

# Condor Call



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Me Too Planet at the Climate March in San Francisco, which drew thousands, and we too of the Los Padres Chapter had many of our members bus up from SB, Ventura, Santa Maria, plus attend local marches. (Photo By Austin Price)

## Saving the Island fox

Channel Island fox conservation is the story of two birds, a rare fox, and the interconnections between species.

Efforts were taken that changed near-extinction into the most successful recovery of an endangered species in North American history. Find out more during a fascinating free program (donations happily accepted) sponsored by the Ventura Sierra Club at 5:30pm Tuesday, Nov. 13 Foster Library, 651 E., Main St. Ventura. For program details go to:

[www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura](http://www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura)

Between 1994 and 2000 the populations of island foxes on four islands plunged toward extinction. On Santa Rosa Island, the population dropped from over 1,700 to only 15 individual animals. Why did this happen?

Entitled "Saving the Channel Island Fox: The Interconnections Between Land & Sea," you'll discover the unique ecosystems of

the Channel Islands with Friends of the Island Fox (FIF) founder Pat Meyer and program director Keri Dearborn. They will reveal how a community working together can save a species.

FIF was founded in 2005 as a joint effort between conservation professionals and private citizens striving to create public awareness about the Island fox and to raise funds to support education, research and conservation measures for their survival. In 2018, FIF joined with the non-profit Channel Islands Restoration organization.

To date FIF has provided funding for a variety of conservation efforts, including: 147 radio-tracking collars, over 500 identification microchips for wild island foxes, vaccinated island foxes against rabies and canine distemper virus, and funded campground food lockers and "fox-saver" trash bins on Catalina Island. For more information visit: <http://www1.islandfox.org>



The unique Island fox was once endangered but thanks to the work of many, they are surviving well. Learn all about it from those who know, the Friends of the Island Fox Nov. 13. (Photo by Chuck Graham)

## 'Dam' steelhead survive

### BULLETIN

Conservation groups scored a key courtroom victory on Sept 25 for endangered Southern California steelhead harmed by operation of the Vern Freeman Dam on the Santa Clara River.

The court found United Water Conservation District violated the federal Endangered Species Act by clearly causing past, ongoing and future harm to steelhead because of the dam's barrier to fish movement and diversion of water. Finding that United "dragged its feet" on critical solutions, the ruling requires United to immediately ensure the river has sufficient flows for steelhead to swim the 10.5-mile stretch of river to and

from the ocean.

The Wishtoyo Foundation ([www.wishtoyo.org](http://www.wishtoyo.org)) was the key plaintiff; read Judge David O. Carter's decision, findings and remedies here: <https://tinyurl.com/damVsteelhead>

### EAVESDROPS

"Flood plain restoration is increasingly seen as a way of coping with the future."

~ It also protects property, habitats and adds to groundwater, just the kind of work the Ventura Sierra Club is doing at the Hedrick property along the Santa Clara River. Quote is from NY Times article about a California trend.

# Condor Call

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

October - November 2018



See collage pgs 5,6  
and buy or lease story

## AMPT to KICKGAS for XEROCO2

By John Hankins

While the White House is busy advocating for coal-fired cars (just kidding), slashing gas mileage requirements and smooching with the oil industry (not kidding), the rest of the world is charging ahead for electric vehicles.

The new electrics and plug-in hybrids may be silent compared to the horseless carriages, but the demand for them is an uproar. Anyone visiting the events during National Drive Electric Week events Sept. 8-16 came away convinced and comfortable they are the vehicles of the future.

General Motors just announced it's now working for a zero-emissions future, along with Volvo, Aston Martin, Jaguar and so many more, while European countries plan to ban gas/diesel cars sooner than later, as does China and India.

To accelerate that future, our Los Padres Chapter sponsored two events in the 805 area in Oxnard (Sept 8) and Solvang (Sept 9), while the SB Community Environmental Council (which helped us out in Solvang), had events at UCSB Sept 13 and in Santa Maria and Lompoc Sept. 16.

"They were an overwhelming success," said James Reach, an enthusiastic Tesla owner who

organized the Oxnard and Solvang events and is our chapter's Transportation Chair. "Our volunteers counted 1640 people coming to hear first-hand from 61 private owners and five dealers." Almost 150 of the people who came took advantage of a test ride or drive in an EV at Oxnard's show, thanks to the Electric Vehicle Advocates of Ventura County's members. At all the shows attendees were treated to proud owners who answered all questions.

One of them was SB Supervisor Joan Hartmann, who said, "my role of Supervisor has me driving to the far reaches of Santa Barbara County. Fortunately, I take solace that all that travel is emission free in my electric vehicle, a Tesla Model S. Its battery is charged by solar panels on my roof at home to boot. People have busy lives

and I know that one barrier for folks thinking about purchasing an electric vehicle is the uncertainty about battery range. I hope to reassure even the busiest travelers that it is possible with an electric vehicle."

And our own new chapter executive director, Jon Ullman -- who came from the red state of

*continued on page 2*

### EAVESDROPS

"One of the great success stories in California's fight against climate change has been the rapid greening of the state's electrical grid."

~ LA Times editorial advocating for 100 percent clean energy beneath a headline: "Raise the green power goal." Sierra Club California has been working hard for this goal for years and is asking members to donate to continue being ahead of the curve. In 2002 the state's first target was only 12% coming from renewable sources; current target is 50% by 2030, yet California will easily meet that by 2020! To help and for info, go to:

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

### COVER PHOTO

IM AMPT, and so are we! And so are KICKGAS and XEROCO2, license plates of proud electric vehicle owners at the Sierra Club's events during National Drive week. Read the story above and those on page 4. The owner of this 2017 Tesla Model S 90D is an AMPT Larry Bernstein, owner of Dirty Parts. (Photo by John Hankins)

## A class act cleans up Gateway

The Ventura Sierra Club may be the only club group or chapter sponsoring a Coastal Clean Up Day in the whole state (national staff are you listening?).

We'd love to get knocked off the throne, but in the meantime ... a half ton of trash will NOT waste our beach and NOT increase the Pacific garbage patch because of amazing volunteers coordinated by the VSC on Sept 15. (Not to infer that Sierra Club members statewide did not participate, but not as a club-sponsored event.)

"I have always wanted to come and see this natural area," one volunteer told organizer Nina Danza, "and this is the perfect time to come and do something to help." The area is the Santa Clara River Gateway and Sierra Linda School teacher Charlene Bouvet brought a crew for the sixth year in a row, all coordinated by the VSC during this annual California Coastal Clean-up drive.

"Water is an extremely important topic in our class," Ms. Bouvet explained. "This year we are doing a water walk demonstration learning about what it takes to obtain water in developing countries."

Her crew took on the task of tallying the trash counts at the end of the clean-up, which numbered 77 volunteers picking up 1,130 pounds of trash at this one site alone. While results statewide are still being compiled by press time, 75% of groups reported that over

53,000 volunteers picked up 367 tons of trash, 17 tons of which are recyclable at over 1,000 sites.

It wasn't all work, it was education too, thanks to Friends of the Santa Clara River Chair Jim Danza, who noted that trash from inland sites wash down into the beaches and the ocean.

The crowd favorite contest locally included a flat-screen TV, graduation gown and platform shoes. Statewide the most unusual

items were a painting of a marsh, in a marsh, and a Coca-Cola can from 1963.

Who won? "Everyone: the community, the river and the health of our environment," Nina Danza said.

*Editor's note: Santa Barbara County reports 1150 volunteers at 27 sites picked up 2 1/2 tons of trash, about a half-ton of which were recyclable.*



During Coastal Clean-up day Sept. 15, the Ventura Sierra Club and its many volunteers grabbed a half-ton of trash that won't end up in the ocean or your back yard. (Photo by Nina Danza)

# AMPT to KICKGAS...

continued from page 1

Florida to California blue -- advised, "I just leased a 2018 Volt last month (August) and haven't stopped at a gas station since. I will never drive another gas-only car again." Guess what color he chose? Blue.

See Ullman's story page 4 which includes links to practical info about EVs.

So, all this may be new to you, but not to Kent and Cathy Bullard, who have had electric vehicles since 2011 with a Nissan Leaf and now a Tesla Model 3. She commutes to work from Ventura to Thousand Oaks and asserts, "I'll never go back (to gas), there's no reason."

