



**SIERRA CLUB**  
SAN GORGONIO

# Palm and Pine

A PUBLICATION OF THE SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB  
SERVING RIVERSIDE AND SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES SINCE 1932

VOLUME 54 NO. 2 PROTECT AMERICA'S ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR FAMILIES FOR OUR FUTURE MARCH/APRIL 2024

## 2024 Chapter Planning & Strategy Meeting



San Gorgonio Chapter is ready to take concrete actions for 2024, thanks to the work of chapter leaders at our Strategic Planning Meeting on January 27th. The connections made, the thoughtful participation, and breaking bread together helped us distill how we live our values as we address our environmental and conservation concerns.

Contact us for more details on the discussion and our plans moving forward!



In 2024, our chapter's main priorities are climate solutions, expanding outings, land use concerns, and political actions. We are focused on finding sustainable solutions to combat climate change, educating our community, and advocating for environmental policies. Additionally, we aim to provide more outdoor opportunities for our members to connect with nature, address land use issues to protect natural landscapes, and engage in political actions to fight climate change and environmental degradation especially as the November 2024 election season kicks off in earnest after the primary. Through advocacy campaigns and supporting environmentally-friendly candidates, we hope to make a positive impact on our communities and beyond.



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### Chapter Meeting - Intro to Political

**Tuesday March 12**  
**7 PM - 8:30 pm**  
**SB County Museum**  
**2024 Orange Tree Ln,**  
**Redlands 92374**

## Get Outdoors and Lead Others!



**Outings Leadership Training Course**

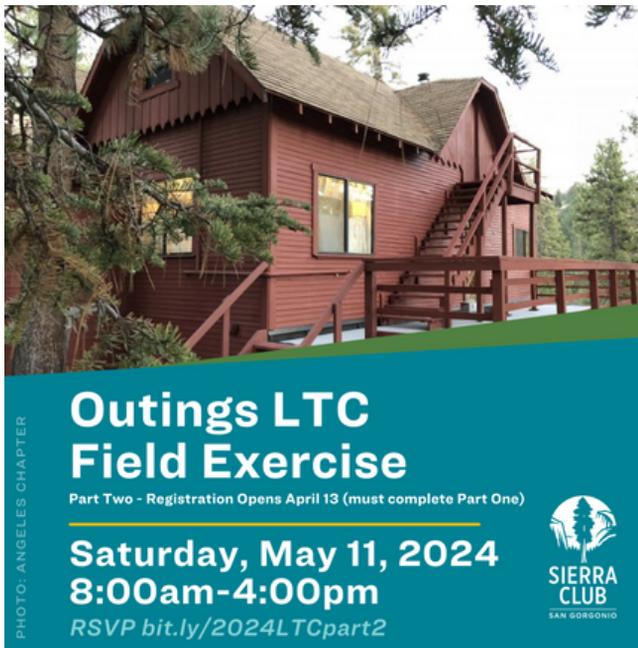
**Sierra Club San Gorgonio**

<p><b>Saturday, April 13</b></p> <p>9am-4pm</p> <p>RSVP at <a href="https://bit.ly/2024LTCpart1">bit.ly/2024LTCpart1</a></p>	<p><b>Saturday, May 11</b></p> <p>8am-4pm</p> <p>RSVP <a href="https://bit.ly/2024LTCpart2">bit.ly/2024LTCpart2</a></p>
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Are you ready to take the lead? Join us for our outings leadership training course (LTC) for future outing leaders this spring.

PHOTO: UNSPLASH

**The San Gorgonio Chapter Outings Leadership Training Course** is a comprehensive program designed to equip outdoor enthusiasts with the skills and knowledge to lead safe and successful outings. Over the course of two days, participants will learn essential leadership and organizational strategies, as well as important safety protocols. Led by experienced instructors, this course is a must for anyone looking to take on a leadership role within the San Gorgonio Chapter Outings program. **Join us on April 13th at the San Bernardino County Museum** and take the first step towards becoming a confident and capable outings leader.



