

Vol.'17, No. 3 of 6

June - July 2017

Condor Call

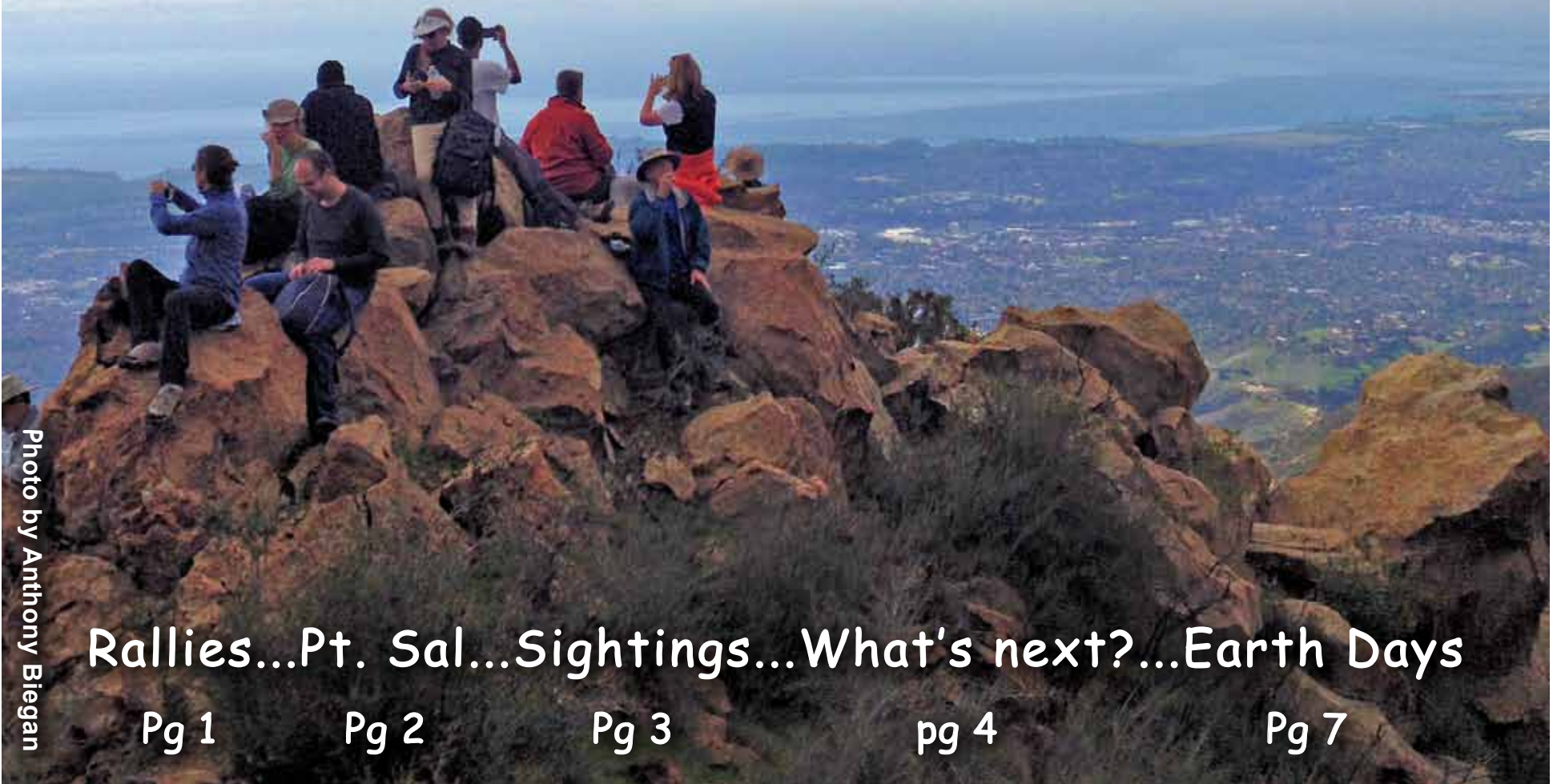
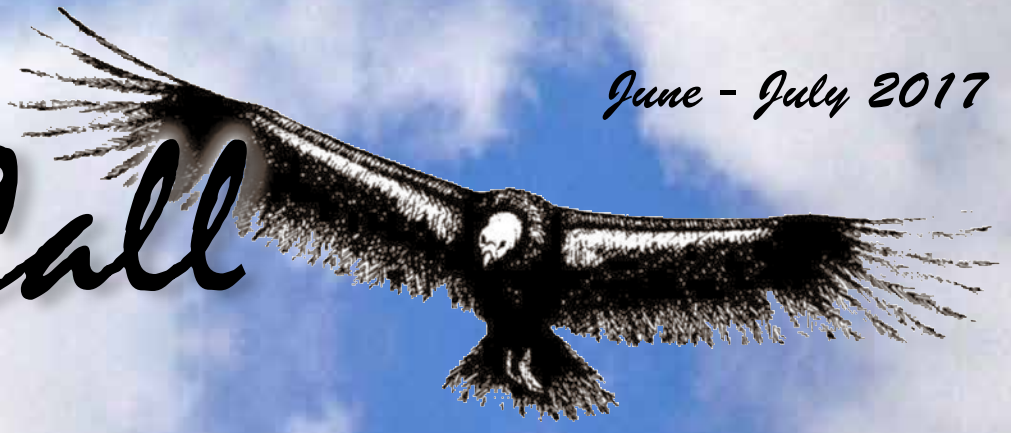


Photo by Anthony Biegan

Rallies...Pt. Sal...Sightings...What's next?...Earth Days

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The cultural and free-market drive to reduce pollution is a better bet than the ill-advised moves by Trump to gut numerous anti-pollution trends, noted a sign at the April 17 protest when Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke held an invitation-only Trump-rally talk in Santa Barbara. (Photo by Marian Shapiro)

To Zinke: you're no Teddy Roosevelt

An insider at the April 17 talk by new Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke at the Reagan Ranch Center in Santa Barbara shared many insights, not the least of which that "it was nothing but a Republican rally fanned by Zinke's remarks." Here's some highlights:

~ Zinke kept saying that he is a "Teddy Roosevelt" Republican when

EAVESDROPS

"The GOP in Congress ... is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the fossil fuel industry."

~ Bill McKibbin, co-founder of 350.org, talking about how the Peoples' Climate rallies in D.C. and across the country April 29 were not intended to change Mr. Trump's mind ("we can't"), but to mark a turning point to 100 percent clean energy sources, "not the all-the-above energy policy that the Obama Administration favored."

it comes to conservation. This is nonsense, as Roosevelt is considered the Father of Conservation who worked to preserve more than 170 million acres by designating many as National Parks or Monuments.

~ He believes that federal lands are an "overreach" by the government and he will be analyzing all of America's National Monuments (due to Trump executive order) to determine if their boundaries can be reduced or removed or opened to commercial enterprises. So much for being a Teddy Roosevelt conservationist.

~ The 600 or so protesters outside were mentioned by Zinke who claimed, "you'll notice how protesters never protest with facts."

~ He was very non-committal if Trump would lift the Obama-imposed ban on new oil drilling in the Pacific, but he did promise hearings will be held in Santa Barbara (required by law, by the way).

We persist, Venoco quits

Venoco is giving up its oil and gas interests in Platform Holly, three offshore state leases, its Ellwood onshore processing facility and wells drilled at the beach.

"This effectively ends commercial oil and gas production in state waters at this location in the Santa Barbara Channel," said Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom, "and returns operational control of these assets to the State Lands Commission."

Since California's Coastal Sanctuary Act prohibits the Commission from issuing new offshore leases it will now begin the process of decommissioning Platform Holly.

"We have waited for this day for a long time," said Fran Farina, on behalf of the Los Padres Chapter, Sierra Club, which is a member of the Gaviota Coast Conservancy. "The Sierra Club has been fighting oil development offshore Ellwood since the 1980s, when ARCO first wanted to build additional platforms next to UCSB."

"After a century of oil operations on this precious part of the California coast, these actions will lead to removal of three dangerous and visually intrusive oil and gas production facilities, restoration of degraded habitats, expanded public access, protection of Chumash

cultural resources, and expanded sustainable agricultural activities that have defined the rural character of Gaviota for over 150 years," said Michael Brown, president of the Conservancy.

He gave credit to "the decades-long work of the Environmental Defense Center, the Sierra Club, Get Oil Out and Citizens Planning Association."

Venoco reentered Chapter 11 bankruptcy on April 17, only nine months after a federal court approved its reorganization plan to reduce an estimated \$1 billion in debt. The reason was because Platform Holly was shut down after the May 2015 rupture of a Plains All American pipeline near Refugio Beach, and remains shut indefinitely. Without a way to transport or process its oil, Venoco filed for bankruptcy in July 2016.

