



Palm and Pine



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

A publication of the San Gorgonio Chapter of the Sierra Club
Serving Riverside and San Bernardino Counties

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Protect America's Environment For our Families . . . For our Future

March-April 2015

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Membership Meetings

Tuesday, March 3rd • 7:30 PM

“Evolving Icons: Ice Age Horses of the American West”

Presented by: Eric Scott

(see write up on Page 1)

Tuesday, April 7th • 7:30 PM

“Eco Travel and Birding in Panama”

Presented by: Brian Elliott

(see write up on Page 12)

Programs are held at the San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands (California St. exit off 10 Fwy)

Wanted for Hire

The San Gorgonio Chapter Outings is looking to hire a Red Cross or American Heart Association First Aid instructor. Sierra Club requires recertification for our outing leaders and our Outings Section is looking to hire someone for these classes. CPR is not a Sierra Club requirement so no dummies are required. (For non-instructors dummies are what we call the mannequins that are used for CPR instruction.)

If you are qualified to instruct and can issue a card, if interested contact Ralph Salisbury, Outings Chair, San Gorgonio Chapter at 951-686-4141 and be sure to leave a message or please email at ralphsalisbury@att.net. If you are qualified to teach first aid but not through the two organizations above don't hesitate to contact me. I'll just need to seek approval from the Club in San Francisco. If you can, please try to help out our great outings program.



Evolving Icons: Ice Age Horses of the American West

Presented by Eric Scott on March 3rd

Horses are icons of the American West. Whether it's prospectors, cowboys, natives, or settlers in their covered wagons, one can't help but imagine horses alongside them all. But horses have a connection with the West that goes far deeper than just human history, reaching back to the Ice Ages and beyond.

On March 3rd, join Curator of Paleontology Eric Scott for his illustrated presentation Ice Age Horses of the American West at the meeting of the Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter. The meeting is Tuesday, March 3, at 7:30 PM at the San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange



Tree Lane, Redlands. The meeting is free and open to the public.

Native to North America, horses have been key players in ancient ecosystems for over fifty million years, and were mainstays of large mammal communities throughout the Ice Ages. Because of this success, Pleistocene horse fossils are extremely abundant throughout the American West.

Scott's research focuses

on these remains. His studies have taken him to tar pits, frozen caves, and blistering southwestern deserts. His talk will showcase some of his recent work at a variety of these sites, notably the Tule Springs site in southern Nevada and Natural Trap Cave in northern Wyoming. He'll also discuss his research in museum collections throughout the US.

Eric Scott is Curator of Paleontology for the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands, California, where he has worked since 1991. He is also an adjunct professor in biology at California State University, San Bernardino. He studies the evolution and extinction of Ice Age large mammals in western North America, with a strong emphasis on extinct horses and bison.

Eric's studies include both field and museum work throughout the western United States as well as Mexico and eastern Africa, and he has authored numerous paleontology research articles in books and professional scientific journals. He is a 30-year member of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, an international society of professional scientists, where he currently serves on the Ethics and Government Liaison Committees. Eric is also an Associate Editor for the Journal of Paleontology.

Prior to his present position as Museum Curator, Eric was Chief Excavator at the Rancho La Brea "tar pits" in Los Angeles from 1985 - 1991. He graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1990. Eric presently lives in Bloomington, California with his wife, Kim, who is also a paleontologist.



Political Update

By Jono Hildner, San Gorgonio Chapter Political Chair



An apology is in order. Your Political Chair, yours truly, took his eye off the ball after the November elections and allowed the process for candidate filing for the special election in Senate District 21 to occur without any attention from the Sierra Club. As a result, there is a single candidate running unopposed for this seat. The candidate has distinguished herself by acquiring a perfect environmental record in the seven years that she served in the California Legislature. That record is "Zero." Not once did she vote in favor of a bill we supported and not once did she vote against a bill we opposed. We have to do better than this and I let you all down.

We simply cannot allow a candidate that has proven to be anti-environment to run uncontested in a district where an environmentally friendly candidate could win. We need to step up our ground game and I pledge that I will work with you to do just that. I want us to begin to focus more attention on local races. Primarily municipal elections, water district elections and county supervisor elections. If we need to recruit candidates, let's do it. We need allies in elective office and we need to show that, with our support, friends of the environment can win.

To that point, we have three (or more) municipal elections this year: Riverside, San Bernardino and Palm Springs. We have no formal Group in either San Bernardino or the City of Riverside, so I will be calling member volunteers to help with vetting candidates and perhaps recruiting better options. Call if you want to volunteer! Beat me to the punch. This is a year of building capacity. We need a strong and large corps of member volunteers who are willing and able to make a difference in who gets elected.

The Chapter is prepared to help us with needed resources, but only if we can show that we've got the horses to pull the load. Won't you lend a hand? Call me or send an email: Jono@Hildner.com or 760/861-5365.



Contact Us . . .

San Gorgonio Chapter Website: <http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org>

San Gorgonio Chapter Excom

Chair.....**Mary Ann Ruiz**
.....909-815-9379
.....ruizmaryann@gmail.com

CCL Delegate.....**Steve Farrell**
.....661-449-2867
.....mr_sqf@yahoo.com

Secretary **Kim Floyd**
.....760-680-9479

Treasurer.....**Ladd Seekins**
.....909-825-4427
.....ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com

Conservation Chair..... **Kim Floyd**
.....760-680-9479
.....kimffloyd@fastmail.fm

Litigation Chair..... **Joan Taylor**

Membership Chair..... **Mike Millspaugh**
.....951-653-2068
.....mmillspaugh@verizon.net

Outings Chair.....**Ralph Salisbury**
.....951-686-4141
.....ralphsalisbury@att.net

Political Chair.....**Jono Hildner**
.....760-861-5365
.....jono@hildner.com

CNRCC Delegates

George Hague909-924-0816

Kim Floyd760-680-9479

Wilderness Skills/Leadership Training:
.....ralphsalisbury@att.net

Group Representatives To Excom

Big Bear Group:
.....Ed Wallace 909-584-9407
.....ednjeanne@charter.net

Los Serranos Group:
.....Mary Ann Ruiz 909-815-9379
.....ruizmaryann@gmail.com

Mojave Group:
.....Jenny Wilder 760-220-0730
.....jensoasis@aol.com

Moreno Valley:
.....George Hague 951-924-0816

San Bernardino Mtns. Group:
.....Dave Barrie 909-337-0313
.....barriemail@mac.com

Tahquitz Group:
.....Jeff Morgan 760-324-8696

Santa Margarita Group:
.....Jim Mitchell 951-506-9607
.....sierraclubsmg@gmail.com



Alert on Riverside County General Plan Update (GPU)

Riverside County is going to recirculate the GPU and Climate Action Plan (CAP) Draft Environmental Impact Report to "make revisions to the documents to clarify and/or update information that would address issues raised in a number of comment letters." Please contact Kristi Lovelady, KLOVELAD@rctlma.org, tel: (951) 955-0781 to request that all notices and documents related to the GPU and CAP be sent to you. The comment period on these recirculated documents will last 45 days and should extend from the end of February until the first part of April.