**Outings LTC Field Exercise**

**Sierra Club San Gorgonio**

Part Two - Registration Opens April 13 (must complete Part One)

**Saturday, May 11, 2024**

**8:00am-4:00pm**

RSVP [bit.ly/2024LTCpart2](https://bit.ly/2024LTCpart2)

PHOTO: ANGELES CHAPTER

The Leadership Training Course will continue with a focus on map and compass skills during a hiking field exercise in the **San Bernardino National Forest, starting at Keller Ski Hut**. Instruction will begin at 8:00 AM on Saturday, with the option to arrive Friday evening for those needing extra time or altitude conditioning. Participants must have completed the first part of the LTC training on April 13 before registering for this event. Registration will open after April 13.

# Add+UP

**Pledge to Get Outdoors and Advocate for Access to Nature!**

## Outdoors for All

The campaign works to expand universal access to nature to the estimated 100 million Americans who do not have a park within a ten-minute walk of their home. Our goal is to cut that nature equity gap in half by ensuring an additional 50 million people can exercise their human right to connect with the outdoors by 2030.

# Elections - What's Next

**March 12 Chapter Meeting**

[RSVP HERE](#)

March 5 was the primary election - Now, let's get to work on the November final! We need local officials in the State Legislature, County Boards of Supervisors, and City Councils who consider climate change and local environmental issues a key part of their platform. Join us Tuesday 3/12 at 7:00 PM at the San Bernardino County Museum and learn how you can participate in endorsing and assisting environmental champions win in November.

As a non-partisan, 501(c)(4) non-profit, Sierra Club members research candidates platforms and positions they have taken in previous roles, as well as who is funding their campaign. Our volunteers interact with candidates and recommend endorsement while carefully adhering to political and campaign policy.

Come join us at 7:00 PM for some short Chapter updates from our Director, and announcements about upcoming events. We'll take a break for refreshments and socializing, then hear from our speakers about why local politics are so important. While eyes are on the crucial Presidential race this year, it is also critical that we pay attention here to local leaders. You'll hear about how we make endorsements, why it is important for leaders to hear from constituents, then look at our region's State legislators and their Sierra Club California scorecards.

[RSVP HERE](#)

# EARTH MONTH 2024

**One planet.  
Many ways to help.**

## Earth Month Events

- Morongo Band of Mission Indians Earth Day Festival Friday April 19
- Chino Creek Wetlands Earth Day Community Celebration Thurs April 18
- San Bernardino Mountains Group at volunteer event at San Moritz Club in Crestline 4/20
- Santa Margarita Group Murrieta City Center April 22

[Check our calendar for all our Earth Day Events](#)

# JOIN OUR POLCOM

**@ VOLUNTEER CONNECTION**

The San Gorgonio Chapter Political Committee (PolCom) guides Sierra Club political activities at municipal and county levels of government and seeks to foster strong and sustained engagement in electoral activities as a key driver in accomplishing our mission.

# Message from our Chapter Director, Joz (Jocelyn) Sida

Wow! We are beginning 2024 with incredible momentum. As the first ever Chapter Director, I want you to know that it is truly an honor to set the tone for our Chapter as to what we can accomplish when we have the resources we need to get there. Resources come to us in many forms - from donations to our volunteers' valuable time. However, the best resources have come from the passion of our members. The commitment, tenacity and follow through of each and every member has made San Gorgonio the chapter that it is. You may not know this, but we are respected and admired across the country because of the work, programs, and leadership you have all brought forth to the table.

As we continue to work on creating a structure for everyone to have access to resources for their community work, I wanted to let you know that in the upcoming monthly meetings we will have guest speakers from our CA Field team presenting their campaigns so that you know where to connect about issues that are your passion.

If you want to present as a guest speaker, let us know so we can ensure you have the space and technology to do so. We are excited for what is next, from forming our first official budget with your Director and Executive Committee, to all the great events we will be a part of and create. I look forward to spending more time with all of you and now that Spring is around the corner, let's get out on some trails and explore together!

