

# Redwood Needles



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Volume 57 Number 6

Newsletter of the Redwood Chapter of the Sierra Club

Dec. 2016/Jan. 2017

## Election 2016: The Challenge

There's no way to minimize the shock, horror and disbelief Donald Trump's victory has brought to all of us who care about the environment. But in the words of Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune, "This is our moment to refuse to give up. Our resolve is not diminished by the momentary victory of cynicism over hope, hate over compassion, and lies over truth. We have no intention of standing down or succumbing to hopelessness."

Here in Redwood Chapter the results are far more encouraging. All three of our endorsed members of Congress won very handily, as did two out of three endorsed state legislators. Locally, although both endorsed supervisorial candidates lost, 13 of our 17 picks in municipal races won., and except for two sales tax measures that failed to reach the necessary two-thirds supermajority the Club position prevailed on all four statewide Propositions and local ballot measures.

President of the United States	Hillary Clinton	lost
US Senate	Kamala Harris	won
CD02	Jared Huffman	won
CD03	John Garamendi	won
CD05	Mike Thompson	won
Assembly District 02	Jim Wood	won
Assembly District 10	Marc Levine	won
Assembly District 14	Mae Torlakson	lost
Solano County Supervisor, District 2	Mike Ioakimedes	lost
Benicia Mayor	Elizabeth Patterson	won*
Benicia City Council	Tom Campbell	won
Benicia City Council	Steve Young	won
Fairfield City Council	Pam Bertani	won*
Vallejo Mayor	Bob Sampayan	won
Vallejo City Council	Liat Metzenheimer	lost
Sonoma County Supervisor, District 5	Noreen Evans	lost
Cloverdale City Council	Melanie Bagby	won*
Cotati City Council	John Dell'Osso	won
Cotati City Council	Susan Harvey	won
Healdsburg City Council	Tim Meinken	lost
Petaluma City Council	Mike Healy	won
Petaluma City Council	Bill Wolpert	lost
Santa Rosa City Council	Julie Combs	won
Santa Rosa City Council	Chris Rogers	won
Santa Rosa City Council	Jack Tibbetts	won
Sonoma City Council	Laurie Gallian	lost
Windsor Town Council	Deb Fudge	won

### Statewide Propositions

Prop 56, Cigarette tax	Support	won
Prop 58, Bilingual education	Support	won
Prop 59, oppose Citizens United	Support	won
Prop 67, plastic bag referendum	Support	won

### Local ballot measures

Mendocino County Measure AF, marijuana regulations	oppose	lost
Napa County Measure Z, 1/4 cent sales tax for parks	support	lost
Sonoma County Measure J, 1/2 sales tax for parks	support	lost
Sonoma County Measure K, community separators	support	won
Sonoma County Measure M, genetically engineered crop ban	support	won
Sonoma County Measure Y, 1/8 cent sales tax for libraries	support	won

\*result may not be final, still very close at press time.

## Another Step Forward for Klamath Dam Removal

As reported in a previous edition of the Redwood Needles, a multi-partner agreement to remove four antiquated dams on the Klamath River was signed in April. Now another essential step has been taken towards what would be the largest dam removal project in United States history.

On October 17 Department of the Interior Secretary Sally Jewell sent a letter to federal dam regulators, signaling formal approval of the April agreement. "The recommendation and determination I am making today are not entered into lightly," Interior Secretary Jewell wrote. "Rather, I do so in reliance on the most comprehensive and robust analysis of dam removal ever undertaken."

Under the agreement, PacifiCorp, which owns the dams, will transfer them to a third-party organization that will assume legal liability, with electricity rate payers and California and Oregon tax payers assuming the estimated \$292 million costs.

Upgrading the dams to meet current standards for fish passage would cost an additional \$100 million at least.

Unblocking more than 400 miles of river habitat is expected to revive a salmon run that was once among the largest on the west coast, but has fallen 90 percent from the levels of a century ago. "Dam removal can rewrite a painful chapter in our history, and it can be done in a manner that protects the many interests in the basin," Jewell wrote, concluding that removal is in the public interest.

According to the April agreement, the dams are supposed to come down in 2020, but the precise schedule will be determined by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. PacifiCorp filed applications for removal of the four dams and transfer of ownership to the Klamath River Renewal Corporation in September. Regulators will now evaluate those filings.

## Celebrating Wilderness Ten Years On

BY VICTORIA BRANDON

REDWOOD CHAPTER WILDERNESS CHAIR

It's hard to believe that ten years have passed since the Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Wilderness Act ("Wilderness Bill") became law, but this momentous anniversary took place on October 17, 2016.

Sponsored by Redwood Chapter's own Congressman Mike Thompson, the bill added 273,000 acres of federal public land in five counties to the Federal Wilderness Preservation System and designated 21 miles of Wild & Scenic River. This significant achievement was accomplished through the great work of many local, state, and national partners, including the Sierra Club. In the words of Congressman Thompson at the bill's signing, "America's wilderness represents the things we love about being American - our free spirit, our sense of adventure and our passion for exploring the unknown. This designation marks a tremendous victory for conservationists, outdoor enthusiasts and all Americans who care for the outdoors."

Many Redwood Chapter activists worked for the passage of this bill, none longer and more ardently than North Group activist Lynn Ryan, who led numerous outings to explore the areas proposed for inclusion. Her detailed hike reports speak of long drives on remote forest roads, searches for long-abandoned overgrown trails, adventurous bushwhacks down steep slopes, and scrambles

across icy mountain streams, with long pauses to savor breathtaking views and—always!—to write some letters in support of the bill.

Lynn remembers those days: "I have been working toward wilderness for 23 years when the King Range was in jeopardy and no one seemed to be paying attention. Others came before me, some of whom are no longer on this planet. We honor them and we honor ourselves for our perseverance and valor in these troubled times. We speak for the trees and the deep ecology of place, our temperate rainforest, the bioregion we swim upstream to defend. To those who came before me, and to those who come after me, I thank you all for continuity and balance and all things wild."

We celebrated then, and it's time to celebrate again. To commemorate this great success, organizations, communities, and land managers throughout northern California are sponsoring a series of recreational and stewardship events this fall, with participation from students, veterans, local tribal members and many more: the objective is to hold at least one event in each of the twelve wilderness areas created or expanded by the 2006 bill.

To find out more, please visit <http://tuleyome.org/northcoastwildernessbill/>



## Redwood Chapter Hires Communication Coordinator

**Photo to the left: Chapter ExCom member Rue Furch, Conservation Chair Tom Roth, Shoshana Hebshi and Sonoma Group Chair Suzanne Doyle meeting at the Environmental Center in Santa Rosa on Nov. 2.**

The Chapter took a big step recently. In order to strengthen the dialogue with our members and raise the profile of the Club among the general public, early in November, after searching for several months and evaluating more than 75 candidates, we hired Shoshana Hebshi to serve as Communications Coordinator.

