

Vol. 18, No. 4 of 6

August - September 2018

Condor Call



JOIN THE CLUB - ONLY \$15 - FREE BAG - [SIERRACLUB.ORG](https://www.sierraclub.org)

All Access ... Fiery Climate ... Persisting ... Re: EVs ... Explore
Pg 1 Pg 2 Pg 4 Pg 5 Pgs 6,7

Condor Call

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

August - September 2018



HOLLISTER RANCH

36 years and counting, still no beach access

BULLETIN

The Los Padres Chapter on July 26 voted to not only help fund the Gaviota Coastal Trail Alliance to gain public access through Hollister Ranch, it is also in the process of asking the national Sierra Club's approval to support and raise funds for the effort.

that the people had a strong interest in the issue.

As is, the settlement is a sham. It provides for a maximum of 880 individuals per year to visit the beach at Cuarta Canyon in a managed access program run by the Ranch. That also means the Ranch expenses would be reimbursed from a government account earmarked for true public coastal access including planning and construction of the Hollister Ranch section of the California Coastal Trail.

Under the settlement, the general public can visit the dry sand of the beach, but only by ocean access through the surf effectively excluding over 99% of the public unable to physically or economically navigate the three-mile ocean voyage from Gaviota

continued on page 2

By Phil McKenna,

Gaviota Coast Conservancy

The public's right to access the ocean is guaranteed by the California Constitution and the Coastal Commission is charged by the Coastal Act to maximize public access to and along the coast.

Yet today there is no public access to any portion of the 8.5 miles of the dry sand fronting Hollister Ranch just west of Gaviota State Beach.

This, despite legislative direction to the Coastal Conservancy 36 years ago: "to implement, as expeditiously as possible, the public access policies and provisions of the Coastal Act to the Hollister Ranch."

A window has opened to challenge this circumstance.

In 2013 the Conservancy accepted a long dormant offer-to-dedicate created in 1982 by the YMCA, then an owner of land on the Ranch, that provided for a managed access program allowing up to 50 individuals per day to access the beach at Cuarta Canyon, about two miles west of the Hollister Ranch gate.

The Hollister Ranch Owners' Association strongly resisted this public access, suing the Conservancy and the Coastal Commission.

While Judge Colleen Sterne's initial ruling was favorable to the State and public, settlement discussions were begun in Santa Barbara Superior Court to resolve this dispute. An agreement was reached behind closed doors in late 2017, but in May 2018 Judge Stern ordered that the agreement be made public and the public could intervene in the lawsuit, finding

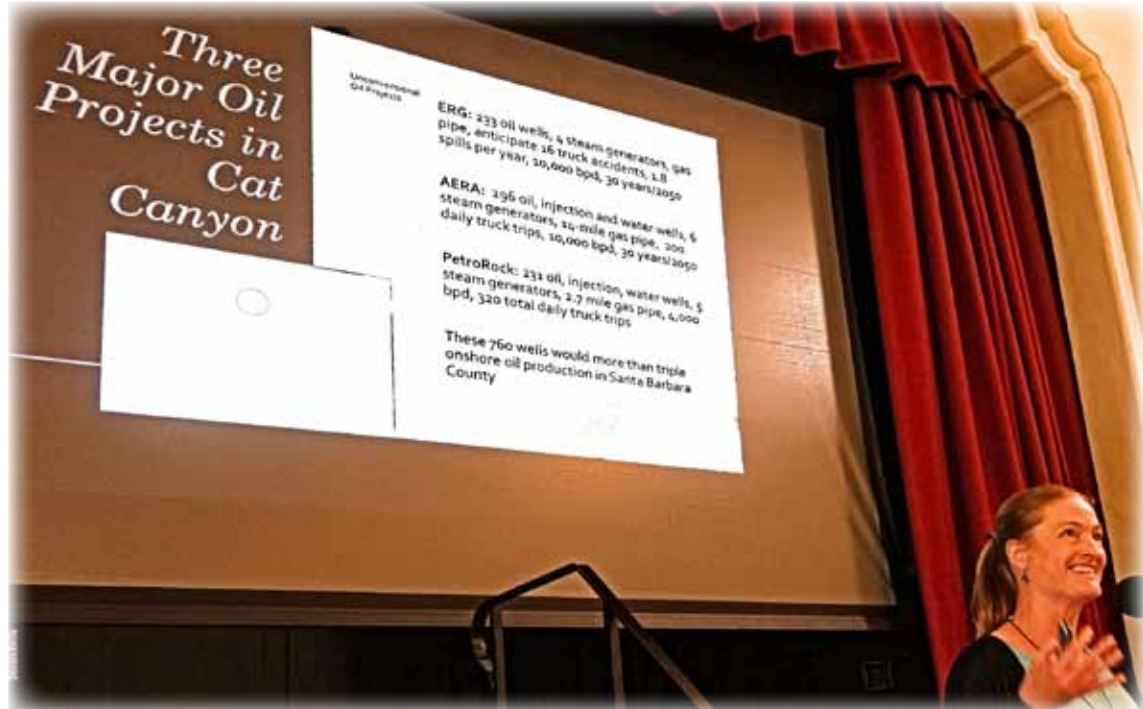
ACCESS NOW!

In a letter to the California Coastal Commission dated July 13, 2018, the commission is asked to direct its staff "to immediately develop and implement an action program for the completion of the California Coastal Trail across Hollister Ranch," which would run from Gaviota State Park to Jalama Beach County Park, "including appropriate vertical access to the ocean."

It is signed by the Gaviota Coast Conservancy, Los Padres Chapter Sierra Club, California Coastal Protection Network, SB County Trails Council and CoastWalk-Cal Coastal Trail Assn.

This long-time contentious issue reached national proportions via the New York Times, LA Times (best pictures!), regional TV outlets and local newspapers. Here's some links:

- <https://tinyurl.com/NYTimesHRanchAccess>
- <https://tinyurl.com/LATimesHRanchissue>
- <https://tinyurl.com/SBIndyHRanchIssue>



During a packed meeting, SB Group Chair Katie Davis gave a rousing program to Stop Oil Drilling, notably because of over 700 new wells proposed (read the sign, more detail on page 2). Held on June 24 at Unitarian Church in Santa Barbara with many co-sponsors. More details at: <https://tinyurl.com/SBenergyProjects> (Photo by Robert Bernstein)

EAVESDROPS

"Welcome, Pulsating Black Sludge ..."

~ An odd email 'welcoming' coal lobbyist Andrew Wheeler as acting director of the EPA (replacing swamp creature Scott Pruitt) by his friend Ryan Jackson, in a reference to The Onion's headline: "EPA promotes Pulsating Black Sludge to Deputy Director." The email was found in a treasure trove of EPA emails extracted by the Sierra Club's Freedom of Information request.

COVER PHOTO

Join the Sierra Club for its landmark series of 3-day, 3-island, live-aboard tours of the enchanting Channel Islands National Park. Only three dates are left: Aug 19-21, Sept 23-25 and Oct 21-23. Food provided, self or naturalist walks, like this one hiking to Smuggler's Cove on Santa Cruz Island. For details, contact Joan Jones Holtz at (626) 443-0706 or jholtzhn@aol.com

Free Drive Electric Week Events

The Los Padres Chapter's National Drive Electric Week Events for 2018 may even top the popularity of the last few years.

For those who have EV and hybrid vehicles already, we urge more owners to show off their vehicles proudly to educate the public with your experience; to take part, contact: James.Reach@SierraClub.org

NOTE: There will not be an EV-hybrid show on the South Coast of Santa Barbara this year, but there is in Solvang; an easy, pleasant drive co-sponsored by the Sierra Club and SB Community Environmental Council. At Oxnard, you can drive or ride in the EVs for free. Here's the schedules:

SOLVANG

Saturday Sept. 8, 10am - 3pm
470 Alisal Road, Solvang, CA 93463
Contact is James Reach:
james.reach@sierraclub.org

OXNARD

Sunday Sept. 9:30am - 3pm
Channel Islands Harbor
(adjacent to Farmers' Market)
4610 Harbor Boulevard

SPECIAL: This event will feature an adjacent ride and drive event with volunteer assistance by the Electric Vehicle Advocates of Ventura County.

Contacts are KentBullard@gmail.com
james.reach@sierraclub.org

See story page 5

Club leader came here, 'captivated by the beauty'

EDITOR'S NOTE

Meet the Los Padres Chapter's new executive director, brought on board to enhance the chapter's (and its four groups) storied history to "Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet." Welcome him at: Jonathan.Ullman@SierraClub.org

By Jon Ullman

Executive Director

Two years ago, the Sierra Club's Victory Corps manager read off the last two Congressional races available. "I have two locations," he said. "Northern Maine and Santa Barbara, California." Do either of those interest you?