Sincerely,



Joz (Jocelyn) Sida  
San Gorgonio Chapter Director

The election for the National Board of Directors will be happening in March and April. Be sure to watch your email for notice of your electronic ballot, or, if you opted for mail, check your mailbox. You can find info about the candidates on the 2024 election website **(coming soon)**. Members vote for up to 5 candidates.

*"The San Gorgonio Chapter recommends a vote for Clayton Daughenbaugh and Megan Sahli-Wells in the upcoming election for the Sierra Club's Board of Directors."*



Presenting Assembly Member Eloise Reyes with our 2023 Environmental Leadership Award at her “State of the 50th” district event. From left Political Chair Bhavin Jindal, Eloise Reyes, Chapter Chair Mary Ann Ruiz and Sierra Club Senior Organizer for Clean Transportation for All (and former Chapter Chair ) Bobbi Jo Chavarria

## **Big Bear Group Update**

**Ellen Kesler, Chair**

The Big Bear Group ExCom has kept busy these winter months preparing for the 2024 year and keeping an eye on environmental issues here in Bear Valley.

In December, we enjoyed our annual Board “Holiday Gathering” in the local Oakside Restaurant and this year, we celebrated two members’ birthdays on that very evening; Ed Wallace and Peter Michelsen. Wonderful way to start the holidays!

Our Xeriscape Tour Committee has already begun preparations for the 2024 event. This will be Linda Garcia’s second year as Chair and she is busy incorporating new ideas. We will look forward to the in-person tour this summer.

The first General Meeting is planned for March (weather permitting). It will be a “Meet and Greet” affair. We’re encouraging everyone to come discover what makes Sierra Club “tick”; how the organization functions incorporating National, Chapters, and Groups. We will also share the update in the Outings Program and allow time for questions. The date will be **Thursday, March 21st.**

**We are looking forward to an exciting new year here in the mountains!**

## Moreno Valley Group News

Compiled by Christina Torres, Moreno Valley Outings Leader, George Hague, Conservation Chair, & Ann McKibben, Secretary

**From the Outings Chair:** Hello fellow hikers and nature lovers, we started our year with an easy and lovely hike in the Mission Creek Preserve. We had such a perfect day to be there. Unfortunately, the Thousand Palms Oasis hike was canceled due to the trail being closed but we just hiked the La Quinta Cove Trail in early February. You will find updated chapter outings on our Chapter website where you can register for them online and check on their current status as cancellations and rescheduling are always a possibility due to rain and adverse trail conditions. If you are interested in becoming a certified outings leader (COL) for our group, please contact me (cmt.teck@gmail.com) for more info. The next Outings Leader training is scheduled for April 13 with more advanced training on May 11. Christina

**If you haven't already, please take time to share your email address with us so we are able to share updated information on the projects we are following plus share information about upcoming planning commission, city council meetings where your presence and/or comments can make a difference—all on a limited basis. Please share your email address by sending it to [movalleygroup@yahoo.com](mailto:movalleygroup@yahoo.com) AND BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR OUR [NEWSLETTERS HERE](#)**

### Current Projects We're Watching

**Aquabella Specific Plan to be amended by developer for** 15,000 residential units/apartments on 770 acres located south of Alessandro Blvd and west of Nason St which could be a model for environmentally friendly large-scale housing projects. Our Moreno Valley Group submitted comments with suggestions on how they can accomplish this with less impact on the environment and residents of Moreno Valley.