A graduate of CalPoly and the University of Iowa, Shoshana is a fine writer, skilled editor, and social media expert. She's going to work with volunteer leaders to

create a regular email newsletter to supplement the bimonthly Redwood Needles (expect the first issue in mid-December) get the Chapter and Sonoma Group up and running on Twitter and Instagram, strengthen our Facebook presence, and organize a series of presentations on environmental topics of public interest.

We are eagerly looking forward to the next stage of the journey!

For more Redwood Chapter information: <http://www.sierraclub.org/redwood>

# Redwood Chapter Sierra Club Directory

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## Redwood Chapter & Sonoma Group Office

Location: Environmental Center, 55A Ridgway Ave., Santa Rosa

The Office is staffed most weekday afternoons. Call ahead to confirm, 544-7651. The Office is also open during evening meetings (see listings on last page) and at other times when volunteers are present.

### Redwood Chapter Online

Redwood Chapter Website: <http://www.sierraclub.org/redwood>  
for Group Websites, use [www.redwood.sierraclub.org](http://www.redwood.sierraclub.org) and add: /napa, /north, /sonoma, /lake, /mendocino, or /solano  
Redwood Chapter Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/SierraClubRedwoodChapter/](http://www.facebook.com/SierraClubRedwoodChapter/)

**Redwood Chapter Website:**  
[www.sierraclub.org/redwood](http://www.sierraclub.org/redwood)



## Stand with Standing Rock!

Water Protectors have and continue to peacefully exercise their First Amendment rights and we stand in solidarity with them. Join us by calling the White House to urge President Obama to investigate potential rights violations and reject this dirty pipeline once and for all!

**Call the White House: 1-303-816-3559**

For more information, visit [Sierraclub.org/](http://Sierraclub.org/)

### Redwood Needles

Newsletter of the Redwood Chapter, Sierra Club of California

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# Determined, Not Defeated

By EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MICHAEL BRUNE

This is a slightly edited version of remarks I gave at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

This was a deeply disappointing election for the United States— and the world. For people all over the country, the pain, anger, and fear at the prospect of a Trump presidency are very real.

As we reflect on what this means for our country and our planet, it's most important that we stand in solidarity with all those who have been targeted by Trump during his campaign. People of color, Muslims, immigrants, women, the disabled — millions of Americans have been singled out and attacked by Donald Trump before he has even taken office.

We are clear-eyed about the fact that those attacks could continue once he is inaugurated. That is why, as the saying goes, we will not mourn (for too long, anyway)— we will organize.

We aren't defeated. We are determined. What is important to remember is that millions upon millions of Americans—a majority of voters, in fact— stood up to Donald Trump's ignorance, his misogyny, and his racism. Those same millions will stand up every day to ensure that he can't roll back the progress we've made in recent years.

Make no mistake— the election of Donald Trump could be devastating for our climate and our future. Donald Trump now has the unflattering distinction of being the only head of state in the entire world to reject the scientific consensus that mankind is driving climate change. Campaigning is one thing; governing is another. Trump must choose whether he will be a president remembered for putting America and the world back on a path to

climate disaster, or for listening to the American public, investing in the fastest-growing sector in the U.S. economy— clean energy — and keeping us on a path of climate progress.

He should choose wisely. Otherwise, we can guarantee President Trump the hardest fight of his life every step of the way.

The new president will also soon learn that there are some things he cannot change.

He can't change the fact that the world is heating up, and that we are reaching a tipping point. He can't change the fact that clean energy sources are outcompeting dirty fuels like coal, gas, and nuclear power all over the country. He can't change the fact that both the market and the climate movement are aligned to replace coal plants with clean energy -- nearly 250 plants to date, with many more to come. Scientists, students, business leaders, and activists are moving this nation beyond dirty fuels to clean energy, and Donald Trump can't reverse that tide.

We see no reason to stop leading on climate and clean energy. We defeated most of the new coal plants proposed during the George W. Bush administration— 184 to be exact— with grassroots power, and we can and will win the same kinds of victories under the Trump administration. We're also going to bring that focus to growing the clean energy economy on a state and local level, helping grow the blossoming number of cities committed to 100 percent clean energy. That is progress Trump cannot stop.

And it may not have gotten the attention it deserved during the election, but both public opinion and the market strongly favor clean energy over fossil fuels. In fact, there is a consensus

among Clinton supporters and Trump supporters that supporting clean energy jobs should be a priority— just look at the defeat of the anti-solar Amendment 1 in Florida for one example of bipartisan popular support for solar and wind.

All of those factors will keep our progress moving ahead regardless of who is in the White House. We've been winning important victories in state houses, on public utility commissions, on ballot initiatives, and in corporate boardrooms -- and we will keep winning.

One more thing needs to be addressed: Trump's threat to "cancel" the Paris agreement.

Whether he could is the first question. What we do know is that it would be extraordinarily difficult for Trump to remove the U.S. from the Paris Agreement. Already, his position is causing international blowback in very pointed and, in some respects, unprecedented ways.

If Trump does try to undermine climate action, he will run headlong into an organized mass of people who will fight him in the courts, in the states, in the marketplace, and in the streets.

Meanwhile, you can be absolutely sure that environmental advocates will continue to speak out and defend essential clean air, clean water, and other environmental protections when they come under attack by a Trump administration, as they most certainly will -- and we will be louder than ever before.

Finally, it bears repeating that this loss hurts for reasons that extend far beyond the immediate consequences for federal environmental policy. We stand in total solidarity with communities of color, Muslims, women, and all those who may be threatened under a Trump administration. They have an ally in the environmental movement. In the meantime, we will not be licking our wounds but preparing for the fights to come.

*This article first appeared in the blog "Coming Clean" by Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune on November 10, 2016 on the Sierra Club website.*

**Volunteer with your local Sierra Club to protect the environment.  
Call 707-544-7651.**

*If you wish your bequest to be used locally, be sure to specify "Sierra Club Redwood Chapter" or the name of your local Group in your bequest.*

Environmental Center Benefit [www.envirocentersoco.org](http://www.envirocentersoco.org)

Presented by Sonoma County Conservation Council and the Sierra Club, Sonoma Group

## Holiday Networking Party!

For Environmental and Social Justice Groups

Enjoy **food, wine & beer, music and hot cider!** Mingle with your friends and local movers and shakers!

**Wednesday, December 7, 2016, 5-8pm**

**At the Sebastopol Grange**  
6000 Sebastopol Ave., on Hwy. 12, just east of Sebastopol

**Suggested Donation: \$25 includes dinner and one drink!!**

Open to the public - family and friends welcome! RSVPs requested but not required.

<p>Advance Purchase <a href="http://www.envirocentersoco.org">http://www.envirocentersoco.org</a></p> <p>Checks To SCCC, PO Box 4346, Santa Rosa, CA 95402</p> <p>Volunteers Needed Set-up &amp; clean up food &amp; drink servers</p> <p>For More Info Wendy Krupnick, <a href="mailto:wlk@sonic.net">wlk@sonic.net</a> 544-4582</p>	<p>Make This Your Group's <b>Holiday Party!</b></p> <p><b>Sonoma County Conservation Council</b></p> <p>The SCCC is the federation of non-profits that operates the Environmental Center in Santa Rosa. The Council supports the work of member organizations, serves as an information and referral service, and provides connectivity for adhoc collaborations.</p>
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**Thanks to our sponsor - Sebastopol Grange!**  
**Benefits the Environmental Center of Sonoma County**



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

### Create a Lasting Legacy

By creating a charitable bequest to benefit Sierra Club or your favorite Sierra Club Chapter, you remain in control of your assets during your lifetime and help protect the environment in years to come.