Chapter Conservation Issue Chairs

Desert Issues – High Desert
.....**Kim Floyd** 760-680-9479
.....Kimffloyd@fastmail.fm

.....**Brian Baker** 760-242-6526
.....bb1769@hotmail.com

.....**Jenny Wilder** 760-345-4001
.....jensoasis@aol.com

Desert Issues – Low Desert
.....**Joan Taylor**

.....palmcanyon@mac.com

.....**Jeff Morgan** 760-324-8696
.....jckmorgan@aol.com

Desert – Eagle Mountain
.....**Jeff Morgan** 760-324-8696
.....jckmorgan@aol.com

.....**George Hague** 951-924-0816

Forestry Issues – Mountaintop RD
.....East—**Ed Wallace** 909-584-9407

.....West—**Steve Farrell** 661-449-2867
.....mr_sqf@yahoo.com

Forestry Issues – San Jacinto RD
.....**Joyce Burk** 760-252-3820

Forestry Issues – Cleveland NF
.....**Pam Nelson** 951-767-2324
.....sierraclubsmg@gmail.com

Forestry Issues – Front Country RD
.....**Joyce Burk** 760-252-3820

.....**Mary Ann Ruiz** 909-815-9379
.....ruizmaryann@gmail.com

Water Issues **Steve Farrell** 661-449-2867

Group Directory

Big Bear Group:
Chair – Glenda Akins 909-240-7185
Glenda.onthewater@gmail.com

Meets 3rd Thursday, Discovery Center
North Shore, 6:30 p.m.

www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org

Los Serranos Group:
Chair – Brian Elliot brianelli@aol.com

Meets 3rd Tuesday Upland Presbyterian
Church, Ed Building 7 p.m.

Mojave Group:
Chair – Susan Stueber 760-900-5330
susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com

Meets 2nd Wednesday except Jul. & Aug.
Sterling Inn, Regency Room,

17738 Francesca, Victorville 7 p.m.
(just north of Bear Valley and Ridgecrest)

(also contact earthlingwiley2000@yahoo.com)

Moreno Valley Group:
Chair – Michael Millspaugh 951-653-2068

Mountains Group:
Chair – Dave Barrie 909-337-0313
barriemail@mac.com

Meets 2nd Monday 7:00 p.m.
Except Aug. & Dec. St Richard's

Episcopal Church, 28708 Hwy 18, Sky Forest

Santa Margarita Group:
Chair – Pam Nelson 951-767-2324
sierraclubsmg@gmail.com

Meets 2nd Thur., 6:00 p.m. except July &
August at Temecula Valley Library,

30600 Pauba Road, Temecula

Tahquitz Group:
Chair – Jeff Morgan 760-324-8696

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Editor

Jo Ann Fischer
PO Box 3164, Running Springs, CA 92382
(909) 939-0332
e-mail: Mywwuni@charter.net

Outings Calendar Submissions

Ralph Salisbury
2995 Floral Ave, Riverside, CA 92507
(951) 686-4141
e-mail: ralphsalisbury@att.net

Webmaster

Steve Farrell
e-mail: mr_sqf@yahoo.com
<http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org>

Meetings Calendar Submissions

Ladd Seekins
22418 De Soto St, Grand Terrace, CA 92313-5474
(909) 888-0161
(909) 825-4427 Weekends & evenings
e-mail: ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com

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Sierra Club, San Gorgonio Chapter
4079 Mission Inn Ave, Riverside, CA 92501-3204
(Sierra Club members not members of the San Gorgonio Chapter:
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Member Change of Address

Sierra Club, Change of Address
PO Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041
(Be sure to supply Membership number)

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Membership Information

There is a membership coupon in this issue and address change information above. For other questions, contact the Sierra Club at (415) 977-5663 or ralphsalisbury@att.net

POSTMASTER:

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Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter, PO Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

Los Serranos Group

By Mary Ann Ruiz

Los Serranos Group Elections for 2015

Please indicate your vote on this ballot and mail to arrive on or before
March 1, 2015.

Mail To: Joe Whyte
1404 Albright Ave.
Upland, CA 917861

Remember to print your name and address and sign your name on the outside of the envelope so ballot can be verified. If two ballots from a joint membership are enclosed, be sure to print name and address and sign for each ballot.

<p>Los Serranos Group Ballot (Please vote for 3 or fewer)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Farley Olander</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Mary Ann Ruiz</p> <p><input type="radio"/> John St. Clair</p>	<p>Los Serranos Group Ballot (Please vote for 3 or fewer)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Farley Olander</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Mary Ann Ruiz</p> <p><input type="radio"/> John St. Clair</p>
<p><i>First Ballot</i></p>	<p><i>Second Ballot (Joint Member)</i></p>

Calendar of Outings, Meetings, and Other Events

MARCH-APRIL 2015

The outings calendar is on the Internet at <http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org>

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Items for the May/June 2015 Calendar are due by April 1, 2015.

FORMAT items similar to those below. Send items electronically if possible.

OUTINGS: Send outings write-ups to your group or section Outings Chair.

MEETINGS & other events: Send electronically to Ladd Seekins at <ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com>

GENERAL INFORMATION, RULES & DISCLAIMERS

All Outings Leaders are Chapter Certified Leaders having appropriate Outings Training Courses, First Aid Courses, & experience for the Outings they lead. LEADERS may exclude individuals from participation if they believe they may not be qualified. Non-Sierra Club members may join outings unless otherwise stated in the write-up. All participants agree to abide by the Leader's rules. Participants should **CALL THE LEADER AHEAD TO SIGN-UP**.

WHAT TO BRING

Many Outings specify items to be carried by EACH participant. Do not attend Outings without the specified items unless you have first discussed it with the leader. Often the **TEN ESSENTIALS** are required. They are: 1) map, 2) compass, 3), flashlight, 4) knife, 5) windproof/waterproof matches in waterproof case, 6) fire starter, 7) first aid kit, 8) extra food & water for emergency use only, 9) extra clothing including rainwear, & 10) sun protection including sunscreen/sunglasses/hat.

ADVENTURE PASS SPECIAL NOTICE

Most outings occurring in the San Bernardino, Angeles, Cleveland, or Los Padres National Forests require a Forest Service permit for each vehicle (Adventure Pass). They are indicated by ** in the calendar. Be sure to contact the leader regarding permits. The permits cost \$30 per year or \$5 per day; however they may not be obtainable the day of your Outing. If you arrive at the meeting place without making arrangements with the leader & you don't have a permit or find a ride in a vehicle with a permit, you will not be able to attend the outing. You are expected to share the cost of the daily permits equally among everyone in the vehicle or a suggested \$.50 contribution from everyone for annual permits (above normal mileage contribution). America the Beautiful Interagency Passes may be used in lieu of Adventure Pass.

CARPPOOLING POLICY

In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements & assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing, or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. Drivers should have adequate insurance coverage & their vehicles should have no safety defects. Drivers of carpools agree to not consume any alcoholic beverages. It is customary for riders to share expenses with the driver. Five cents per mile per person for short trips is suggested while three cents per mile per person over 100 miles is usually reasonable.

LIABILITY WAIVER

In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign the following liability waiver

Sign-In Sheet & Acknowledgment of Outing Member Responsibility, Express Assumption of Risk, & Release of Liability

I understand that during my participation in this Sierra Club Outing, I may be exposed to a variety of hazards & risks, foreseen or unforeseen, which are inherent in each Outing & cannot be eliminated without destroying the unique character of the Outing. These inherent risks include, but are not limited to, the dangers of serious personal injury, property damage, & death ("Injuries & Damages") from exposure to the hazards of travel & the Sierra Club has not tried to contradict or minimize my understanding of these risks. I know that Injuries & Damages can occur by natural causes or activities of other persons, animals, trip members, trip leaders & assistants or third parties, either as a result of negligence or because of other reasons. I understand that risks of such Injuries & Damages are involved in adventure travel such as Sierra Club Outings & I appreciate that I may have to exercise extra care for my own person & for others around me in the face of such hazards. I further understand that on this Outing there may not be rescue or medical facilities or expertise necessary to deal with the Injuries & Damages to which I may be exposed.