I had been working in Miami for the Sierra Club for 18 years as their South Florida/Everglades Senior Representative and Florida Communications Director. I had already participated

in Victory Corps, a program in which Sierra Club staff helped a congressional candidate in an important, competitive race, but I really wanted to work on a race outside of Florida.

"Let me check with my wife," I told the manager. My wife, Blanca, didn't miss a beat. "Santa Barbara? Take it! Call him back now!"

We had travelled through the area on our way up the coast to San Francisco from Anaheim, where my then 11-year-old daughter convinced me to attend a YouTube convention called VidCon, a year earlier. We, like so many, were captivated by the beauty of the mountains and the sea and the friendlier-than-usual people. Somehow, it seemed serendipitous that it would come up again.

The candidate was Salud Carbajal, the Santa Barbara County Supervisor, who would become the first Mexican-American U.S. Representative for an enormous district from San Luis Obispo to Ventura. I met the Sierra Club leaders who volunteered hundreds

of hours of their time to get him elected. The well-financed oil-backed opponent tried to trick voters through TV ads and mailers that Salud supported offshore oil drilling, when in fact he was the anti-oil drilling candidate. The Sierra Club played a major role in setting the record straight through rallies and media work.

I learned how offshore and on-shore oil drilling, its storage

and transmission have devastated this region. How it is not only incompatible with other industries such as tourism and agriculture, but also a visual blight and threat to human health. But it wasn't until last year, during the Thomas fire and the deadly Montecito mudslides, did I understand the indirect threat the industry posed to the area through climate change.

Just as the seven million

residents of South Florida, at only a few feet above sea level, were seeing the grim effects of greenhouse gases, Californians too were feeling the pain from enhanced fire, drought and floods. The remaining rigs in the channel are a visual reminder of a global energy system that is unleashing increased death and destruction every day.

continued on page 2



A large contingent of our Executive Committee met to greet the new Executive Director, Jon Ullman. They are (from left) Gerry Ching (secretary), Alex Pujo (SB Group), Janet Blevins and Rebecca August (Arguello Group), Mike Stubblefield (Ventura Sierra Club), Chapter Chair Jim Hines, Katie Davis and Martha Sadler (SB Group) and Jon Ullman. (Photo by Condor John)



Goodbye (eventually) to Venoco's Platform Holly off the coast of Goleta in state waters, now decommissioned partly due to the oil company's bankruptcy. A celebration of Venoco's demise was recently held at a beer pub in Carpinteria where it has its headquarters, an oil pier and another offshore platform, in anticipation of recovering 45 acres of bluff-top lands. (Photo by Robert Bernstein)

Club leader came...

continued from page 1

Yet in northern Santa Barbara County, unseen to most, is a plan to double the amount of drilling, especially energy-intensive drilling using a technique used in tar sands called steam injection. What's going on here?

California is supposed to be in the forefront of clean energy, and it is, but there are parts of it that look more like West Texas, and they are allowed to continue. But if we are to live up to our values, California values, we must end or quickly phase it out now. We can't double down

on what's killing us.

This year, we can lead the nation in the fight against fossil fuels.

Fifty years ago, a spill here, the third largest U.S. spill on record, helped fuel an environmental revolution leading to groundbreaking environmental laws. These very protections are now under threat by the Trump Administration, many spearheaded by Santa Barbara part-time resident and Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke.

I am honored to take on this role as Los Padres Chapter Director. It's been quite a change – from a humid, low-lying, subtropical city hemmed in by the Everglades and the Atlantic Ocean -- to a coastal arid desert ringed by the mountains and the sea, but there were just too many signs and great volunteers not to make the journey.

I look forward to working with our members and leadership, learning about your experiences and discovering this wonderful place.

EAVESDROPS

"The victories are piling up ... the law is our friend in all this."

~ While the Trump Administration intends to roll back nearly 70 Obama-era environmental regulations, lawsuits are being won in the courts, according to the *NY Times*, quoting David Hayes of NYU law school.

ENERGY UPDATE

Opposition is intense!

By Katie Davis
And then climate change came for me...

I didn't sleep for three days after I returned to my house, which almost burned down in the Holiday Fire that swept through Goleta on July 6.

I was in shock and grieving for my neighborhood. The fire burned down most of the houses on my street right up to my house, including the fence on both sides. I'm living in a smoky wasteland.

An expert says there is a 99% likelihood that climate change increased the severity of the heatwave (102° at 9pm) that created the freaky tinderbox in which this fire erupted 100 or so yards from my house. Here's more info on that: <https://tinyurl.com/FireClimateChange>

Exxon Protest

A few days later July 11 we protested Exxon's application to truck oil and restart drilling at their offshore platforms at the County Building in Santa Barbara. Those platforms have been shut down since the May 2015 oil spill from the Refugio Beach pipeline to refineries.

Trucking is the most dangerous way to transport oil and now -- while the criminal trial for the last spill is still grinding on at the Santa Barbara courthouse -- is a poor time to talk about restarting offshore oil production.

But for me it's bigger than that.

As early as 1977, scientists at Exxon warned the company that "use of fossil fuels ... should not be encouraged" because of the risk, but Exxon went on

to undermine climate science, delay political action and post record profits. The CEOs knew heatwaves would cause the kind of climate disasters we are now experiencing, and they didn't care.

So, we are protesting to stop these projects. No more drilling. No more spilling. No more climate disasters.

Record Turnout

The following week on July 17, the Santa Barbara County energy division held their second hearing on ERG's draft environmental impact report for their proposal to drill 233 high-intensity oil wells in the cat canyon area near Santa Maria.

Opposition was intense. "This is the most folks we've seen for an environmental hearing in this division's history," said Erin Briggs, County Energy Planner.

Comments revealed many issues, including ERG's bankruptcy and history as one of the top three operators with the highest number and volume of oil spills in the county, the unacceptable risk of polluting Santa Maria's drinking water supply, and the climate impacts of locking in intensive oil production for decades to come.

The comments at hearings in both Santa Maria and Santa Barbara ran overwhelmingly in opposition to the project. Overall, 78% of speakers at the two hearings were opposed to the project. We'll need to keep up the fight as this and two

other huge projects come up for approval starting this fall.

Clean Energy Advances

At the same time as we were fighting off dangerous oil expansion in the county, we had huge victories from three local jurisdictions.

On July 17, the Santa Barbara County and the cities of Santa Barbara and Goleta all voted to give the people a choice when it comes to power. Santa Barbara Group's testimony said, "there are 8,763 jobs in renewable energy and efficiency in Santa Barbara County; CCE could further build this sector."

That means starting that Community Choice Energy program. "We are going to be using renewable energy sources, solar and wind and geothermal power," said Kirby Dusel, the vice president of Pacific Energy Advisors. Its study found the program could provide cleaner energy at lower cost for participants.

If all goes well, the program would launch in January 2021, and would help our region meet its goal of 100% renewable energy.

Time to Celebrate

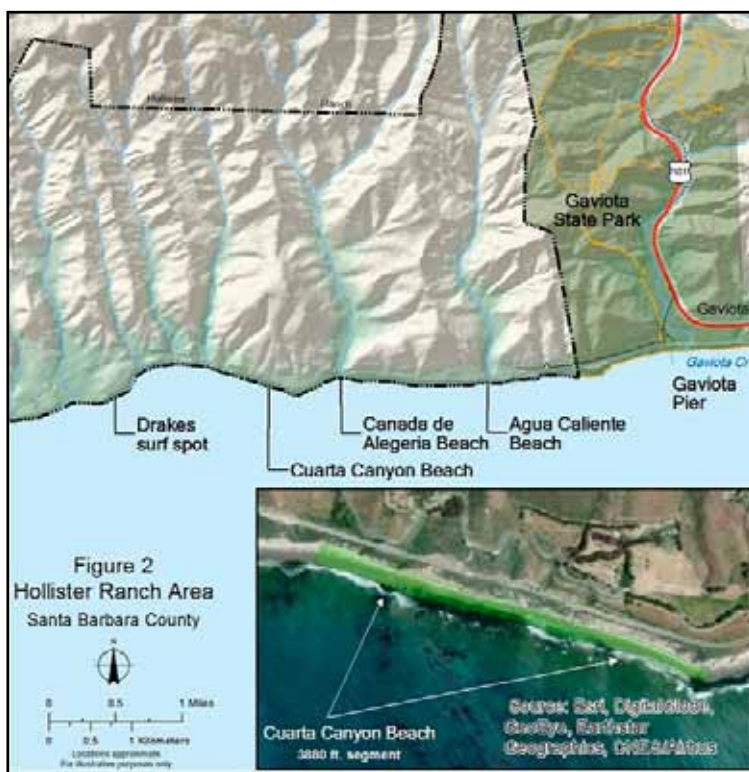
After over a century of oil drilling, on July 28 Carpinteria celebrated the end of oil with beer and music at the Rincon Brewery. With the passing of Venoco, forty-five acres of the Carpinteria Bluffs can now be put to other happier uses. Two oil platforms in the Santa Barbara Channel will be decommissioned, and Carpinteria's famous beach has been saved from the prospect of unsightly drilling rigs.