For more info and confidential assistance, contact:  
Sierra Club  
Gift Planning Program  
85 Second Street, Second Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
[giftplanning@sierraclub.org](http://giftplanning@sierraclub.org) • (800) 932-6279

# Outings

## Sat. Dec. 10 - Lake Group. Glen Eden Trail to Ridge Trail.

Fairly steep trail rewarded with great views including Clear Lake, Snow Mountain, Hull Mountain, Goat Rock area, and recovery of the areas affected by the Summer 2012 fire. Bring water and lunch. Class H-6-B. Meet 10 AM. 8 miles out Scotts Valley Road from the 11th Street/Scotts Valley Road exit off Highway 29 in Lakeport (approx. 2 miles from Hwy 20 at Blue Lakes). Call to reserve. Leader Paul Farley 263-9320. Heavy rain cancels (call).

## Sat/Sun. Dec. 17-18 - Peter Grubb Hut Trip (Beginner-Intermediate).

Snowshoe/Ski 3 miles (800') to Peter Grubb Hut for a Saturday overnight and avoid the shopping crowd. \$28 (\$33 Non Sierra Club members) by Dec 1st to Jim Gannon; PO Box 1038, Rohnert Park, CA 94927. Non-refundable reservations. Please include email address/

phone#. Optional stay at Clair Tappaan lodge Fri 16th. Make reservations early to avoid disappointment. Lodge reservations 530-426-3632. Indicate you are with Peter Grubb trip-Redwood Chapter. Sno-Park pass necessary for parking at Sno-Park trailhead. Central commissary is planned. Meeting time/location provided with trip sign up. Contact Jim Gannon [jgannon99@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jgannon99@sbcglobal.net) (707)-525-1052. Leaders Jim Gannon and Don Anderson [donsluck@live.com](mailto:donsluck@live.com).

## Sun. Jan. 8 - North Group. Ma-le'l Dunes Hike.

Get away from it all, close to the town of Manila on Humboldt Bay. Expansive sand dunes, lush coastal forest, tidelands, the beach. No dogs. Bring water and lunch. Carpools by prior arrangement, or BLM trailhead off SR 255 and Young Lane at 9 a.m. Heavy rain cancels. Class E-5-A. Leader Ned, [nedforsyth48@gmail.com](mailto:nedforsyth48@gmail.com),

825-3652.

## Sat.-Mon. Jan. 14-16 - Bradley Hut Trip (Adv Beginner-Intermediate).

Snowshoe/Ski 5 miles (1500') to Bradley Hut for MLK weekend Sat. /Sun. overnight and back out on Mon. midday. \$48 (\$58 Non Sierra Club members) by Dec 16th to Jim Gannon; PO Box 1038, Rohnert Park, CA 94927. Non-refundable reservations. Please include email address/ phone#. Optional stay at Clair Tappaan lodge Fri 13th. Make reservations early to avoid disappointment. Lodge reservations 530-426-3632 indicate you are with Bradley trip-Redwood Chapter. Central

commissary is planned. Meeting time/locations provided with trip sign up. Contact leader Jim Gannon (707)-525-1052 [jgannon99@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jgannon99@sbcglobal.net) or Don Anderson [donsluck@live.com](mailto:donsluck@live.com)

## Wed, Mar. 29 - Sun. Apr. 2 - Mojave National Preserve Spring Weekend - Camping & Hiking

Enjoy the California desert when temperatures are cooler and wild flowers may be blooming. We will visit some of the well known features of the park like the Hole-in-the-Wall, Kelso Dunes, Joshua Tree forests, and Lava Tube. We are staying in a group campground

(\$20 per person) which includes vault toilets, trash receptacles, potable water, fire ring, grill, picnic shelter with tables. We have the campsite from 2pm Wednesday until noon on Sunday. Wednesday is a free day. Arrive anytime and explore the park on your own. Maximum hiking distance is 8 miles with 1500' elevation gain. Deposit required to confirm participation. Limited to 20 people. Net proceeds will support the Sierra Club Desert Report. Email or call leader for reservation information. Leader: Rich Juricich, [rich.sierraclub@pacbell.net](mailto:rich.sierraclub@pacbell.net), 916-492-2181.

## People Camp Comfortably in the Snow?!? Come with Us and Learn How!

Have you always wanted to keep backpacking even after the warm weather ends? True wilderness and solitude expand when the snow comes down. Snow insulates the land, creating a stillness and beauty unique to winter conditions, and enlarging the backcountry to areas inaccessible during the other three seasons. The Sierra Club Snowcamping Section's annual training series, offered for the 48th year, has taught generations of people the skills for winter navigation, shelter construction, how to stay warm, how to cook, and other winter tips and tricks. The training teaches groups of adults, families, or youth during a full-day classroom session in Emeryville, followed by two weekend trips (one two-day, one three-day) in the Sierra to practice what we've learned. Each group has leaders with years of experience and multiple assistant leaders to guarantee a small student to leader ratio. Kids and snow are a natural match for big fun, so families with children 8 and older have a special group that focuses on the unique challenges and joys of taking kids into the winter backcountry. There are also many alumni trips for graduates of the training series. This training is



not for the complete backcountry rookie; all students must apply and we ask that all applicants be in good physical shape and have backpacking experience. Early bird application due date is 11/30/16, final due date is 12/17/16. The full day classroom training is 1/7/17 and is mandatory. Trip dates vary by group. Sign up soon to select dates that work for you and get the early bird discount. A limited number of scholarships are also available. For more information and to sign up, visit our web site at [www.snowcamping.org](http://www.snowcamping.org). There's no camping like snowcamping!

—STORY AND PHOTO: JENNIFER FLATTERY

### Instructions to hikers

Outings will start not later than 15 minutes after scheduled meeting time. The leader is in charge of the trip and is responsible for your welfare and the good name of the Club. He/she must have your cooperation to make the trip safe, pleasant and rewarding. Never charge ahead of the leader and keep within sight or shouting distance of the person ahead of you so you do not miss an intersecting trail. Do not lag behind rear leader: if you need help, the rear leader will remain to assist you. Do not leave the group without the leader's permission. Be adequately equipped and prepared. You should carry lunch and liquids. Wear footwear appropriate for the outing. In most cases that would be hiking boots.

Guard against fire. Do not smoke on Sierra Club outings. Build fires only with the leader's permission, and extinguish them completely. Guns, pets, or radios are not to be brought on hikes.

The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Participants assume the risks associated with travel. Reimburse the carpool driver. Carpools are not part of the outing but a means of conserving natural resources.

All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the liability waiver please go to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/>, or contact the Outings Department at (415) 977-5528 for a printed version.