In consideration for my acceptance as a participant on this Outing, & the services & amenities to be provided by the Sierra Club in connection with the Outing, I confirm my understanding that:

I have read any rules & conditions applicable to the Outing made available to me; I will pay any costs & fees for the Outing; & I acknowledge my participation is at the discretion of the leader.

The Outing begins & ends at the location where the Outing officially commences with leader & participants in attendance, as designated by the Sierra Club ("Trailhead"). The Outing does not include carpooling, transportation, or transit to & from the Trailhead, & I am personally responsible for all risks associated with this travel. This does not apply to transportation provided by the Sierra Club after the commencement & before the end of the Outing.

If I decide to leave early & not to complete the Outing as planned, I assume all risks inherent in my decision to leave & waive all liability against the Sierra Club arising from that decision. Likewise, if the leader has concluded the Outing, & I decide to go forward without the leader, I assume all risks inherent in my decision to go forward & waive all liability against the Sierra Club arising from that decision.

This Agreement is intended to be as broad & inclusive as is permitted by law. If any provision or any part of any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid or legally unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby & shall remain valid & fully enforceable.

To the fullest extent allowed by law, I agree to **WAIVE, DISCHARGE CLAIMS, & RELEASE FROM LIABILITY, & to INDEMNIFY & HOLD HARMLESS** the Sierra Club, its officers, directors, employees, agents, & leaders from any & all liability on account of, or in any way resulting from Injuries & Damages, even if caused by negligence of the Sierra Club its officers, directors, employees, agents, & leaders, in any way connected with this Outing. I understand & intend that this assumption of risk & release is binding upon my heirs, executors, administrators & assigns, & includes any minors accompanying me on the Outing.

I have read this document in its entirety & I freely & voluntarily assume all risks of such Injuries & Damages & notwithstanding such risks, I agree to participate in the Outing.

Note: If the participant is a minor, the minor's guardian must sign on the minor's behalf.

RECURRING MONTHLY MEETINGS (LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)

(1ST MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on Feb 2, Apr 6, May 4, Oct 5, Nov 2.
INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

(1ST TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
PROGRAM: See front-page notice. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS <ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com>. (909) 800-3911 CHAPTER

(1ST WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: GLENDA AKINS, <glenda.onthewater@gmail.com>. BIG BEAR GROUP

(1ST THU) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, contact BRIAN ELLIOTT, <brianelli@aol.com>
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

(2ND MON) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING
Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

(2ND TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Monthly meeting or conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate: we need your help! INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, <kimffloyd@fastmail.fm> (760) 249-5385. CHAPTER

(2ND WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: SUSAN STUEBER, <susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com> MOJAVE GROUP

(2ND THU) 6:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except July and August. The public is welcome. PLACE: Temecula Valley Library, 30600 Pauba Road, Temecula. INFO: PAM NELSON (951) 767-2324 <sierraclubsmg@gmail.com> SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

(3RD TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Monthly except July and August. Programs on nature, conservation and travel topics. The public is welcome and refreshments are served. See Los Serranos webpage for detailed program information: <sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org/groups/los_serranos> PLACE: First Presbyterian Church, 869 N. Euclid Ave, Upland CA (educational building, entrance in rear). INFO: BRIAN ELLIOTT, <brianelli@aol.com>. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

(3RD THU) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. INFO: GLENDA AKINS, <glenda.onthewater@gmail.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

(4TH TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. Monthly except for December. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 815-9379 <ruizymaryann@gmail.com> CHAPTER

WEEKLY RECURRING OUTINGS & FITNESS ACTIVITIES

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings

MON 6:00 PM RIVERSIDE MT. RUBIDOUX ONE HOUR FITNESS WALK
MEET: Ninth Street entrance to Mt. Rubidoux. INFO: JUDY SMITH, (951) 369-5117. CHAPTER

MON 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP CONDITIONING HIKE
Please join me for a 3 to 6 mile conditioning walk (usually 3 miles) beside the Mojave River in Apple Valley. We leave promptly at 7 PM. MEET: In the Jess Ranch Marketplace parking lot closest to the Mojave River Bed, between the Jess Ranch Cinemark and Bed, Bath & Beyond Store, address: 18815 Bear Valley Rd, Apple Valley, CA 92308. Light post location is 158. Come enjoy the evening air, river breeze, sunsets, stars & moon on this Mojave River walk. BRING: Flashlight & water. WEAR: layered clothing and good hiking shoes. For questionable weather please call LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 961-0731. MOJAVE GROUP

Continued on Page 4 >>>

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 3

WED 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP CONDITIONING WALK WALK
Please join us for a 3 mile conditioning walk beside the Mojave River in Apple Valley. We leave promptly at 7 PM. MEET: In the Jess Ranch Marketplace parking lot closest to the Mojave River Bed, between the Jess Ranch Cinemark and Bed, Bath & Beyond Store, address: 18815 Bear Valley Rd, Apple Valley, CA 92308. Light post location is 158. Walks are paced for participants. Come enjoy the evening air, river breeze, sunsets, stars & moon on this 3 mile Mojave River walk. BRING: Flashlight & water. WEAR: layered clothing and good hiking shoes. LEADERS: BILL SPRENG <bspreng@gte.net> (760) 951-4520 & JENNY WILDER (760) 220-0730 <jensoasis@aol.com>.
MOJAVE GROUP

FRI 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP CONDITIONING HIKE HIKE
Please join me for a 3- to 6-mile conditioning walk (usually 3 miles) beside the Mojave River in Apple Valley. We leave promptly at 7 PM. MEET: In the Jess Ranch Marketplace parking lot closest to the Mojave River Bed, between the Jess Ranch Cinemark and Bed, Bath & Beyond Store, Address: 18815 Bear Valley Rd, Apple Valley, CA 92308. Light post location is 158. Come enjoy the evening air, river breeze, sunsets, stars & moon on this Mojave River walk. BRING flashlight, water, jacket & comfortable walking shoes. Wear layered clothing. For questionable weather please call LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 961-0731 <Labelady@msn.com>
MOJAVE GROUP

FEBRUARY 23 – MARCH 1

Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities)

FEB 24 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. Monthly except for December. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES (951) 314-3328 <scsangor@gmail.com>.
CHAPTER

****FEB 25 (WED) 9:00 AM BONITA FALLS HIKE**
This will be an easy hike to the 90-foot Bonita (“Beautiful” in Spanish) Falls in Lytle Creek Canyon. About 2 miles round trip, 300 ft. elevation gain. Adventure Pass required at trailhead. BRING: water and a snack; wear sturdy shoes/boots. Rain cancels. MEET: Contact leader prior to scheduled date for the meeting place. LEADER: JOHN ST. CLAIR, john@stclairs.us, or 909-983-8501.
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEB 25 (WED) 4:30 PM HIDDEN SPRINGS CONDITIONING HIKE
Moderate 2 to 3-mile loop hike on the Hidden Springs trail and arroyo. Trail has some ups and downs but basically follows the base of the hills and then we return on the sidewalk. We start promptly at 4:30. BRING: flashlight, water and sturdy shoes. MEET: Hidden Springs School, 9801 Hidden Springs Dr., Moreno Valley. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADER: EILEEN O'BRIEN (951) 616-9739.
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