The State Lands Commission "thanks Venoco employees for safely managing the State's oil and gas resources for the past 20 years," adding that Venoco generated \$160 million in state revenue from royalties and rent, "without any significant oil spills on state property."

For more information, read the Commission's Fact Sheet.

<http://tinyurl.com/VenocoFactSheet>

~ By John Hankins



ENORMOUS RALLY

'Science made America great'

By Robert Bernstein

Santa Barbara's version of the March for Science on April 23 was as large as the enormous Women's March back in January, at least 3,000 to 5,000 people gathered in De La Guerra, then filled State Street all the way past the freeway underpass.

I studied in the physics departments of three universities and I don't ever remember seeing a public rally for science. It was very gratifying.

The march was held in over 600 cities around the world, including Ventura, which only drew maybe 300 people at Mission Park. After a talk by Los Padres Chapter Chair Jim Hines, many of them marched through Main Street to the Botanic Garden trail behind city hall. At least six participants came from the Sierra Club's San Fernando Valley Chapter.

Gwendolyn Alley of the Art Predator helped organize the Ventura rally with John Golson and Heather Casanave. Video and photos of the Ventura rally are at:

www.artpredator.com

The global events were non-partisan and meant to affirm that public policy should be based on facts rather than on partisan ideology, such as one sign asserting "Science Made America Great" and another quoting Neil de Grasse Tyson: "The good thing about science is that it's true whether or not you believe in it".

One of the chants on the Santa Barbara march: "What do we want? Science! When do we want it? After peer review!"

Clearly, the immediate impetus for the rallies are the

attack on science research by the Republican administration. Not only does the planned budget cut science funding in almost all areas, but there is a prohibition of even discussing certain science, especially about climate change, a disturbing new trend from a Republican party that used to accept human-caused climate change as a factor.

The event was organized by SBCC biology student Jorie Mitchell, UCSB biological sciences student Hannah Armer

and Goleta Union School District board member Susan Epstein skillfully emceed the event. Epstein explained the science of education shows that early childhood education is most important and the district has expanded from two to six preschools based on that science.

State Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson led the speeches with detailed descriptions of the science budget cuts proposed by Trump and the Republican Congress. Next

continued on page 4



Actor Jeff Bridges presented the Community Environmental Council's Environmental Hero Award to businessman environmentalist Paul Hawken during Earth Days in Santa Barbara. (Photo by Robert Bernstein)

Climate advocates fight back

A U.S. Climate Alliance of states may make Trump irrelevant against his pull-out from the global Paris Accord. Numerous businesses and world leaders will also adhere to the principles anyway. Sierra Club is "going into overdrive." So are teens from the iMatter movement who asserted: "the President has shown a lack of compassion and understanding for the lives of those who will inherit this earth long after he is gone."

Keep up to speed

There are so many environmental insults spewing from the Trump Administration, it's hard to keep up. But the Sierra Club makes it easier. Just go to the weekly edition of Up To Speed billed as "an environmental news roundup for short attention spans":

sierraclub.org/uptospeed

It has such tidbits as wind-

turbine manufacturer Goldwind Americas offering unemployed coal miners free job training for positions at its wind farms in Wyoming, or reporting that the Trump budget allocates \$9 million to the Chemical Safety Board, but only for shutting it down!

This entertaining column can be sent to you by signing up online.



An impressive human formation of a sun and the words "100% clean power" was created at SBCC's La Playa Stadium on April 29 for the People's Climate March. Also, thousands of hand-written postcards to SB county supervisors and SB council members were given calling for a 100 percent renewable energy goal and to oppose new oil expansion. (Photo contributed)



As the sign warns, there's a treacherous slope on this part of the Pt. Sal hike and caution is advised. But after more than four miles of hiking, beach access here is only a short slide downhill. Lion Rock is in the distance, an important habitat for nesting birds and sea lions. (Photo by Keenan Donath)

Pt. Sal's a geological gem

By Keenan Donath

When the weather is right, there are few places better to be than atop the Point Sal hike, still tired from the steep uphill, but with a beach below and a view of Lion Rock.

Only a short drive from Guadalupe and adjacent to Vandenberg Air Force Base, it's like finding a bit of Big Sur. This time of the year it's a sight worth seeing for those willing to make the ten-mile trek. Comprised of more than eighty acres, there's plenty of land to appreciate.

The State Park and official National Natural Landmark has

become infamous for its relationship with Vandenberg and its rugged terrain. Access to Point Sal is subject to closure for missile launches and other base security reasons, even though the military outpost is barely visible when one is enjoying the panoramic views.

Point Sal is a source for both danger and intense scientific study. In 2015, a man was reported missing in September, while the spot was mentioned as a Geological Gem of California State Parks by the California Geological Survey in the same year. Caution is required by anyone who plans to hike down to the beach and back.

The land that runs along the coastline represents one of the most unique geological formations in California. The exposed rocks near the beach make up the Point Sal Ophiolite, an igneous rock formation that has been 165 million years in the making.

Ophiolite comes from the submarine eruption of oceanic crust and upper mantle material. The lava either cools under water or erupts onto land after it is exposed above the crust. At Point Sal and the property that lies slightly south, an approximately three-mile deep section of ophiolite is exposed on land.

This is the reason that geologists have garnered an appreciation for the remote State Park, but the presence of ophiolite also contributes to the instability of paths close to Point Sal's beach. An access road was shut down in the 1990s after rainfall from El Nino caused major gully erosion, and now the beach can only be reached by slowly sliding down a steep slope of loose rocks.

The waves that crash into the shores help to redistribute some of the excess land debris and keep the

small beach smooth year-round. But the larger waves continuously hit sensitive landslide areas made up of unstable material.

Despite the sketchiness of the terrain, Point Sal is home to some typical California plants and

HOW TO GET THERE

The trailhead can be reached by taking either Brown Road or Point Sal Road (depending on weather conditions and periodic closures by the Air Force Base). Access is allowed from sunrise to sunset and motor vehicles, bikes, and camping are strictly banned.

wildlife. To the sides of the hiking trail are thriving communities of coastal sage and chaparral. And as the springtime progresses, the pleasantly yellow plant of Giant Coreopsis will start to dominate the scenery.

Perhaps the most photographed part of Point Sal is Lion Rock, an important habitat. Located off the most western tip of the beach and inaccessible by humans, the small island is used mainly as a bird-roosting site and a home for sea lions for much of the year.

With double-digit mileage and more than 1200 feet of elevation change, hiking the full trail at Point Sal is not for beginners. Thankfully the view out to Lion Rock is only a couple miles into the trail and doesn't involve any dangerous maneuvering.

Whether you want to go on a casual hike to a sweet vista or do some exploring down by the beach, Point Sal is the place to be.

Editor's note: This hike was first published in the Santa Maria Sun.

Your donations fuel our mission

Please accept an immense thank you to every one of you who contributed money to our annual March Appeal, making it possible for all of us to be *catalysts of change*.

While we only ask you once per year, you can contribute anytime, and the simplest way is online ... make it monthly!. Just click on the 'Donate' link at our website:

<http://lospadres2.sierraclub.org>

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.

Your donations to the Los Padres Chapter stay local, supporting the incredible work our volunteers are doing in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties, which includes hundreds of free outings per year and first-class activism keeping our air and water safe from threats like pollution, fracking, off-shore oil drilling and unrestrained development.

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Photos, news, tips always welcome!

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Chapter chair Jim Hines addresses the climate rally in Ventura on April 29, and while it was much smaller (about 200+) than Santa Barbara's, it drew club members from Simi Valley who joined up with our contingent during the Mission Park rally. Hines is a prolific speaker at so many events here and beyond, as noted below. (Photo by Condor John)

SIGHTINGS

We're in the thick of it!

By John Hankins

April seemed like the busiest month ever in the fight for the environment and against ignorance. Our chapter was right in the thick of it, but to put it all in perspective was one of our busiest members, Chapter Chair Jim Hines, who said: "Yes, we are the resistance, but we also need to keep sane, happy and joyful. How do we do that? By taking "nature breaks" and spending time out in the great wild places of the Los Padres Chapter region. Wildflowers are still in bloom, the creeks and rivers are still running, wildlife abounds everywhere with babies being born, the weather is warm and pleasant, *so no excuse not to get out into nature!*"

Here's a list of that "thick of it."

June 3: "**Picnic with a Purpose**" sponsored by the Ventura Sierra Club at Linear Park featured BBQ, Books, Badminton and Bocce Ball in a Zero Waste Event that advertised "absolutely no alcohol," and so meaning attendants got zero wasted. Many thanks to Nina Danza and her volunteers. What fun it was.

June 4: **Fundraising events**, and the Sierra Club members were there: Green & Blue, Environmental Defense Center's annual at Rancho La Patera, and Los Padres ForestWatch's Ojai WILD! honoring the Thacher School where the event took place (and 25th anniversary of the Sespe Wilderness designation).