### Visitors are welcome

All Sierra Club trips are open to the public unless otherwise announced. You are free to bring all members of your family and guests. Children are usually welcome, but please call the leader to make sure it is an appropriate hike.

DIFFICULTY	MILEAGE	ELEVATION GAIN
E - Easy	Actual	A - Less than 1,000
M - Moderate	Mileage	B - 1,000 to 2,000
H - Hard		C - 2,000 to 3,000
S - Strenuous		D - over 3,000
V - Very Strenuous		

The actual mileage will be listed for each trip. Elevation gain will reflect the gain from the start of the hike to the highest point. If you need to know the cumulative gain, please contact the leader.

### To submit outings write-ups

Send all outings write-ups to: Carol Vellutini, Outings Chair, ([carolvsr@sonic.net](mailto:carolvsr@sonic.net)) by the 8th of the month. All leaders must coordinate their outings with their Group Outings Chair.

CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

## Sierra Club Volunteer/Activist Opportunities

**Napa Group Treasurer:** This is an opportunity to serve the Sierra Club without too heavy an investment in time, and without leaving home. No meetings to attend! Our accounts are kept on QuickBooks, and we have only a few transactions each month. The treasurer does need to become familiar with C3 vs C4 forms. If you might be interested, contact me at [nancy@aya.yale.edu](mailto:nancy@aya.yale.edu)

**Outing Chairs and Leaders:** All groups need more outing leaders. Redwood Chapter also is missing Group Outing Chairs for Mendocino, Napa, North, Solano and Sonoma. Qualifications are explained Training offered. Our program is only strong when we have all positions filled. Please help out. Info Carol 546-6308 or [carolvsr@sonic.net](mailto:carolvsr@sonic.net)

**Get CHARGED by attending the Climate & Energy Committee.** Join us on the 1st of the month at 5:00-5:30 p.m. at the Environmental Center in Santa Rosa, learn about what is going on in our community to fight climate change through renewable energy programs. Contact Chair Shirley Johnson-Foell: Email: [Shirlgirl707@Yahoo.com](mailto:Shirlgirl707@Yahoo.com), home 206-1138, or call office 544-7651.

## Ratings for Outings Leaders: How fast or slow do you go?

Wonder if an outing leader walks fast or slow? Keep in mind that the leader's speed is but one part of hiking. How high up a mountain the hike starts, the total mileage and elevation gain (up hill) and loss (down hill) greatly affect the difficulty of a hike, regardless of how fast or slow you walk. If you have any doubts about being able to do a hike or have other questions, please call the leader to discuss your concerns. These ratings only serve as a guide and are not a substitute for you being in appropriate physical condition before participating in an outing.

Leaders are grouped according to how fast they normally hike. Please keep in mind that this info is to help you decide if a hike is right for you. The outing rating instructions to hikers is also important for participants to read. Look at the difficulty of the hike. If the rating is moderate with few or more frequent stops a fast pace hiker must hike slower to accommodate that rating.

**Varies, see hike description for details:** Isabelle Saint-Guily Jim Gannon Phil Kohlmetz

**Fast-pace with few or no stops:** Paul Bozzo Carol Magill Paul Farley

**Moderate-pace with few stops:** Don Anderson Lorrie Lagasse Julie Kreis

**Moderate-pace with more frequent stops:** Pete McGee Tom McFarling Melinda Groom Carl

Inglin Val Nordeman Carol Vellutini Yvonne Kramer Brian Collett Nanette DeDonato

Jonah Freedman Steve Devoto Ned Forsyth Nick Caston Tim Bartice

**Slower-pace:** Allison Bronkall

**Kit Carson Lodge**

Are You Looking For Winter Lodging Away From The Maddening Crowds of Lake Tahoe and Ski Resorts?

Come to Polar Bear Cottage. The back country and Silver Lake are right outside your front door where you can play in the snow, cross-country ski or snowshoe.

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## Non-Sierra Club Outings & Events

The following activities and events are not sponsored nor administered by the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club has no information about the planning of these activities and makes no representations or warranties about the quality, safety, supervision or management of such activities. They are published because they may be of interest to the readers of this publication.

### Fri., Feb. 10 - Mojave National Preserve Restoration Event

Join the California/Nevada Desert Committee and The National Park Service for a restoration project in the Mojave National Preserve (MNP) on February 10, one day before the Desert Committee meeting on Saturday and Sunday. We will gather on Friday at 9am, work through the afternoon, and adjourn in time to reach Shoshone for the dinner hour. Our primary task will be to remove "culturally planted species" (tamarisk, fan palm, sunflowers) along Zzyzx Road and at the Desert Studies Center. Bring water, sun screen, a hat, gloves, and lunch. Tools will be provided. Contact Sid Silliman for project details, directions, camping options, and to RSVP (gssilliman@cpp.edu). Don't miss this annual, pre-Shoshone service opportunity. The work will be rigorous yet rewarding.

### First Friday of the Month 9am - noon Garden Volunteer Days.

Laguna Environmental Center, 900 Sanford Road, Santa Rosa  
Enjoy the glory of autumn in our native plant garden! Volunteers are essential in beautifying our site. Share your expertise or learn new skills by getting involved today! [http://lagunafoundation.org/volunteer\\_garden.html](http://lagunafoundation.org/volunteer_garden.html)

### Once a month on Saturday, 9am - noon Nov. 19, Dec. 10 Jan. 21, Laguna Stewardship Days.

Help care for the Laguna and restore critical wildlife habitat!. A fun and meaningful way to volunteer while enjoying outdoors. 900 Sanford Road, Santa Rosa [http://lagunafoundation.org/volunteer\\_lagunastewards.html](http://lagunafoundation.org/volunteer_lagunastewards.html)

### Sonoma County Regional Parks trail work days.

On the day of the project you can call 707-548-4424 for an update or if you get lost coming to the park. Your support and dedication to our County's trails really makes a big difference. To RSVP for any of these projects please call John at 707-565-3356. [ParksVolunteer@sonoma-county.org](mailto:ParksVolunteer@sonoma-county.org)

### Volunteer Days Riverkeeper Stewardship Park in Guerneville Every Wednesday.

9am - Noon, for all or part of the time. Park is located on the north bank of Russian River directly upstream Guerneville pedestrian bridge. Access entrance from the driveway in front of Sonoma Nesting Co. (16132 Main Street, just east of Armstrong Woods Rd. At bottom of driveway look for blue & white "Russian Riverkeeper Stewardship Park" sign. Bring drinking water & wear sturdy footwear. Light refreshments provided. Info Victoria Wikle 865-2474 [VictoriaWikle@usa.net](mailto:VictoriaWikle@usa.net).

# Meetings

Send all Meeting events by the 8th of the month to Carl Inglin: [chinglin@sonic.net](mailto:chinglin@sonic.net) Sierra Club meetings are open to all members. You are welcome to participate or observe as often as you wish. Meetings are located in Sonoma County unless otherwise noted. Visitors should call the committee chair to verify time and place. The Sonoma County Environmental Center is located at 55A Ridgway Avenue in Santa Rosa (West of Hwy 101, two blocks North of College and 1 1/2 blocks West off of Cleveland Ave, South of Coddington).