FEB 28 (SAT) 8:00 AM HILLS OF LAKE PERRIS HIKE
Around 6 miles round trip on the hills near Lake Perris, it has some elevation gain. We start promptly at 8:00am. BRING: water, snack, hiking poles if you want, and sturdy shoes. MEET: We will meet in the parking lot in front of Ridgecrest Elementary School, 28500 John F. Kennedy Drive, Moreno Valley and then carpool to a closer starting point. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADER: CHRISTINA TORRES (951) 318-7503 or cmt.teck@gmail.com.
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

FEB 28 (SAT) 8:30 AM EAGLE ROCK HIKE
Visit the eighth wonder of the world! Eagle Rock is a natural rock formation that appears to be a sculpture of the American Eagle with wings fully expanded. This large rock formation can be reached by hiking south of Warner Springs on the Pacific Crest Trail 3.4 miles over a rolling terrain. This is a rare opportunity, don't miss it! This a 6.8 mile round-trip hike. RATED: Moderate in difficulty MEET: Warner Springs southern County Fire Station, 31049 Hwy 79. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, and sun protection, 2-litters of water, and lunch. Don't forget your camera! RESERVATIONS: LEADER ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103 or dogs111@msn.com.
BIG BEAR GROUP

MARCH 2 – MARCH 8

Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities)

MAR 1- 6 (SUN- FRI) 9:00 AM PCT SECTION A BACKPACK
Here is a chance to hike the first sixty-miles of the Pacific Crest Trail from the Mexican border the Sunrise Trailhead. This is approximately half of PCT Section A, a 110 mile distance to Warner Springs. RATED: Moderate in difficulty MEET: At 8:30 a.m. at Sunrise Trailhead on Hwy S1, a trail angel will drive us to the Mexican border. BRING: ten-essential, 4-liters of water, and necessary backpacking equipment and food to sustain a five-six day backpacking trip. Advanced confirmation required. RESERVATIONS: LEADER ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103 <dogs111@msn.com>
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 3 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
PROGRAM: See front-page notice. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS <ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com>. (909) 800-3911
CHAPTER

MAR 4 (WED) 5:00 PM HIDDEN SPRINGS CONDITIONING HIKE
Moderate 3-mile loop hike on the Hidden Springs trail and arroyo. Trail has some ups and downs but basically follows the base of the hills. We start promptly at 5:00 p.m. BRING flashlight, water and sturdy shoes. MEET: Hidden Springs School, 9801 Hidden Springs Dr., Moreno Valley. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADER: EILEEN O'BRIEN (951) 616-9739.
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

MAR 4 (WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: GLENDA AKINS, <glenda.onthewater@gmail.com>.
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 5 (THU) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, contact BRIAN ELLIOTT, <brianelli@aol.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

****MAR 6 (FRI) 8:00 AM SILVER PEAK VIA 3N36 HIKE**
RATED: strenuous This 9 mile hike will utilize Forest Service road 3N36 to get us to our final destination, 6767' Silver Peak, with its spectacular views of the high desert and Bighorn Mountains. BRING: at least two quarts of water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. MEET: Vons parking lot at 42170 Big Bear Blvd. Big Bear Lake, CA at 8:00 AM. For trailhead INFO or RESERVATIONS: contact LEADER ED WALLACE, 909 584 9407 <ednjeanne@charter.net>
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 6-9 (FRI-MON) DEATH VALLEY EXPLORATION & HIKES CAR CAMP
Four days of hiking and touring. Hikes include Golden Canyon, Amargosa Canyon, Mosaic Canyon, Natural Bridge and Mesquite Sand Dunes, each 4 miles or less. Visits to China Ranch, Salt Creek, Zabriskie Point, Artist Palette and Badwater. Two nights of primitive camping and one night at a developed campground. Potluck on Saturday night. RESERVATIONS & INFO: LEADER CAROL WILEY, desertlily1@verizon.net or 760-245-8734.
MOJAVE GROUP

MAR 7 (SAT) 8:00 AM WATER CAVE HIKE
Huge boulders dot the hills in the Juniper Flats Area. You've seen them from the Victor Valley, now come and explore this beautiful area with us! The hike is 4-6 miles round trip with beautiful views and slight elevation gain/loss. With luck the cave will have some water. RATED: Moderate (some cross country travel). MEET at the Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley, CA 92308 at 8am. Trailhead is about 16 miles from the museum and 6 of those are on rough dirt road – high clearance vehicle recommended. BRING: 3 liters of water, snacks/lunch, camera and hiking poles, wear layered clothing and sturdy hiking shoes. CO- LEADERS: CAROL STUBBLEFIELD <yorkshirerose1@juno.com> 760 964 0039, and JENNY WILDER <JensOasis@aol.com> 760 220 0730.
MOJAVE GROUP

MAR 7 (SAT) 8:00 AM PCT: CHIHUAHUE VL RD TO TULE CANYON HIKE
This is a continuation of the Section B, Pacific Crest Trail Recognition Program. Those hikers completing all eight segments of Section B will receive a special Recognition Award. This Segment No. 3 of the PCT is a total of 10.3 miles and we will cross-over from San Diego County to Riverside County. The PCT continues north along the east slope of Bucksnot Mountain. RATED: Moderate in difficulty MEET: From the junction of Hwy 74/371 drive south on Hwy 371, 4.3 miles to Kirby Road. We will meet at Kirby Road junction. From there we will caravan to the trailhead. This is a shuttle hike. BRING: ten-essential, 2-liters of water, lunch and trail snacks, and sun-protection. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103 <dogs111@msn.com> or CO-LEADER, L.J. FOSTER, (951) 845-9440 <eljayeff@verizon.net>
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 7 (SAT) 9:00 AM HELLHOLE CANYON COUNTRY PRESERVEHIKE
Join us on a 8.2 mile hike of one of San Diego's spectacular wildlife preserves. MEET: 19324 Santee Lane, Valley Center. This is an exact address and can be entered into online map services to get exact directions form your location. The hike should take 4-5 hours to complete. RATED: borderline difficult, but not relentlessly so. There is over 2000' of elevation gain/loss over the entire hike. It begins with a 400' decent into the canyon. We will hike up the north face of the canyon. At the Summit the view from the ridge that we will traverse is spectacular from all directions and in my opinion worth twice the climb. The ridge rolls up and down but is an easy hike of never-ending vistas. The decent to the canyon floor is much less steep than the climb and a great time to take in the views to the south. The hike ends with a steep climb back to the staging area. WEAR: dress in layers and wear comfortable hiking shoes, BRING snacks, a lunch and 3 liters of water. Much of the hike is exposed so do not forget the sunscreen. Steady rain cancels. RESERVATIONS & INFO: contact LEADER GARY MARSALONE, <hikesie@gmail.com> (858) 663-1201.
SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

MARCH 9 – MARCH 15

Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities)

MAR 9 (MON) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING
Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313.
SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

MAR 10 (TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Monthly meeting or conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate: we need your help! INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, <kimffloyd@fastmail.fm> (760) 249-5385.
CHAPTER