It wasn't only cars. Our correspondent, Samantha Marin, was fascinated with electric bikes and boats, also on display in Oxnard from Frank Laza's rental shop. "I got to look at his bicycles and they were impressive. With one full charge it can go 25 to 35 miles. The bike can be folded up to put in the trunk of any vehicle, so there's no need for those bike racks in the back. Once the battery dies you can still ride the bicycle manually," she said.

Reach emphasized that less pollution from the fully electric or plug-in hybrids are not the only reason to buy or lease: "Performance is so much better, maintenance is so much cheaper."

There are also many rebates that reduce the cost. The largest is the California Clean Vehicle Rebate Project (CVRP), which offers between \$1,500 and \$2,500 back as a check in the mail to all Californians who buy or lease an electric vehicle. An increased CVRP rebate of up to \$4,500 is available for low-to-moderate income households. There is also a Clean Fuel Rebate of \$450 from Southern California Edison or \$500 from Pacific Gas & Electric. Together, these rebates are enough to cover more than half the cost of a 3-year lease for some electric vehicle models, even before taking fuel savings into account.

Want to know specifics on every model? Go to: [www.PlugInAmerica.org](http://www.PlugInAmerica.org)

## Open house for raptors

The rare once-per-year opportunity to visit the Ojai Raptor Center and marvel at these magnificent birds runs from noon to 4pm, Sunday Nov. 4 at its rehab campus, 370 Baldwin Rd. in Ojai.

The center takes in abandoned chicks or injured birds of prey and other wildlife throughout the local region, intending to release them to the wild. Some cannot be released and so are used in classrooms and public programs to teach about wildlife and our shared environment.

In a Yelp review, Andrea from Tujunga wrote, "I discovered the raptor center a few years ago when I read about them in an *LA Times* article. I rescued some baby owls fallen from a nest and they sent someone to get them and could not have been nicer or more compassionate and helpful. They have an annual open house that I can't recommend highly enough. It's extremely educational and a lot of fun. It's incredible to see these magnificent creatures up close and personal, and not in a cage."

Besides meeting the raptors up close, there are fun activities for children and adults, including a silent auction to win a release of a raptor with ORC staff.

Entry fee is only \$5 per person with children under 10 admitted free; no dogs allowed. Handicapped parking will be available and there will also be additional parking with shuttles running every 10 minutes. For more info go to: [www.OjaiRaptorCenter.org](http://www.OjaiRaptorCenter.org)

## EVENTS

Oct 12: **Last TGIF** of the season at SB Environmental Defense Center, 906 Garden St in Santa Barbara. Our Sierra Club sponsors every year. Schmooze and network with the enviro community. For details go to: [www.environmentaldefensecenter.org](http://www.environmentaldefensecenter.org)

Oct 11-15 and 18-22: **Island Opportunity** for ongoing restoration work on San Nicolas Island, flight and room is included. Email Nancy Diaz for details: [volunteer@cirweb.org](mailto:volunteer@cirweb.org)

Oct 13: **Used Gear Sale**, Tucker's Grove, Goleta, put on by the Los Padres Forest Assn. Details at: [www.lpforest.org](http://www.lpforest.org)

Oct 18: **Ojai politics** get an airing on environmental views of candidates for mayor and city council. Los Padres Chapter is co-hosting with Ojai Valley Green Coalition and CFROG. Our Chapter Chair Jim Hines will be one of the moderators. From 7-9pm, Chaparral High School, 414 E. Ojai Ave.

Oct 21: **Santa Barbara WILD!** a benefit for Los Padres ForestWatch from 3-6:30pm at The Garden Street Academy, 2300 Garden St., Santa Barbara. Help support continued trail maintenance and conservation. For

info and sign-up call 617-4610 or: [www.sbwild.org](http://www.sbwild.org)



Riley the Screech owl is an 'ambassador' for the Ojai Raptor Center. (Photo by Norman Zeller)

Nov 4: **Raptor Open House** happens occasionally, so latch onto this rare opportunity to see the rehab and 'ambassador' raptors at the Ojai Raptor Center (serving our local region) from noon 4pm, 370 Baldwin Rd., Ojai. Details at: [www.OjaiRaptorCenter.org](http://www.OjaiRaptorCenter.org)

Nov 13: **Island Fox** program by two Friends of the Island Fox group who are helping to save these unique mammals, entitled, "the Interconnections between Land and Sea" at 5:30pm Foster Library, 651 E., Main St. Ventura. Sponsored by Ventura Sierra Club's educational series "Venture(a) Out." (See flyer pg ?) For details go to: [www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura](http://www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura)

### EAVESDROPS

"There's also this real American sense of freedom of producing electricity from my rooftop."

~ Lynn Jurich, cofounder of SunRun, about California requiring solar installations on new homes starting in 2020 via building codes. It may add up to \$12,000 more to the cost, or \$40 more per month on a mortgage, but the Cal Energy Commission estimates consumers will save \$80 on heating, cooling and lighting bills.



In preparation for the massive Climate March in San Francisco Sept. 8, students, kids and Sierra Club members made signs and listened to the Peace Poets. (Photo by Jon Ullman)

## Oil opposition comes from multiple fronts

By Katie Davis  
**Jaw-dropping frack-ture**

It's hard to keep track of the myriad ways the Trump administration is attacking the environment, rolling back progress in responding to climate change and doubling down on fossil fuels.

The latest is the Bureau of Land Management's proposal to open 273,000 acres of federal land and mineral rights across San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties to oil drilling and fracking. You would be hard pressed to come up with a dumber list of places to drill including trails, schools, conservation lands, designated protected areas, steams and reservoirs, including a parcel by Cachuma Lake.



Once its study is complete, the BLM can auction off the drilling rights to these parcels for as little as \$2.00 per acre, possibly giving oil companies the right to construct roads, oil wells, pipelines, and other infrastructure on these privately-owned parcels.

### Fighting Back

We have arrows in our quiver too. Thousands of comments of opposition were submitted during a recent comment period on the BLM proposal above. And in response to the Administration's earlier proposal to expand offshore oil/gas in federal waters, 79 cities and counties on the west coast have passed resolutions of opposition.

In addition, State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson (D-Santa Barbara) and Assembly member Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara) co-authored legislation to ensure that pipelines and other infrastructure cannot be built in California waters to support any new federal oil development. While earlier attempts were parried by fossil fuel interests, SB 834 and AB 1775 were successfully signed into law by Gov. Brown in September.

### Cleaning Up

We're also dealing with the mess from existing oil. Plains Pipeline was just found guilty of nine criminal counts, including a felony, related to the 2015 oil spill at Refugio beach (due to negligence in maintaining its pipeline etc.). Meanwhile, state

### EAVESDROPS

"If you endanger our environment and wildlife, we will hold you accountable."

~ Message sent to polluters by SB's District Attorney's office Sept 7 after guilty verdicts were rendered in the People vs. Plains All American Pipeline for the Refugio oil spill May 2015. Plains' pipeline ruptured spilling about 140K gallons of crude oil.

taxpayers are on the hook for cleanup and abandonment of oil wells at Rincon Island in Ventura County and Platform Holly in Goleta to the tune of \$108 million over the next three years. The state will also be taking responsibility for the Ellwood Onshore Facility oil processing plant from the city of Goleta to facilitate well abandonment.

### Playing Offense

With mounting climate-change related disasters unfolding and time running short to pull back from the brink, countering Trump's most egregious moves is not enough.

California hosted an international climate conference in San Francisco in September, raising commitments and increasing resolve to do more at the state and local level to meet global climate goals. With the passage of SB 100 -- requiring that 100% of California's electricity comes from carbon-free sources by 2045 -- the state became the largest economy in the world to commit to sourcing 100% of its energy from renewable sources.

### Looking Forward

A renewable energy grid means we can use it to power our transportation and buildings with clean energy.

On October 2, the Sierra Club encouraged the MTD Board to adopt a goal of 100% electric buses by 2030 as the Los Angeles Transit Authority has already done. In addition, the Club is hosting a panel at the Oct. 11 UCSB Sustainability Summit on electrifying buildings and moving off natural gas. Recent research finds that methane leakage may be 60% higher than official EPA estimates, making natural gas far worse for the climate than previously understood.