May 16: **Valley Sierran** newsletter featured our Chapter Chair Jim Hines in print talking about "Protecting Wildlife and Wild Places" and Sierra Club's "Protect Wild Utah campaign." Sierran noted his trips to Washington as a Club lobbyist and work with Cal/Neva Wildlife Team.

May 13: **Intrepid hike leader**, photographer and eco-writer Robert Bernstein married to Merlie Samonte at Santa Barbara's Carrillo Recreation Center.

May 12: **TGIF at EDC** sponsored by the Los Padres Chapter; lots of networking between activists in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties.

May 8: **What's Next** with Climate Change theme at LWV forum at Ventura College, asking all to "invite a skeptic to lunch," which featured our own Chapter Chair Jim Hines. (See story pg 4)

May 3 **Standing Rock** documentary by Josh Fox co-sponsored by Santa Barbara Group

at Main Library. Key issue was a movement encouraging banks to divest from that pipeline project and local and nation-wide push for cities and states to divest from banks that do finance polluting industries.

April 29: **Peoples' Climate March** in Washington, across nation and locally. See local accounts on pg 1 and national activity at: www.Peoplesclimate.org

April 25: **Activist Team** of Sierra Club sent out an alert about Trump signing an executive order to dissolve all national monuments created in the past 30 years. Alert "went viral" with thousands of people sending notes, tweets and phone calls to the White House. Issue now goes to Interior Dept. <gulp>

April 23: **March for Science** throughout the nation and locally. See story pg. 1.

April 21: **Arguello Group's** general meeting had 25 people in attendance! Program presented movie "Before the Flood" with discussion about Community Choice Energy and advice for club to actively oppose over 750 new oil wells in the North County.

April 20: **He's everywhere**, meaning our Chapter Chair Jim Hines, who on this date spoke to about 100 people of Ojai Indivisible Group and attended Oxnard High where a John Muir actor performed, arranged by member Irene Rauschenberger.

April 19: **Eco-Forum** by Rep. Julia Brownley in Camarillo attracted about 500 people interested in important environmental issues. Jim Hines was part of a panel with four other groups represented.

April 17: **Interior Secretary** Ryan Zinke was met with hundreds of protesters (club members were prominent) when he gave an invitation-only speech in Santa Barbara at the Reagan Ranch Center, featuring Trump's intention to drill more oil offshore, ironically in the city that was hardest hit during the 1969 oil spill in the Channel. (See story pg ?)

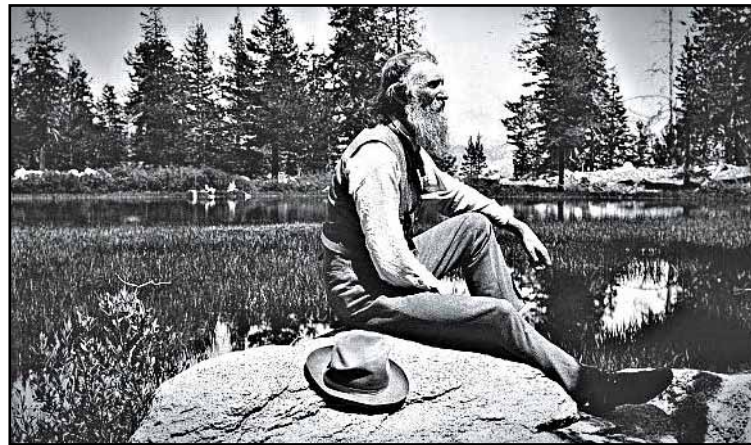
April 14-15: **Gaviota Coast Visions**, "The Jewel in our Backyard" is an annual art show and fundraiser for Naples Coalition and Gaviota Coast Conservancy at the Bacara Resort. Sierra Club is part of the Coalition.

April 11: **Indivisible Group** of the San Fernando Valley heard talk by our Chair Jim Hines.

April 8: **River Clean-up** at the Santa Clara River Gateway by

Ventura Sierra Club; ask to get on list for future projects at:

SierraClubVentura@gmail.com April 7: **Thousand Oaks Resist-Resist-Resist** Group meeting showed they work hard on issues, then take break as to not wear themselves out, Hines reports.



Thanks to club member Irene Rauschenberger who detected many youths don't know about John Muir or the Sierra Club, which he co-founded. She invited Educator Frank Helling, who portrays the iconic naturalist, to talk at Oxnard High School on April 20 on behalf of the Ventura Sierra Club. "At the end of the event it was heartwarming to hear the students' inspired applause." Irene said. (Photo contributed)

Buy or sell gear

Buy or sell your unused outdoor or sports equipment at the Sierra Club Gear Grab July 22.

Want to try out a new sport without a big investment? Come get sports at the Gear Grab. Need to outfit kids? Here's the chance to get more for less at the Gear Grab.

It all happens on Saturday, July 22 at the Working Artists Ventura courtyard, 175 S. Ventura Ave from 10am to 5pm.

Here's how it works:

~ 9am drop off your good quality outdoor equipment and books tagged with price, name, email and phone info. Tag every individual item. If there's

no tag, how will you get paid later? No stick-on tags allowed. Most sports equipment accepted including: camping, water sports, fitness, winter clothing, maps and more.

~ 10am – 5pm sales open and we'll cashier for the day. Invite family, neighbors, and friends. If you want to place a notice on your Facebook go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/GearGrabFlyer>

~ 5pm Pick up your unsold gear. *No exceptions.* Items left will be taken directly to thrift store of our choice.

About two weeks later we'll send you a check half of what you sold; the other half will be

EAVESDROPS

"What's the best thing to do in wake of the political earthquake? **VOLUNTEER for the environmental side!** Here's how ..."

~ Nina Danza, chair of our Ventura Sierra Club in announcing a series of restoration opportunities at the Hedrick Ranch Natural Area along the Santa Clara River. (See Outings for these opportunities)

EVENTS

June & July: **Saturdays at Wheeler Gorge** at 11am presents its summer schedule featuring outdoor demonstrations and talks for only \$3 for adults, \$2 for youth 5-12; sponsored by the Los Padres Forest Assn. Coming up are events about "Hiking: Be Prepared," Reptile show and tell, Humane Society surprises, backpacking demo, saving the condor, volcanoes, trees, and flora in the forest. For details go to:

<http://lpforest.org/wheeler-gorge-event-schedule>

June 7: **Community Choice Energy**, in which residents can govern their own energy sources, will be the topic of a public forum sponsored by the Sierra Club. Come hear the success stories of other areas at 5:30pm, June 7 at the Santa Barbara Downtown Library.

June 8: **Whale Whisperer** lecture by authors **Keith Hale and Carolyn Gorman** about exploring the latest in cetacean science, 7pm at SB Maritime Mvsevm. Details at www.sbmm.org

June 17: **Medicinal Plant** workshop at 9am Cluff Vista Park, a native plant garden in downtown Ojai, featuring USC's James Adams. Info at www.HerbWalks.com

Jun 19: **Wilderness Bill** will be officially introduced by Rep. Salud Carbajal, the anniversary date of the original Los Padres National Forest bill. Called the Central Coast Heritage Protection Act, it would protect close to 300,000 more acres of wilderness in the forest throughout Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties.

July 2: **Impeachment March** against "Donald Trump's extreme disregard for the Constitution is a profound subversion of the Office of the President," gathering at 4pm at 800 S. Victoria Ave., which is the County Gov't Center as well as the County Jail!

July 22: **Gear Grab**, (used outdoor gear sale) hosted by the Ventura Sierra Club, with help from our Wilderness Basics Course. Buy or sell your unused outdoor or sports equipment at the Working Artists Ventura courtyard, 175 S. Ventura Ave from 10am to 5pm. (See story on this page)

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

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 www.facebook.com/sbsierraclub

ARGUELLO GROUP

NOW ON FACEBOOK; keep in touch with our SB North County Group at: <http://tinyurl.com/ArguelloGroup>
~ General meetings with potluck and programs during most months on 3rd Friday at Lompoc Presbyterian Church 1600 E. Berkeley Ave. at 7pm, or 6pm when there are potlucks.
~Volunteers are needed as hike leaders and to monitor issues; your talents could make a difference.
~ Questions? Contact RebeccaAugust@mac.com or 350-0629.

VENTURA NETWORK

~ Up-to-date information about the western Ventura County group on Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/VenturaSierraClubFB>
~New MEETUP site for hikes, outings and other fun stuff in Ventura County: www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura
~ Regular meetings 1st Tuesday monthly at REI in Oxnard 7-8:30pm. Check before attending at: sierraclubventura@gmail.com

CONEJO GROUP

~ Get all information on this eastern Ventura County Group from Hugh Warren, 341-6295 mail@hkwarren.net
~ Web: www.sierraclub.org/los-padres/conejo
~ Outings: www.sierraclub.org/los-padres/conejo/outings

Science rallies attract thousands

Continued...from page 1

was Dr. Karl Hutterer, emeritus director of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. He detailed how Trump's appointees to the Environmental Protection Agency, Interior Department and other agencies are trying to reverse progress in science.