MAR 11 (WED) 9:00 AM SAN DIMAS CANYON HIKE
Here's an easy stroll for you, terminating at the San Dimas Dam built in 1921 to mitigate flooding. Elevation gain is only 400' for this 2.5 mile jaunt. River sounds and sites are to our left as we near the dam. BRING: water, sturdy boots and layered clothing. CONFIRM by 5:00 PM March 10. LEADER: JEFF WARHOL (909) 985-7686 <jmwardjjw@hotmail.com>
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

Continued on Page 5 >>>

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 4

MAR 11 (WED) 5:00 PM TERRI PEAK HIKE
Difficult 4-mile roundtrip hike to Terri Peak, overlooking Lake Perris, with 1,000 ft elevation gain. Trail starts on a path behind homes and has some steep sections as it follows an old dirt road to the top. We start promptly at 5:00 p.m. BRING: water, flashlight, and sturdy shoes. MEET: 60 fwy in Moreno Valley, exit south on Moreno Beach Drive. Follow road for 3.4 miles, then turn left on Via del Lago. Park in the dirt area on right side of road just past the housing tract, do not enter Lake Perris Park. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADER: EILEEN O'BRIEN (951) 616-9739.
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

MAR 11 (WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: SUSAN STUEBER, <susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com>
MOJAVE GROUP

MAR 12 (THU) 6:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except July and August. The public is welcome. PLACE: Temecula Valley Library, 30600 Pauba Road, Temecula. INFO: PAM NELSON (951) 767-2324 <sierraclubsmg@gmail.com>
SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

MAR 13 (FRI) 9:00 AM SB MTS GREEN VALLEY LAKE SNOWSHOE OR HIKE
Join us for a ridge hike around Green Valley Lake with beautiful views of the high desert. Distance: about 5 miles. WEAR: hiking boots, hat. BRING: layered clothing, water, and snack. MEET: in Green Valley Lake across from the post office (33271 Green Valley Lake Rd, Green Valley Lake, CA 92341) at 9:00 A.M. CALL for weather conditions and to CONFIRM you are coming. LEADER: SANDY ELLIS, 909-867-7115 <fsellis67@gmail.com>.
MOUNTAINS GROUP

MAR 14 (SAT) 7:45 AM NORTH VIEW TO BOY SCOUT TR, JTN PARK HIKE
This picturesque 8-9 mile hike takes you from the lesser-known North View Trail to a junction with the Boy Scout Trail, which we then follow down to where we park the cars near Indian Cove campground. We'll see pinyon pine, juniper, and oaks, hike through canyons and washes, and descend along hillsides of boulders and bighorn sheep habitat. If we're lucky there may be some good wildflower pictures. RATED: Much of the trail is easy to moderate with some steep rocky sections in the second half; overall, moderate but please be certain footwear can take rockiness. MEET: Joshua Tree National Park Visitor Center, 6554 Park Blvd., Joshua Tree 92252. This is a shuttle hike so we will need time to park vehicles at both trailheads, so please be on time. BRING: Ten essentials, water for an all-day hike, lunch, snacks, and sun protection (hat, sunscreen, sunglasses) - a camera might be good as there are some great views. RAIN CANCELS. RESERVATIONS: Email LEADER LJ FOSTER, <eljayeiff@verizon.net> or leave a message at 951-845-9440.
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 14-15 (SAT-SUN) DEATH VALLEY GHOST TOWNS CARCAMP
Explore the ruins of California's colorful past in this spectacular desert landscape near Death Valley. Camp near the historic ghost town of Ballarat (flush toilets). Saturday brings a challenging hike to ghost town Lookout City with expert Hal Fowler who will regale us with tales of this Wild West town. Return to camp for happy hour and a special St. Patty's Day potluck and campfire. Sunday morning, a quick visit to the infamous Riley town site. Group size strictly limited. RESERVATIONS: Send \$8/person (check payable to Lygeia Gerard), 2 sase, H&W phones, email address, rideshare info to LEADER: LYGEIA GERARD, P.O. Box 721039, Piñon Hills, CA 92372, 760-868-2179.
CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAR 14-15 (SAT-SUN) SERVE & DISCOVER THE CARRIZO PLAINS SERVICE
We pray for winter rains, and if they arrive we can look forward to spring wildflowers in the Carrizo Plain National Monument. On Saturday we will either remove or modify sections of fence to facilitate the mobility of pronghorn antelope. These residents prefer to crawl under rather than jump fences to escape predators. Sunday will be, at the choice of the group, either a hike in the Caliente Range or else a tour of popular viewing areas in the plains. LEADER: CRAIG DEUTSCHE, craig.deutsche@gmail.com or 310-477-6670.
CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAR 15 (SUN) 9:00 AM PCT: SILVERWOOD LAKE HIKE
A moderate 8 mile hike on the PCT from the Silverwood Park office to Cedar Spring Dam and return, with a 500 ft gain. There are beautiful views of the lake from the trail, and possible distant sightings of snow-capped peaks. MEET: Call for meeting place details. BRING hiking boots, jacket, lunch and 2 bottles of water. LEADER: HEATHER SARGEANT, 909-336-2836
SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

MAR 15 (SUN) 9:00 AM TWO TREES TRAIL HIKE
Moderate 3.5 mile hike up Two Trees Trail from Riverside with 1,000-ft. elevation gain. Opportunity to meet for lunch afterward in downtown Riverside. BRING: water, sturdy shoes, hiking poles if preferred, and some money if joining for lunch. MEET: From Interstate 215 in Riverside exit Blaine St. and drive east about 2 miles to Belvedere, then 2nd right onto Two Trees Rd. Sign and parking area for Box Springs Mountain Park located where the road turns to dirt. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADER: CHRISTINA TORRES (951) 318-7503 <cmt.teck@gmail.com>
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

MARCH 16 – MARCH 22

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities)

MAR 17 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Jim Vanderaa, Canadian adventurer and traveler, will share with us his incredible trek

to Mt. Everest Base Camp in October 2014. The sixteen day journey covered 92 miles and included the summits of Gokyo Ri (17,575 feet), Cho La Pass (17,782 feet), Kala Patthar (18,514 feet), and Nangkartshang Peak (16,732 feet). Jim has many outstanding photos and video clips of his Nepal trip and can provide valuable tips to anyone planning to attempt this challenging trek. The public is welcome and refreshments are served. PLACE: First Presbyterian Church, 869 N. Euclid Ave, Upland CA (educational building, entrance in rear). INFO: BRIAN ELLIOTT, <brianelli@aol.com>.

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAR 18 (WED) 5:00 PM OLIVE MTN HIKE
Enjoy the view from Olive Mountain with a moderate to difficult 3-mile round trip hike. Elevation gain of about 1,000 ft. We start promptly at 5:00 pm. BRING: water, flashlight and sturdy shoes. MEET: from Highway 60 in Moreno Valley exit Perris Blvd., go north 1 mile, turn right on Kalmia, go ½ mile and turn left on Kitching. Park at the end of the road on Kitching. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADER: EILEEN O'BRIEN (951) 616-9739 or CRISTINA TORRES (951) 318-7503 <cmt.teck@gmail.com>
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