I'll drink to that.

EAVESDROPS

"As early as 1977, scientists at Exxon warned the company that 'use of fossil fuels...should not be encouraged' because of the risk they posed, but Exxon went on to undermine climate science, delay political action and post record profits."

~ A sleepless Katie Davis, chair of SB Group, relating the horrible shock of her house nearly burned down during the Holiday Fire in Goleta, likely exasperated by climate change factors. Now facing a massive clean-up in a "smoky wasteland," she instead took time off to protest at an SB hearing about Exxon's application to truck its offshore crude oil.



Potential areas where public access may be granted along the gated Hollister Ranch.

36 years and counting...

continued from page 1

State Park in a kayak or soft-bottomed boat.

The Gaviota Coastal Trail Alliance formed in response to this sham settlement and seeks to intervene in the Superior Court action. We want to convince the judge the settlement is unfair and should not be approved, and to preserve the future ability of the State and others to fund and effectuate a permanent coastal

trail for pedestrians and bicycles through Hollister Ranch, and ultimately to Jalama County Park.

We envision limiting access to the trail to the carrying capacity of the area to ensure that the exceptional habitat values and cultural resources present on this stretch of coast are not compromised. You can find more information at: www.GaviotaCoastConservancy.org



Katie Davis' first look at her street after the Holiday Fire July 6.

Condor Call

<http://lospadres2.sierraclub.org> ~ All phone numbers 1-805 area code

EDITOR: 'Condor' John Hankins, 452-2885

260 Pacos St. Ventura CA 93001 • CondorJohn@gnusman.com

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, \$10 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: address.changes@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5653

NATIONAL OFFICE & MEMBER SERVICES: (415) 977-5500

2101 Webster St. Suite 1300, Oakland CA 94612

WASHINGTON LEGISLATIVE OFFICE: (202) 547-1141

50 F Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, D.C., 20001

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jonathan.Ullman@SierraClub.org

• EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE •

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

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

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

Rebecca August (Arguello Group Rep): 350-0629, rebeccaugust@mac.com

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

Martha Sadler (Santa Barbara Group Rep): 636-9194, marthasadler@yahoo.com

• GROUP CHAIRS •

Arguello: Rebecca August 350-0629, rebeccaugust@mac.com

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

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

Ventura Network: Nina Danza, 901-1679, SierraClubVentura@gmail.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

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

Political SB: Alex Pujo, 962-3578, alex@pujo.net

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

Transportation: James Reach, 444-6638, reach@101freeway.com

Typography and production by Dan Fuller



On 7-11 opponents of Exxon's proposal to transport its offshore oil via hundreds of trucks was heavily opposed at a hearing at the Santa Barbara County Administration Building. See story on page 2. (Photo by Katie Davis)

Dynamic events each month

The Ventura Sierra Club's dynamic programs are getting a lot of attention, thanks to organizers Rachel Enevoldsen and Nina Danza.

Coming up Aug. 9 is an opportunity to meet John Muir (actor Don Baldwin), who's got the legend's knack for storytelling for your listening pleasure, then on Sept. 11 it's Steve Evans of CalWild talking about the wild and scenic rivers, some of which run through our chapter. Details and RSVP of both events are at:

www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura

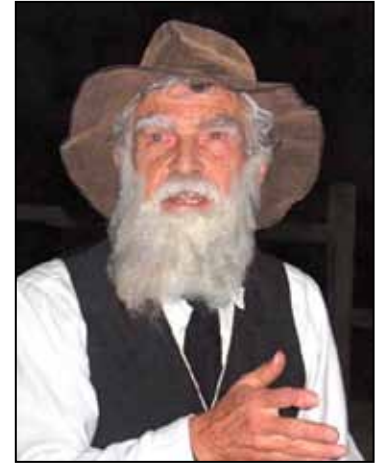
The Aug 9 event is a BBQ with the Muir actor; bring your own meat or other entrée, side dish to share and your own plate, cup, utensils; no alcohol please. Guaranteed to please; it's from 5:30-8pm @ Linear Park (N. Bank Rd and Rio Grande St.). RSVP at:

On Sept. 11 hear Steve Evans, CalWild's Wild & Scenic Rivers Program Director, in a program entitled "50 Years of Saving Rivers." It's part of the Ventura Sierra Club's next Venture(a) Out Educational series, held at 5:30pm, Foster Library, 651 E. Main St. Free, but donations accepted.

California has 747 miles of nationally protected rivers and streams, as well as thousands of miles of waterways eligible for federal protection. Even in these politically troubled times, there is legislation pending in Congress that may more than double the miles of protected rivers in the state.

See how 50 years of the

National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act has worked to protect free-flowing rivers and streams throughout the state. Learn what you can do to be good stewards of saved rivers and how to secure protection for new rivers and streams.



John Muir, disguised as Don Baldwin

EAVESDROPS

"An eagle! one of my students squealed, much to my delight."

~ Yes, a bald eagle, a bird on the brink of extinction in the 1970s, now under threat of a Trump Administration bent on dismantling the Endangered Species Act, which by its protections have saved America's symbol. Teacher Olivia Sanderfoot related this story of her class in awe of wildlife during an outing in Seattle's Union Bay Natural Area.

EVENTS

Wild, scenic, solarize, celebrate

Aug. 8: **Wild & Scenic Film Festival**, a fundraiser for the Ventura Land Trust, offers a series of award-winning short films that celebrate the beauty and bounty of our natural world, some of them local. Starts at 5pm on the Ventura County Credit Union campus, 2575 Vista Del Mar Dr. in Ventura with live bands, food trucks and activities; films start at 8pm Buy tickets here:

www.VenturaLandTrust.org

Aug 9: **'Meat' John Muir** One way of announcing Ventura Sierra Club is having a BBQ and an actor who portrays John Muir (Don Baldwin) providing the entertainment. Bring your own meat or other entrée,

Solarize deals sunset Aug 30

Solarize Santa Barbara is a program by the Community Environmental Council that makes it easier and more affordable for local homeowners to go solar.

Discounted prices through partnerships with two, vetted local solar companies will run through Aug. 30, so the time to apply is now. The companies are Brighten Solar and California Solar Electric.

There is also a new battery option via SoCal Edison's "self-generation" incentives.

For details or to apply, go to: www.CECSB.org

side dish to share and your own plate, cup, utensils; no alcohol please. Guaranteed to please; it's from 5:30-8pm @ Linear Park (N. Bank Rd and Rio Grande St.). Details and RSVP at: www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura

Aug 9: **Solarize Program** has a free workshop planned at 6pm at the Santa Barbara Unitarian Church, 1535 Santa Barbara St. Program is by Community Environmental Council, hosted by Brighten Solar Co., local cities and the county. Tax credits, vendor options, batteries and more; details at: www.SolarizeSantaBarbara.org

Sept 8: **Global Day of Action 2018** with SB-Ventura joining others throughout the state for the Rise for Climate Jobs + Justice California rally in San Francisco. Sierra Club is involved, go to: <https://ca.RiseForClimate.org>

Sept 11: **50 Years of Saving Rivers**, featuring Steve Evans, CalWild's Wild & Scenic Rivers Program Director, is part of the Ventura Sierra Club's next Venture(a) Out

Educational series, held at 5:30pm, Foster Library, 651 E. Main St. Free, but donations accepted. See other events at:

www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura

Sept 16: **Celebrate 25th** anniversary of the founding of the Friends of the Santa Clara River, on a brilliant Sunday from 3:30 – 6:30pm at Rancho Camulos, 5164 E. Telegraph Rd. (Hwy 126) in Piru, on the banks of the river. Billed as the Silver Streams Gala Celebration and Fundraiser, details and tix are at: www.FSCR.org

Sept 20: **FAVE HIKES!** Join cartographer and LPFA executive director Bryan Conant and local guide and author Craig R. Carey for a rousing account of their favorite Los Padres destinations, the status of much of the forest post-Thomas Fire, and what efforts are underway to repair and rehabilitate hiking and backpacking routes impacted by the fire. Sponsored by Ventura Land Trust, this wild duo shows and tells at 7pm, Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd., Ventura. Donations gratefully accepted.