One of the common themes of both marches was urging the public to go out in nature to appreciate what is there, and bring the kids! Denise Knapp of the Santa Barbara Botanical Garden and Jim Hines in Ventura emphasized that theme and to

realize that the people do have the power to change and fight against ill-advised policies.

Another common theme of both local marches was the damage occurring from ocean acidification that is killing coral reefs and other marine life. Debbie Iglesia-Rodriguez, an oceanography professor at UCSB reminded us that science is all about questioning what you believe.

The Santa Barbara march ended at Alameda Park where Earth Day events were happening all weekend. Actor Jeff Bridges

presented the Community Environmental Council's Environmental Hero Award to businessman environmentalist Paul Hawken, who later spoke at UCSB based on his new book "Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming".

To see photos and videos, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/SBSciMarch2017>

Editor's note: John Hankins contributed info about the Ventura rally.



The March for Science event in Ventura April 29 was conceived by Gwendolyn Alley who thought a "Thermo-Climb" up the Botanic Garden trail would be the perfect artistic expression of Climate Change (see page 1 photo of Santa Barbara's artistic expression). Participants hiked in hue wearing colored shirts "of a human rainbow switch-backing up the hillside" that evoked a temperature gauge. See more photos at <https://artpredator.com> (Drone photo by Mike Love)



The Science March in Santa Barbara April 23 was as large as the Women's March in January, and here they are downtown, marching down State Street, that great street. (Photo by Robert Bernstein)

What's next for climate change?

By Robert Chianese

The forum on "Climate Change is Here to Stay...So What's Next?" at Ventura College featured two scientists revealing global insights, topped off by a Sierra Club activist making them relevant locally.

Sponsored by the League of Women Voters and Ventura College on May 6, the forum also delved into ways to reverse climate change damage and what individuals could do about it.

Prof. David Lea of UCSB laid out the arguments for human use of fossil fuels as the key contributing factor to global warming, and if people came as skeptics, they would have been hard put to maintain their position. Lea began with the claim that scientists are 99.9% sure that we are the source of global warming, but they are only 40% confident that we will respond because of social arguments.

He explained the "Keeling Curve," the steady rise of atmospheric CO2 from the 1960s to the present, illustrating with the very simple and persuasive analogy that adding carbon dioxide to the atmosphere is like increasing the intensity of the sun itself.

There are key points along a timeline from 1880 that are influenced by high industrialization in the late 19th century, and a huge rise during wartime and postwar production. The atmosphere does indeed follow our economic and social trends.

Prof. Sangwon Suh, also of UCSB, dealt with the costs to countries and individuals. We personally will not escape economic whipping from our damage to the planet, he said, but that is not well understood because the discussion is often abstract; for instance, a 2% rise in atmospheric CO2 seems like no big deal.

Making it personal, Suh told of a Norfolk homeowner who paid \$360,000 for her house but frequent floods due to sea level rise reduced its value to \$180,000, while her

insurance went up to \$6,000 per year. Imagine the costs Californians would experience with our more expensive land values, although sea rise here is less dramatic due to our shoreline's incline into the open Pacific.

I'd add that Californians might have to pay for dam and levee repair due to our intensified rain years coupled with increased fire insurance and damage due to our intensified drought cycle. Global warming changes lots of things.

There are plenty of local examples, said Jim Hines, the Sierra Club's Los Padres Chapter Chair.

In Oxnard, locals are fighting the site on the beach, proposed for the Puente Power Plant, which would be affected by rising tides, Hines said. There are also threats by the Trump administration to override the Clean Air and Clean Water acts and open the Santa Barbara Channel to new oil drilling.

Hines reminded us that we should contact our politicians to oppose fracking and new oil projects, which are addressed in the California Clean Coast Act sponsored by local officials. But we do not have to restrict our comments to local representatives.

On a global scale, a key action is for the U.S. to stay in the Paris Climate Agreement, which enables individual countries to commit themselves to lower levels of CO2. Trump's recent meeting on this subject overseas was "very dissatisfying," said German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and he did pull out.

During a lively Q & A, some novel or compelling ideas were presented, such as to "geo-engineer" the planet by making clouds out of particles that block sun light, or by sucking out the carbon and sinking it somewhere. Also, reducing warming by using electric vehicles is helpful only if electricity is generated by solar and/or wind.

~ Editor's note: Dr. Chianese is a CSU Northridge professor emeritus and a local Sierra Club member.

... water sports ... bicycle accessories ... clothing ... hiking ...

Got gear getting dusty?
How about a chance to get equipped for less \$\$?
COME TO THE VENTURA SIERRA CLUB

GEAR GRAB

DATE: SATURDAY JULY 22
LOCATION: 175 S. VENTURA AVE.
WAV (WORKING ARTIST VENTURA) COURTYARD
TIME: 10:00AM - 5:00PM

BUY & SELL

SELLER RULES & INSTRUCTIONS
Seller agrees to receive 50% per item sold, 50% donation to Ventura Sierra Club
All sales made through Sierra Club cashier, payment to seller will be made approx. 2 weeks after the event

1. Bring gear in good condition 9am-10am
2. Tag EVERY ITEM with: NAME, PRICE, PHONE, EMAIL (no stick-on tags)
3. Place Items in Designated Areas
DO NOT LEAN ANYTHING ON THE WALLS
4. Retrieve all unsold items at 5pm
ANY ITEMS LEFT WILL GO TO CHARITY SAME DAY

Questions: SierraClubVentura@gmail.com

... hiking ... snow shoes ...
... children's gear ... camping ...
... surfing ...
... climbing ...
... foot wear ... rock climbing ... outdoor cooking ... boating ...

Catch rain

A three-part series on "Harvesting Rain in Ventura County" by reporter Tim Pompey answers the complicated question of "why don't we work harder to capture (rain) rushing down rivers and creeks and out to the ocean?"

Printed in the Citizen's Journal, part I lays out its complexity: "Storm water capture depends on where in the county you live. If you're in Ojai, the answer is different than if you live in Simi Valley. If you're in Oxnard, the answer is different than if you live in Thousand Oaks. Consequently, there's no one size fits all solution. It depends on geographic and urban variables, including the considerable costs involved to update storm water infrastructures."

It's a question pondered by the local chapter of the Sierra Club.

To read the wealth of information in the series, go to: <http://citizensjournal.us>

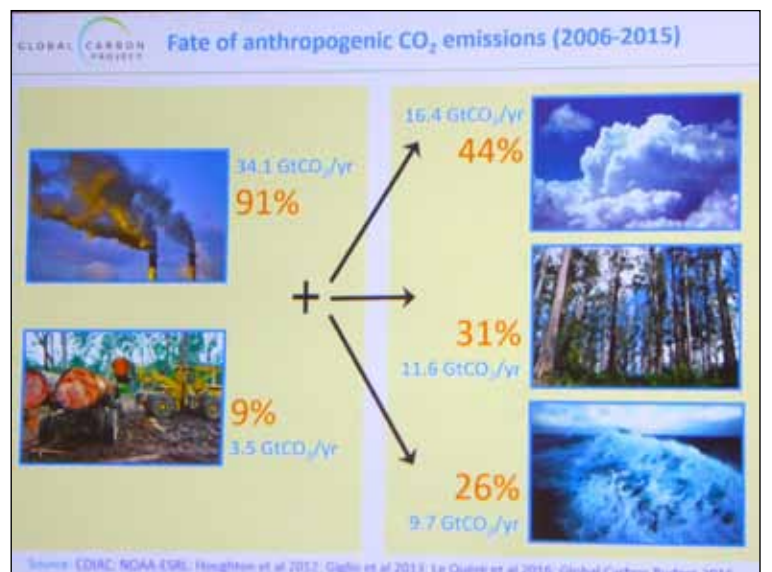


Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Preserve the Future

Not everyone can make a large gift to protect the environment during their lifetime, but you can preserve the environment for generations to come by remembering Sierra Club in your will. There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more information and confidential assistance, contact:
Sierra Club
Gift Planning Program
2101 Webster St.
Oakland CA 94612
gift.planning@sierraclub.org • (800) 932-4270



Troubles ahead via D.C. budget impacts

By Jim Hines

The proposed Fiscal Year 2018 budget released by the Trump Administration will have a profound negative impact on wildlife, ocean protection and land resources in the Los Padres Chapter region, including the nation's symbol, the bald eagle!

The Sierra Club keeps up on these profound changes via our local and national websites and via Sierra Club California. (See story on page 1)

To read the scope of deep cuts into the Environmental Protection Agency, check out the Washington Post's story on this subject here: <http://tinyurl.com/DeepCutsEPA>

Meanwhile, here's a list of just some of the potential problems affecting us locally:

~ Elimination of royalties paid from offshore oil drilling, often used to purchase national parklands and state and city grants for local parklands.