## 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 • [Condor.John@gnusman.com](mailto:Condor.John@gnusman.com)

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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](mailto: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, NWW, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Washington, D.C., 20001

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

[Jonathan.Ullman@SierraClub.org](mailto:Jonathan.Ullman@SierraClub.org)

• EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE •

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

• GROUP CHAIRS •

Arguello: Rebecca August 350-0629, [rebeccaugust@mac.com](mailto:rebeccaugust@mac.com)

Conejo: Hugh Warren, 341-6295, [mail@hkwarren.net](mailto:mail@hkwarren.net)

Santa Barbara: Katie Davis, 451-4574, [kdavis2468@gmail.com](mailto:kdavis2468@gmail.com)

Ventura Network: Nina Danza, 901-1679, [SierraClubVentura@gmail.com](mailto:SierraClubVentura@gmail.com)

• CLUB SERVICES •

Forest issues: Jim Hines, 340-9266, [jhcasitas@gmail.com](mailto:jhcasitas@gmail.com)

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

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

Conservation SB: Open

Conservation VC: Jim Hines, 340-9266, [jhcasitas@gmail.com](mailto:jhcasitas@gmail.com)

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

Outings: Stephen Bryne, 794-1150, [sebryne@gmail.com](mailto:sebryne@gmail.com)

Political SB: Alex Pujo, 962-3578, [alex@pujo.net](mailto:alex@pujo.net)

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

Transportation: James Reach, 444-6638, [reach@101freeway.com](mailto:reach@101freeway.com)

Typography and production by Dan Fuller

**SIGHTINGS**

# Our founder would be proud

By John Hankins

We had a John Muir sighting during one of our events (well, an actor playing him) as well as an editorial lauding the man who was co-founder of the club, who said Muir would be proud on how the club has progressed. And so it has, as noted by our ongoing activism since the last Condor Call, including fights to gain coastal access, protesting for climate change action and fostering solutions such as electric vehicles and conservation efforts.

But don't forget how much fun we have too. Notably during our free Outings (see pages 6 & 7).

Please join us in any capacity you like (see Group News box pg 3). Here's what we've been up to in August and September:

Sept 11: **Wild Rivers Act** program by CalWild's Steve Evans told attendees how important it is to be good stewards and protect our rivers. Part of Venture(a) Out Speakers' Series by the Ventura Sierra Club. (See story page)

Sept 8: **Rise Ventura** Climate March started at Ventura Beach forming human banner spelling RISE and marched to city hall with Sierra Clubbers taking part.

Sept 8: **Climate March** in San Francisco was attended by numerous Sierra Club members from Santa Barbara and Ventura who rode buses to the event

Sept 8, 9: **Electric Vehicle** car shows in Oxnard and Solvang sponsored by our chapter; see story pg 4.

Aug 27: **Court prep** for Nov. 19 hearing on public access through Hollister Ranch attended by SB Group's Alex Pujio who said homeowners fighting over fairness technical issues.

Aug 26: **Fun at UCSB** making signs and listening to Peace Poets in preparation for San Francisco Climate March Sept 8.

Aug 24: **Alliance Allowed** by SB judge to become a party in the campaign to gain public access through the private Hollister Ranch along the Gaviota Coast. Our Los Padres Chapter is part of that Gaviota Coastal Trail Alliance.

Aug 23: **Sierra Club's Fight** to Save the Planet, published as an OpEd in the Santa Maria Times by Mark James Miller of Hancock College. Read the full story here:

## Ban blowers that use gas

Gas powered leaf blowers should be banned in Santa Barbara County, as well as everywhere else, and the Los Padres Chapter Sierra Club urges all who agree to sign a petition that will go to the county supervisors.

The gas blowers generate high frequency noise and air pollution that impair the quality of life and the health of the citizens of Santa Barbara County. Over 21 cities in California, including the city of Santa Barbara, agree with this and have banned gas leaf blowers.

If your business or organization will endorse such a ban and if you want to pass around a paper petition, contact Lesley Weinstock at:

[lesleyweinstock@yahoo.com](mailto:lesleyweinstock@yahoo.com)

The online petition is at: <https://petitions.moveon.org/sign/ban-gas-powered-leaf-4>

<https://tinyurl.com/SClubFighting>

Aug 22: **Public access** through the private Hollister Ranch was aired by the state Coastal Commission in Long Beach. Some of our members (+ Gaviota Trail Alliance and Conservancy) were there to support public access to the beaches and erecting a Coastal Trail segment.

Aug 20: **Thanks to YOU**, public lands advocates, Interior has cancelled selling off 1600 acres of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah. It only happened due to concerted lobbying efforts by Sierra Club's Protect Wild Utah Team and the thousands of club members and friends who protested, according to our Chapter Chair Jim Hines, who is part of the Team.

Aug 10: **Gaviota Coast Plan** had review by Coastal Commission Staff in Redondo Beach, with staff suggesting modifications ...

Aug 10: **Our EV shows** on Sept 8 & 9 were heartily promoted by our Transportation Chair James Reach on a live internet radio show at: <http://LATalkRadio.com>

Aug 10: **"Timberrrrr"!** Cutting down the Trump Admin's proposal to allow logging in the LP National Forest (among other places), *LA Times* published a letter from SB Chair Katie Davis noting her house barely escaped the Holiday Fire that climate change made worse and adding the proposal "is about profiteering at the public's expense" and ignoring "science-based forestry management."

Aug 9: **John Muir** (portrayed

by Don Baldwin) sauntered up to the Ventura Sierra Club Summer BBQ at Linear Park in a Zero waste event that was conveyed insight and fun; read more on back page.

Aug 8: **Newly formed** Gaviota Trail Alliance to fight for public access through the coastal Hollister Ranch got a big boost by Sierra Club National approving our Chapter's request to join it. We are also helping to fund the issue via the Gaviota Coast Conservancy. Surf's Up (one of these days.)

## Trail access is 'fine' win

The California Coastal Commission unanimously approved a settlement that would transfer more than 22 acres of land near the Backbone Trail in the Santa Monica Mountains to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Rather than settling for a \$1 million fine, owners of the land decided to grant two parcels to the conservancy, one of which will provide a new trailhead and parking close to the Backbone Trail. They had built an unpermitted horseback arena, trail and outbuildings.

"Additional open space so close to the coast is increasingly rare and precious in California," said Commission Chair Dayna Bocho during the September meeting. "This was a creative solution that will benefit coastal resources, threatened animals and hikers for years to come."



The Ventura Sierra Club is now meeting at the Ventura Bike Hub on the Avenue, and here they are welcoming our new Chapter Executive Director Jon Ullman (wearing hat, left) and plotting their next move to enhance our environment. (Photo by John Hankins)



Monica Stanley was a helpful volunteer at our Chapter's booth during the Wild and Scenic Film Festival on Aug. 18 where she engaged visitors and handed out Condor Calls. And who should join her but our own past Chair Mike Stubblefield, still being active. (Photo by John Hankins) The WSFF was sponsored by: [www.VenturaLandTrust.org](http://www.VenturaLandTrust.org)

## Wild rivers benefit all

By Samantha Marin

I can't wait to take a trip to see the rivers, free and untouched by humans, after hearing a program by Steve Evans of the California Wilderness Coalition (CalWild).

Its mission is to protect and restore the state's wilderness, natural landscapes and watersheds on public lands, which he spoke about during the Ventura Sierra Club's Venture(a) Out Speaker series on Sept. 11 at the Foster Library in Ventura.

Since 1976, CalWild has protected more than 14 million acres of federal wilderness areas, 1,500 miles of wild and scenic rivers, and 2.5 million acres of National Monuments. CalWild is now in its 50th year of protecting rivers in California.

In the Los Padres Chapter region, he highlighted the Sespe, Piru and Cuyama Rivers, all designated in part or whole as Wild and Scenic rivers, preventing dams being built to block the river flow.

It's important to keep the rivers flowing free because animals use the

rivers as a source for water; and to protect habitat for all the critters that live in and around them.

I never knew that California had so many rivers; I learned a lot from Mr. Evans, just like I always do when going to the Sierra Club events. I'm happy to hear that we have people who care so much.

*(Editor's note: the next Venture(a) Out series is Nov. 13 about saving the rare Island fox populations in the Channel Islands (see story pg. 1 Shout-out to Rachel Enevoldsen for organizing these excellent programs)*



Steve Evans of CalWild talks about saving wild rivers.