MAR 18-22 (WED-SUN) DEATH VALLEY SPRING WEEKEND CARCAMP
Our car-camping trip is planned when temperatures are mild and wild flowers may be blooming. We'll hike to waterfalls including oasis-like Darwin Falls, through stunning desert canyons including Titus Canyon, visit ghost towns and mining areas, and explore some lesser known but truly fantastic areas outside of the Park. We will also tour Scotty's Castle. The hikes are rated moderate to strenuous with several hikes off maintained trails. Strenuous hikes to the most interesting locations require short sections of rock scrambling and minor exposure to heights. The hikes range from five to ten miles, with elevation gains up to 500 feet. COST: \$60 per person and includes 4 nights of camping and tour of Scotty's Castle. Group size limited to 15 people. RESERVATIONS: Email or call leader for reservation information. LEADER: RICH JURICICH, rich.sierraclub@pacbell.net, 916-492-2181.
CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAR 19 (THU) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. INFO: GLENDA AKINS, <glenda.onthewater@gmail.com>
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 20 (FRI) 8:30 AM BALDY MESA, FIRST DAY OF SPRING HIKE
Join us for a 3-4 mile roundtrip hike through the Baldy Mesa area south of Phelan to celebrate the first day of spring. This is a beautiful natural area full of birds, plant life, and other desert flora and fauna. Winter rains may mean early spring flowers. Socially paced, 2-3 hours, mostly level ground. MEET: 8:30 a.m. at the southwest corner of Phelan Rd. & Wilson Ranch Rd. in Phelan (92371). BRING/WEAR layered clothing, a hat, hiking boots, snacks, water, a pad to sit on. Don't forget your camera! Friendly dogs welcome. LEADER: LYGEIA GERARD, (760) 868-2179, <Goody2shz@yahoo.com>
MOJAVE GROUP

****MAR 20 (FRI) 9 AM SB MTS PILOT ROCK HIKE**
A moderate hike of 6 miles round trip along a ridge between Lake Arrowhead and Lake Silverwood on Forest Road 2N33 to a large prominent rock at 5,260 ft. Mormons used this rock as a guide to cross over the San Bernardino Mountains from the Mojave Desert. We should get views of Mount Baldy, Lake Silverwood and the high desert. BRING: a snack, hat, water. MEET: Take Hwy 173 to the parking lot across the road from the Rock Camp Ranger Station. INFO: Contact leader for information and meeting place details. LEADER: STEVE FARRELL, 661-449-2867 <mr_sqf@yahoo.com>
SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

MAR 21 (SAT) 7:30 AM PCT: TULE CYN TRUCK RD TO HWY 74 HIKE
This is a continuation of the Section B, Pacific Crest Trail Winter Recognition Program. Those hikers completing all nine segments of Section B will receive a special Recognition Award. This Segment No. 4 of the PCT is a total of about 17 miles. We will hike from Tule Canyon north towards Table Mountain (4,910') and then descend to Alkali Wash (4540') before reaching Hwy 74. We will plan to have a key exchange and have a second group hike in the other direction. RATED: Moderate-Strenuous due to length. MEET: At the PCT crossing of Hwy 74, located approximately 1.0 miles east of Hwy 74/Hwy 371 junction. A road sign identifies the PCT crossing. The dirt parking lot, accessible to all vehicles, is located on the north side of Hwy 74. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, sun protection, lunch, and 3 liters of water. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER DAVE MELTON, (760) 408-2456 or <dmelton61@yahoo.com>
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 22 (SUN) 8:30 AM MORTON PEAK LOOKOUT CONDITIONING HIKE
Morton Peak is in the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains overlooking Mentone, Redlands, Yucaipa and Mill Creek Canyon. The peak sits at about 4600 ft. and has tremendous views. We will take the road 3 miles up to the historic fire lookout, have lunch or snack and return the same way. RATING: It's a 1400' elevation gain in the 3 miles so it is a moderately in difficulty. MEET: 1.5 miles past the Mill Creek Ranger Station on Hwy 38 turn left on Forest Road 1N12 (there is well marked sign). BRING: Ten essentials, layered clothing, snack or lunch, adequate water, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat. RESERVATIONS: contact LEADER JUDY ATKINSON, (909) 289-1932 <djak57@gmail.com>
BIG BEAR GROUP

Continued on Page 8 >>>

Group News

Big Bear Group

By Glenda Akins, Group Chair

Hiking Programs in the Spring 2015!

By: Ed Caliendo, Outings Chair

Spring begins March 20th, and we begin to emerge from the cold weather of winter. With spring comes our continued hiking of the Pacific Crest Trail, Section D. This 110.2 mile challenge takes us from Interstate 15 near Cajon Pass to Agua Dulce. We have separated Section D into 11 Saturday hiking segments. It all begins on Saturday, April 18th and continues until May 23 when we halt our hiking until September 19th. By late September the weather cools enough so that we can complete the last three segments of Section D.

The first 25 miles of Section D climb from I-15 near Cajon Pass (3,000') to a ridge that parallels the San Andreas Rift Zone in San Bernardino National Forest. Next, we hike through some 75 miles of Angeles National Forest, ascending Mt. Baden-Powell (9,399') along the way. Finally, we descend through Soledad Canyon on our way to Escondido Canyon and the town of Agua Dulce (2,530').

Those hikers completing all of Section D will receive a PCT Patch acknowledging the accomplishment. The customized patch will be presented to the individual hikers at our annual Awards Party. If you have completed some segments of Section D in 2014, then you can merely complete the sections you missed and still qualify to receive the completion patch. Those hikers interested in participating in this program are to contact L.J. Foster, Hike Leader at (951) 845-9440 or eljayeff@verizon.net.

Here is a tentative schedule:

Pacific Crest Trail, Section D Interstate 15 near Cajon Pass to Agua Dulce
 1st Segment, April 18 (Sat) -Cajon Pass to Swarthout Canyon Road 3N28, (5.5 miles)
 2nd Segment, April 25 (Sat) - Swarthout Canyon Road 3N28 to Sheep Creek Truck Road 3N31, (8.6 miles)
 3rd Segment, May 2 (Sat) - Sheep Creek Truck Road 3N31 to Inspiration Point, (13.1 miles)
 4th Segment, May 9 (Sat) - Inspiration Point to Vincent Gap, (4.6 miles)
 5th Segment, May 16 (Sat) - Vincent Gap to Islip Saddle, (11.6 miles)
 6th Segment, May 23 (Sat) - Islip Saddle to Eagles Roost & Eagles Roost to Cloudburst Summit (10.8 miles)
 7th Segment, September 19 (Sat) - Cloudburst Summit to Three Points & Three Points to Little Rock Creek Road 5N04, (8.8 miles)
 8th Segment, September 26 (Sat), (Sat) - Little Rock Creek Road 5N04 to Mill Creek Summit, (11.5 miles)
 9 & 10 Segments - Mill Creek to Messenger Flats, (11.8 miles) are closed due to prior forest fires and will not be hiked
 11 Segment, November 14 (Sat) - Soledad Canyon Road to Agua Dulce, (9.7 miles)
 This completes Section D of the Pacific Crest Trail, a total of 110.2 miles.



Grey's Peak hike

Five Peaks of Big Bear Patch Awards Program

Want to challenge your physical conditioning? Then why not hike the Five Peaks of Big Bear. Not only improve your physical condition, but enjoy the magnificent mountains and lake views. Those hikers completing this challenge will receive a custom designed patch at our annual "Patch Party."

Below is listed a tentative hiking schedule for the Five Peaks of Big Bear:

June 6 (Sat) - Bertha Peak (7.5 miles, with 1,400' elevation gain)
 June 27 (Sat) - Greys Peak, (8.0 miles, with 1,400' elevation gain)
 July 11 (Sat) - Delamar Mountain (5.25 miles, with 1,150' elevation gain)
 August 8 (Sat) - Gold Mountain (8.0 miles, with 1,640' elevation gain)
 Sept 5 (Sat) - Sugarloaf Mountain (10 miles, with 2,500' elevation gain)
 Big Bear's Group Hike Leader Ed Caliendo will be the primary leader to complete all five-peaks over the 2015 summer.