~ Elimination of the federal Marine Mammal Commission which via the Endangered Species Act and affects wildlife in the Santa Barbara Channel area.

~ Eliminating regulations on the use of longline drift nets in the ocean, which entangle and kill hundreds of marine mammals, also affecting our Channel waters.

~ Major reduction in funding affecting our Los Padres National Forest.

~ Funding for creating roads on national public lands which are

now currently in Roadless status.

~ 25% reduction in Endangered Species Act protections that may impact over 50 species in the local forest and ocean, notably America's symbol, the bald eagle, along with the condor, brown pelican, least tern peregrine falcons, otters and sea lions!

~ Elimination of six climate change programs redirecting those monies to fossil fuel development on public lands.

~ National Park land acquisition funding has been frozen as has other land acquisition programs of BLM, Forest and Fish and Wildlife Service.

~ Proposed budget also directs Dept. of the Interior to look at privatization of national wildlife refuges. Managing America's wildlife by private companies.

We will now begin the process of working with the House Committee on Natural Resources, which oversees and will hold hearings on the portion of the proposed 2018 budget which include all Interior programs and agencies, ocean related agencies, drilling and mining, wildlife and national park and other public lands and climate change programs.

The budget is the MOST powerful tool any Presidential Administration has to do positive or negative actions for protecting our environment.

Money or lack of it determines everything.



Venoco's Oil Processing Facility for Platform Holly that will now be dismantled. This aerial is part of the California Coastal Records Project which entails keeping a photographic record of whole coast. Read more info at: www.Californiacoastline.org (Copyright © 2002-2017 Kenneth & Gabrielle Adelman)

ENERGY UPDATE

Oil's well that ends wells

By Fran Farina

Venoco Exits - Even "newer" news than our last update. Venoco's last, best hope for expansion in the South Ellwood Field died when two State Lands Commissioners came out publicly against the application.



This defeat -- coupled with no revenue coming in from Platform Holly for two years due to the shutdown of the Plains oil pipeline -- left them in bankruptcy, but now contemplating total liquidation of their assets.

While Venoco quitclaimed their

Ellwood leases back to the State and surrendered the \$22 million surety bond, here's what we're left with. The State is hiring an engineering firm to abandon the 30 wells on Platform Holly and the two wells on Lease 421 piers. That process is estimated to take 18 - 24 months and will require use of the Ellwood Onshore Facility (EOF) to process hydrogen sulfide that remains in the wells.

Estimates just for these activities (\$27 to \$35 million) plus management fees of \$1 million per month total \$55 to \$60 million.

Next comes actual "decommissioning" of Platform Holly, maybe a two to three-year process, estimated at \$120 million or more, especially if there is soil contamination. Venoco's predecessor, Mobil (now Exxon/Mobil) may still be on the hook for these costs, but they're not exactly rushing in with a check and the State anticipates litigation. It's also possible that Mobil might eventually do the work.

Meanwhile, there are Venoco assets tied up in the bankruptcy like the EOF, the Ellwood Marine Terminal, and Line 96. Watch for a town hall meeting in Goleta to discuss all of this. Also, there ought to be some serious policy examination at the state level to address the obvious inadequacies of its leasing process.

Community Choice Energy is a wave of the future in which residents can control energy costs. A free public forum sponsored by the Sierra Club is at 5:30pm Wednesday, June 7, at the Santa Barbara Downtown Library. It's an opportunity to learn about efforts to locally control energy costs, featuring panel members from other areas where it's been successful.

Summerland Leaks, via the old, abandoned Becker Well polluting the surf, has a remediation draft report out for circulation, and public comments are due by July 5. It would bring abandonment one step closer. Meanwhile drones are being used to spot oil concentrations. For info and to comment, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/BeckerDEIR>

A.Q. in D.C. saw a direct assault on air quality and climate defeated in Congress by a 49-51 vote. This attempt to roll back a rule governing methane releases from drilling on public and tribal lands was made possible by a public outpouring against the effort. It proves that we can prevail against the Trump administration and Congress when we all push in the same direction.

Stop in the name of Science. Kudos to Earthjustice (previously the

Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund) on behalf of Los Padres ForestWatch and the Center for Biological Diversity lawsuit settlement forcing the Trump administration to halt plans to open more than 1 million acres of public land and mineral estate in California to oil drilling and fracking. The Bureau of Land Management must now do a new environmental analysis of the pollution risks of fracking. Previously BLM did not require any environmental analysis of fracking.

Fran Farina represents the Sierra Club's Los Padres Chapter on the Santa Barbara Environmental Coalition. The Coalition monitors all energy activity in the tri-county area.

Ocean areas in jeopardy

Marine Protected Areas (MPA) are under a ten-year review, but with the Trump Administration's policies friendly to the oil industry, they could be modified or scrapped without a fight.

Any such changes would severely impact the local Channel Islands Marine Sanctuary and various other MPAs throughout California. That's why the Sierra Club has sent a strong letter asserting: "After ten years, scientists have determined that these reserves work." Club chapters and others were warned by Kathryn Phillips of Sierra Club California that, without strongly supporting MPAs, "it could end up that comments are only filed by the oil and gas and minerals industries that would like to get rid of marine sanctuaries like this."

Katie Davis, chair of the Santa Barbara Group on behalf of the Los Padres Chapter, sprang into action with Doug Fetterly, chair of the club's National Marine Action Team to send strong comments to NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.

The letter reports that "between commercial and recreational fishing, sightseeing, diving and whale watching, the

combined economic impact exceeds \$91 million per year and supports over 1700 jobs . . . any reversal of the rules would lead to decline and elimination of the economic benefits."

The economic benefits are just one aspect, but one that would tend to tickle the fancy of the current Administration. Just as or more important is that "this is a unique and valuable ecosystem that requires protection through continuation of the MPAs."



ACTION ALERT: Comments are needed by July 20. Photo shows Bears' Ears in Utah, just one of the 27 national monuments that is considered "Ground Zero" for Trump's executive order that may revoke protections and/or open them up to oil or mining extraction. Carrizo Plain in San Luis Obispo is also on the list and has a specific website to submit a comment at www.SavetheCarrizo.org

To comment on all or other specific areas (such as nearby San Gabriel Mountains), go to <http://monumentsforall.org>

You may also telephone Secretary Zinke at (202) 208-7351 or tweet @SecretaryZinke. (© Panoramic photo by Tim Peterson)

Simple ways to fight back

Editor's note: The Sierra Club has a 125-year history battling for the environment, with lawyers and lobbyists in Washington, but mostly the cadre of three million members who work local, state and national issues in their spare time. The club makes it simple to be active, and easy to donate your time or money to the cause.

Here's how to help, locally and nationally, through targeted actions and/or donations that bolster our volunteer work.

~ Coordinate your passion or hobby with Team Sierra Club to raise essential funds for the fight. Details at: www.TeamSierra.org

~ Did you love the vibes from the women's and climate marches after the inauguration but are wondering where to go from there? The Sierra Club's free streamlined

activist network is not only a great way to stay active NOW, it keeps track of your activism and makes it simple to communicate with legislators at: www.addup.org

~ Sierra Rise is an online community working to create a world with justice, sustainability, and genuine democracy for everyone. Read or tell your stories at: <http://content.sierraclub.org/sierrarise>

As for donations, the most direct way is to contribute to our local chapter (SB and Ventura counties) online at: www.SierraClub.org/donate/1000

~ Amazon shoppers can designate the Sierra Club to get a small portion of your purchases (at no extra charge). Sign up at: www.smile.Amazon.com

~ Buy Sierra Club paraphernalia, be it a shirt, outdoor and shopping bags, calendars and cards. You can also adopt an animal in which your donations go directly to the activity you choose (great for kids). Click on 'store' at: www.SierraClub.org

~ Interested in solar panels for your house or business? Backed by the club, you get \$1,000 off the price and another \$1,000 goes to the local chapter. Get free estimate at: www.SC.org/SolarPrint

~ Other ways to donate include signing up for a Sierra Club credit card, leaving a legacy in your name to the Sierra Club in your will, donate a car and many other methods; go to: www.SierraClub.org

~ If you're not a member, join. If you are a member, ask friends to join or gift a membership.



Take a Hike!