### Mon. Dec. 5 - Solano Group ExCom.

Come join us for our monthly meetings which rotate between Vallejo, Fairfield and Vacaville. We are making a positive impact on our county and need a few more people to help carry the load. Call Jane for information. (707)319-6398.

### Mon. Dec. 5 - Sonoma Group.

Conservation Committee 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Info: Suzanne Doyle [carsort@gmail.com](mailto:carsort@gmail.com)

Sonoma Group Executive Committee at 6:30 p.m. Info: Suzanne Doyle [carsort@gmail.com](mailto:carsort@gmail.com)

### Tues. Dec. 13 - North Group ExCom.

The public is invited to attend the monthly meeting of our governing committee. Join us for a discussion of local conservation issues between 7:45 and 8:45 p.m., following the ExCom business meeting from 6:45-7:45 p.m. Meet at Adorni Center Conference Room on Eureka Waterfront. For more info, call Gregg at 707-826-3740.

### Mon. Jan. 2 - Sonoma Group.

Conservation Committee at 5:30 pm - 6:30 p.m. Info: Suzanne Doyle [carsort@gmail.com](mailto:carsort@gmail.com)

Sonoma Group Executive Committee at 6:30 p.m. Info: Suzanne Doyle [carsort@gmail.com](mailto:carsort@gmail.com)

### Mon. Jan. 9 - Solano Group ExCom.

Come join us for our monthly meetings which rotate between Vallejo, Fairfield and Vacaville. We are making a positive impact on our county and need a few more people to help carry the load. Call Jane for information. (707)319-6398.

### Tues. Jan. 10 - North Group ExCom.

The public is invited to attend the monthly meeting of our governing committee. Join us for a discussion of local conservation issues between 7:45 and 8:45 p.m., following the ExCom business meeting from 6:45-7:45 p.m. Meet at Adorni Center Conference Room on Eureka Waterfront. For more info, call Gregg at 707-826-3740.

### Tues. Jan. 17 - Napa Group ExCom.

7 p.m. Our location varies; it is generally at a member's home. Anyone wishing to attend the meeting should contact the chair, Nancy Tamarisk at [napaquail@gmail.com](mailto:napaquail@gmail.com)

### Sat., Jan. 28 - Redwood Chapter ExCom and ConsCom.

Location: Santa Rosa Environmental Center. Conservation Committee meets at 10 a.m., ExCom meets 1-3 p.m. Info: Victoria vbrandon@lakelive.info

### Mon. Feb. 6 - Solano Group ExCom.

Come join us for our monthly meetings which rotate between Vallejo, Fairfield and Vacaville. We are making a positive impact on our county and need a few more people to help carry the load. Call Jane for information. (707)319-6398.

### Saturday, March 11 - Redwood Chapter ExCom and ConsCom.

Location: Willits Super-8 Conference Center on Main Street. Conservation Committee meets at 10 a.m., ExCom meets 1-3 p.m. Info: Victoria vbrandon@lakelive.info



The Marshall House Project (pictured here at an earlier concert) was one of several musical groups and numerous visual and spoken word artists at Another World Possible on October 7th in Santa Rosa. Billed as an evening of music, art and visionary politics the intention of the well-attended event was to bring together people from various backgrounds to celebrate cultural diversity and gain understanding of our common cause to promote social justice and an environmental ethic. The Redwood Chapter of the Sierra Club joined with Sonoma County Conservation Action, the Framers' Guild, the North Bay Organizing Project, the Alliance for a Regenerative Community and the Arlene Francis Center to sponsor the event. The group plans future events, including a multi-cultural Earth Day celebration in April.

Calendars are available for purchase at the Environmental Center at 55 Ridgway, Santa Rosa. Call for hours: 707-544-7651. If ordering by mail, shipping is \$2 per calendar. The mailing address is Sierra Club, PO Box 466, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. If you would like to pay by credit card, please order from the general Sierra Club website:

<https://store.sierraclub.org/sierra-club-store-c27.aspx>

Your purchases directly benefit Sierra Club's conservation work.



Enjoy, explore and protect the planet

## 2017 Sierra Club Calendars



Order Form			
Item	Cost	Qty	Total
Engagement Calendar	\$14.95		
Wilderness Calendar	\$13.95		
Subtotal:			
Sales Tax:			
Shipping:			
GRAND TOTAL:			

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## With your help we can protect the wolf

Wolves are vitally important to maintaining nature's balance, culling out weak and sick animals to keep populations of elk and deer healthy and in check. The Sierra Club is working to defend wolf populations from continued threats from politicians.

Lead the pack & JOIN Sierra Club.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club  
Please charge my:  Visa  Mastercard  AMEX  
Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	N/A
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35



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Enclose a check and mail to:  
Sierra Club, PO Box 427981  
Palm Coast, FL 32142-1081  
or visit our website: [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org)



## North Group Report

Jason Mark, Sierra magazine's editor in chief, presented a compelling case for the increasing value and importance of the world's wild places October 27 at Humboldt State University. His lecture is one of the ongoing series "Sustainable Futures," sponsored by HSU's Schatz Energy Research Center since 2006. Mark's 2015 book *Satellites in the High Country: Searching for the Wild in the Age of Man* served as a central reference point.

Jason took us on a virtual tour of some designated wilderness areas, invoking Aldo Leopold's 1924 work on creating America's first wilderness, the Gila. Presently we were off to the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge via bush plane and raft, with views of the spectacular Brooks Range and the shoreline where rivers meet the Arctic Ocean. "Rafts of bone-white timber sloughed off from the boreal forests... the shore." Suddenly we come across a plastic picnic cooler on the sand, a perfect metaphor for our Anthropocene epoch, as some are calling the Age of Man: a turning point from the 10,000-year Holocene? He asks, "Is now the time to undertake a necropsy of the Wild? Are we now really going to name this emerging stage of the world's evolution after ourselves?" Pictures of "plastiglomerate," formed when lava meets plastic, a deck of tuna corpses at auction—our journey continues, next on the ground in Arizona's Gila Wilderness, hearing endangered Mexican gray wolves howling in the night, seeing their tracks: was it one of the "known" wolves, with a radio tracking collar, or was it a "wild" individual, unknown to science and outside of our human matrix? The trekkers were rooting for the latter.

Today, more than ever, he says, we need to understand our changing world, and at the same time we need wildness. We need to learn to "live with grace" here, learning to not exert our will where appropriate, while managing, and choosing our interventions, wisely. Although the wilds may no longer be pristine, we can and must treasure and protect them and their inhabitants for their very wildness, and for their agency and free will. A deer, for example, that falls to a predator or a hunter's bullet has its own final choice to flee, as a free being. He quotes Thoreau; "In wilderness is the perpetuation of the world ... for ourselves, we need space to saunter." A world as garden would be a mere reflection of humankind.

Thus, in Jason Mark's view, there are pragmatic and scientific reasons to preserve and sustain wild areas, and cultural and psychological reasons too. To live in an "Age of Ourselves" would be to experience a profoundly disordered and narcissistic aloneness. People also need "The Away" of being disconnected from our media and devices. Jason Mark is doing this work in order to "equip the conservation movement with intellectual ammunition."