Venture(a) Out in the County
a Sierra Club Educational Series

Tuesday September 11, @5:30-7pm
EP Foster Library Topping Room
(651 E. Main St., Ventura FREE PARKING IN REAR)



Speaker:
Steve Evans,
California Wilderness Coalition (CalWild)

50th Anniversary
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

FREE ADMISSION
Info: SierraClubVentura@gmail.com

SPONSORED BY




Future Dates 2018: Sept 11, Nov 13

EAVESDROPS

"She often escaped from him (physically and sexually abusive husband) by running into the woods, and she came to view the wilderness as protective and restorative."

~ From a NY Times obituary about Emma Gatewood, the first woman to conquer the 2,000-mile long Appalachian Trail alone in 1955 when she was 67 years old, carrying only a small sack (no tent, no sleeping bag). Four years later she did the 2,000-mile Oregon Trail, "inspiring two distinct movements in long-distance hiking: women thru-hikers and the ultra-lite movement," according to a museum citation.



Craig Carey and Bryan Conant are two of the best explorers of our backcountry, and do they ever have stories about their adventures. They will share them in an often-hilarious program on Sept. 20, sponsored by Ventura Land Trust, at 7pm, Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd., Ventura. (Photo by John Hankins) To RSVP or details, go to: www.VenturaLandTrust.org

Group News

The public is welcome to our programs

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

~ ExCom meets 7pm on 4th Thursday of every month, either at the Carpinteria IHOP or by conference call. Email Secretary Gerry Ching for the agenda: gching@cox.net

SANTA BARBARA GROUP

~ New meeting day and time: first Tuesdays, noon to 1:30pm of each month except Nov. 13 and Dec. 18, 2018. Meets at Union Bank, 15 E. Carrillo St. View the calendar, hikes and issues and join the mailing list for the South Coast SB area (Carpinteria to Goleta) at:

www.SBSierraClub.org
www.facebook.com/sbsierraclub

ARGUELLO GROUP

~ Now on Facebook, keep in touch and post with our SB North County Group at: <http://tinyurl.com/ArguelloGroup>

~ General meetings with potluck and programs during most months on 3rd Friday at Valley of Flowers Church in Vandenberg Village, 3346 Constellation Rd. at 7pm; 6pm if a potluck. Need a ride or offer a carpool? Contact Janet Blevins: 717-4160 or janro48@gmail.com

~Volunteers needed for hikes and/or issues; your talents could make a difference. Call 350-0629 or: RebeccaAugust@mac.com

VENTURA NETWORK

~ Latest info about the western Ventura County group:

<http://tinyurl.com/VenturaSierraClubFB>
~New MEETUP site for hikes, outings etc:

www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura

~ Regular meetings 1st Tuesday monthly at Ventura Bike Hub, 490 N. Ventura Ave, 7-8:30pm.

STRONGLY RECOMMEND RSVP as location and date are subject to change: sierraclubventura@gmail.com

CONEJO GROUP

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

www.sierraclub.org/los-padres/conejo
www.sierraclub.org/los-padres/conejo/outings

SIGHTINGS

Local issues go nationwide

By John Hankins

Our chapter volunteers (and friends) kept working on promoting renewable energy, battling for public access off the coastal Hollister Ranch (earning nationwide attention), alerting the public to vital issues, working on trails, conservation projects and simply enjoying our special environment.

Please join us in any capacity you like (see Group News box pg 3), and don't forget, we offer free outings (see pgs 6 & 7). Here's what we've been up to in June and July:

July 28: **R.I.P. Oil** celebration marking the end of Venoco's operations in Carpinteria was held at the Rincon Brewery, sponsored by the Sierra Club, Env. Defense Center and Carp. Valley Assn. "With the passing of Venoco, 45 acres of the Carp. Bluffs will now be put to other uses, 2 oil platforms will be decommissioned ..." read the invitation.

July 20: **Wow, NY Times** did a feature on the Hollister Ranch access issue, of which our chapter is involved in the fight to gain public access. Read update on issue page 1 and the Times' coverage here:

<https://tinyurl.com/NYTimesHRanchAccess>

July 19: **Zero waste** film organized by the Brighten Solar Co. as a fundraiser for showing the Sierra Club's new renewable energy film. Now our Arguello Group wants to show it in the North County. Good idea, Rebecca.

July 13: **Head Hunters** no longer exist in a remote part of the Philippines, but one of our hike leaders,

Robert Bernstein, headed there and treated folks to a potluck/slide show at the Valle Verde Retirement Center. An optional hike at the SB Mission preceded the program.

July 13: **Coastal access** through Hollister Ranch came to the Cal Coastal Commission meeting in Santa Cruz where advocates for public access strongly challenged the present agreement with homeowners. That access was a compromise from a May court ruling; final decision expected in September. (See story pg 1)

July 11: **Trucking Oil** a bad idea, according to opponent rallies and testimony by Sierra Club and others, during a plea to SB County to let them load their offshore oil onto hundreds of trucks. (See story pg. 2)

July 10: **"Reinventing Power, America's Renewable Energy Boom"** was a public screening to benefit the Los Padres Chapter, hosted by Brighten Solar Co. at <http://brightensolarco.com/>

Film was produced by the Sierra Club: [#ReinventingPower](https://www.sierraclub.org/ReinventingPower)

July 10: **Mules, Miles & Memories**, a special "armchair ride" through the high Sierras



Washington DC March for the Ocean on June 9 was huge behind this banner. Santa Barbara Group Chair Katie Davis was there along with hundreds of Sierra Club activists and fellow travelers. Rallies were also held in Santa Barbara and Ventura, while artist Juan Manuel Cisneros erected a rock sculpture near Ventura's pier. (Photo above by Katie Davis; at right by John Hankins)



highlighting a mom (Dena Mercer) and her daughter's adventures. Was part of Ventura Sierra Club's Venture(a) Out series at the Foster Library.

June 28: **Cut Clearcutting:** Chapter ExCom voted unanimously to support Sierra Club California's Stop Clearcutting Campaign. Take action here: <https://tinyurl.com/CutClearcutting>

June 24: **Stop Oil drilling** forum co-sponsored by the SB Sierra Club packed the hall of the Unitarian Society. It addressed the moral and practical necessity of saying NO to hundreds of new dirty oil projects planned for SB County. Other sponsors: SB CLUE, Food & Water Watch, SB Standing Rock Coalition, 350 Santa Barbara and SBCAN - Santa Barbara County Action Network. Get detail on proposed 750 new wells at: <https://tinyurl.com/>

[SBenergyProjects](#)

June 16: **Trail surveys** of Santa Monica Mountains found Sierra Club volunteers willing to help on several dates including June 16, 21, 24 and 27; thanks to Teresa Norris, our Wilderness Basics Course co-founder.

June 14: **Feature Story** written by Condor John about our Los Padres Chapter printed in the Santa Barbara Independent's annual Outdoor issue, featuring a lead-in photograph by Mike Kuredjian (Wilderness Basics Course grad) and Cara Peden's hike trail photo. (See reprint this page)

June 9: **Islands Warning** from Chapter Chair Jim Hines about how our Channel Islands National Park and Sanctuary could be at risk due to Trump Administration policies and turnover of NPS Superintendent. This will be closely watched.

June 3: **Poison Free activism** by our Chapter Chair Jim Hines was recognized for his work in the Santa Monica Mountains. He was given a plaque by Poison Free Malibu for his work to ban the use of deadly anti-coagulant rodenticides (rat poisons) which can also kill mountain lions and other predators which eat the poisoned rodents.

June 4: **Forest Stakeholders** meeting included Sierra Club, where our secretary Gerry Ching learned that Los Padres Forest's priorities remain timber (minimal in LPNF) and fuel management, which allows firewood permits. Also headquarters likely to move to Santa Ynez Valley.



Poison-free campaign award was given to our Chapter Chair Jim Hines by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, working to keep pesticides, rodenticides and other poisons from the outdoors. (Photo contributed)

ORGANIZATIONS

JOIN THE SIERRA CLUB'S LOS PADRES CHAPTER

BY "CONDOR" JOHN HANKINS

The Sierra Club's 126-year-old motto to "Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet" is expressed in Santa Barbara and Ventura through the Los Padres Chapter, which annually sponsors dozens of free outings to all corners of our region while also advocating to protect these same wildlands. Founded in the 1950s, the Los Padres Chapter helped to establish the Los Padres National Forest via the Wilderness Act of 1964 as well as the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary in 1980, among many other victories.

