

# 2022 Mother Lode Chapter Executive Committee Candidates

## 2022-2023 Term Candidates

[Derek Cressman](#)

[Barbara Leary](#)

[Jose Montoya](#)

[Trevor Taylor](#)

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### Derek Cressman

Derek Cressman serves as the Mother Lode chapter's political chair. He has lived with his wife in Sacramento and has been backpacking the Sierra Nevada mountains since 2000 after growing up hiking 14ers in Colorado.

He began his career in environmental organizing as a campus organizer for CALPIRG at UC Santa Barbara and UC Berkeley and worked on ballot measures such as Big Green and Forests Forever in 1990 shortly after graduating from Williams College. Derek has spent more than 25 years working professionally for non-profit, non-partisan organizations.



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### Barbara Leary

I have been a Sierra Club member since 1986. I've served on the Sacramento Executive Committee since 2014, initially as Secretary and as Chairperson for the last 5 years.

My goals in seeking re-election to the Sacramento Executive Committee are to continue work on the retention of open space and native species habitat in our area, inhibiting urban sprawl, eliminating harmful chemicals from our environment, and promoting policies that put our environment first so that all of us thrive.



As Chair, I've expanded our partnerships with local like-minded organizations and helped to establish more outreach to our members. I've helped to strengthen our relationships with Trees for Sacramento, Friends of Del Paso Park, the Citizens Climate Lobby, and the Environmental Council of Sacramento to name a few.

I've engaged in ongoing efforts since the early 1990s to retain open space and native trees in the Folsom area. I have been successful in working with the City to retain numerous native oaks, other native species, and ensuring mitigation measures for historic sites, and successfully promoting the retention of open space in the face of rapid development.

I continue to serve as a delegate to the California Democratic Party (CDP) and submitted a successful amendment to the State Democratic Party platform, to curtail and eliminate the use of neonicotinoids and other pollinator-killing pesticides in order to preserve our bee and other pollinator populations.

I currently represent the Club on the Environmental Caucus of the Sacramento County Water Forum and on the Stakeholder Committee for the Sacramento County Climate Action Plan.

In summary, I believe I have the experience in working on complex environmental issues and knowledge of the challenges we are facing that can continue to benefit the Sierra Club.

Career: 1978-2009 Nurse Practitioner at UC Davis Medical Center; prior Critical Care RN at Stanford University Hospital, Stanford and Queen's Medical Center, Honolulu

Public service:

Parks & Recreation Commissioner, City of Folsom 1994-1998, Chairperson 1998

Board member Friends of Folsom Parkways 2009 to present

Co-Founder and Current President, American River Democrats

Arts & Cultural Commission, City of Folsom 2010 to present, past Chair & Vice Chair

Conservation Committee member Sacramento Chapter, Daughter's of the American Revolution

Historic Preservation Committee Chairperson D.A.R., 2012 to present

Sierra Club, Sacramento Group Executive Committee, Secretary 2015; Chairperson 2016

Sierra Club, Mother Lode Chapter Executive Committee member and Political Committee Member

Delegate, California Democratic Party; Member of the Environmental Caucus

Pastimes: Travel, hiking, photography

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## Jose Montoya

Jose Montoya grew up in a mid-sized farming town in Eastern, WA. Fueled by his experience growing up in poverty Jose studied Political Philosophy at Eastern Washington University, becoming a McNair Scholar and a heavily active member of Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (MEChA) where he held many leadership positions. While active in MEChA Jose traveled the states and organized different campaigns in the implementation of Chicano studies in Schools and Universities using direct action as a tool.

After 15 years in Retail Banking and Wealth Management Jose walked away from the banking world and pursued his passion to organize communities to fight back against a system that is broken and rigged against the most vulnerable populations. Jose besides being our awesome



treasurer now works for the California Health Collaborative in the Gold Country Rural Initiative as a Young Adult Coordinator fighting big tobacco and the new poisons that they are selling us.

Jose served as our Mother Lode Chapter volunteer treasurer for over 3 years.

**“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere” MLK**

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## Trevor Taylor

I have been a member of the Sierra Club since 2010 and have been privileged to serve on the Sacramento Group Executive Committee from 2012 to 2016, and



currently serve on the Mother Lode Chapter Executive Committee. I work in public policy and am a graduate of the University of California, Davis with a degree in Political Science. I have lived in the Sacramento region for close to 2 decades and have come to cherish Northern California’s many unique natural treasures that are currently under threat from the ravages of climate change.

As a member of the Sierra Club’s Sacramento Group Executive Committee for 4 years, I served as the executive committee’s Political Chair and was responsible for coordinating the Club’s political activities including interacting with elected officials and monitoring local, state, and federal races. As a result of this work, I was recognized by the Mother Lode Chapter with an award at the annual awards banquet for my work revitalizing the political activities of the group. For the last 3 years, I have served as Secretary for the MLC Executive Committee and have taken the meeting minutes during our quarterly meetings.

If re-elected to the Mother Lode Chapter Executive Committee for a final term, I would like to continue cultivating a more influential and active role for Sierra Club members in our region’s political process and would hope to support the

Chapter's current Chair with any assistance they may need in the Club's conservation work. Additionally, as the youngest member of the Club's Executive Committee, who has also served on the Executive Board of the Sacramento County Young Democrats, I feel that I bring a much-needed alternative viewpoint and advocacy to the Executive Board. Young adults are an untapped source of energy and idealism that can reinvigorate our organization, and as the heirs, to the climate crisis, we also face the gravest consequences of inaction.