Several North Group members joined an overflow crowd of about sixty. Audio and video files of this event are available at Schatz Energy Research Center's website. Mark's book is available from the Island Press website, among other places.

It was my privilege to hear his impassioned remarks, and I am reading Sierra magazine with renewed interest.

—NED FORSYTH, NAPA GROUP VICE CHAIR

### North Group Needs Your Help!

**First and foremost, we have an immediate need for a North Group Secretary. Your curiosity and willingness to attend our congenial monthly meetings in Eureka are the main requirements. Outings Chair and Leaders, and other formal and informal jobs are also available. Sierra Club and the natural world can use your unique talents. Do join us at your earliest convenience! Contact Gregg gregggold@aol.com or Ned eaf7@humboldt.edu for more details.**

*Redwood Needles*

## February 2017

### Deadline:

## Due January 8th

Submit Articles/Reports/Ad Copy via e-mail to:

**odavison@sonic.net**

Send Outings to Carol Vellutini via email:

**carolvsr@sonic.net**

Send Meetings to Carl Inglin:

**chinglin@sonic.net**

## Solano Breeze Corner

Covering Benicia, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun, Vacaville and Vallejo

sierraclubsolanogroup@gmail.com 707-319-6398

### Solano Group meets on the first Monday of each month.

Our next dates are: Dec 5, 2016, Jan 9, 2017, Feb 6, 2017. Call Jane at 707-319-6398 or Greg at 707-386-6411

### Annual Flyway Festival in Vallejo.

Save the date: The Flyway Festival is February 10-12, 2017, on Mare Island, Vallejo. Come enjoy birding, tours, hikes, presentations, an art show, food, and vendors.

### Christmas tree suggestions.

Treecycle - Check with you city recycling coordinator. The Boy Scouts will be picking up trees in many areas of Solano County.

Alternatives..Living trees, artificial trees, art/sculpture.

### VALCORE Recycling and Paper Shredding updates:

Solano Group will be helping out with paper shredding every 3rd Saturday of the month at 38 Sheridan Street, Vallejo from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There is a charge of \$10 (CASH or CHECK ONLY) per twenty pounds of paper shredded. (Maximum: 100 pounds).

WEEKDAY SHREDDING from 10 am to 4 pm, closed 1 pm to 2 pm for lunch (CREDIT OR DEBIT ONLY).

Sierra Club volunteers help tend the money and direct traffic. Once a year is all we ask, and you only need work an hour or so. Volunteers get FREE shredding!

CONTRIBUTOR: JANE BOGNER EDITOR: GREG PETERSON

## Solano Group's Solano College

### Environmental Scholarship Recipient: Michael Lostica

Working at both Trader Joe's and Whole Foods showed me some issues that we face, as well as many ways in which our behavior as consumers can be improved. For example, packaging, like cereal boxes, produce bags, and plastic wrappers, contributes to waste and the energy burden used in recycling. A related issue has begun to be addressed—already implemented in some Californian cities, plastic and paper bags are no longer free at grocery stores, encouraging customers to employ their own reusable bags when shopping. Also, purchasing locally grown food reduces the transportation costs and accompanying pollution in bringing non-local foods to stores.

Alongside these issues centered around food is that of reducing or eliminating consumption of animal products, especially meat. Appeals to the ethical treatment of animals aside, consumption of their meat and derivatives places an incredible amount of

stress on the environment and our resources. Though no longer a vegan, I continue to consume only moderate portions of meat, as an unsustainable amount of resources are used in the industrial farming of meat, and I can reduce my contribution to the pollution generated by such operations.

I must admit that I can still make major improvements to my lifestyle to improve my relationship with the environment. Indeed, I should be finding ways to avoid using a car for my commute, and to maximize my usage of my bike for trips to campus. Also, I do plan to eventually return to a vegan diet after discussing these details with my physician. I cannot claim that I am devout in my concern for bettering the environment, but my redeeming quality here is knowing that I must do so much more than I am currently.

## Lake Group Report

### Cannabis Regulations: a Work in Progress

In 2015 California adopted legislation establishing the first statewide medical marijuana regulatory system, including cultivating, processing, transporting, testing, and distributing cannabis. Patients would still be allowed to grow their own marijuana, with limitations and subject to local ordinances, but collectives and cooperatives would slowly be phased out.

The new rules allow local governments broad latitude to establish their own permitting requirements and local regulations that can be stricter than those imposed by state law. Lake Group has recently been an active participant in a series of Planning Commission workshops to provide broad stakeholder input for a new ordinance tailored to local needs and desires. Our primary concern is to reduce or (better) eliminate immensely destructive cartel grows on public lands, with subsidiary objectives of reducing or eliminating rogue grows on private lands, minimizing environmental damage from permitted cultivation, adding a high value crop to Lake County's agricultural mix, and bringing the growers out of the shadows and into the community.

None of those objectives will be realized unless current and future growers apply for permits and come into compliance, and we are concerned that the exclusionary rules now being proposed will make this unnecessarily difficult, or even impossible for many, while the environmental safeguards proposed seem inadequate. Marijuana is a notoriously thirsty crop, and groundwater supplies in most potential growing areas have never been measured or monitored. At a minimum, applicants for commercial permits should be required to demonstrate a legal right to an adequate supply of water. Proposed setbacks for

watercourses seem adequate, but permit requirements regarding slope should be based on the gradient of the garden site itself, not the average cross slope of the parcel. It's also essential to bring pesticide use under the same rigorous regulatory system that applies to other agricultural crops.

### Middle Creek Progress Report

It has been acknowledged for a long time that the single most important thing we can do for the health of Clear Lake is to implement the Middle Creek Flood Damage Reduction and Ecosystem Restoration Project.

First proposed more than twenty years ago, this project would breach the geriatric (and dangerous) levees that "reclaimed" 1600 acres of wetlands in the 1930s and 40s, and by restoring natural filtration significantly reduce the overload of nutrient-laden sediments that currently cause rampant growth of invasive aquatic weeds and uncontrollable "blooms" of cyanobacteria, commonly called blue green algae. The project will also provide invaluable wildlife habitat, improve breeding and rearing conditions for the threatened Clear Lake Hitch, and offer significant recreational opportunities.

The Army Corps of Engineers would provide most of the funding, but it's up to the county to acquire the necessary properties. Millions of dollars in state funding has already allowed the purchase of substantial acreage from willing sellers, but until recently the acquisition process seemed to be stalled. So it is very heartening indeed to report that on September 20 the Board of Supervisors approved the expenditure of more than \$2 million to acquire several additional parcels crucial to project implementation.

—VICTORIA BRANDON, LAKE GROUP CONSERVATION CHAIR

## Napa Group Report

### Napa Group Executive Committee Changes

For the first time in two years, the Napa Executive Committee will be up to full strength with 7 members.

Robert Dwyer and Diane Shepp are joining us as appointed members, while Annette Kramer has agreed to run for an open seat on the ExCom.