But hitting the trails remains a primary function of the chapter, and for all different reasons. Once, when I noticed that a certain hiking leader had stopped his singles-focused hikes, I asked why. "I met my wife on one of my single outings," he replied. A lame excuse, I thought, but it shows how strong relationships can come from walks in our woods. Typical summer outings include hikes to the Gaviota Hot Springs, Bates Beach, and the Backbone Trail as well as rock hopping at The Playground above Goleta, a Santa Ynez River swim, and even the Riviera Urban Hike. See lospadres.sierraclub.org.

For those who want to go more "wild" but be prepared while doing so, the annual Wilderness Basics Course (Feb.-Mar.) assists all levels with tips and techniques, featuring numerous experts, gear to use, and tasty food. "You need to go and get lost in the wild to bring out the creative child in you," advised graduate Shailaja Rao. See [facebook.com/lospadresWBC](https://www.facebook.com/lospadresWBC).

The club also sponsors three-day, three-island trips to Channel Islands National Park. This year's trips are planned for July 15-17, August 19-21, September 23-25, and October 21-23. For details, email jhholtzhin@aol.com.

Alisos Trail

As for the "protect" part of the club's motto, the Los Padres Chapter has garnered national recognition thanks to volunteers, notably Jim Hines of Ventura and Katie Davis of Santa Barbara, who travel to Sacramento and Washington, D.C., to spread the message of renewable resources and ending fossil-fuel addiction. The strength of our 6,000 members is also leveraged through partnerships with organizations such as the Naples Coalition and, when legal action is needed, the Environmental Defense Center.

And for the first time in its half century of existence, the Los Padres Chapter is hiring an executive director. Jon Ullman is a 19-year veteran of the club, and his work starts in July. "With an ever-increasing workload of issues affecting the environment, we are really excited we have been able to fund a full-time chapter director," said Hines. "This is a big step, but the time is right."

See sierraclub.org.

"Condor" John Hankins edits the Los Padres Chapter's Condor Call newsletter.

Above is a reprint of the Santa Barbara Independent publishing a story about our Chapter in its well-regarded and long-running (over 20 years) annual "adventure guide to the great outdoors," published on June 14, 2018. You can find the whole issue with many other adventures at: www.independent.com

Want SOLAR in North SB Co., but have low electric bills?

Call NONPROFIT SunWork!

Its unique volunteer-based approach lets SunWork installs solar for about 1/3 less for low-electricity-using homeowners.

sunwork.org

SunWork (805) 550-5898
CA Contractor License #920732 (650) 520-9918

NEW: ADULT ACCESS!

Shangri La Care Cooperative Inc.
www.slcc.info

MEMBERS GIVING MEMBERS
A HELPING HAND

408 Bryant Circle Suite G
Ojai, CA 93023

info@shangrilacarecooperative.org
Office (805) 640-6464

Imagine the earth wanting gas guzzlers

By James Reach

The goal of our Sierra Club National Drive Electric Week shows is to teach the public about the benefits, ease and low cost of electric vehicle use and maintenance.

Once you get behind the wheel of an EV you will want to have one as your primary car. The instant torque that causes smooth, rapid, silent acceleration, short braking distances and one-pedal driving (letting off the accelerator pedal causes regenerative braking which eases into a full stop, which makes for a surprisingly silky-smooth driving experience).

Besides the driving experience being far better than any internal combustion engine vehicle, the cost of ownership, fueling and maintenance are sharply lower. Electricity for fuel is far lower priced than gasoline per mile.

A podcaster recently paid \$16 round trip in electricity in his Tesla Model 3 round-trip to and from the San Fernando Valley to Las Vegas. The overall maintenance costs are sharply lower because there are almost no moving parts to wear out or maintain, and the brake shoes last virtually forever.

Also attractive is that EVs have zero tailpipe emissions and allow solo drivers to drive in HOV lanes.

More EV vehicles are being offered at lower and middle prices with greater than 200-plus miles of range when the battery is fully charged. The lowest priced Tesla Model 3 at \$35k will be out by the end of this year. Kia, Hyundai, Volkswagen, Chevrolet and many other manufacturers are introducing models every few months, and there are now used cars available.

Also, more very fast public charging stations are being installed for long distance travel, supplementing the primary method of having an electric charging station at your residence or place of work

Just think of a scenario where the historic situation was

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SOLVANG

reversed, *no one would adopt an Internal Combustion Engine vehicle.* Imagine if more than 98% of vehicles on the road are all-electric and a petroleum industry trade group wanted to promote a nationwide series of ICE (Internal Combustion Engine) vehicle shows called, "National Drive ICE Week".

Here are how participants who attended might report what they learned:

"Owners at ICE vehicle explained that gasoline, a type of fossil fuel, is pumped into a tank in the car which then drives around with about 12 gallons of this hazardous, explosive liquid in it. Exploding small drops of this fuel propels the cars."

"We were shown a 'charging station' where the volunteer shows us how to put a credit card in the reader and then a hose so the vehicle would start fueling. There

were two counters on the pump; one that showed gallons and one for cost. The full tank cost more than \$60. Because it was sooo expensive per mile of range, we asked how much it cost to fill up using a home garage fuel charger."

"The volunteers explained that it is not possible to refuel gasoline cars at home, and there are no free gas stations."

It would be a world where you must drive to an expensive fuel charger several times a month to 'recharge' your ICE car at exorbitant prices – there are no alternatives.

Today, we are turning that around!

Editor's note: You can reach James Reach, our chapter's Transportation Chair, for more about the club's EV-hybrid campaign locally at: james.reach@sierraclub.org

VENTURA COUNTY OXNARD



Tesla Model X Autopilot owner Lisa Merkord said, "it's the best driving experience ever!" and not just because it gets Xero emissions. The Auto-pilot feature on LA freeways is amazing and trouble-free and her teenager Jacob can hardly wait to drive it! (Photo by John Hankins)



Supervisor Joan Hartmann with dog Mika in front of her electric Tesla Model S, for which she recharges with solar powered panels at home. She'll be at the Solvang show and tell Sept. 8, 10am to 3pm. No Santa Barbara show this year, so South Coasters should take the scenic drive to Solvang this year. (Photo contributed).



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. Sturdy footwear is recommended. If you have any questions about a hike, please contact the leader listed. All phone numbers listed are within area code 805, unless otherwise noted. Note that most of Santa Barbara County is in the new 805 overlay zone so dial 11 digits from landline phones (1-805-number). Pets are generally not allowed. A parent or responsible adult must accompany children under the age of 14.

A frequently updated on-line listing of all outings can be viewed at: <http://lospadres2.sierraclub.org>
This website also contains links to Group web pages and other resources. Some regional Groups also list their outings on Meetup sites.

August 6
ORMOND BEACH: Meet at 9am at the end of Arnold Rd. off of Hueneme Rd. in Port Hueneme. Parking is limited; try to carpool. We'll walk along the shoreline for approximately 2 miles to the pier, re-group, take a short break and then return to our cars. The 4-5 mile out and back walk borders the coastal wetlands between Pt. Mugu Naval Air Station and Port Hueneme. Wear sunscreen, sand shoes or tennis shoes, & bring water. Snacks optional. For info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 moenandez@gmail.com. (VEN)

August 8-12
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 11773 ft. Arc Dome, 12 miles r/t 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. Limit 12. DAVID HARDY 702-875-4826 hardyhikers@embarqmail.com email preferred. (S. Nevada Group/CNRCC Desert Committee)

August 9
VENTURA SIERRA CLUB SUMMER PICNIC: 5:30-8pm. Come cook outside at our annual picnic. Bring entree and side dish to share. Hot coals, drinks provided. Absolutely no alcohol. Live John Muir show! Bring your own reusable plate-cup-utensils! Linear Park corner of North Bank Road and Rio Grande Street, Ventura. Club members and supporters welcome. Questions: sierraclubventura@gmail.com. (VEN)

August 10
SOLSTICE CANYON: Moderate 8 mrt hike to beautiful Tropical Terrace and beyond, with 1900' elev. gain and ocean view. Bring lots of water, food and wear lug-soled shoes. Meet at 8:30am at trailhead. Kanan Road, left on PCH, turn left at 76 Station. LILLIAN TREVISAN 1-805-498-1623. (CJ)

August 11
PIEDRA BLANCA: Strenuous 8 mrt hike across the Sespe and up Piedra Blanca Creek, then some rock and boulder scrambling to our favorite swimming hole. Much of the hike will be in the creek, so expect to get wet. It can be very hot in August, so bring at least 3 liters of water, plus electrolytes. Also bring lunch, snacks, hat, swimsuit, hiking shoes, and sandals for water crossings. Please do not come on this hike if you're not comfortable hiking in the heat or in a creek. Meet at 9am. Ventura carpool lot (Seaward and Harbor between Chase Bank and Carrows). If you're coming from

EAVESDROPS



"It was very disgusting to be in there; I kept thinking I would see a dead body of some sort for sure."

