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# Sierra Club Lake Group

## November-December 2017 Newsletter

### **Next Meeting: a chance to learn about on-the-ground environmental restoration**

The next Lake Group general meeting will take place at **6:30PM on Wednesday November 15**, at the Lower Lake Methodist Church social hall, 16255 Second St; as always it's free and the public is invited. Cow Mountain landowner and conservationist Jared Hendricks will discuss the Hendricks Range Environmental Restoration Project, which pursues fire ecology and restoration models as tools for both fire prevention and water restoration. The project has been focused in the Scotts Creek Watershed since 2003, and is a leading edge in modeling fully holistic restoration of degraded wilderness in chaparral-based environs. These subjects are always important, and extraordinarily timely right now! Contact chair Ed Robey at 994 8304 or [edrobey@wildblue.net](mailto:edrobey@wildblue.net) for more information.

### **What's WalMart up to Now???**

WalMart's proposal to expand its Clearlake store into a full service grocery with hard liquor sales has been running hot and cold for nearly ten years now. Multiple concerns have been voiced over and over again: increased crime, loss of full time jobs with benefits, more empty storefronts up and down Lakeshore Drive. All these concerns and many more were expressed in comments on the draft Environmental Impact Report. The deficiencies in the EIR were so comprehensive that many observers expected it to be substantially revised and recirculated for another round of comments, but in mid-October the city posted a "final" EIR on its website, and scheduled a Planning Commission hearing for November 14.

**Holiday Party  
Friday Dec 8:  
details inside**

It's essential that the community take advantage of any opportunity to weigh in on this dubious project, so the Sierra Club was preparing to circulate a wide-ranging alert—but then we received news that Walmart's Public Affairs office had sent a "verbal notice" that they "will not be going forward with the expansion at this point due to 'business reasons' that were not specified" and that the hearing had been cancelled. **(con't)**

**(WalMart, con't)** Although it's tempting to rejoice at this turn of events, it may be premature to conclude that the expansion proposal has been permanently abandoned.

Several scenarios have been rumored, including the possibility that WalMart may acquire the old Ray's Market and reopen it as a grocery/liquor store—something that would be nearly impossible to prevent.

We're keeping our ears close to the ground: please stay tuned for updates.

## KONOCTI POST

*www.konoctipost.blogspot.com*

**a lake county naturalist's blog**

TAKE A RAMBLE. IT'S FREE.

## Rent This Space

The Lake Group now accepting (in other words, selling) advertisements in this newsletter: a two-inch (business card size) ad like this costs \$25 per issue, or—Great Bargain—\$100 for a year (six issues) To submit an ad send an email to *vbrandon@lakelive.info* or call Victoria at 994-1931.

**Watershed Books**  
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305 North Main Street  
707.263.5787

### Lake Group Executive Committee

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### Other contacts:

Steve Devoto (Outings): 279-8308,  
*sdevoto@mchsi.com*

*ExCom meetings are held at 6:30PM on the third Wednesday of the month, at locations that vary. All members are cordially invited to attend, but requested to contact the Chair first to confirm time and location*

### Let's Go Digital

Lake Group members are invited to help fight deforestation by receiving this bimonthly newsletter electronically rather than on paper. To get it as an email attachment in pdf format instead, send a request to join the "Lake Group Paper Free" list to *vbrandon@lakelive.info*—not only does this save some trees, it also benefits the Group financially.



# Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry Tours Middle Creek Wetland Restoration Site



On October 8 a dozen members of the Middle Creek Marsh Restoration Coalition had a brief but cordial and highly productive meeting with Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry. They thanked her for sponsoring legislation establishing the Blue Ribbon Panel for Clear Lake, gave her a close up view of the Middle Creek project site, and asked for her assistance in bringing the project—widely acknowledged to be the keystone for restoring the long term health of the lake—to fruition.

## We're having a party!

Lake Group's annual holiday party has been scheduled for 6PM on Friday December 8, at the Lower Lake Methodist Church Community Room, 16255 Second St in Lower Lake.

As always this festive event is completely FREE to Club members and their guests, and will be organized as a semi-potluck, with the Club providing the main dish. Guests should bring beverages and a side dish, salad or dessert to share as well as their own re-useable plates, glasses, and eating utensils.

RSVPs (please!) may be made by calling Ed at 994-8304 or sending an email to [edrobey@wildblue.net](mailto:edrobey@wildblue.net).

## Outings

At press time, no list of Lake Group fall Outings was available. They will be posted to the Lake Group website ([sierraclub.org/redwood/lake](http://sierraclub.org/redwood/lake)) as soon as possible. Outings throughout Redwood Chapter are posted to [sierraclub.org/redwood/outings](http://sierraclub.org/redwood/outings).

In the meantime, please give some thought to the possibility of becoming an Outings leader yourself: No experience needed, just a love for brisk exercise in the out-of-doors. There are many good reasons to become an Outing leader, including an opportunity for autocracy: as leader you get to choose where to go, and when. Interested? Get in touch with Outing Chair Steve Devoto at 279-8308 or [sdevoto@mchsi.com](mailto:sdevoto@mchsi.com).



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