Linda Brown, after years of service, is stepping down to spend more time on climate activism, while retaining her job as the secretary. She has been instrumental in educating the Napa community on the updated science of greenhouse gases. We are glad that we will be able to continue to benefit from her scientific background and wise counsel.

Robert brings a history of years of experience in the wine

industry, along with a concern about the proliferation of "event centers" on agricultural land. Diane was a founder and president of the Soda Canyon Road and Protect Rural Napa organizations, which have challenged large wineries in the isolated Soda Canyon area. She has been prominent in Vision 2050, and was a candidate for the Board of Supervisors, endorsed by the Sierra Club.

Annette Kramer, who is our endorsed candidate for the open seat, has been a stalwart in the Circle Oaks community's challenge of the Walt Ranch Project.

We feel extremely fortunate to have such respected, experienced, and talented newcomers to our local leadership.

—NANCY TAMARISK, NAPA GROUP CHAIR

# 2016 Redwood Chapter and Group Executive Committee Election

## REDWOOD CHAPTER

### Rue Furch

My children and grandchildren live in this very special place, and it is my goal to preserve it for all generations. In the 1990's, I helped establish the Stakeholders Consensus on Reuse to promote clean water. I also co-founded Citizens for Responsible Water Use, and the Russian River Watershed Council. I have supported local agriculture through the Farmlands Group, helped craft Santa Rosa and Sebastopol's Urban Growth Boundary initiatives, plus the countywide Community Separators. I serve on the Policy Committee for the Community Alliance for Family Farms, and am a member of the Santa Rosa Groundwater Basin Advisory Panel. I am also on the Board of the Latino Democratic Club and am on the Committee for Immigrants' Rights. As a county planning commissioner for 18 years, and President of the California County Planning Commissioners Association (CCPCA) I produced a statewide conference on land use and water. I was also instrumental in prioritizing water resources in the Sonoma County's General Plan which addresses water quality, quantity and sustainability. I was honored by being named Woman of the Year by the State Assembly, the Upstream Swimmer by Sonoma County Conservation Action, Environmentalist of the Year by the Sonoma County Conservation Council, County Planning Commissioner of the Year by the CCPCA and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from Russian Riverkeeper. I hope you will support my continuing work with the Sierra Club, and that you'll be involved.

### Tom Roth

Previously appointed to be an at-large member of the ExCom, I am now enthusiastically running for election to that position. I bring with me years of experience gained working for two Members of Congress - a Republican and a Democrat - and for a state legislator, as well as raising a family in Sonoma County. For 15 years I worked for Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey, where my achievements included negotiating the transfer of the Skaggs Island Naval Station to the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge; co-chairing a task force that cleaned up the Hamilton Field wetlands and allowed its restoration; and coordinating the ultimately successful expansion of two National Marine Sanctuaries (providing a permanent ban against offshore oil drilling). I was the lead on former state Senator Noreen Evans' legislation that ensured the sustainability of the California crab fishery, and worked on legislation key to keeping 70 state parks open in 2012.

I am the Chapter's newly appointed Conservation Chair, sit on the Advisory Committee of Sonoma County Conservation Action and teach environmental policy at SRJC. If elected, I will bring focus to the relationship of water and climate change issues, and ramp up efforts to recruit youth and minorities for Chapter leadership positions.

## NAPA COUNTY GROUP

### Nancy Tamarisk

Serving on the Napa Sierra Club's Executive Committee has been one of the most challenging and fulfilling experiences of my life.

For the last couple of years, my energies have been focused primarily on challenging the Walt Ranch vineyard development. I've also submitted Sierra Club comments on the draft Climate Action Plan, and served as our first representative to the newly formed Vision 2050 coalition.

For many years now, the Sierra Club has been a vital element in shaping our county's environmental protections. I believe that our influence is due to our reputation for integrity and our willingness to work with others, even those with whom we do not always agree. We have taken a balanced approach, speaking and acting with strength, but always with respect for other viewpoints. I believe that this community approach is the only way to achieve our goals.

I am proud to be a member of the executive committee, and hope to continue to play my part for the next two years.

### Bill Dyer

I have been a resident of Napa Valley for 42 years, and have worked in the wine industry throughout that time period. I believe that Napa residents can take pride in being unique among Bay Area counties in having kept our agricultural heritage and, yet, we need to be wary that we don't become victims our own success, given how attractive it is to visit or reside here. I seek a second term on the Napa Group Executive Committee to continue to pursue bridges between the environmental and agricultural communities, as I believe they should be allies. I resist calls to "chase which side you're on" because we need to work together to find solutions rather than retire to corners.

I have a Masters in Enology from U.C. Davis that gives me a grounding in science. Previously I received a Bachelor Degree in Philosophy from U.C. Santa Cruz. I feel I have some vision from the liberal arts degree and some rigor from the science degree. I am especially interested in the protection and restoration of our local watersheds. My wife and I make wine from a 2.3 acre vineyard located along Diamond Mountain Creek. We have always farmed without herbicides and our vineyard has received both the Napa Green and Fish Friendly Farming certifications. We are now focused on a goal of dry farming, admittedly a challenge on a rocky hillside bench.

### Annette Krammer

Our local environmental and political issues provide us with an opportunity to make changes that will protect our natural resources into the future. I am committed to preserving Napa's wild lands, our watersheds and our wildlife, and am involved in efforts to keep these from being overrun by development. We face acute environmental problems as a county and I want to work on solving them. We have to do this together, as a community, and I recognize that many different concerns must be taken into account.

As a project manager, I pull lots of different people together to work on complex projects. As a consultant, I managed a data system for Napa County HHS. As a designer, I've built websites for and have client relationships with Napa RCD, Solano County Water Agency, and LandSmart. I have been a Land Trust volunteer for many years and chaired its Foote Preserve management committee. I worked for the Chicago Botanic Garden and did field research for the Chicago Field Museum. I've been a Master Gardener in both Chicago and Napa. My husband Peter and I have lived in Napa for 17 years.

**Members  
who  
receive the  
newsletter  
via email  
notification  
will receive  
their ballot  
in the mail.  
Ballots must  
be returned  
by Dec. 30,  
2016.**



## NORTH GROUP

(Humboldt, Del Norte, Trinity, and W. Siskiyou Counties)

### Richard Kreis

I would be pleased to continue to serve on the Executive Committee of the Sierra Club North Group. Currently, I serve the North Group by chairing their committee on Climate Change and Energy Use. I also have enjoyed representing the North Group on the board of the Northcoast Environmental Center (NEC). I am concerned that the Sierra Club campaigns effectively to mediate the impacts of global warming, while at the same time continuing to be an active voice in support of preservation and conservation efforts. The North Group should champion these issues within the geographic region it serves.

## Redwood Chapter and Group Executive Committee Election

### YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

This is your opportunity to choose your Sierra Club Leaders. Show your support and voice your opinion by voting. Candidate Statements appear on pages 7 - 8 of this issue of the Redwood Needles newsletter.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The Redwood Chapter is governed by an Executive Committee (ExCom), with one member delegated by each of six regional groups and six members elected at large. The six regional Groups are each governed by a Group ExCom with seven members elected at large. The ExComs set policies on local issues, oversee finances, make political endorsements, etc. Typically, each ExCom has three or four seats open for election per year.