~ Photographer Zack Noyle on his now-famous photo of a surfer under a wave of trash near Java, which was once known for the purity of its waters.

Santa Barbara, meet at the Bank of America on State St. and Hope at 8:30am to arrange a carpool to the trailhead. JIM 1-805-479-7063/1-805-644-6934 (SB)

August 11-12
PERSEID METEOR SHOWER IN THE BLACK ROCK DESERT: Perseid Meteor Shower Campout. Another fun trip to the Black Rock Desert about 100 miles north of Reno. This should be a good weekend for the Meteor shower since it's the dark of the moon and the Black Rock is a really remote area. We'll be camped mid-playa and will probably visit nearby hot springs plus have a potluck Saturday but expect a pretty large group. Bring food and water but we'll have portapotties. No campfires! LNT. Leader is very familiar with the area. Sign up after 8/1 with DAVID, 775/843-6443 (Great Basin Group)

August 12
MUGU EXTENDED LOOP 8am - 11am: Mugu Peak Extended Loop is a moderate 4.7 mile moderately trafficked loop trail located near Mugu Rock. This trail option is a butt-kicking direct ascent to the peak (1250 ft. elevation), followed by a gorgeous descent through ocean mists into the beautiful backcountry. Not a dog friendly trek; please leave pets at home. Bring 2 liters of water & a light snack. Parking located on street near the trailhead. We will meet next to trailhead. For info, contact VICTORIA at victoria.a.perez@gmail.com. (VEN)

August 13
EMMA WOOD: Meet at 9am in Mission Plaza Vons parking lot at the end of Main St. in Ventura. We will walk from there to Emma Wood campground, head north to the State Beach and then return along the bike path to our cars. This is a flat loop trail that is a mix of concrete and shoreline. Wear comfortable shoes and sunscreen. Bring water. We will stop to regroup occasionally. It is a 4 mile loop walk that should take 2-3 hours. For info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 moenandez@gmail.com. (VEN)

August 18
WILD & SCENIC FILM FEST: 5-7pm. Come say 'hi' to our booth volunteers at the Ventura Land Trust benefit. Ventura Sierra Club is there to help the trust obtain thousands of acres in our county for recreation and ecological conservation. Location and tickets at venturalandtrust.org. (VEN)

August 19
VENTURA BEACH HIKE: 10am, 5 mile hike south on sand from Channel Islands National Park Headquarters in Ventura Harbor to the Santa Clara River mouth. Meet at NPS Headquarters. Bring water and snacks. No reservation needed and no limit. 85 degree forecast cancels. KIM HOCKING 1-805-983-2147. (VEN)

SUMMERLAND LOOP: A 4 mile hike and urban walk through the back hills of Summerland. We'll use little used paths, starting at Oceanview Park, to walk the trails above Summerland, returning on the back streets of the town. Steep sections make this Moderate, not Easy. Meet at 9am at the Bank of America parking lot, Hope Ave & State St. Bring water and a light snack. ROBERT 1-805-685-1283 / event@swt.org (SB)

August 20
5TH STREET OXNARD: Meet at 9am at the end of 5th Street in Oxnard. Park along the street. We'll walk about 5 miles through Mandalay Bay, Hollywood Beach and end at the Channel Islands harbor before returning to our cars. This walk is primarily through residential areas on pavement. As with any beach walk, check the weather forecast and dress appropriately. Wear sunscreen and a hat. Bring water & pack a snack, if desired. For more info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 moenandez@gmail.com. (VEN)

August 25
BARON RANCH TRAIL: A 7.5 mrt moderate hike on a trail on the Gaviota Coast. This trail leads us high into the foothills for great views of the coast and valley. We'll include the upper loop in our route. Although mostly on old ranch roads, the route starts rising steeply towards the rear of the valley, then transfers to a trail leading us to the 1200' high point. 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. Email for instructions. GERRY 1-805-964-5411, gching@cox.net (SB)

August 27
CHANNEL ISLAND HARBOR

to Silverstrand Beach: Meet at 9am in the Channel Islands Harbor parking lot near Mrs. Olson's cafe. From there we will cross the bridge over the harbor, walk down Victoria Ave. to Silverstrand Beach, then return to our cars. This is a 5 mile flat loop on pavement. The walk is mostly exposed, so wear a hat, sunscreen, & bring water. We will regroup occasionally so that we may continue as a group. For more info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 moenandez@gmail.com. (VEN)

September 1
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. Hiking shoes and at least 2 liters of water required. Meet behind B of A on State St. at Hope Ave. at 8am. NOTE EARLY START TIME. KRISTI Email: sbhikergirl@cox.net (SB)

SHEEP CAMP HIKE: Enjoy Jeffrey pine forests! Trail starts at 8,300'. We gain 1,600' & lose 1,600', while hiking 9 miles round trip. Our lunch destination is Sheep Camp, near a spring, where we'll relax for an hour & enjoy the Sierra-like scenery. On the way, we'll hike up to the summit of Mt. Pinos at 8,847', the highest peak in Ventura County & Sawmill Mtn. too. Bring hat, sunglasses, water, lunch, sunscreen, jacket, & other 10 essentials. Rain cancels. Adventure Pass needed for cars. Meet at 7:30am at Fillmore Starbucks for 1.5 hour drive to trailhead. TERESA 1-805 524-7170. (VEN)

WILDWOOD PARK LOOP: Moderate 4.5 mrt hike with approx. 700' elev. gain. Hike goes across the Mesa and down through the canyon. Return by way of Indian Creek Trail. Bring water, food, and wear lug-soled shoes. Meet at 7:30am in the Wildwood parking lot at the west end of Avenida de los Arboles in Thousand Oaks. JOANNE SULKOSKE 1-805-492-3061. (CJ)

September 2
FREMONT TRAIL: Park on East Camino Cielo and walk North along ridge used by Fremont to cross the ridge into Santa Barbara. Superb views of valley. Easy-Moderate, 4 mrt. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. TONY 1-805-455-4212 (SB)

September 3
LOON POINT, Summerland Equestrian trails: Meet at 9am in the parking lot for Loon Point off of the 101 Fwy in Summerland. The low tide is at 09:40, which will allow us to follow the beach up to Summerland. From there we will follow the equestrian trails through the back roads of town

continued next page

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>

Meetups & Ongoing Outings

Santa Barbara

Meetup site by the Santa Barbara Group is a place for people to find all sorts of local activities, including hikes, and you can post or see photos too. Go to: www.meetup.com/SierraClub-SantaBarbara

Regular outings are every Wednesday and Friday nights and every Saturday and Sunday during the day.

Wednesday night: Strenuous conditioning hike. Meet at 6:30 at the Santa Barbara Mission, Laguna and Los Olivos St.

Friday evening social hike for an easy-to-moderate 2-4 mrt 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)

Saturday and Sunday hikes: Usually meets at the Bank of America on Hope and State Street. Starting times vary. For detailed schedules and who to call, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/SB-Hikes>

Ventura

Meetup group is open to anyone to join and is a super handy calendar of the local official Sierra Club outings. Ease into fitness at beginner walks, get going on intermediate half or whole day hikes, or make new friendships on overnight backpacks. Just go to: www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura

Every Monday morning, Easy Walks: Join the Ventura Sierra Club at 9am every Monday morning for easy to moderate walks-hikes in the Ventura county area. A long-time tradition, the walks will last about two to three hours and the group sometimes goes for coffee afterward. Call Philip 218-2103 or Lora 218-2105.