- Planner Oliver Mujica at [planningnotices@moval.org](mailto:planningnotices@moval.org)

#### **The Village of Moreno Valley (VMV):**

Project located at busy intersection northwest corner of Nason Street and Fir Avenue on about nine acres, includes 8 buildings with retail, restaurant, fueling station, car wash, and drive-thru restaurants; adding over 6,000 daily trips; Aquabella's project is adjacent to area. **The Nason Street/Fir Street intersection is already very congested; with this project's more than 6,000 daily trips it will only get worse. Those living in Aquabella's 15,000 units will also use Nason Street as one of their main routes.**

- Planner Danielle Harper-Scott at [planningnotices@moval.org](mailto:planningnotices@moval.org)

Project maps and planning documents available at: <https://moval.org/cdd/documents/about-projects.html>



**MARCH TRAIL TALK: BUILDING AN OUTDOOR COALITION -- OUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND THE STATE PARKS PASS PROGRAM**

Wednesday, March 20, 2024; 7:00 PM, via Zoom

Librarians Wess Garcia of the City of Rancho Cucamonga, Marianne Perez of the City of Riverside, and Julie Warren of the City of Palm Springs will describe California public libraries' recent outdoor equity efforts -- similar to the Sierra Club's -- including the State Parks Pass Program, the "library of things" (including backpacks, guidebooks, compasses, and even kayaks [!]), children's programming, and lecture series. The libraries' "outdoors for all" efforts provide an opportunity to build coalition between them and the San Gorgonio Chapter. [RSVP HERE](#)



**APRIL TRAIL TALK: TREKKING IN SOUTH AMERICA - TRAVEL TO PATAGONIA WITH JOE AMADOR**

Wednesday, APRIL 17, 2024; 7:00 PM, via Zoom

Joe Amador, San Gorgonio Chapter Outings Leader, will take us along on his recent trip to South America, focusing on his travels in Patagonia and other destinations. [RSVP HERE](#)

**Ready to Reimagine our Salton Sea?**

**Date: March 9, 2024**  
**Time: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**  
**Location: North Shore Beach and Yacht Club, 99155 Sea View Dr. Mecca, CA 92254**

**Event Sponsors:**

- COACHELLA VALLEY PARENTS
- SIERRA CLUB
- EMPOWERMENT CONSTRUIR COMUNIDAD SANA
- Lideres Compositas
- LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY
- DESERT
- Riverside University HEALTH SYSTEM

#SaltonSeaReimagined

Join us and Alianza Coachella Valley this weekend to experience what a reimagined Salton Sea can look and feel like. There is an opportunity to align state investments with the community vision for the Salton Sea where both the environment and local communities prosper. Visit to be informed on economic development projects and enjoy a guided trail walk, scavenger hunt, crafts, prizes, native tree give-aways, complimentary lunch for the first 100 attendees & more! [RSVP here to attend!](#) See you this Sat, March 9th from 10am-1pm at North Shore Beach and Yacht Club, 99155 Sea View Dr, Mecca, CA 92254 #SaltonSeaReimagined

**WELCOME**

**NEW MEMBERS!**

**JANUARY 2024**

**FEBRUARY 2024**

Paul Carpenter  
 Ms Yuko Yamaguchi  
 Pam Velarde  
 Georgia Rudin  
 Gerald Shutman  
 Jamie Yuan  
 Christy Koenig  
 Kathleen Trautwein  
 Lainie Taylor  
 Andrew Jordanallen  
 Phillip Moreno  
 Mary Flanders  
 Gary Fristrom  
 David Zimprich  
 Sandra Hold  
 Jose Talamantes  
 Andrew Gonzalez  
 Emilio Bravo  
 Tricia Paige  
 Dmitry Radbel  
 Joe Passaro  
 Gabe Waisman  
 Jerry Woodward  
 Priscila Mendoza  
 Michael Hustad  
 Jeffrey Wells  
 James Kelly  
 Thomas Thetford  
 Edie Hylton  
 Jack Mowreader  
 B Landess  
 Edward Devine  
 Elizabeth Cornejo