### VOTER ELIGIBILITY

All Sierra Club Redwood Chapter members are eligible to vote for the Redwood Chapter ExCom. In addition, please also vote for the ExCom candidates in your particular Group, based on the county you live in: Mendocino, Napa, Solano, Sonoma, Lake or North Group (Humboldt, Del Norte, Trinity, and West Siskiyou counties).

### THE BALLOTS

A ballot for individual memberships and the first member of joint memberships is located on Page 7. A Second Ballot has been provided for the second member of a joint membership. Joint members must write their membership number followed by a "J" on the back of the second ballot (see below). The eight-digit membership number and letter "J" can be found on the newsletter mailing label. (NOTE: The process for counting ballots ensures that your name and membership number will not be associated with your vote.)

### RETURN BALLOTS BY DECEMBER 30, 2016

After voting, cut out the ballot(s), place the ballot(s) in an envelope, and either mail or hand deliver to the Redwood Chapter Office:

Mail to: Sierra Club Redwood Chapter  
PO Box 466, Santa Rosa, CA, 95402

or, Deliver to: 55A Ridgway Ave., Santa Rosa

Ballots must be received by December 30, 2016.

If you have problems with your ballot, contact the Redwood Chapter Office, 707-544-7651, tdevlin@sonic.net

Joint Members: **YOU MUST** write your eight-digit membership number & letter "J" here: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you have two members voting, remember to have the Joint member write the "J" and number from the label below onto the ballot above to make your 2nd vote count.**

## 2016 Redwood Chapter and Group Executive Committee Election

### SONOMA COUNTY GROUP

#### Theresa Ryan

Serving on the executive committee for the Sonoma Group the past two years has been an inspiring experience in that I have learned about the amazing advantages it offers its members. Being part of the Redwood Chapter's work, which addresses water resources, land use conservation and transportation to name a few is vitally important to regional ecosystem health and ultimately a part of climate change mitigation. During my service with the ExCom I became a fellow with the Leadership Institute for Ecology and Economy in Santa Rosa meeting many Sonoma County professionals who manage natural and human resources in the North Bay. Since October 2015 I have been involved with a coalition to replace the loss of our local compost facility. Involvement with the Compost Coalition has led me to network with agricultural interest groups, the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency and Sonoma County Conservation Action. This coming term I hope to focus on seeing how our local group can align with the Sierra Club's climate change initiatives and collaborate with other local groups engaged similarly. I ask that you vote for me to remain on the Sonoma Group ExCom and to support the Sierra Club.

#### Shirley Johnson-Foell

Climate and Energy Committee Forum Chair

I would like to serve another term (seven years now on the Climate and Energy committee) with Sonoma County's Executive Committee. The past two years have been very busy and rewarding. We were active protesters--stood in front of the Santa Rosa Federal building to oppose the Keystone Pipeline, collaborated with Sonoma350.org to march in Oakland. During my membership I have tabled, participated in special committees, Wetland project, represented our group at

conferences, and a steady advocate for our environmental center. My passion for bringing/implementing solutions to our community for the better of our environment is unwavering. Another added advantage is, my connections to the world of academia, where I majored in environment studies. Please support my efforts to add and continue the inertia of our Sierra Club Sonoma ExCom's direction.

#### Richard Sachen Jr.

Our accomplishments over the years are a source of pride, including seeing Sonoma Clean Power approved, the support of electric vehicles, SMART rail, and the work to extend the laws to protect the rural nature of our county through community separators and urban growth boundaries. I have been honored to work on the Sonoma Executive Committee these last two years and will continue to support and guide the good work that the club does. While I've been a Sierra Club member for many years, since becoming active in 2012, I have been focused on reducing air pollution through promoting electric vehicles. I've helped coordinate our participation in the National Plug-In Day events with the Electric Automobile Association, including this year's event at Coddington Mall.

Each of us joins the Sierra Club for different, personal reasons, but we all share a desire to protect and preserve our environment. Whether our focus is on reducing pollution, saving the trees, preventing fracking, or preserving our rivers and streams, we all share a love for the planet. As an Executive Committee member, I'll continue use my experience to help the Sonoma Group accomplish our objectives, promote cleaner transportation, and maintain our environment.

### LAKE COUNTY GROUP

#### Ed Robey

I have served on the Lake County Sierra Club Executive Committee since 2011, and as Chair since 2012. I hope to continue to pursue responsible sustainable environmental policies and opportunities to enjoy the beauty of the natural world.

It would be an honor to have your vote.

#### Cheri Kessner

It has been my honor and my pleasure to serve on the executive committee of our Sierra Club Lake Group. My comrades on the committee and in the community are dedicated and a joy to work with. Therefore, I would like to serve another term with this important and rewarding group.

Cheri Lee Glenn Kessner [previously Holden]

Lakeport, CA

#### Carolyn E. Ruttan

Carolyn is a scientist specializing in invasive species with a current emphasis on aquatics. She has worked for Lake County Water Resources for nine years looking

after the health of Clear Lake, largest lake within state-lines (63 square miles) and oldest lake in North America (possibly 2.5 million years).

Carolyn manages the Clear Lake Integrated Aquatic Plant Management Program and associated NPDES aquatic herbicide permit, the Lake County Quagga/Zebra Mussel Prevention Program and the Clear Lake Cyanobacteria Mitigation Program. She is a Director of the Western Aquatic Plant Management Society, member of the California Lake Management Society, California CyanoHAB Network, Lake County Weed Management Area, and Lake County Cyanobacteria Task Force.

Carolyn was in England and the USA, obtaining BS Degrees in Biology and Manufacturing Engineering and MS Degrees in Technology of Crop Protection and Viticulture.

Since moving to Lake County in 2000, she and her husband have developed a love for one of the most diverse counties in the state, and in particular Clear Lake, a seriously forgotten national treasure. This led Carolyn to co-found the Clear Lake Environmental Research Center to bring permanent science to the shores of Clear Lake.

### SOLANO COUNTY GROUP

#### Doug Darling, Vallejo CA

My name is Doug Darling, long time Vallejo resident. I am a watershed advocate and activist. I currently serve as Watershed Chair for the Solano Group. I bring watershed awareness and involvement to the Solano Team. I look forward to continuing my involvement and experience with Solano Group.

#### Jane Bogner

I have been on Solano Group's excom for years and would like to continue to help them run VALCORE RECYCLING.ORG

Sincerely,  
Jane Bogner

#### Stefanie Garcia

I am highly interested in becoming part of the executive committee because I want to have an active role in caring for the environment. I am particularly interested in taking action on climate change because this is a problem that affects the health and wellbeing of the world. My experience includes serving as a Community Service Coordinator for the UC Davis Environmental Club and interning for Solano County Public Health.

Sincerely,  
Stefanie Garcia

**Please return Ballots by Dec. 30th, 2016**

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