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.SBSierraClub.org)  
[www.facebook.com/sbsierraclub](http://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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:janro48@gmail.com)

~Volunteers needed for hikes and/or issues; your talents could make a difference. Call 350-0629 or: [RebeccaAugust@mac.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:sierraclubventura@gmail.com)

### CONEJO GROUP

~ Get all information on this eastern Ventura County Group from Hugh Warren, 341-6295 [mail@hkwarren.net](mailto:mail@hkwarren.net)

[www.sierraclub.org/los-padres/conejo](http://www.sierraclub.org/los-padres/conejo)  
[www.sierraclub.org/los-padres/conejo/outings](http://www.sierraclub.org/los-padres/conejo/outings)

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

Tuesday November 13, @5:30-7pm  
EP Foster Library Topping Room  
(651 E. Main St., Ventura FREE PARKING IN REAR)



Speakers:  
Pat Meyer &  
Keri Dearborn,  
Friends of the Island Fox

Saving the Channel Island Fox: The  
Interconnections Between Land & Sea

FREE ADMISSION  
Info: [SierraClubVentura@gmail.com](mailto:SierraClubVentura@gmail.com)

SPONSORED BY



Future Dates 2018: Jan 8, Mar 12

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
SOLVANG  
Sept. 8th**

**I want  
my EVP  
(Electric Vehicle Plug-in)**

**VENTURA COUNTY  
OXNARD  
Sept. 9th**



The EVs in Red melded easily in colorful Solvang



At our booth are James Reach, who organized the event, Rep. Salud Carbajal, SB Group Chair Katie Davis and Chapter Exec Director Jon Ullman.



Jon Ullman came from the red state of Florida to blue California and leased a blue EV! (Read his story this page)

The European flavored Solvang was a great venue to show off the future of electric transportation.

**By Jonathan Ullman**

If you have ever thought about buying or leasing an electric car, but thought it wasn't the right time ... it's the right time.

I was like you, a gas car user. I drove a sleek 2011 silver Toyota Prius with a sticker on my bumper that said, "50 MPG. For real." I thought everyone would be envious and buy one, and together we'd save the planet. Truth is 50 mph was only highway; city was 40 or less.

When I left Florida for California last summer I sold my hybrid. People said I could really use it in California where gas was a buck more a gallon, but I wanted an electric car. My new job would be to fight oil drilling and promote the electrification of buildings and cars, powered by solar and wind. I had to walk the walk, drive the drive.

**Photos by Katie Davis, John Hankins and Jon Ullman**

But when the time came, I was a little overwhelmed. Would I buy the right kind? Was it in my budget? Was the technology ready for prime time? Should I lease or buy, new or used, fully-electric or plug-in hybrid?

The questions paralyzed me for a month. In the end, I decided to lease a 2018 kinetic blue metallic Chevy Volt. For me, it made sense. The car has 50+ range electric and another 360 miles of gas. Unless I'm traveling to another city, I am 100% electric. I even use a regular outlet (the kind you'd plug your toaster into) overnight, even though I could install a faster one too. The Volt is a beautiful car inside and out.

I can pay the equivalent of \$2.30 a gallon of gas in electricity at home or even change my So Cal Edison plan and pay \$1.30 a gallon equivalent charging at night.

It's only when you drive electric that you realize the gas fueling system in America is on borrowed time. It's an industry that destroys the planet and coaxes you into paying for an overpriced liquid. The only way to stop it is to buy electric.

But it's expensive you say! No, it's not. It's the same price as a regular car to lease and there is a glut of new and used options.

The Sierra Club EV Guide has them all at:

<https://content.sierraclub.org/evguide>

A new local site by Community Environment Council is:

[www.electricdrive805.org](http://www.electricdrive805.org)

Plus, there's a \$7,500 federal tax credit on many cars; when you lease, the dealership incorporates the savings. You can even track in real time the best EV lease deals in the US at:

<http://ev-vin.blogspot.com>

But I'll run out of power and will



Looks like this young woman wants a Tesla too!



In background (left) Pizza Man Dan's new electric vehicles were on display and (right) Cathy Bullard welcomed attendees to drive or ride in the EVs.



At top right, the crowd is watching the Tesla flap its wings. Watch it on a short drone video with music created by David Sell. (dsell@davidsell.org) at: <https://tinyurl.com/EVsByDroneSClub2018>

**Club honors Chouinard**

The Sierra Club's top John Muir Award went to Patagonia founder Yvon Chouinard of Ventura this year.

A climber who took part in Yosemite's golden age of big wall climbing ("Wall Rats"), Chouinard as a teenager started to make gear

to climb in a clean, minimalist, self-reliant style partly inspired by the writings of John Muir.

In the 1970s, Chouinard launched Patagonia, a clothing company for whom sustainability and responsible practices are core to the business and which has given more than \$89 million to grassroots environmental organizations, and encouraged other companies to contribute at least one percent to local eco-groups.

Patagonia recently started funds to help the environment. For info go to: [www.Patagonia.com](http://www.Patagonia.com)

**Interested in Cutting Your Energy Costs & Carbon Emissions?**



**Come to the Solar & Heat Pump Home Tour!**

**October 13 (Sat)**

**Ludwick Community Center, 864 Santa Rosa St., SLO**

\*11:30am-1pm: Learn about Solar, EVs, Heat Pumps, etc.  
\*1pm-5pm: Drop-By Home Tours -- talk w/ those using clean technologies

More info & registration at [sunwork.org/events](http://sunwork.org/events)

Sponsored by NONPROFIT SunWork  
SunWork Renewable Energy Resources  
CA Contractor License #920732  
(805) 550-5898  
(650) 520-9918

**Thanks to all electric volunteers advocating electrics**

With over 60 participants in the National Drive Electric Week events Sept. 8 and 9 by the Los Padres Sierra Club, there's a lot of people and organizations to thank.

The first is James Reach, a tireless advocate who is the chapter's Transportation Chair. For three years he has organized the events in both Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. He not only got scores of people and dealers to show their cars, he also had to score permits, craft budgets, give media interviews and even put up posters.

For the Oxnard Show, co-captain

Kent Bullard, the Electric Vehicle Advocates of Ventura County and Cathy Bullard, who was the Ride and Drive coordinator. Overall gratitude to the EV owners and volunteers of the Sierra Club. Also thank you to the EV-focused groups that set up informational booths, including the California Clean Vehicle Rebate Project and Plug-In America. Appreciation to Southern California Edison for the grant that made our test ride and drive possible.

There were many elected officials or reps who attended to support the Sierra Club and zero emissions

transportation including Ventura Oxnard Mayor Pro-Tem Carmen Ramirez and Oxnard Council member Bert Perello, Pt. Hueneme Council member Jonathan Sharkey, Samantha Omana representing Assembly member Monique Limón, Ventura County Supervisor John Zaragoza, and Brian Brennan representing Supervisor Steve Bennett.

For the Solvang show, thanks go to the city of Solvang staff, the large number of EV owners and dealers who came to display and volunteers who help distribute flyers and staffed the information booth, notably Katie

Davis, along with the SB Community Environmental Council. The effort resulted in a well-attended show that was three times larger than our 2016 show, filling the venue to capacity in this tourist-friendly Danish-themed city.

Thanks to the elected officials who included Congressional Rep. Salud Carbajal and SB County Supervisor Joan Hartmann who brought her daily driver Tesla Model S for display. SB County Air Pollution Control District staff member Alex Economou staffed an information booth about the county's incentive programs.

be stranded, you say! No, you can buy a plug-in hybrid if you're worried or also buy a new 230-range all-electric or a 300-range car if you have the means. If you want to buy a used 85-mile range car, make it your second car for the city or buy one with a fast charger.

It's better than a gas car; drives smoother. Quieter and handles better.

If you are still worried about the range of current EVs, don't be. Just lease and wait three years and then lease again when there's more range or buy. Oh, and here's the best part. The state of California and your

electric company send you checks that usually offset the first year of car payments.

All I can tell you is that not buying an electric car in California is leaving money on the table. Don't drive an antiquated noisy, smelly gas car. You could be driving an electric car. Be part of the solution. Have fun. Shut this oil machine down!

(Also walk, bike, take a bus and travel less!)

~ Jonathan Ullman is Exwcutive Director of the Los Padres Chapter, Sierra Club

# More plugs for EVs



It's "magique" ... Jacquie Lovell plunked down \$1,000 two years ago ordering a Tesla 2018 Model 3. It came on her husband Tom Matthew's birthday July 26 this year. They are "absolutely loving the car" and named it Magique, the feminine version of magic. She was ecstatic to share it with the public. (Three of four EV photos this page by John Hankins)



Electrics have been around on a smaller scale; note this 1964 Sports Rider .....



Chevy Bolt sign on display gives True Facts. (Photo by Jon Ullman)



KICKGAS1 license plate evokes the creativity of EV owners.