Deborah Mayer  
 Hal Wingo  
 Lisa Moss  
 Polly Stahl  
 Kerry Walker  
 homas Gilmore  
 Amanda Frye  
 Bryan Fromdahl  
 Kayte Harder  
 Megan Diaz  
 Kellerman Marich  
 Barry Taylor  
 Alexis Vazquez  
 Jannette Prado  
 Carol Moyer  
 Mikayla Lopez  
 Nathan Harned  
 Ron Krogh  
 Raymond Washington  
 Jennifer Cadkin  
 Steven Leach  
 Micaela Hall  
 Qidor Amedee  
 Elisabeth Hartmann  
 Anita McCarthy  
 Mei Kim  
 Phil Savage  
 Gregory Taylor  
 Betty  
 Kathleen Auwae  
 Mike McCarthy  
 Brooke Voce  
 Mark Pavelchak

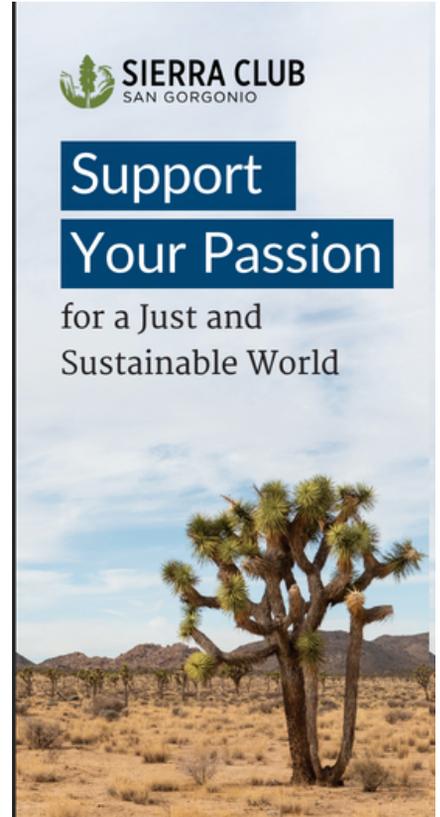
EJasmine Hartman  
 Daniel Sharp  
 Carmine Eagle  
 Kathy Harrell  
 nancy lappen  
 Max Ryden  
 Alexander Granzow  
 Richard Dale  
 Kathryn Vance  
 Nadeem Rihan  
 Nathalie Mendoza  
 Linda Hale  
 Lauren Norotny  
 Claudia Lorea  
 Nanette Clarey &  
 Catherine Coucoules  
 Jack Jackson  
 Michele Bonner  
 Charles Price  
 Lauren Blaurock  
 Jo Powell  
 David Sweeney  
 James Swanson  
 Jerome Kahn  
 Paul Riffel  
 Connie Thomas  
 Bernard Bergman  
 Paul Mittermeyer  
 Randy Zeese  
 Konrad Prager

Slavka Bulleova  
 Michael Baker  
 Mohannad Jaghamah  
 Michael Gregg

Debbie Miknuk  
 Adelyn Wyngaarden  
 Crystal Hofmann  
 Christopher Galindo  
 Chuck Villanueva  
 Penelope Engard  
 Myra Mapoy  
 Miriam Wheeler  
 Lois Bloomer  
 Janet Alexander  
 James Winsor  
 Heather Sherry  
 Loralee Runnels  
 Mary Noble  
 Leslie Mahoney  
 Christian Santiago  
 Grant Houlihan  
 Linda Lieder  
 Shirley Wright  
 Tamra MacAluso  
 Phillip Watson  
 Eileen Wiederspan  
 Phyllis Blackey  
 Mr Steven Lamers  
 Marilyn O'Connor

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**Support  
 Your Passion**  
 for a Just and  
 Sustainable World

**Plan to Make  
 a Difference**

Planning an estate gift to Sierra Club or Sierra Club Foundation to benefit Sierra Club's San Gorgonio Chapter enables you to create your legacy and ensure support for generations to come. Depending on the type of gift you choose—whether it's a gift in your will, a gift of retirement assets, or a gift that provides you with income—a legacy gift can help you to:

- Feel secure about making a future impact on the health of your regional communities.
- Maintain control of your assets for life.
- Receive tax benefits.
- Give more than you ever thought possible.
- Join an extraordinary group of visionary partners who share your passion for a healthy planet.