JOIN THE CLUB • ONLY \$15 • GET A FIELD BAG • SIERRACLUB.ORG

Outings...from page 6

leading us back to our cars. This is a 6 mile loop along a mix of beach, pavement, and dirt. Plan on being done about 12:00. For more info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 moenandez@gmail.com. (VEN)

September 8

LAKE CACHUMA & HISTORIC HWY 150: We'll walk a portion of the original Hwy 150 road near Lake Cachuma and explore Arrowhead Island. Easy-moderate 2 mrt. Bring water and a light lunch. Long pants recommended as Spring rains brought tall grass. 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. Call or email for instructions. GERRY 1-805-964-5411, gching@cox.net (SB)

September 9

SAN YSIDRO EXPLORATORY: From the San Ysidro trail head in Montecito we will explore in an area that was damaged in the fire and mud flow. Expect a moderate hike of 4-5 miles with some rock hopping. Bring water and lunch. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT 1-805-685-1283 / event@swt.org (SB)

NATIONAL DRIVE ELECTRIC WEEK SHOW: 9:30am-3pm Show your Electric Vehicle or just come play with some! Volunteers needed to staff the Sierra Club booth. Oxnard West Channel Park, 3610 Harbor Blvd. Sign up as an exhibitor at <https://driveelectricweek.org/event.php?eventid=1208> Volunteers and questions: JAMES REACH sierraclubventura@gmail.com. (VEN)

NICHOLAS FLAT TRAIL: 8am-12pm Nicholas Flat Trail is a moderate 6.9 mile lightly trafficked loop trail near Malibu that features a lake and that takes you from the beach to the mountains. Bring 2-3 liters of water & a light lunch. We'll be stopping at the Nicholas pond to rest and re-energize. No pets allowed. This trail has been known for small insects so wear long pants and sleeves. Anything carried on the trail will be carried off. Parking can be found on PCH or in paid parking lot. We will meet near PCH and the trailhead away from the busy street. For more info, contact VICTORIA at victoria.a.perez@gmail.com. (VEN)

September 10

VENTURA HARBOR: Meet at 9am in the parking lot along Harbor Blvd. just south of Spinnaker. From there we will walk through Harbor Village and the harbor to Channel Island National Park, turn around and follow the road back to the settling ponds for a short walk around. That will bring us almost to our cars at 11:30. This will be a 4 mile flat loop on pavement and dirt. Hopefully, we will be able to see some wildlife at the ponds! Prepare for sun and bring water. For more info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 moenandez@gmail.com. (VEN)

September 15

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 3790 State St. 9am. Hike limited to four dogs - please call to reserve your dog's place. Rain/fire/extreme heat cancels. SALLY 1-805-689-7820 (SB)

September 15

COASTAL CLEAN UP DAY: 9am-noon. Be a part of the biggest

environmental volunteer day in the world. Clean Up the Santa Clara River at Johnson/Hwy 101 with Ventura Sierra Club and Friends of the Santa Clara River. Park behind Anytime Fitness and walk to the sign-in table. Questions: sierraclubventura@gmail.com. (VEN)

September 16

ROMERO CANYON LOOP: Hike up a trail recovering from the Thomas Fire with trees and a small stream to a lunch spot. Then down an abandoned road with a beautiful view. See how the environment and the trail are recovering. Moderate 6 mrt. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. CHRISTINE 1-805-963-2347 (SB)

SANTA CLARA RIVER TOUR and Silver Celebration: 3:30-6:30pm. Ventura Sierra Club will be a site tour leader for the 25-year Friends of the Santa Clara River anniversary event. See results of environmental restoration by club and local volunteers, enjoy original live River music, and get involved in the next 25 years. Tour locations vary, main event at Rancho Camulos. Tickets will be available at fscr.org. (VEN)

September 17

HAWK CANYON: Meet at 9am in the dirt parking lot at the end of Hill Canyon Rd. This is off of Santa Rosa Rd, in Camarillo. We'll walk over the bridge to shady Hawk Canyon where a creek flows year around. Once through, we'll follow the meadow past Elliot Mt. where we'll pay our respects, regroup & then proceed downhill to our cars. This loop is about 5 miles on dirt trails. The downhill is a bit long and a little steep. Hiking poles may help those with knee issues. Bring plenty of water and prepare for sun. We should be back to our cars before noon. For more info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 moenandez@gmail.com. (VEN)

September 22

RATTLESNAKE TRAIL - TUNNEL TRAIL: Hike up Rattlesnake Trail to Tunnel connector. Hike up steep connector to Tunnel Trail. Hike along Tunnel Trail to rock formation for lunch. Beautiful views of Santa Barbara and Goleta. Moderate-strenuous 9 mrt. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. TONY 1-805-455-4212 (SB)

September 24

RAY MILLER TRAIL: Meet at the La Jolla campground parking lot at 9:30am. Fee to park. I suggest carpooling with someone who has a State Pass or carpooling so you can all chip in and pay for 1 car. From our cars, we will walk up the scenic trail offering panoramic views of the ocean and islands (and hopefully a cool breeze) to the top. We'll take a short break, then turn around and return to the cars. It's a 5 mile out and back on a dirt trail. The elevation is gradual along several switchbacks. As always, bring water and wear sunscreen and a hat. For more info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 moenandez@gmail.com. (VEN)

September 30

MT. PINOS: Long carpool to Mt. Pinos, then a strenuous 14 mrt hike with 3600 feet elevation gain/loss from Mt. Pinos to Cerro Noroeste and back. This hike takes place at an altitude between 7600 - 8800 feet with some steep sections, so only come if you know you can hike at altitude. Wear hiking shoes/boots, hat, bring at least three liters of water, snack, lunch. Meet at 8am at the Ventura carpool lot (Seaward and Harbor between Chase Bank and Carrows). JIM 1-805-479-7063/1-805-644-6934 (SB)

September 30

BONEY MOUNTAIN TRAIL: 8am-1pm. Boney Mountain Overlook

Chapter's own legendary activist helped build foundation of success

Editor's note: I urge all to read this article about the early days of our Los Padres Chapter through the experience of Anne Van Tyne, one of our early founders, a national award-winner, part of the national club's Oral History Project and a key player establishing the Dick Smith Wilderness in 1984.

She witnessed the transformation of the Sierra Club from a hiking group to one that embraced political action, splitting its tax status between conservation and activism. The historical perspective is particularly relevant today, as our chapter has hired its first full-time executive director (see story on page 1) reinforcing gains made by talented but unpaid volunteers, who nevertheless persist.

Moving to Santa Barbara from Chicago, she joined the chapter in 1962 when there were only a few hundred members, and helped establish the SB Group, later winning National's first-ever Council Service Award in 1977.

The article is presented here as written in March 1993, two months after she died.

By John Hankins

Editor, Condor Call

It's hard to imagine the Los Padres Chapter without Anne Van Tyne, who became a nationally-known wilderness advocate, winner of the Sierra Club's coveted Colby award and helped establish the Dick Smith Wilderness in the Santa Barbara/Ventura backcountry.

Anne died at 88 in January, yet her legacy in local outdoor circles will touch generations to come. Her work with the Sierra Club started modestly enough – a friend invited her on a hike in 1962. "I got to go to areas I never knew existed."

Her favorite was the 65,000-acre Dick Smith Wilderness, "because it has variety; high desert in the east end, Indian Canyon with high waterfalls, limestone caves, Malduce Peak with pines and cedars -- you can have blistering summer in the canyons and snow on the peaks here."

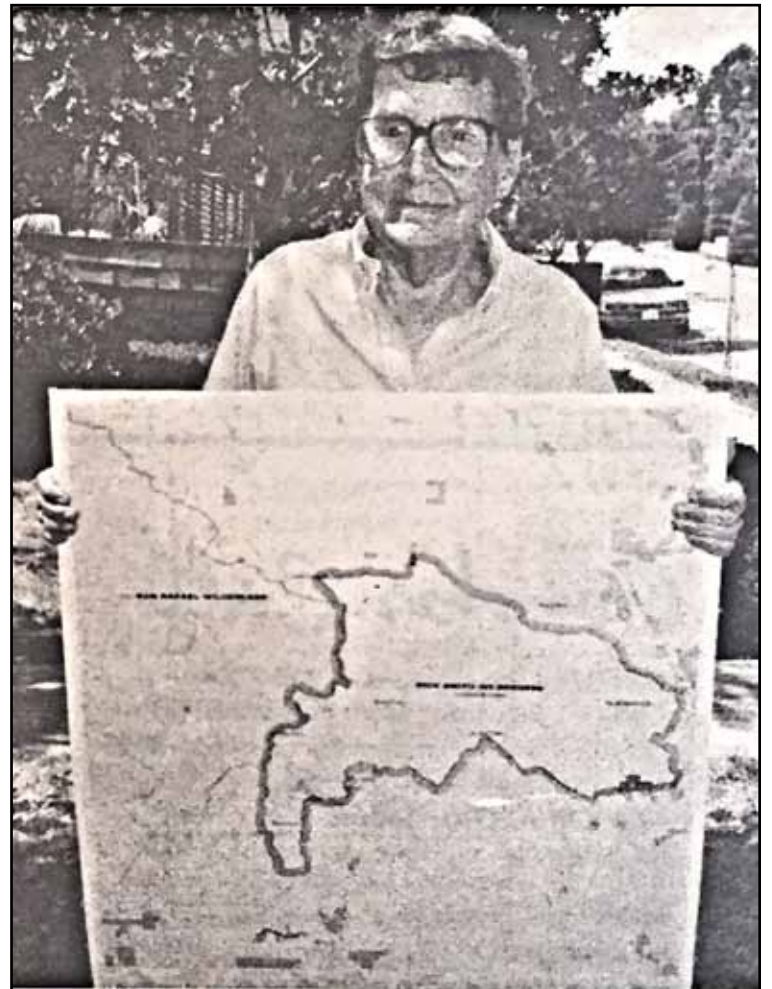
Plus, "you really had to work to get in there." It also took 12 years of work in the political forests of the