# We have strong voice in CA

Want to have more power to ensure California stays straight on an environmental path?

Sierra Club California (SCC) is our voice in the State Capitol since 1986.

That gives all of us amplified power to effect change in a state that is the world's fifth largest economy.

California has already taken over the previous U.S. leadership of global climate change when the Trump Administration abdicated its responsibility by pulling out of the Paris Climate Agreement, signed by all but two countries. Check it out at:

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

A key accomplishment was SCC's lobbying efforts for the landmark SB 350 bill (evoking 350.org) that actively promoted goals for renewable energy and efficiency. It was recently strengthened by the state's approving a goal of 100% generating electricity from clean energy sources by 2045 (SB 100).

"Today California sends an unmistakable message to the nation and the world," Gov. Brown said during the Sept. 2018 signing. "Regardless of who occupies the White House, California will always lead on climate change."

Thus, while our Los Padres Chapter (Santa Barbara and

Ventura counties) and the state's other 12 chapters work on specific local issues, we are all more effective with SCC, as legislation literally trickles down to counties and cities, or up from our grass roots.

A recent example includes the Los Padres and Santa Lucia chapters lobbying for marine protections, an issue that would have more impact at the state level through SCC, which can claim membership of about 175,000 while our Los Padres Chapter has 7,200 and Santa Lucia (San Luis Obispo) has 2,800. That boosts our Central Coast voice by a factor of 17!

SCC is unique to California as a lobbying group representing all chapters in a state. While donations are not tax deductible because of its lobbying component, it also performs work that *is* tax deductible, such as educating policy makers and the public, and monitoring and testifying for the environment about regulatory

proceedings at state agencies.

Tax deductible donations to support the education/conservation component can be made to the Sierra Club Foundation, with a note that the funds be directed to SCC. That same tax-deductible technique may be used to donate to our Los Padres Chapter:

[www.sierraclub.org/donate/1000](http://www.sierraclub.org/donate/1000)

"Californians have demonstrated through their responses in opinion polls, their actions at voting polls, and their choices in recreation and business investments that they care about the environment," the SCC's website notes.

SCC provides strong leadership to phase out pesticides, establish marine sanctuaries, ban plastic bags, establish water supply policies that increase conservation, protect and enhance the California Environmental Quality Act and ensure environmental justice and diversity.



"Sun Service" is the name of this Sierra Club service trip in Maui, an example of low-cost vacations when you do a l'il conservation work.

# Solar tour

Learn from experts and your neighbors about how you can save money on home energy costs and help cut your carbon emissions at the same time.

The SLO Solar & Heat Pump Home Tour on Saturday, Oct 13 will give you a chance to learn about innovative, clean technologies and then visit local homeowners who have them.

From 11:30am - 1pm, presentations on rooftop solar, heat pump technology, and EVs, including technology options and tips to buy, at the Ludwick Community Center, 864 Santa Rosa St., SLO.

From 1pm - 5pm: Drop-by home tours to see solar, heat pumps, and/or EVs and talk with the homeowners.

Event is sponsored by the non-profit SunWork Renewable Energy Projects. For info, call (408) 246-8478 or email:

[paul@sunwork.org](mailto:paul@sunwork.org)

To register, go to: [www.SunWork.org/events](http://www.SunWork.org/events)

# Adventures with a cause

It's a big world out there. Discover it with the leader in environmentally-friendly "Adventures with a Cause" for over 100 years.

Sierra Club Outings provide eco-friendly outdoor adventures—from Tahoe to Tibet—for people of all ages, abilities, and interests. We've got lodge-based explorations or supported treks, backpack journeys (leisurely to strenuous), or vacations near home and in far-flung destinations.

Groups are typically small for a more intimate experience, led by knowledgeable leaders who are familiar with conservation, natural history and wildlife.

"In 2018, 98% of trip participants said they would take another trip with us," according to the club's survey. Check out how vast and exciting your next trip can be at:

<https://tinyurl.com/SClubAdventures>

# Go Wild

The annual Santa Barbara WILD! benefit for Los Padres ForestWatch is happening from 3-6:30pm Sunday Oct. 21 at The Garden Street Academy, 2300 Garden Street, Santa Barbara.

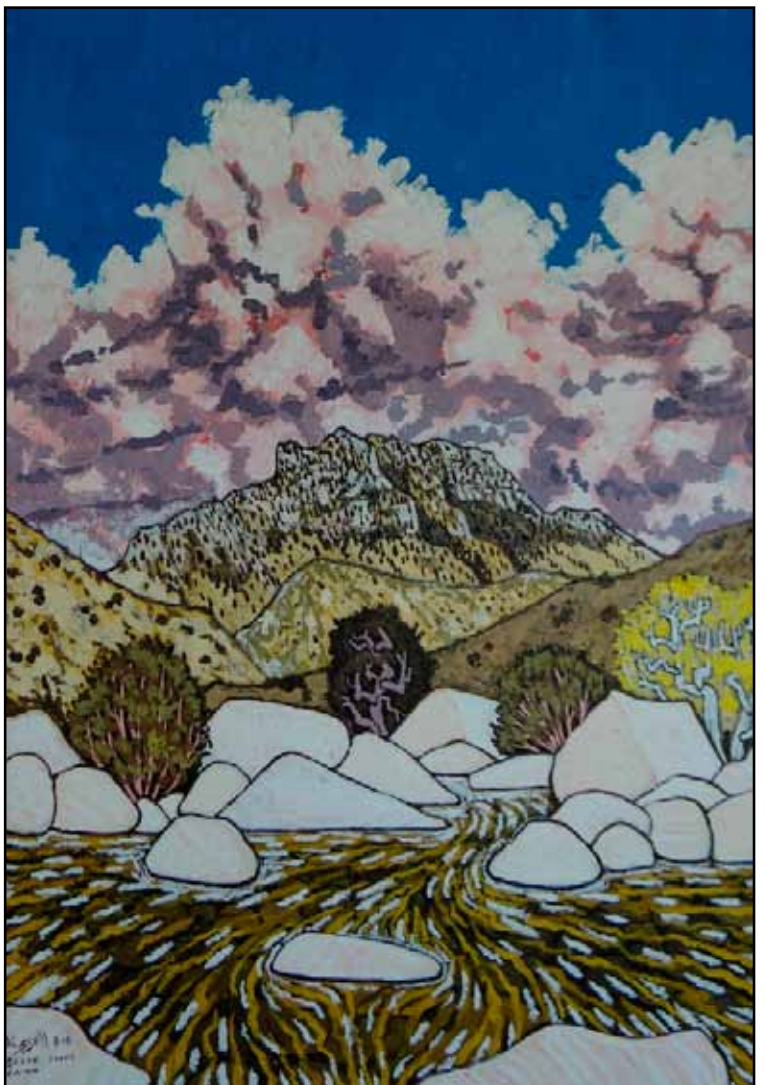
So many of us depend on ForestWatch to help protect wildlife, wilderness, and clean water throughout the Los Padres National Forest, Carrizo Plain National Monument, and other public lands along California's central coast. The fundraiser helps support continued trail maintenance which, due to severe Forest Service funding cuts for years, now depends primarily on volunteers via ForestWatch, among others.

It also works to protect against resource abuse that threatens endangered species, clean water, and recreational and cultural sites. It features a handy Action Center on its website. For more details about this non-profit group and to sign up for Wild benefit, call 805 617-4610 or:

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



Sierra Club supports the work of Los Padres ForestWatch and urge you to do so too.