Backpack Training

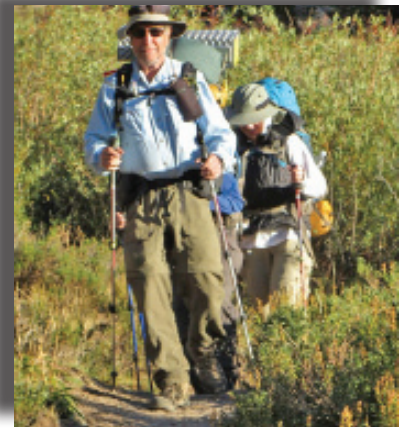
• Learn the Important Basics •

By: Ed Caliendo, Outings Chair

Have you always wanted to learn the proper method of light-weight backpacking but did not know where to start? Well, here is your chance to gain great hands-on experience!

The training takes place near Lake Arrowhead along a section of the Pacific Crest Trail. The training class is over the weekend of June 13 (Sat) and June 14th (Sun). You will learn from direct experience. We backpack in 5.0 miles, make camp, purify drinking water, cook food, and learn the steps to leaving no-trace upon, exiting the next day.

This is an opportunity to learn the key essentials to backpacking and over-night camping in the wilderness. Learn how to properly load a backpack, lifting techniques, proper use of trekking poles, selection of safe camp and tent locations, setting up your tent, food preparation, lighting of the cook stove, water purification, food storage, thunder storm and lightning defenses, leaving-no-trace, and a two-hour course in map-and-compass training. The course cost is \$25 which includes the cost of a compass and map. If you already own a compass, then course cost is \$20 per person. If you have not camped out in the wilderness or just have not been backpacking in some time, this is the course for you. The hike leader will assist each participant in equipment selection if so requested. For reservation, please contact Hike Leader, Ed Caliendo at dogs111@msn.com or (442) 242-4103. Sign up early, as instructions begin as soon as March 2015.



Hiking Mt. Whitney

Mojave Group

By Bryan Baker, Conservation Chair

New Leadership for Mojave Group

Welcome a new team to lead the Mojave Group: Chair Susan Stueber, Vice Chair Carol Wiley, Secretary Sheila Garrison, Treasurer Ed Howland, Conservation Chair Bryan Baker, and at-large ExCom members Arlene Pierce, Pat Howland and Bill Spreng. We hope to continue the excellent work of our previous leaders and bring energy to Club activities in the Mojave Desert.

"Tapestry": A New City in the Desert?

An enormous development the size of a new city is proposed in the Victor Valley: over 56,000 new residents, with over 19,000 houses and condos, on a 9,838-acre property. This development would be in the Summit Valley area, one of the last relatively undeveloped areas in the Victor Valley region. If you've driven Highway 138 from Interstate 15 to Silverwood Reservoir, and then perhaps on Highway 173 into Hesperia, you've driven through this beautiful area. If the developers have their way, this valley and surrounding area will be transformed into a gigantic housing tract.

And a particularly ugly housing tract at that: essentially a classic 20th Century suburb of large-lot houses, mostly devoid of commercial services, walkability, or jobs. Residents would jam the local country roads or narrow city streets and head "down the hill" to jobs in the Inland Empire, Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

A smaller development on this old Las Flores Ranch property has been on the books since the 1990s, but the previous developer went bankrupt. The current developer, Terra Verde, revised the plan to add several thousand more houses. The developer hopes the previous approvals will ease the way for the new proposal. But things have changed: a much bigger development; a long-term drought in California; dropping groundwater levels; greater concern for impacts on sensitive species, air quality and traffic; and of



Summit Valley area under threat of development.

course the alarming prospects of global warming.

Local residents have expressed dismay at the project. In a public hearing on January 8, every one of the several dozen speakers opposed the project. Even the *Victorville Daily Press*, not a liberal journal by any standard, editorialized against the development. The Mojave Group submitted comments on the project, and the Chapter joined with the

Center for Biological Diversity in more comments on the many issues with the project. The all-too-brief comment period for the Environment Impact Report (EIR) ended on January 30, and the project is under review by the City of Hesperia.

But there are still opportunities to speak up about this project. In fact, the issue is highly political, so speaking at a City meeting may have great effect, especially if you live in Hesperia. The Hesperia Planning Commission and City Council will be allowing comments on this project at each of their respective meetings leading up to their decisions on the project. More information on the Tapestry project and meetings of the Council and Planning Commission are available at <http://www.cityofhesperia.us/>.

Development's Cumulative Effects

Tapestry is just one of many developments already in the works in the High Desert. Others include the huge Hacienda Fairview housing development near Apple Valley, the Desert Gateway project (another gigantic development) along the I-15 in northern Victorville, the High Desert Corridor freeway from Palmdale to Apple Valley, and the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP). The DRECP's "preferred alternative" would cover almost ten percent of the private land in the High Desert with solar farms. Add all these projects up and we would see a profound change in the landscape. You owe it to yourself to become more familiar with proposals for change in your own backyard. Join us for monthly meetings or contact one of us for more information!

Moreno Valley Group

By Ann McKibben, Secretary

The U.S. Forest Service is holding monthly bald eagle counts at Lake Perris State Recreation Area. The last count of the season is scheduled for March 14. Please meet at the Lake Perris Regional Indian Museum at 8:00 a.m. for orientation. Admission to Lake Perris is free if you are taking part in the count and you may stay as long as you like after the count. Call (951) 940-5600 for more information.

The Moreno Valley Group plans on having an information table at the Earth Night in the Garden event at the Western Metropolitan Water District in Riverside on April 22, 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. We attended last year and had a great time meeting people and sharing information about the Sierra Club. If you can spend an hour or more helping out, please contact us at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com or call Manya Jiannino at (951) 243-3775. Many other organizations have tables and you will have a chance to walk around and see what information others have.

The Moreno Valley Group has a number of outings scheduled for March and April. There will be a March 4 Hidden Springs Conditioning Hike at 5:00 p.m. On March 11 there will be the Terri Peak Hike (Difficult—4 mi) at 5:00 p.m. Detailed information on these and all of our outings can be found at: http://sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org/groups/moreno_valley

The Moreno Valley Group Executive Committee held a meeting on January 26. Topics of discussion were: local conservation issues, possible community events to attend. The new Moreno Valley Group Executive Committee is: Chair, Mike Millspaugh; Conservation Chair, George Hague; Treasurer, Manya Jiannino; Outings Chair, Christina Torres; Secretary, Ann McKibben. Thank you to all of you who sent in donations this fall!

The Moreno Valley Group has been following the approval process for the proposed World Logistics Center (WLC). The proposed warehouse project would put 41,600,000 square feet of warehouses on 2,710 acres south of Highway 60. If built, it would share a two mile border with the San Jacinto Wildlife Area, home to threatened/endangered species as well as more than 20 species of raptors. According to the Moreno Valley Planning Department, the final environmental documents will be released in February for all to review; there will be a 45 day comment period. Please plan on attending planning commission and city council public hearings on the WLC. You can speak or attend and support those who speak. It is important that all voices be heard in the planning process. Please contact planner Mark Gross at: markg@moval.org & (951) 413-3215 for more information & to be notified of all meetings as well as all environmental documents.