LOS PADRES CHAPTER

UPDATES: <http://lospadres.sierraclub.org>

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>

June 10
PHOTO BASICS WORKSHOP AS THE SUN SETS: 5pm. Beginner nature photo composition basics in dramatic late afternoon beach lighting. Take home a mini instruction booklet for future reference. Donation requested at the beginning of the outing \$5. Total distance about 2 miles, no elevation change, trail and sand walk. Bring water, snack, and sun protection. Donations benefit equipment at the Ormond Beach Arnold Road entrance. No dogs please. Meet at the end of Arnold Road. Contact: NINA at sierraclubventura@gmail.com. (VEN)

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 in parking lot near Freddy's just before the Shell Station on Hampshire Road in Thousand Oaks at 7:30am for carpooling or meet at 8am at the La Jolla Canyon parking lot next to the trailhead (with fee \$8) or La Jolla Canyon parking on PCH. FONTAYNE HOLMES 300-4590 (CJ)

June 10-11
SHEEP CAMP BACKPACK

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>

TRIP: This area near Frazier Park will remind you of camping in the Sierras! We'll backpack 4.75 miles from the parking lot (elevation 8,321 ft.) at the end of Mt. Pinos Rd. to Sheep Camp (elevation 8,221 ft.), gaining about 1,500 and losing about 1,500 feet along the way. We'll hike through soaring evergreens to reach the 8,847 ft. summit of Mt. Pinos, the highest point in Ventura and Kern County, then hike to the second highest peak in the county, Sawmill Mountain, before reaching our campsite. Adventure Pass required for each car. Limit 8 hikers. For more details and to sign up, email TERESA at teresahnorris@earthlink.net. (VEN)

June 11
CHUMASH TRAIL-LA JOLLA VALLEY-MUGU PEAK: 8am. Moderate 4.5 mi loop hike with 1,100 feet elevation gain. Steep steady climb for the first 1/2 mile, which is crowded with hikers and runners. Then leave the crowds behind and enter the scenic La Jolla valley for several miles. We'll take a spur to the top of Mugu Peak for a refreshment break and then return to the main trail and back to parking. Bring 2 liters water, snacks, and sun protection. Wear good hiking shoes. Meet at the free trailhead parking on PCH but arrive early because it fills up FAST (across from the Navy firing range and northerly of Mugu Rock). Contact: NINA at sierraclubventura@gmail.com. (VEN)

June 12
MONDAY MORNING WALK Meet at 8:30am at Mission Plaza shopping center in Ventura on Main St. or at 9am at the corner of Park and Beach (Port Hueneme) for low tide beach walk for about 2 hours. For more info call PHILIP & LORA at 218-2103. (VEN)

June 14
CENTURY LAKE - MALIBU CREEK STATE PARK: Easy-moderate 4 mrt hike with 400' elev. gain along the Yearling and Lookout Trails. Bring water, food and wear lug-soled shoes. Take 101 Freeway to Kanan Road exit, south on Kanan to a quick left turn at Cornell. Meet 8am at the Ronald Reagan Ranch Parking Lot off Cornell Road on left just passed Mulholland Hwy.

FONTAYNE HOLMES 300-4590 (CJ)

June 16
CARPINTERIA - FRANKLIN CANYON: Strenuous 10.4 miles round trip, with 2,350 ft. of elevation gain. We will start from trailhead at Carpinteria High School to first climb 3.2 miles to Ducas Family bench, then continue climbing 2 more miles for lunch before turning around. Allow 5.5 hrs for hike. Carpinteria Valley and ocean views highlight this hike. MEET at 7:30am at Ventura carpool at Seaward and Harbor between Carrows restaurant and Chase Bank. Bring 10 essentials, hiking boots and poles, 3 qts. of water, and snack/lunch. Hiking poles, sunblock, sun hat and insect repellent recommended. Rain or temperature above 85F cancels. PHILIP & LORA 218-2103 (VEN)

LOWER NEWTON CANYON - BUZZARD'S ROOST: Moderate 8 mrt hike with approx. 1,000' gain. Bring water, food and wear sturdy hiking boots. Meet at trailhead off Kanan Road before third tunnel at 8:30am. LILLIAN TREVISAN 498-1623. (CJ)

June 16-22
ESCALANTE BACKPACK: The first part of this 37 mile backpack covers 11 miles in Harris Wash, then 12 miles along the Escalante River, and finally 14 miles out 25 Mile Wash. The entry and exit washes have narrows, large alcoves, and side canyons that become slot canyons. Along the river we will take day hikes to explore Choprock Canyon and Neon Canyon. Be prepared to get your feet wet - hiking may be easier in the river if the banks are choked with tamarisk. Trip requires a car shuttle, high clearance vehicles best. Limit 10. DAVID HARDY, 702-875-4826, hardyhikers@embargmail.com, email preferred. (S. Nevada Group)

June 17
RED ROCK SWIM: (6 mile round trip 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. 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. DIANE 455-6818 (SB)

SATWIWA NATURAL AREA, SANTA MONICA MTNS. NATIONAL RECREATION AREA & POINT MUGU STATE PARK: Satwiwa Parking Lot to Waterfall returning via Windmill trail. About 5 mile hike. Moderate terrain, easy pace. Bring 10 essentials plus food and water and hiking shoes. Meet in the parking lot (Satwiwa) off Lynn Road, Newbury Park at 10am. Kim Hocking 983-2147 (VEN)

June 19
MONDAY MORNING WALK: Meet at 8:30am at Mission Plaza shopping center in Ventura near Main St. or 9am at Lake Casitas parking lot to do circle by the lake for about 2 hours. For more info call PHILIP & LORA at 218-2103. (VEN)

June 23
MALIBU CREEK STATE PARK: Moderate 7-8 mrt hike. Bring water, food and wear sturdy hiking boots. Meet at 8:30am at trailhead. Take Kanan Road, turn left at Cornell Road, cross Mulholland Hwy., quick left into parking lot. LILLIAN TREVISAN 498-1623. (CJ)

June 24
MONTECITO PEAK - ANNUAL SUNSET HIKE: Celebrate Summer Solstice with a late afternoon hike up a steep peak for a panoramic view of the South Coast. Enjoy a sunset supper. Strenuous 7.5 mrt. Bring lots of water, supper, flashlight. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 4pm. TONY 455-4212 (SB)

June 25
MIDLAND SCHOOL HIGH COUNTRY LOOP: We'll explore some of the Midland School trails on this moderate 5.5 mrt hike, including the High Country Loop returning via the Red Rock Springs trail. Bring water, a light lunch and sun protection. There is little shade and can be very warm. This hike involves a 1 hr drive to the trailhead on Figueroa Mtn Rd. Rain cancels. Meet at 9am at the Bank of America parking lot, Hope Ave & State St. If you are coming from north of Santa Barbara, you can meet us at the trailhead. Email me for instructions. GERRY 964-5411, gching@cox.net (SB)

June 26
MONDAY MORNING WALK Meet at 8:30am at Mission Plaza shopping center in Ventura near Main St. to walk to harbor on trail and return for about 2 hours. For more info call PHILIP & LORA at 218-2103. (VEN)

June 30
POINT DUME to PARADISE COVE BEACH WALK - ZUMA BEACH: Join us for a peaceful walk along the waters' edge and to Paradise Cove (tide permitting). Some rock scrambling. Bring water, food and wear appropriate footwear. Meet at beach at 8:30am Tide at 9am 0.7 feet decreasing; at 11:30am 1.4 feet increasing. Take Kanan to PCH, turn right to Westward Beach Road, drive down to end and meet across from Sunset restaurant. LILLIAN

TREVISAN 498-1623. (CJ)

July 1
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, 4mrt. Bring water and lunch. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT 685-1283

July 1-3
FOURTH OF JUPLAYA: Expect several dozen people at this event on the edge of the Black Rock Desert about 100 miles north of Reno. This will be a busy weekend on the playa as many Burning Man attendees use this as a "shakedown" trip. We normally camp on the edge of the playa and visit hot springs, see the Lassen-Applegate branch of the Emigrant Trail, talk with new visitors, and similar activities. And there are usually large fireworks! The Playa is

continued next page

Hike leader training set

Our Los Padres Chapter hike leaders are all trained in first aid and day hike and backpack instruction to ensure our participants from the public can feel confident and safe. For questions or enrollment all these events, contact Teresa Norris at 805 524-7170 or teresahnorris@earthlink.net

Here's some upcoming training events:

Wilderness First Aid: We welcome and encourage all Chapter hike leaders to attend a half-day training, presented by Matt May of 4Points Expeditions. This class fulfills the first aid course required every four years for hike leaders, and the Chapter has generously allocated funds.

It occurs at Church of the Foothills in Ventura from 8am to noon on Saturday, Sept. 30.

If your first aid certification will expire before the fall of 2019, this would be the time to get recertified. Even if you've recently completed a first aid course, you are still eligible to enroll.

Hike Leader Training: If you're interested in becoming a hike leader, enroll in the Wilderness First Aid course described above after you have taken the on-line course OLT 101, offered through the Sierra Club "Clubhouse" website at:

<http://tinyurl.com/SClubOLT101>

After completing these two courses, you will need to lead a provisional day hike and be evaluated on it to finalize your certification.

Backpack Leading: On Saturday, Oct. 21, we're holding a one-day training for Los Padres hike leaders who would like to become certified to lead overnight backpack trips. The class will be out on a trail in the Ojai area. To qualify, you must be a currently certified Sierra Club hike leader (OLT 101 and First Aid within the past four years). After completing this course, you will need to lead a provisional backpack trip and be evaluated on it to finalize your certification.