"Cobblestone Mountain" is one of Robert Wassell's works that are on display at Fox Jewelry, 560 E. Main St. Ventura, now through Nov. 12, with half of the proceeds going to Keep the Sespe Wild. The artist has been sketching in the local backcountry for 33 years while backpacking. "I try to capture the essence of the forest. I depict wilderness, so the only mark of man that can be seen in my work is a trail or dirt road." See many more depictions at: [www.WassellArt.com](http://www.WassellArt.com)



# 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.

October 6

**POTRERO TO TRI-PEAKS:** 8am-1:30pm. 9.7 mile lightly trafficked loop with a 3,051 ft. elevation gain. We will loop past the waterfall, see small critters, great for nature and photos. Trail is not dog-friendly, so leave the fur babies at home. We will leave no trace behind, anything brought on the mountain will be packed out. Please bring 3-4 liters of water, a high energy snack and one light layer of removable clothing. We will be exposed to the sun, so sunscreen is a must! Parking is available at the intersection of Wendy and Potrero. I will be waiting at the trailhead/fence opening with waiver. For more info, contact VICTORIA at [victoria.a.perez@gmail.com](mailto:victoria.a.perez@gmail.com). (VEN)

**WESTERN PLATEAU LOOP to HAWK CANYON:** Moderate 5 mrt hike with 600' elev. gain. Includes

Peninsula loop. Bring water, food and wear lug-soled shoes. Meet at trailhead at 8am. From 101 Fwy. exit north on Rancho Conejo Blvd. and continue approximately 2 miles to City Recycling Center on Conejo Center Drive. Parking and trailhead are on the right. VICKI WILSON, 1-805-807-0634, [victwyh@yahoo.com](mailto:victwyh@yahoo.com). (CJ)

October 7

**MISSION RIDGE:** We'll hike up Rattlesnake canyon and over to Tunnel trail. We'll take a primitive trail up to Mission Ridge and loop back down to Rattlesnake. We'll have a short break at the top for lunch. Strenuous 7 mrt. There is some rock scrambling and exposure involved so must be comfortable with heights and ledges. Bring 2-3 liters of water. Rain cancels. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 8am. KRISTI email: [sbhikergirl@cox.net](mailto:sbhikergirl@cox.net)

October 8

**WILDWOOD/PARADISE FALLS Loop:** Meet at 9am at the trailhead in the parking lot. There is port-a-pot there, which will be the only one on the trail. This is a moderate 5-mile loop with 700' elevation gain. We will take a bit of a climb to Lizard Rock, down switchbacks to the Hill Canyon water treatment plant, and walk along a flowing stream to the falls. Here we can take a short break to enjoy the view and observe the wildlife. The walk back to our cars is upstream through mostly shade. Wear good non-slip hiking shoes and bring poles if you need them for the downhill. For more info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 [moenandez@gmail.com](mailto:moenandez@gmail.com). (VEN)

October 13

**MONTECITO PEAK FROM SAN YSIDRO:** Extremely Strenuous about 14 miles. We'll start at the San Ysidro trailhead, hike up San Ysidro, then up the Edison road to Cold Spring trail to Montecito Peak. On the way down, we'll take a slightly different route leading us down the McMenemy Trail. Bring plenty of water and a lunch. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 8am. NOTE the early start time. TONY 1-805-455-4212 (SB)

**HIDDEN POND:** 8am – 1:30pm. 9.1 moderately trafficked out and

back. Elevation gain 1,742 ft. This is a paved trail; great for bringing dogs. Please be aware the trail is used for horseback riding. If your dog spooks easily, please leave them at home. Please bring 3-4 liters of water, a high energy snack and one light layer of removable clothing. We will be exposed to the sun, so sunscreen is a must! Parking is located at the end of Via Goleta near the Boney mountain trailhead. I will be waiting near the washrooms with waiver. For more info, contact VICTORIA at [victoria.a.perez@gmail.com](mailto:victoria.a.perez@gmail.com). (VEN)

October 14

**SHORELINE PARK PICNIC AND WALK:** Share a potluck breakfast. Bring food to share. Coffee and fresh squeezed orange juice provided. Meet in the middle of Shoreline Park at 9am. Beach walk follows led by ROBERT

### EAVESDROPS

**"Wherever he is now, John Muir is certainly smiling on the efforts of the club he founded."**

~ Mark Miller's closing sentence in a "Looking Forward" OpEd in the Santa Maria Times entitled "**Sierra Club's fight to save the planet,**" in which he quotes our members in SLO and SB chapters. Read the full story here: <https://tinyurl.com/SClubFighting>

October 15

**LOW TIDE CARPINTERIA:** Meet at 9am in the Bates Beach/Rincon parking lot. This will be an easy 6-mile loop along the beach to town, then back to our cars along the bluff. Elevation gain is approximately 200 ft. Low tide is predicted to be at 08:32, which will allow us to explore tide pools and round the point to the State Beach. Be prepared for wet feet if we're too late. Sorry, no dogs allowed. From the bluff on the return trip, we'll stop at the now closed seal sanctuary and look for lingering pups. The trail is a mix of sand, concrete and dirt. Tennis shoes should be fine. Check the weather and dress appropriately, wear sunscreen and a hat. Meet in front of the picnic area next to the bathroom, about 1/2 way



Part of the crew of 77 during the California Coastal Clean-up day at the Santa Clara River Gateway. Notable among them were from Charlene Bouvet's Sierra Linda School, their sixth year of helping out. Sponsored by the Ventura Sierra Club, there are many other times we need help to recover this important ecological area. To volunteer, send an email to: [VenturaSierraClub@sierraclub.org](mailto:VenturaSierraClub@sierraclub.org)

through the parking lot. For more info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 [moenandez@gmail.com](mailto:moenandez@gmail.com). (VEN)

October 20

**REYES AND HADDOCK HIKE:** Enjoy cooler temperatures in a pine forest with panorama views of the Coastal Range and the islands to the west and Cuyama Valley and Mt. Pinos to the east. Moderate to strenuous 8.8-mile, 1,716' total elevation gain hike to Reyes Peak (7,514'), the highest peak in Ventura County and continue to Haddock Peak (7,413') for lunch. Plan for an all-day outing (drive to trailhead is 1.5 hrs. one way). Bring hat, sunglasses, water, lunch, sunscreen, jacket, and other 10 essentials. Rain cancels. Adventure Pass needed for cars. Meet at 7:30am at Ventura carpool. TERESA, 1-805-746-6030 and SUZANNE, [suzanne@hiplaces.org](mailto:suzanne@hiplaces.org). (VEN)

**LATIGO CANYON TO ENCINAL CANYON:** Moderately-strenuous 7 miles one-way with 700' elev. gain on the Backbone Trail through Newton, Zuma and Trancas Canyons. We will start at the Latigo Canyon Trailhead across Kanan Road. Bring water, food and wear lug-soled shoes. Meet at 8am at the Encinal Canyon Trailhead for a 7 mile car shuttle to Latigo Canyon Trailhead. From 101 Fwy. go south roughly 6 miles on Kanan Road to a curve right onto Mulholland Hwy., then left onto Encinal Canyon Road to dirt parking lot on right/north side of road, just before the big Los Angeles County Fire Department Sign (Fire Camp #13) on the left. There are two entrances off the road. VICKI WILSON 1-805-807-0634, [victwyh@yahoo.com](mailto:victwyh@yahoo.com). (CJ)

October 21

**CATHEDRAL PEAK/LACUMBRE PEAK:** From Mission Creek hike up to Cathedral Peak, steep and rocky in places. Continue up to La Cumbre Peak for lunch. Views include "Three Pools" and the full coastline. Pass by an echoing canyon. Return down Tunnel trail. Very Strenuous 8 mrt. Hundreds of knee-high steps. Bring gloves, lunch and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 8am (EARLY START). ALEJANDRO 1-805-451-1239 (SB)

October 22

**HILL CANYON** splash about: Hike will begin at 9am from

the Hill Canyon parking lot off Santa Rosa Rd. Moderate 5.5-mile lollipop loop with 800 ft. elevation gain. It will take us on the backside of the water treatment plant, onto the Lynmere trail, over 5 creek crossings. If you are uncomfortable with creek crossings or getting your feet wet, bring water shoes. Trekking poles can help. The trail is narrow at times and there will be a climb out of the canyon. Meet in the parking lot at the end of Hill Canyon Rd. where there's real bathroom. MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 [moenandez@gmail.com](mailto:moenandez@gmail.com). (VEN)

October 27

**MIDLAND SCHOOL HIGH COUNTRY LOOP,** a 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 805-964-5411, [gching@cox.net](mailto:gching@cox.net) (SB)

October 28

**FLORES PEAK FROM GIBRALTAR ROCK:** We will drive to Gibraltar Rock, above the Rattlesnake Trail. We will then hike a steep, little-known trail to Flores Peak. Some rock scrambling and agility required. The Wednesday hikers sometimes call this "The Medicine Circle". Elevation gain is about 700 feet in only a half mile! Please bring a snack or lunch and a liter of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT 1-805-685-1283/[event@swt.org](mailto:event@swt.org)

**COZY DELL:** Trailhead is on Hwy. 33. Parking area on left side, just south of the packing house. Carpoolers meet at Von's parking lot, Harbor entrance at 9:00 a.m. Start hike at 10am. About 3 hours, 5 miles, great views, 700' elevation gain. 85 degrees or rain forecast on Friday cancels. KIM 1-805-983-2147 (VEN)