Trail is a difficult 9.1 mile moderately-trafficked out and back trail located near Newbury Park. Elevation gain 2,670 ft. Please bring plenty of water (3L+) and food for at the top. Come with experience, proper gear, and a leave no trace mentality. High chance of seeing wildlife. We'll be going through steep climbs with loose gravel. Good hiking shoes are a must. Hikers will not be permitted to go without proper gear and a good attitude. No dogs allowed. Free Parking is found in the park at the trailhead. For more info, contact VICTORIA at victoria.a.perez@gmail.com. (VEN)

October 1

MONTECITO EXPLORATORY: We will explore a Montecito area that was damaged in the fire and mud flow. Expect a moderate hike of 4-5 miles with some rock hopping. Trail head could be Cold Spring or Hot Spring or another location, depending on access at the time. Bring water and lunch. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT 1-805-685-1283 event@swt.org (SB)



Los Padres Chapter's Ann Van Tyne holds a map of the Dick Smith Wilderness which she helped establish. (Photo by Jack Carmichael)

state and national capitols to gain wilderness status.

She saw the Santa Barbara-Ventura chapter grow from 500 to over 5,000 go from a primarily hiker-oriented group to one that endorsed political candidates and a chapter that can count huge success in establishing new wilderness areas and preservation of many others.

Author Robert Easton called her, "the Grand Dame of the environmental movement."

Inspired by the ethics and adventure of the Sierra Club, Van Tyne served as *Condor Call* editor for six years in the '60s, was Chapter Chair twice, led countless hikes, served a decade in the outings committee, helped organize our first forest land use committee in 1970 and edited the national club's how-to quarterly for a dozen years.

A confident woman, Van Tyne was struck speechless only once – when she won the Colby Award in 1982 at the same event when Wallace Stegner won the Muir Award. The Colby was given "for extraordinary service to the Sierra Club" and defines her as an "organizer, executive, trip leader, trainer, conservation activist, recruiter and currently editor of the Sierra Club's Forum."

Ironically, she became so busy at one point working toward preservation of wilderness areas, "I didn't have time to go hiking there."

The Call of the Wild was too strong to ignore for long, and she resumed hiking until her body forbid it – last climbing La Cumbre Peak at age 85.

During an interview only two months before her death, I found her at peace. She was honest about her impending demise, insisting she had a full and satisfying life and cited numerous friends in the Sierra Club "who made it all worthwhile."

When she, Sue Higman and others set up the chapter's first forest land use committee in 1970, "it started with a bang" – a fight to stop open pit phosphate mining near Ojai. The chapter gained more experience

halting over-development at Zaca Lake and convinced foresters to reduce herbicides. "It's better to keep brush down with sheep or goats," she quipped.

One issue she believes "was never satisfactorily resolved" was off-road vehicle policies, particularly around Mt. Pinos. She also advocated closing single-track trails to mountain bikes, "but it looked as if we had to bring them a body to convince them," she said of the Forest Service's reluctance.

While reminiscing fondly, Anne said the chapter in her early years "emphasized outings more than conservation, and there was no political activity at all – otherwise we'd lose our non-profit status." All that's changed now, and she found herself "of two minds" over endorsing candidates, "but I'm convinced it's a mistake to make an endorsement in every single case."

A key example is the chapter's relationship with long-term Republican Congress member Robert Lagomarsino, now replaced by Michael Huffington. "It was sort of at my insistence that we were neutral with Lagomarsino," especially when the Democrats did not have a viable challenger, she said.

And Lagomarsino did deliver on some major issues, notably carrying legislation establishing the Dick Smith Wilderness. "It was the best thing that happened to him," she chuckled.

She sensed a division within the chapter today – "between hikers and the more political types." She advocated a balance between outings and conservation "and more discrimination in political activity."

She advised the chapter had "a wonderful opportunity for better working relations with the new Forest Service," remembering days when a former Forest Supervisor resisted public participation.

On behalf of all in the Chapter, we thank you Anne Van Tyne; your peace is well deserved.

Rag tag eco-warriors

By Jim Hines

Greetings Friends:

It has been a rough year for those of us who are working in so many ways on so many fronts to stop the destruction of our national public lands, the polluting of our air and water and the killing of precious wildlife.

While we have suffered some difficult defeats and there are times when it seems like the attacks on our environment will never end, it is each one of you who are part of the army of resistance, the Warriors of the Rainbow as singer Joan Baez calls us, who have worked so hard attending and speaking out at public hearings, attending rallies and public events, meeting one on one with elected and appointed decision makers who are truly making a positive difference. YOU have worked to raise public awareness, brought new people into the environmental movement by being the example of a positive.

YOU are part of an army of Davids who will bring down the Goliaths who seek to destroy our environment.

We live in scary times, but I never thought I would see the day where people who are well dressed in four-piece business suits are the ones who hate the U.S. Government and are taking actions to get rid of the only thing America has: her land, heritage and historical culture.

These appointed and elected officials, many of whom identify with the American Patriot Movement, actually believe that the U.S. Government is illegally occupying lands in the western U.S. (our national parks,

monuments, forests and wildlife refuges!).

Do not give up, we have stopped some terrible things from happening, we have stalled off things and we are on court over many environmental issues.

We are so fortunate to have two great members of Congress representing our chapter area, Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. They are Julia Brownley, who represents 90% of Ventura County and Salud Carbajal, who represents a small portion of Ventura, all of Santa Barbara County and San Luis Obispo County.

Others in Congress who are particularly helpful on our issues, but not from our area, include Raul Grijalva (D-northern Arizona) and Paul Lowenthal (D-Laguna Beach, CA).

Do not give up for our planet and all her living creatures which need people like you. It is truly you who are the voice for the earth and the wildlife who cannot speak up. Your voice matters.

We may be a rag tag army of environmental warriors, but history has shown that in the end we will carry the day. Because of you we will prevail in the end.

In deep appreciation for all that each of you do.

EAVESDROPS

"Science appeals to our rational brain, but our beliefs are motivated largely by emotion, and the biggest motivation is remaining tight with our peers."

~ Joel Achenback quoted in National Geographic's "The War on Science" issue.



Many thanks to the 70+ volunteers who cleaned up graffiti and trash from Wheeler Gorge in the Ojai District on June 30. Sponsors included Black Diamond, Los Padres Chapter of American Alpine Club, the SB Rock Gym, and Los Padres ForestWatch to do this excellent deed which garnered about 200 pounds of trash and hundreds of square feet of graffiti. Then many celebrated by climbing the clean rocks. (Photo by Bryant Baker of LPFW) To volunteer in the future, go to: www.LPFW.org

Trackers keep tabs on environmental roll-backs

The Trump administration, with help from Republicans in Congress, has made it a point to kill or relax environmental rules it sees as burdensome to the fossil fuel industry, along with major Obama-era policies aimed at fighting climate change, according to a *New York Times* feature article.

"To date, the Trump administration has sought to reverse more than 70 environmental rules, based on research from Harvard Law School's Environmental Regulation Rollback Tracker, Columbia Law School's Climate Tracker and other sources," wrote the reporters. Broken down that's 46 rules overturned, 30 rollbacks in progress and 76 total rollbacks. Heading the lists are 17 overturned rules affecting air pollution and oil drilling, plus 18 rollbacks in those categories.

The Harvard site links you to pages that describe what's at stake,

status, history and deregulation efforts. Most practical is identification for all open comment periods, and ability to easily submit comments. You can also get a biweekly update if you sign up. Here's the link:

<https://tinyurl.com/HarvardEcoTracker>

Columbia's site is more focused on climate deregulations and is linked to the rules. A key example is an executive order scrapping the Obama Administration's order to cut the government's greenhouse gas emissions by 40%. Go here:

<https://tinyurl.com/ColumbiaClimateTracker>

Meanwhile, *Condor Call* often prints how to fight these rollbacks via the Sierra Club's activist network nationally and in California: Go here to get involved:

www.SierraClub.org

www.SierraClubCalifornia.org