Outings...from page 6

flooded as of the end of April, future conditions will dictate July activities but it will probably be dry by then. There's normally a potluck one night. There will also be a lot of Ham Radio activity so if you have a license, bring a radio! Call for repeater frequencies. DAVID BOOK, KD7YIM, 775/843-6443 (Great Basin Group)

July 2
RATTLESNAKE TRAIL - ROCKY PINE LOOP: Hike up Rattlesnake Trail and the Tunnel Trail Connector to an old primitive trail leading to Rocky Pine Ridge for lunch and then back to Rattlesnake. Some rock hopping. Strenuous 11 mrt. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ALEJANDRO 898-1240 (SB)

July 2-6
CENTRAL NEVADA BACKPACK: TWIN RIVERS LOOP, ARC DOME: This area has been described as one of "deep, rugged canyons, high bald peaks, elk and wet feet." The trip begins on the North Twin River, near Carver; about an hour's drive northeast of Tonopah, at an elevation around 6300 ft. After arriving at the trailhead we will hike in 2 or 3 miles to our first camp. The next day we will hike around another 5 miles and camp. On day 3 we do a day hike (bring a day-pack) to the top of 11,773 ft Arc Dome, 12 miles rt with 4100 ft. elevation gain. Day 4 sees the start down South Twin, with a camp after several miles. The last day is the hike out. 16 miles, 3000 ft. elevation gain with backpacks. The group has the option to do the trip in the opposite direction. Elevation gain to the top of Arc Dome is 300 ft less. Possibility of car pool or caravan from Las Vegas, details on trip sheet. Limit 12. DAVID HARDY, 702-875-4826, hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, email preferred. (S. Nevada Group)

July 3
MONDAY MORNING WALK: Meet at 8:30am at Mission Plaza shopping center in Ventura near Main St. or 9am behind Ventura city hall at trailhead to walk uphill on the trail to the Cross for about 2 hours. For more info call PHILIP & LORA at 218-2103. (VEN)

July 7
STUNT HIGH TRAIL to SADDLE PEAK: Moderate 8 mrt hike with 1000' elev. gain. See Ocean views. Bring water, food and wear sturdy hiking boots. Meet at trailhead at 8:30am. Take the 101 Fwy. to Las Virgenes Road south for 3.9 miles to a left onto Mulholland Hwy. and turn right onto Stunt Road and go approx. 1 mile and look for off-road patch of dirt on right to park. LILLIAN TREVISAN 498-1623. (CJ)

EDITOR'S PICK
 July 8
LAS CRUCES/ ORTEGALOOP: Hike from Las Cruces Adobe, to Hollister Trail to the overlook, then down the Overlook fire road to the Ortega trail and back to the car. This is all in the Gaviota State Park trails system on the west side of the freeway. Come see the other side of Gaviota. Approx. 7 miles round trip and moderately strenuous with some steep hills. DIANE 455-6818 (SB)

SYCAMORE TO BACKBONE TRAIL JUNCTION VIA OVERLOOK TRAIL: 3pm. Sea breeze and sunset in the summer. Moderate but long clockwise loop up Overlook Trail to Backbone Train junction and return

down Sycamore Canyon Trail. Total distance 10.2 mi and 1,360 feet elevation gain. Expect hot dusty conditions. Bring 2 or more full 1 liter water bottles, wear good hike shoes and sun protection. Picnic at the high point if winds allow. Meet at Sycamore Canyon trailhead inside Pt. Mugu State Park. Day use parking fee. Contact: NINA at sierraclubventura@gmail.com. (VEN)

July 14
MONTECITO: ROMERO CANYON: Strenuous 11 miles round trip, 2,400 ft. gain in a figure 8 loop. Because it may be hot in July we will first walk the exposed part of the trail that begins on the fire road and come down the shaded canyon above Summerland/ Montecito after lunch (near the water tank). At highest points along the trail you will enjoy stunning 360 degree views of the local mountains as well as the Channel Islands. Meet at 7:30am at Ventura carpool site at Seaward and Harbor between Carrows and Chase Bank. Bring 10 essentials, hiking/trail boots, 3 qts. of water, and snack/lunch. Hiking poles, sunscreen, sun hat and insect repellent recommended. Rain or temperature above 85F cancels. PHILIP & LORA 218-2103 (VEN)

Condor Cam
 Lots of viewing excitement about condor laying season with live videos. Catch the action at:
<http://tinyurl.com/CondorCams>

OLD CABIN SITE - POINT MUGU STATE PARK: Moderate 7 mrt hike with 1,000' elev. gain. Visit waterfall. Bring water, food and wear sturdy hiking boots. Meet at the end of Wendy Road in Newbury Park at Potrero trailhead in Newbury Park not later than 8:30am. LILLIAN TREVISAN 498-1623. (CJ)

July 14-16
JORDAN HOT SPRINGS BACKPACK: Join us on this moderate backpack to historic Jordan Hot Springs, located in the southern Sierras in the vicinity of Kennedy Meadows. The trail starts at nearly 9,000 feet, descends about 600 feet in the first 2 miles, then descends 2,000 feet over the next 3 miles to Jordan Hot Springs at about 6,400 feet. Once at the hot springs, we'll rest and soak in the old bathhouses (whatever is still standing) and basins we can find. Saturday we'll day hike to the Kern River and look for Nine Mile Falls and Painter's Cabin, a historical building, if it's still there. Happy hour and campfire stories. Sunday we'll backpack out. 5 hr. drive to trailhead from Ventura. Limit 8 hikers. Contact SUZANNE or TERESA for details and to sign up: suzanne@hiplaces.org or TERESA at 746-6030. (VEN)

July 16
SANTA YNEZ SWIM: (6 mile round trip 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. 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)

PHOTO BASICS WORKSHOP IN SUNSET LIGHT: 5pm. Beginner nature photo composition basics in dramatic sunset lighting. Take home a mini instruction booklet for future reference. Donation

requested at the beginning of the outing \$5. Total distance about 2 miles, no elevation change, trail and sand walk. Bring water, snack, and sun protection. Donations benefit equipment at the Ormond Beach Arnold Road entrance. No dogs please. Meet at the end of Arnold Road. Contact: NINA at sierraclubventura@gmail.com. (VEN)

July 21
MIDDLE MATILJA CAMP: Enjoy Middle Matilija Canyon, about 8 miles round trip, 900 ft. of gain. Sycamore trees, creek crossings, soaring canyon walls. We'll stop for an hour of lunch and relaxation at Middle Matilija camp. Bring water, hiking poles, lunch, sunscreen, and other 10 essentials. Meet at 8am at Ventura carpool site at Seaward and Harbor between Carrows and Chase Bank. Contact TERESA at 746-6030 (VEN)

July 22
TRESPASS TRAIL: Moderately strenuous 6 mile hike with an elevation gain of 2200. Get ready to see eye-popping views up and down the coast. We will ascend Trespass trail to a lovely Dell overlooking the coast. We will hike at a moderate pace or about 2 miles an hour, stopping for lunch, and 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 2-3 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

'GEAR GRAB' BUY/SELL EVENT: 9-5pm. Got unused equipment? Sell at the Sierra Club Gear Grab. Bring your good quality outdoor equipment tagged with price, name, email and phone info. We'll cashier for the day and send you a check for 50% after the event (50% of your sales will be donated to the club). Pick up unsold items by 5pm (NO EXCEPTIONS). Tag EVERY INDIVIDUAL ITEM (no stick-on tags allowed). Most sports equipment accepted including: camping, water sports, fitness, winter clothing, maps, books and more. Buy/Sell open to everyone. Location: Working Artists Ventura (WAV), 175 S. Ventura Ave, Community Room, 1st Floor. Questions? Contact: NINA at sierraclubventura@gmail.com. (VEN)

July 23
WEST FORK COLD SPRING TO LOOKOUT AND BEYOND: Start on Cold Spring Trail, cross stream and hike west up to the Homestead. Moderate, but steep 5 mrt. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT 685-1283

July 29
HOPE RANCH WALK: We'll roam the quiet roads in western Hope Ranch past several large estates. Expect some hills. Return via More Mesa paths. Easy 3-5mrt. Meet at 9am at the Bank of America parking lot at Hope and State streets. GERRY, 964-5411 (SB)

July 30
RATTLESNAKE TRAIL CANINE HIKE: Hike up a wooded canyon with scenic views to beautiful meadow. Moderate 4 mrt with 1000 foot elevation gain. Well behaved dogs welcomed and encouraged; must be leashed. Bring snack and water for you and your canine companion. Hikers without dogs welcome too. Meet at Bank of America parking lot at 8am. 3790 State NOTE EARLY START TIME.

Thousands celebrate Earth Day commitments

Our Los Padres Chapter was very active during numerous Earth Day events, not only telling visitors about our free outings but also local and national issues and how the club makes it easy to be an activist, whether it be on a computer or on the ground. (see pg. 5) Some of our tables provided post card stations and political contacts to protest this Administration's environmental insults.