October 29

**SATWIWA LOOP & DANIELSON CABIN SITE:** Start at 9am from the Satwiwa parking lot off of Potrero Rd. This will be a

*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):

<b>Los Padres National Forest Districts</b>	
Headquarters	968-6640
Ojai District	646-4348
Mt. Pinos	(661) 245-3731
Santa Barbara	967-3481
Santa Lucia	925-9538
<b>Other Areas</b>	
Santa Monica Mtns. Area	370-2301
Conejo Parks	381-2737
Simi Valley	584-4400
Montecito	969-3514
<b>Forest Notes</b>	
For updated information, news releases, maps, and many other goodies, go to Los Padres National Forest's website: <a href="http://fs.usda.gov/LPNF">http://fs.usda.gov/LPNF</a>	
<b>Regional Hike Info</b>	
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:	
<a href="http://LosPadresSierraClub.org">http://LosPadresSierraClub.org</a>	
<a href="http://www.SBSierraClub.org">www.SBSierraClub.org</a>	
<a href="http://www.SantaBarbaraTrailGuide.com">www.SantaBarbaraTrailGuide.com</a>	
<a href="http://www.SantaBarbaraHikes.com">www.SantaBarbaraHikes.com</a>	
<a href="http://www.LPForest.org">www.LPForest.org</a>	
<a href="http://www.VenturaCountyTrails.org">www.VenturaCountyTrails.org</a>	
<a href="http://Hikes.VenturaCountyStar.com">http://Hikes.VenturaCountyStar.com</a>	

**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](http://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](http://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

moderate 5.5-mile hike with about 600 ft. elevation gain. From the parking lot we will pass by the Native American Culture Center, cross a grassy plain, and head up to the Boney Mt. trail. Shortly, we take a shady single-track trail to the Danielson Monument. Here is a good place to take a break and rest up for our return trip to our cars. Depending on the group, we may deviate on the way back and see the fallen iconic windmill. This is mostly an even dirt trail. Hiking boots are recommended. Meet at the end of the parking lot near the bathrooms. Sorry, no dogs. For more info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 moenandez@gmail.com. (VEN)

November 3

**CATHEDRAL PEAK LOOP II:** Head up Mission Canyon trail and then branch off onto a steep and rocky primitive trail to Cathedral Peak for lunch. Spectacular views, including "Three Pools," and echoes from the Canyon. Return down west side to Jesusita trail. Strenuous 6 mrt with hundreds of knee-high steps. Some agility needed. Bring gloves, lunch and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 8am. NOTE THE EARLY START TIME! ALEJANDRO 1-805-451-1239 (SB)

**GRIDLEY TRAIL** to Nordhoff Ridge Road: Expect great views during a long hot day. Short rest at Gridley Spring, longer stop at Gridley Saddle on the ridge road. Strenuous, for experienced hikers only. Must wear good boots, the lower trail is covered with large cobbles. Bring minimum 2 liters water and food for energy. Distance 11.2 mrt; elev. gain 2,650'. Limited parking at the yellow 'End' sign of Gridley Road, Ojai. Carpools encouraged (do not enter the private drive). 34.469039N, -119.223805W. Meet at the trailhead sign 8am. NINA; prettycheapjewelry@gmail.com (VEN)

November 4

**CANINE HIKE RATTLESNAKE TRAIL:** Hike up a beautiful wooded canyon with scenic views to meadow. Mostly shaded trail. Moderate 4 mrt, 1000 ft. elevation gain, optional 1.5 extension up and back to Gibraltar Road. Well behaved dogs welcomed and encouraged; must be leashed. Bring snack and water for you and your canine companion. Hikers without dogs welcome too. Meet at B of A parking lot at 9am. Hike limited to four dogs; call to reserve your dog's place. Recent heavy rain/fire cancels. SALLY 1-805-689-7820 (SB)

November 5

**VENTURA CROSS** to the Pier: Start time is 9am from Ventura Ave., Vons. We'll walk up the stairs from the Mission to the cross, over to Kalorama and follow it down to the pier. From there it's to the fairgrounds via the beach, up the bike path, and back to our cars. It's a 5-mile easy loop, with some elevation up the stairs. Weather permitting, we should get some beautiful ocean views. The route is on pavement, unless we walk to the end of the pier, so good walking shoes are recommended. Wear a hat and sunscreen. Bring water, there are restroom stops along the way. Meet at the end of the Vons parking lot facing Main St. For more info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 moenandez@gmail.com. (VEN)

November 11

**GAVIOTA PEAK/TRESPASS**

## CONDOR TRAIL

# Moves afoot for national recognition

A reception to officially welcome the new Los Padres Forest Supervisor, Kevin Elliott, was attended by some of Los Padres Forests' greatest activists, elected officials and organizations who also relayed important goals, notably affecting the Condor Trail that would eventually run through the entire length of the forest.

Supervisor Elliott shared his broad experience in the Forest Service and his vision for making a difference in the Los Padres during the Sept 15 event on top of the Goleta Hilton roof. Elliott most recently comes from Sequoia National Forest, where he served since 2011. He also served in Washington DC as a specialist in legislative affairs.

Rep. Salud Carbajal gave an update on the Central Coast Heritage Protection Act, a bicameral bill pending in Congress (co-sponsored by Senator Kamala Harris). If passed, it would designate the Condor Trail as a National Recreation Trail. Rep. Carbajal intends to reintroduce it

next year if necessary and vowed to continue his commitment to make the Los Padres National Forest a priority.

The reception was hosted by the Los Padres Forest Association (LPFA) and Backcountry Horsemen of California-Los Padres Unit, coordinated by Rachel Morris.

Also present was Santa Barbara County Supervisor Joan Hartmann and presentations were also made by Bryan Conant, LPFA's



executive director; Christopher Danch, Condor Trail Association's director; and Richard Waller, past president Backcountry Horsemen of California.

Updates on two important trails were discussed, notably the Garcia Potrero Trail (GPT), a new proposed trail to provide an

alternative route over public land to the closed Stony Creek Road (access over the road is being blocked by private landowners) from Aqua Escondido Spring to Stony Creek.

Stony Creek Road provides the only public access through this area and is a critical link for the Condor Trail. The GPT widely supported by forest groups and users and all work will be privately funded.

Forest Supervisor Elliott was urged to include the GPT on the 2019 Program of Work for the LPNF but disappointingly declined to do so. The Condor Trail Association (CTA) will be preparing a formal proposal to have the GPT approved and constructed as a third-party contract under its Challenge Cost Share Agreement with the Forest Service.

Meanwhile, the CTA is working to complete a Phase I survey and NEPA review of the Aqua Blanca Trail Restoration Project under funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and other matching grants. It is a key trail



Kevin Elliott, Supervisor  
Los Padres Nat'l Forest

in the southern Los Padres for the Condor Trail.

Two phases of trail work will be done in partnership with LPFA and Student Conservation Association. Phase II, if funded, will be to complete the NEPA assessment, and any additional work required to restore the Trail.

## EAVESDROPS

"The older forests become, the more fire resistant they become. This is why the Forest Service's goal of increased salvage logging and clear cutting is wrong."

~ From Fred Krueger of the World Stewardship Institute. Salvage logging is now proposed in our local Los Padres National Forest.



## Visit reserve in SY Valley

The Sedgwick reserve in Santa Ynez Valley is again gearing up for docent-led hikes and various classes at its 6,000-acre property owned by the University of California.

It's one of the last unspoiled parcels of land in Santa Barbara County and features "Walking Ecology" hikes on the second Saturday of every month (8:30am-1pm) from November-May, for easy, moderate and strenuous levels.

Not only that, its new star is the Byrne Observatory, a white hilltop landmark with a new 32-inch telescope used for scanning the galaxies in the clear valley air unsoftened by light pollution. It is on the UC reserve of its 39 locations that has a telescope.

"Research is the purpose of the reserve; it's a special place," said Dennis Beebe, a volunteer tour leader.

Classes focusing on the ecology led by naturalists are another feature (\$20 suggested donation) and are scheduled for Dec.9, and in 2019, Jan.13, Feb. 10, March 10, April 14 and May 12.