Contact us to learn more about the benefits of gift planning and to become a member of the Rachel Carson Society.

Visit [myplan.sierraclub.org](https://myplan.sierraclub.org) to start planning today!

Julia Curtis  
 (800) 932-4270 • [giftplanning@sierraclub.org](mailto:giftplanning@sierraclub.org)  
[myplan.sierraclub.org](https://myplan.sierraclub.org)

*We are excited to welcome new members to the Sierra Club community! Our organization is committed to working towards a sustainable future for all and we are thrilled to have your support in that mission. We encourage you to explore our website and get involved in our various campaigns and initiatives.*

*Thank you for joining us in the fight for a better world!*

# Update from the Clean Transportation for All Campaign (CTFA) by Katherine Garcia

## READY FOR 100% CLEAN TRANSPORTATION

As we shift to 100% renewable sources of electricity, plug-in vehicles become 100% clean.

By reducing vehicles miles traveled, increasing and cleaning up public transit, and accelerating a switch to electric cars and buses, cities are reducing their dependence on oil and clearing the air.



## HELP US FIGHT FOR THESE PROGRAMS:

- Pedestrian
- Biking
- Municipal EV Fleet
- Zero Emission Buses
- Transit Oriented Development
- EV Charging Installation

## Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Funding Implementation: Electric School Buses

On Monday, January 8th, the EPA announced \$1 Billion in grant awards for clean school buses, 95 percent of the funding will go towards electric school buses. The grants will help selectees purchase over 2,700 clean school buses in 280 school districts serving over 7 million students across 37 states.

Here are a few posts with links to press statements: [National](#), [Massachusetts](#), [New Jersey](#), and [Utah](#) and supportive posts from chapters in Illinois and Virginia (this is not an exhaustive list).

Sierra Club was mentioned in several articles including in the [Washington Post](#), [The Hill](#), and [CBS News Boston](#).

Special thanks to everyone who helped promote the Clean School Bus Program, the State Lobbying & Advocacy team, and our Communications team.

## EPA and State advocacy: Advanced Clean Cars II Standards

On Wednesday, Sierra Club staff and volunteers testified at the EPA hearing in support of the Advanced Clean Cars (ACC) II waiver. This is an essential hearing to ensure that all the states that have adopted ACC II can enforce the standards.

Huge thanks to everyone who testified or helped recruit testers, and Larisa Manescu for live-tweeting the hearing and creating graphics for many of the participants. Awesome posts promoting the excellent testimony here: <https://twitter.com/SierraClubLive>

## Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Funding Implementation: EV Chargers

On Thursday, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced \$623 Million in grants to continue building out the EV Charging Network. These grants will fund 47 EV charging and alternative-fueling infrastructure projects in 22 states and Puerto Rico, including construction of approximately 7,500 EV charging ports.

Special thanks to the advocates that supported projects for the charging and alternative-fueling infrastructure (CFI) application process and the attorneys in the Environmental Law Program who helped support our advocacy on CFI.



Bicycle commuters stopping at the park on the way to work



Diesel truck traffic clogging Rte. 60 and poisoning our air

Visit: <https://www.sierraclub.org/transportation>



**SIERRA  
CLUB**

**SAN GORGONIO**

Sierra Club  
San Gorgonio Chapter  
P. O. Box 5425, Riverside,  
CA 92517-5425

## Volunteer With Us!

We use people power to fight for safer communities and a healthier planet. Find out how you can use your talents and your desire to improve our environment by checking our [Volunteer Connection](#) page for the many opportunities for you to make a difference here in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Watch this site for updated volunteer opportunities and descriptions throughout the year

**@VOLUNTEER CONNECTION**



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The outings and event calendar is at our website:  
<http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org>

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