

Crescenta Valley Group Newsletter

June - August - 2026

http://sierra.club-los.angeles/crescenta_valley_group | www.facebook.com/Sierra-Club-Crescenta-Valley-Group

Remembering Jerry Burnham: Faithful CV Group member



Jerry Burnham was a sound engineer with the Rick Dees radio show. He traveled with Dees and his crew and often went on Dees' show; Dees would introduce him as Dr. Jerry Burnham, hence the "doctor" before his name. He lived up to the name as he was quite knowledgeable on a variety of subjects.

He was a valued member of the CV Group of the Sierra Club. He was the Group's treasurer for over thirty years, serving in this capacity on the Management Committee. In addition to being active in the VFW/American Legion, he was a member of the Stone Barn Vineyard Conservancy, a part of the Historical Society of the Crescenta Valley, where he frequently participated in maintaining the Stone barn vineyard, situated in Deukmejian Park. As a "super" volunteer with Glendale's Parks Dept, he watered and planted trees at Deukmejian Park for over 10 years.

Jerry was a U.S. Navy veteran and served in Vietnam on board the USS Truxtun (a nuclear-powered guided missile cruiser) as a lieutenant junior grade.

Jerry was a member of American Legion Post 288 and a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #1614 for the past 11 years. He most recently served as the quartermaster for the VFW and the finance officer for both the Legion and VFW.

His contributions were many and he will be missed.

Blossoming at the Basin: A Community Restores Native Habitat

*By Nadia Wilson,
Eagle Scout
Candidate*

An Eagle Scout project is the final, culminating requirement for a Scout to earn the rank of Eagle, tasking them with leading a significant community service effort that demonstrates leadership and provides a lasting benefit to a local organization or the environment.

The Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve has always stood out to me as a place where nature and community come together. As someone who grew up in a family



**Volunteers removing invasive mustard
and preparing the site for restoration**

passionate about plants and habitat restoration, I knew I wanted my Eagle Scout Project to contribute to preserving and strengthening spaces like this. Over time, I've seen how invasive, non-native species, especially mustard, have spread throughout the basin. These plants not only crowd out native species, but also dry out in the summer and increase fire risk. I wanted to help restore balance by removing invasive plants and reintroducing native species that are more water-efficient, fire-resistant, and beneficial to local wildlife.

With support from the California Native Plant Society and Friends of the Los Angeles River, I organized a habitat restoration event on March 21st. My goal was to create an opportunity for the



An incredible turnout of 207 volunteers supporting the restoration effort.

community to come together and make a lasting environmental impact. I was truly amazed by the turnout; 207 volunteers joined the effort, making it the largest group the site had seen in over a year. It was inspiring to see so many people, including fellow scouts, family members, and local residents, willing to give their time and energy to support native habitat restoration.

Scouts and community volunteers work together to plant the Western Sycamore.



Celebrating Earth Day!



Crescenta Valley Group Management Committee

Chair, Fred Dong; **Vice Chair and Programs**, Jeffrey Wilson; **Treasurer**, Cathy Kissinger; **Secretary, Ex Comm Rep, Publicity**, Cathy Kissinger; **Outings and Membership**, Silvia Darie; **Events and Social Media**, Pat Kramer; **Conservation and Newsletter**, Bettie Pearson; **Webmaster**, Silvia Darie; **Programs**, Jean Ulhara

Total Eclipse & Historic Central Spain Adventure

Aug 5 - Aug 20, 2026

Join us for this 15 day 14 night sun and moon adventure with a tour of places in Central Spain. This tour will take you to 13 UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Our trip starts in Barcelona where we will see some of Antoni Gaudi's architectural masterpieces including the Sagrada Familia, Palau Guell, Parc Guell, and Casa Vicens, all UNESCO sites. We'll also visit the Espanyol, Catalonia National Museum of Art, the Gothic quarter along with other Barcelona sites.

Leaders: Fred Dong madelinesdad@earthlink.net, Stephanie

Gross madelinesmother@gmail.com 818-545-3878, Sharon Moore justslm@earthlink.net

Vietnam and Cambodia Travel Adventure

Feb 26, 2027 – Mar 21, 2027

Organized By: Angeles Chapter, Crescenta Valley

Event Organizers: Stephanie Gross, madelinesmother@gmail.com, 818-545-3878 and Fred Dong

madelinesdad@earthlink.net, 818-545-3878

Join us for this 22 day, 21 night adventure in Vietnam and Cambodia to experience the culture, historic sites, and beautiful sights of this exotic land.

You can also do Vietnam only as a standalone 16 day, 15 night tour or Cambodia only as a standalone 7 day, 6 night tour.

Cost: Price includes, 21 nights lodging (2 Persons, 2 beds per room) in three and four star hotels, transportation within Vietnam & Cambodia, admission to sightseeing places, many meals, and more. Does not include airfare from the US. The price is \$3,600 plus \$500 for the Cambodia airfare (total \$4,100) until July 31 and \$3,800 plus \$500 for the Cambodia airfare (total \$4,300) starting August 1 unless fills earlier. Non-members \$100 more. Single supplement is \$1,500. We will not cash your checks until after July 31.

Signup Instructions: Send e-mail address, mailing address, phone number(s), SC#, check (Sierra Club) to CoLeader/Reserv.: Stephanie Gross, PO Box 423, Montrose, CA Leader: Fred Dong 818-545-3878