A \$10 donation is requested for the tours; reservations are required. Call 686-1941 for information or go online:

<http://sedgwick.nrs.ucsb.edu>

**LOOP:** Moderately strenuous 7-mile hike with an elevation gain of 2200. We will ascend the fire road to the saddle and return via Trespass trail. We'll have a short break at the top for lunch. Bring 2-3 liters of water. Rain cancels. Meet behind B of A on State St. at Hope Ave. 8am. KRISTI email: sbhikergirl@cox.net (SB)

November 12

**SHELF ROAD, GRIDLEY, FOX LOOP:** Park in the Pratt Trail parking lot off of Signal. We begin by making our way up between the large lot homes to the Foothill Trail, turn to the right to Fox Trail and head down to Shelf Rd. From there we follow the ridge overlooking Ojai Valley back to the Shelf Rd. trailhead. We will end with a short walk down Signal back to our cars. This is a moderate hike of about 5 miles with 600 ft. elevation gain. I recommend good non-slip hiking boots and poles for those who use them. The trail is mostly exposed, so be prepared with water and sun protection. Meet in the front left of the parking lot. No facilities available on this trail. Because of the narrow trail descent, please leave dogs at home. For more info, contact MAUREEN 1-805-657-8735 moenandez@gmail.com. (VEN)

November 17

**BACKBONE TRAIL** to Mishe Mokwa Trail to Tri Peaks: 8am-12pm. 7.6-mile loop with 1,712 ft. elevation gain. Trail is dog friendly but must be on a leash. We will leave no trace behind, pack out anything. Bring 3-4 liters of water, a high energy snack and one light layer of removable clothing. We will be exposed to the sun, so sunscreen is a must! Parking will be the second dirt lot on BOTH sides of Yerba Buena Road. If you are coming from PCH it will be past the Sandstone trailhead on the west side of the road. If you are coming from the 101 it will be before the Sandstone trailhead. I will be waiting at the sign leading to the trail with waiver. For more info, contact VICTORIA at victoria.a.perez@gmail.com. (VEN)

November 18

**SWEETWATER TRAIL:** A hike from the Bradbury Dam lookout to the Lake Cachuma County Park. We'll explore a portion of the park

before retracing our steps. Easy 5mrt. Bring a light lunch and water. Meet behind the Bank of America on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. If you are coming from north of Santa Barbara, you can meet us at the trailhead. Email me (gching@cox.net) for instructions. GERRY 1-805-964-5411 (SB)

December 1

**LA CUMBRE PEAK** via Rattlesnake Trail: Beautiful views from the highest peak on the front range. Strenuous 11 mrt hike with 3200 feet elevation gain/loss. Experienced hikers only. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 8am. TONY 1-805-455-4212 (SB)

December 2

**CATHEDRAL PEAK DRAGON BACK:** Start at Tunnel Trailhead toward Seven Falls. Make steep climb to the base of the Cathedral Peak Spine. Moderate but difficult 4 Mile Round Trip. Possible 1200 foot gain with lots of boulder 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)

December 9

**RATTLESNAKE TRAIL - ROCKY PINE:** Hike up Rattlesnake Trail and the Tunnel Trail Connector to an old primitive trail leading to Rocky Pine Ridge for lunch. Some rock scrambling. Strenuous 7 mrt. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ALEJANDRO 1-805-451-1239 (SB)

December 15

**GAVIOTA EAST:** A hike from the former site of Gaviota Village to an overlook above the Gaviota tunnels. This is an easy to moderate 3.5 mrt hike with 450 ft elevation gain. We will be hiking in a little visited part of Gaviota State Park, East of US101 on the ocean side of the mountains (Gaviota Coast). Most of the hike is on a little used dirt service road but includes a small section of original pavement of historic Hwy 1. Bring a light lunch and water. Meet behind the Bank of America on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. If you are coming from north of Santa Barbara, you can meet us at the trailhead. Email me (gching@cox.net) for instructions. GERRY 1-805-964-5411 (SB)

December 26

**VENTURA BIKE PATH FROM FOSTER PARK:** At 9am we'll leave from Foster Park and walk up the trail for 3 miles, turn and return to our cars. This is flat well-used trail by hikers, bikers, joggers etc. It takes its users on an eclectic route behind homes in a mostly rural area. Meet at the end of the parking lot near the bathrooms. For those who would rather not pay to park,

leave your car outside the park under the freeway overpass and walk up the path to the bathrooms. You get points for extra steps. Dogs ok if kept on a short leash. The trail is narrow. For more info, contact LORAPHIL CLARKE. 1-805-218-2103 (VEN)

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**CATHEDRAL PEAK DRAGON BACK:** Start at Tunnel Trailhead toward Seven Falls. Make steep climb to the base of the Cathedral Peak Spine. Moderate but difficult 4 Mile Round Trip. Possible 1200 foot gain with lots of boulder 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)

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## GREETINGS FRIENDS

# We learn from our history

By Jim Hines

Our wild lands are filled with treasures of our historic past. The Sierra Club is well known for its work to protect great wild places and natural landscapes which are unequalled in their natural beauty, but just as important is our work to protect historic resources.

We learn from history, honoring those who came before us, whether they be first-nation peoples, early explorers of America's wilderness or those who significantly worked to protect the wild in more modern times.

The home of Sierra Club founder John Muir is honored by the National Park Service, for which he was instrumental in creating. The home is now a National Historic Site in Martinez, California, comprising 325 acres of native oak and grasslands. It draws people from all over the U.S. and world to learn about John Muir and the early years of the Club.



A plaque set into the stone hut erected in 1930 on the top of 11,955-foot Muir Pass as a shelter.

The club's archives are housed primarily at UC Berkeley, a rich resource that details the club's influence on the environmental movement in the U.S and internationally, including interviews and papers of the early founders of our own Los Padres Chapter.

The Sierra Club works with many others in historic preservation. In our Los Padres Chapter region, we worked to have the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail designated by the National Park Service. This trail interprets the 1775 route taken by that early Spanish explorer as he traveled through what now includes Ventura and Santa Barbara counties, as well as other California locations.

Our work to protect the Channel Islands National Park also includes the preservation of early history of the offshore islands and the early human connection with the islands, along with advocating for Los Padres National Forest's history.

People have played a significant part in protecting wild places and their work is sometimes recognized, such as the Murie Cabin site in Grand Teton National Park, and the all-stone Muir Hut at the top of 11,955-foot Muir Pass. Perhaps the most famous is LeConte lodge in Yosemite Valley (now renamed Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center), which has inspired millions of people, notably our own Mike Stubblefield who cites his

childhood visit to the lodge as his muse to not only join but work with the club his entire life.

To understand the land, you must understand the people who came before us. We need our past, it connects us with something tangible that we can look back on and learn from. We cannot see the future, but we can touch the past, and preserving history helps us to do that.

*See you on the trail ...*



John Muir played by Don Baldwin (Photo by John Hankins)

# Muir saunters by...

By John Hankins

A weathered man with a cane sauntered curiously toward a gathering of neighbors huddled at Linear Park one recent summer day.

He stopped a bit and listened as Ventura Sierra Club Chair Nina Danza was telling them stories of how volunteers were happily making the river banks clean, planting natives, and ensuring it became a more natural home for the critters squeezed by urban encroachment.

Nina invited him to join them, and asked "and you are ...?"

"I'm John, John Muir," he said with a twinkle in his eye.

Of course, it was a setup, but Don Baldwin – one of the finest John Muir actors around – was 'John of the Mountains' on this sunny day, and he had the tales to prove it. For the next hour or more the Scotsman regaled the group with "being at one with the earth," taking us back to times that led up to his co-founding the Sierra Club in 1892 with two close friends.

Appropriately it happened over a campfire.

"We camped out at Tuolumne Meadows at 8,600 feet and plotted what we were going to do to

protect Yosemite," John said.

That was the club's first major action; it took eight years of fighting, convincing and legislation, but in the end the club successfully prevented developers from lopping off half of Yosemite National Park.

Another campfire happened about ten years later when President Teddy Roosevelt asked Muir to camp out with him at Yosemite. "I do not want anyone with me but you, and I want to drop politics absolutely for four days ..." he wrote.

"After Roosevelt woke up covered with snow, he promised to protect parks," Muir said. True to his word, Roosevelt saved 148 million acres for the public which stands to this day.

The event was part of the Venture(a) Out educational series coordinated by Nina Danza and Rachel Enevoldsen, and the next one up is about how the unique Channel Islands foxes were rescued from the brink of extinction. It's Nov. 3, see story on page 1 For all future events, go to:

[www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura](http://www.meetup.com/SierraClubVentura)