In all, we took an activist stance. Here's some reports from the field:

Santa Barbara Earth Day was a four-day affair for SB Group during which dozens of volunteers collected piles of postcards supporting 100% clean energy and opposing oil expansion. Starting Thursday, April 21, at a SB City College event with Katie Davis and Kate Mullin tabling and enjoying the stunning ocean views. On Friday club members participated in an event at LinkedIn's campus in Carpinteria where Jim Taylor admired its new fleet of employee bicycles. Sat/Sun was a full weekend at Alameda Park where the Sierra Club booth stayed busy, particularly after thousands of people from the March for Science ended their walk at the Park, hanging their signs around the festival in artful illustration of this year's theme of "Activism."

"Lots of people stopping by to support the Sierra Club on this beautiful day. I left the booth in the good hands for the mother-daughter team of Fran Davis and Katie Davis," reports Chapter Chair Jim Hines.

Buellton was the site for the North County event, albeit off-calendar on May 21; nevertheless, "we collected a lot of contacts and signatures, got a few postcards sent off to the Department of the Interior, and sent loads of folks away with membership materials (and temporary tattoos!)," said Rebecca August from our Arguello Group. Petition to oppose new oil wells in the North County was signed. Big thanks to Jim Hines, whose talk "drove people to our table."

Ventura "got a lot of people taking action at the Sierra Club Earth Day booth postcard station ... because Earth Day is not just about getting a sticker or planting

tomatoes," said Ventura Chair Nina Danza. Volunteers included Mary Gail King, Holly Schalla, Carol Luth, Heather Somers, Gloria Rupio and Doug Graham. Nina favored this new location at Plaza Park downtown. Turnout was good.

Oxnard Plaza Park Earth Day had a good turnout on April 15; "people were attracted by the new colorful WBC banner and posters depicting backpacking outings," said organizer Irene Rauschenberger.

"To generate Sierra Club memberships, we handed out registration pamphlets and *Condor Calls*. We showed them the *Call's* "Take a Hike" section that encourages the mission to Explore, Enjoy and Protect! Each year it is really a learning experience trying to reach out to people for a cause, and we couldn't do it without our volunteers," Irene noted.

Ojai combined Earth Day in Libby Park with a March for Science. "I spoke to a crowd of around 300 before the Ojai March for Science," said Jim Hines, "then Sierra Club member Holly Wright of Ojai and I tabled at the Earth Day event. Great day, we connected with a LOT of people."

Wheeler Gorge (April 22) Our Wilderness Basics Course had a table at the Gorge's Open House, sponsored by Los Padres Forest Assn. Alisse Fisher was basically a one-woman show as she hoisted WBC's new banner, erected a display, and handed out a lot of practical information about the Sierra Club, hiking and the class. Email addresses were collected and "people were very engaged," said Teresa Norris, head of the WBC.

CSU-Channel Islands (April 21) "Many students had not heard of the Sierra Club," Teresa noted, but she and Irene handed out practical info about hiking, and educated many about John Muir and the 125-year history of the Club. Local issues, like Ormond Beach protection, caught their interest.

Also noted was the WBC course, and the two volunteers donated compasses for the student raffle. It was all worth it even if setting up "was like a gale in a windstorm."

~ Compiled by Condor John

Hike limited to four dogs - please call to reserve your dog's place. Rain/fire cancels. SALLY 689-7820 (SB)

August 6
THREE POOLS BEYOND SEVEN FALLS: Primitive trail, some rock climbing. Bring swimsuit. Difficult but short 5 mrt. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ALEJANDRO 898-1240 (SB)

August 7
MONDAY MORNING WALK: Meet at 8:30am at Mission Plaza shopping center in Ventura near Main St. or 9am at 45 Alto Drive in Oak View to walk to the creek for about 2 hours. For more info call Pat at 643-0270 (VEN)

August 11-13
PERSEID METEOR SHOWER CAMPOUT: Expect about 100 people at this event in the Black Rock Desert about 100 miles north of Reno. Playa conditions permitting, we'll be camping mid-Playa about 10 miles from a couple of hot springs. We'll have porta-potties but little else so bring water, food etc but there's usually a potluck/Dutch oven meal one night.

LNT, dogs must be on leash and expect to pick up after them. DAVID BOOK 775/843-6443 (Great Basin Group)

August 12
POLO CLUB - RESERVOIR TRAIL LOOP: Join us on this 4mrt easy-moderate hike to the Summerland Reservoir. Mostly flat, but some steep sections. We'll start from the Toro Cyn Creek trailhead on Via Real near the intersection of Toro Cyn Rd. We'll pickup the Edison Trail back of Summerland and connect with the Reservoir Trail to the reservoir where we'll stop for lunch. We'll return via the Reservoir and Polo Club trails. Meet at 9am at the Bank of America parking lot, Hope & State. GERRY 964-5411 (SB)

August 13
TRESPASS TRAIL/GAVIOTA HOT SPRINGS: Easy to Moderate Hike from Gaviota Peak/Hot Springs trail head along a little-used loop trail. About 4 mrt with side trip to Gaviota Hot Springs. Elevation gain about 700 feet. Bring swim suit for hot springs. Also water and snack or light lunch. Meet behind the B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT (SB)

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Wild plants would enhance your yard

Editor's note: You may know Jim as the Chair of our Los Padres Chapter; but he is also an expert horticulturist who owned his own nursery in Ojai, worked for Green Thumb Nursery in Ventura, published a book in 1987 entitled "Gardening in Ojai" and has two Facebook pages: "Gardening In Ventura" and "Gardening in the Ojai Valley".

By Jim Hines

Greetings, Friends.

Each of us marvel at the beauty of native flowering shrubs when we are out on our hikes in the Los Padres Chapter region. But did you know that you can grow many of those flowering beauties right in your home landscape?

Yep, California native plants

make ideal plants at home and now many nurseries have large collections of natives.

Love those blue flowering native lilacs (ceanous) that you see in bloom now? Well, they will fit right in your garden; give them a sunny location and once established they need very little water. Choose from groundcover, small shrub and large shrub varieties depending upon your landscape needs.

And who is not dazzled by the spectacular large white flowers of Matilija poppies? These native beauties bloom from spring through summer and right into fall, so select a large space in your garden or on a sunny slope and plant them now.

Have perennial flower beds in your yard, filling them with native penstemons, California fuchsias, native buckwheats and perennial salvias.

Want to bring hummingbirds to your garden? By planting various varieties of California native sages,

you will have them galore. The beauty of sage flowers is they come in many colors.

Have a lot of shady areas in your yard? No problem, select native ferns, red flowering salvia, native lily bulbs and Pacific Coast iris.

The autumn season in your garden will be filled with the bright red berries of native toyon shrubs, a large growing evergreen shrub with white flowers in the spring and colorful berries in Autumn.

Need a great shade tree? Select one of the many native oaks, California sycamores or native alder trees.

Native bulbs are also fun to use in the garden. Brodiaea, amoles, lilies, iris and native cyclamen known as shooting stars.

By using native plants on your home landscape, you are not only helping to conserve water, you are also creating a botanical display which you will enjoy year-round.

Action opportunities

The electoral college election of Donald Trump continues along a rocky road sparking millions of citizens protesting his style and substance, along with thousands in our region covering Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. How to keep track of it all?

The Sierra Club has lobbyists and lawyers in Washington and nearly 3 million volunteers nationwide who work in their local communities, including over 6,000 members in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties, who are busy with rallies, letter writing, phone calling and supporting many other coalitions.

On the positive side, our Los Padres Chapter has picked up over a thousand new members since the November election. For members and friends, getting involved in national issues which affect us locally is easy, go to:

www.SierraClub.org

Locally, keep track via our Facebook posts for the Arguello (SB North County), Santa Barbara and Ventura areas:

<http://tinyurl.com/ArguelloGroup>

www.facebook.com/sbsierraclub

<http://tinyurl.com/VenturaSierraClubFB>

New on the scene is the local Los Padres ForestWatch, offering a resource that tracks public lands issues along our Central Coast. Check it out at:

<http://lpfw.org/trumpwatch>

Also, on a broad scale to find rallies and protests, go to:

www.ResistanceNearMe.org

There is also the Indivisible movement started with the online publication of a 23-page handbook titled "Indivisible: A Practical Guide for Resisting the Trump Agenda." The authors of the document were former congressional staffers. Read it here:

www.indivisibleguide.com

Indivisible has local groups: for Santa Barbara:

www.IndivisibleSB.com

and Ventura:

<https://indivisibleventura.org>

The Women's March in January also spawned Justice for All (J4all) groups that in Ventura at least has splintered into issue-specific committees. Check out its Facebook at:

<http://tinyurl.com/J4All-Eco>



This magnificent bush of Matilija poppies overlooks Rose Valley in May. You too can have these in your yard. (Photo by Heidi Anderson)