased.

See visions of Gaviota

This coming May 13 and 14 is the Gaviota Coast Conservancy's fourth annual *Visions of the Gaviota Coast* show at Bacara Resort and Spa. Dozens of SCAPE artists will be exhibiting their Gaviota paintings, and I'll be showing more of my Gaviota photos.

The free reception is Friday, May 13, 5-8 pm at Bacara. The show is open Friday, May 13 1-8 pm and Saturday, May 14 10 am - 4 pm.

We hope you'll join us. Please call Janet Koed if you have any questions: 683-6631.

She let herself get "caught" and, before we could wrangle them apart, with the cow looming above her, sweet Birdie rolled over onto her back like she does for the dogs on the beach at home.

My photographs aren't about showing off distant places I've been and what I've seen. They're about wanting to render home ground more sharply, to focus on it more creatively, to more completely investigate its various compositions and discover new ones.

Los Padres Group News
The public is welcome to our programs

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

~ Executive Committee meets at 7pm on the fourth Thursday of every month, either in-person at the Carpinteria IHOP, or by conference call. Email Secretary Gerry Ching for the agenda and details: gching@cox.net

ARGUELLO GROUP

~ Board usually meets first Monday of the month at various locations and times. General meetings most months on 3rd Friday at Lompoc Presbyterian Church 1600 E. Berkeley Ave., usually with conservation program 7-9pm or 6-9pm when there are potlucks.

~Volunteers are needed as hike leaders and to monitor issues; your talents could make a difference.
~ All information on this North County Santa Barbara Group from Rebecca August, RebeccaAugust@mac.com

CONEJO GROUP

~ Get all information on this eastern Ventura County Group from Hugh Warren, 341-6295 hkwarren.net

~ Web: www.sierraclub.org/los-padres/conejo

~ Outings: www.sierraclub.org/los-padres/conejo/outings

SANTA BARBARA GROUP

~ Usually meets at 11:30am on the first Monday of the month at Union Bank, 15 E. Carrillo St. View the calendar, hikes and issues and join the mailing list for the South Coast Santa Barbara area (Carpinteria to Goleta) at www.SBSierraClub.org or follow us on Facebook.

VENTURA NETWORK

~ Up-to-date information about the western Ventura County group in *Condor Call* on the Los Padres Chapter website. Address: PO Box 7301, Ventura CA 93006. Also on Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Ventura-Sierra-Club/152441931434825

~New MEETUP site for hikes, outings and other fun stuff in Ventura County:

www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura

~ Regular board meetings 1st Wed monthly at REI in Oxnard 7-8:30pm. Call Nina Danza to confirm at 901-1679.

Member honored by SBCAN

The Santa Barbara County Action Network (SBCAN) is honoring outstanding community leaders during its 2016 North County "Looking Forward" Awards Dinner on May 22.

One of the four honorees is Sierra Club activist for the Arguello Group, Rosemary Holmes. Each year, SBCAN honors individuals, businesses and organizations for their

outstanding contributions to the community, and Holmes is getting the award entitled: "Giving Back to the Community". The dinner will be held on Sunday, May 22 at 5 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel, 3455 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria.

Other recipients include Chuck Madson, (Looking Forward Award), Doug Jenzen (Environmental Protection & Sustainability Award), Patricia Solorio (Working Families Award) and Franca Lockard (Social Justice Award).

For details and to attend the dinner, go to: www.SBCAN.org

SB bike plan ok

Santa Barbara Group members lobbied hard for a master bike plan for the city of Santa Barbara and their efforts paid off as the council endorsed an ambitious goal of 15% bike commuters by 2030.

"This will make Santa Barbara one of the top bike cities in the nation," commented Group Chair Katie Davis, heading up a contingent of executive committee members which included Davis, Katie Mullin, Robert Bernstein, Martha Sadler, Alex Favacho and Alex Pujo, all of whom spoke in person.

While the city is ranked No. 10 of bike-friendly communities nationwide, Davis said, "We have lots of bikers and a city perfect for biking - which makes us so lucky. But we need a well-connected, city-wide network of bike lanes. We need to close major east-west gaps in the existing bicycle network."



Wildflowers in the hills are busting out all over and you'll have to get outdoors to see scenes like this in living color. (© Photo by DeniseDewirePhotography, see more on Flickr)

Life is colorful and so are we

Ask a friend to join

www.Sierraclub.org

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
Special Offer	<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

50 hardy, happy students take our wilderness course



A forward look to adventure on the Aliso Trail



A riot of wildflowers illustrated our hikes



Campfire stories, laughter, music and s'more

Beginners, day-hikers and experienced backpackers can always learn more to be safe and comfortable outdoors, and the Sierra Club's annual Wilderness Basics Course has been doing this for seven years now. Classroom instruction segues into outdoor adventures such as these from a recent car camp along Aliso Trail. Facebook: LosPadresWBC
See story on page 6

**Outdoor photos by Cara Peden;
Indoor photos by Condor John Hankins**



Essential Alisse Fisher teaching the Ten Essentials



**Teresa Norris
WBC Founder**



Jim Duliakis & Stephen Bryne show what to take