Donations are needed to help us as we work to provide strong comments on the World Logistic Center project. Your very important donations will and have been used to support

our ability to hire experts to review the documents. Any amount is appreciated. Please send your donations to: Sierra Club—Moreno Valley Group, P.O. Box 1325, Moreno Valley, CA 92556-1325 with the memo notation “WLC.” Thank you to all who have made donations—your support makes a difference! The city of Moreno Valley approved the ProLogis Eucalyptus Industrial Park on January 27 by a 3-2 vote; (Molina, Giba, Gutierrez voting yes; Price, Jempson voting no). The number of buildings for the project was

reduced but there are still the same 19 overriding considerations as with the previous version—traffic, air quality, unimproved highway & overpass issues. The 1,529,498 sq ft project is south of Highway 60 between Moreno Beach Road and Redlands Boulevard east of the Auto Mall. Alert on Riverside County General Plan Update (GPU): Riverside County is going to recirculate the GPU and Climate Action Plan (CAP) Draft Environmental Impact Report to “make revisions to the documents to clarify and/or update information that would address issues raised in a number of comment letters.” Please contact Kristi Lovelady, KLOVELAD@rctlma.org, tel: (951) 955-0781 to request that all notices and documents related to the GPU and CAP be sent to you. The comment period on

these recirculated documents will last 45 days and should extend from the end of February until the first part of April.

The Villages of Lakeview—Revised: Riverside County planners are still working on the revised version of the Villages of Lakeview project on the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The project has been reduced to 8,000 units, all on the south side of the Ramona Expressway; the type of land use proposed for the north side of the Ramona Expressway has not been released at this time. Contact Matt Straite at MSTRAITE@rctlma.org or (951) 955-8631 for more information. For information hours and visitors fees for Lake Perris State Recreation Area please see: <https://www.facebook.com/Lakeperris> & http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=651 Notice that Bernasconi Beach access will be closed due to the repair of the dam. This is a good time for those over 62 to buy their \$20.00 annual pass which is good until December 31 at most state parks and is valid for all in your car. There is a Moreno Valley Recreational Trails Board hike, Saturday, March 28, 7:30 a.m., Hike to San Timoteo Canyon (MODERATE—5.6 mi round trip). Meet at the Moreno Valley Equestrian Center, 11150 Redlands Blvd., MV, parking area next to mobile office. Verify all information at (951) 413-3703 and http://www.moreno-valley.ca.us/resident_services/park_rec/trails/hikes-2015.pdf to see the complete list of hikes. Check our group Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/MorenoValleySierraClub> (pictures, outings, conservation issues are posted) and our web page: http://sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org/groups/moreno_valley (outings schedule).



Olive Mountain, January 31, 2015 Photo by Theresa Carson

Mountains Group

By Dave Barrie, Group Chair

Here is just a quick update on some of the items that continue to be on our watch list:

- The Church of the Woods project in Rimforest has been “on our list” for more than ten years now (from before my time) and is still being watched. The project, a large Church and recreational complex that takes a big hill and puts it into a big valley, has been downsized, we understand, and is sitting at the County without much movement. EIR comments and questions that were presented in the past have not been answered as far as we know. Watching.
- The Serenity Rehab facility in Crest Park continues to move along without County scrutiny or concern it appears. We continue to communicate with the Lahontan Water Board about their ongoing involvement with the project – deadlines for restoration and a Cleanup and Abatement Order. No doubt there will be more to follow on this. Watching.

- It was nice to see that the County felt that the Santa’s Village “remodel” was significant enough to require more than just the “original approvals” from the Theme Park’s introduction a loooong time ago. A conditional use permit is being required and an EIR and traffic study will be needed before too much more work is done on the site. Watching.
- Review and updates of the San Bernardino County General Plan and Community Plans will be ongoing in 2015 and the involvement of community members will be needed. We’ll let you know more as soon as we know more. More Watching.

Under the heading “Help Wanted” the Mountains Group is looking for someone to help Steve Farrell round up speakers and programs for our monthly meeting at St. Richard’s. If you are interested in being our Assistant Program Chair contact Steve at spamsqf@verizon.net.

And if you are looking for something to do on Mondays (morning and/or afternoon), or Wednesdays (afternoon) check with Heather Sargeant about doing a Mountains Group “shift” at the Thrift Shoppe in Blue Jay. Heather leads our volunteers who work at the Thrift Shoppe and provide most of the funding for Mountains Group efforts (Children’s

Forest donations, Rim High scholarships, litigation expenses and more). Heather can be reached at Heathercs00@aol.com.

The Mountains Group 2014 Excom election wrapped up with the ballot counting at Keller Hut on December 6 and resulted in incumbents Bill Engs, Steve Farrell and Bob Sherman being re-elected for another two-year term. Joining them is first-time Excom member Sharon (Sherry) Bailey. Our thanks to them for their willingness to serve on the Excom for the next two years and our thanks to Dave Ficke for his Excom service in 2013 and 2014.

That was the end of the 2014 election process, and now here is the start of the 2015 election process:

At our first Excom meeting of 2015 (Feb 2) the Excom appointed Sue Walker (Chair), Steve Farrell, and Bob Sherman to serve as both the Nominating Committee and Election Committee for this year’s Excom election.

At that same meeting we approved the following Election Schedule for 2015:	
February 2	Deadline to appoint Nominating and Election Committees and set Election Schedule.
June 5	Deadline for Nominating Committee Chair to submit Group Election Rules to <i>Palm and Pine</i> .
September 5	Last date to accept nominations.
September 11	Deadline for Nominating Committee to present list of candidates.
September 25	Deadline for Petition Candidates to present petitions.
October 5	Deadline for Election Committee to provide final ballot with petition candidates (if any) to <i>Palm and Pine</i> .
October 23	<i>Palm and Pine</i> mailed. (approx.)
November 23	Deadline to receive ballots.
December 5	Between 3:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Election Committee shall verify, open and count the ballots.
December 7	7:00 p.m. Election Committee shall inform the Excom of the results.

It is not too early for you to be thinking about serving on the Mountains Group Executive Committee and if that sounds like something you might want to pursue, you can contact Sue Walker (at svwalker@gmail.com) to get your name into the hat.

Not sure if you are a Mountains Group member? If your ZIP is 92317, 92321, 92322, 92325, 92326, 92341, 92352, 92378, 92382, 92385 or 92391 you are. (There are a few special cases where folks outside those ZIPs have asked to be members of our Group but they already know who they are.)

Want to check your membership or want to find out more about the responsibilities of an Excom member? Contact Dave Barrie (me) at barriemail@mac.com.

And remember, everything accomplished by the Mountains Group is done by volunteers, and you can help make a difference.



Calendar . . . Continued from Page 5

MARCH 23 – MARCH 29

Please read “**LIABILITY WAIVER**” preceding these listings
(Also refer to **Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities**)

MAR 24 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. Monthly except for December. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> CHAPTER

MAR 25 (WED) 9:00 AM STURTEVANT FALLS HIKE
The trail from Chantry Flats parking area to Sturtevant Falls is an easy 3.7 mile round trip hike but be aware that the last 0.6 mile return to the parking lot is all uphill and is sometimes referred to as “cardiac hill.” Along the way you pass private cabins built in the early 1900s and a system of concrete check dams that create their own series of waterfalls before reaching 50-foot Sturtevant Falls. There are several stream crossings before arriving at the falls, so trekking poles or an extra pair of socks are recommended. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, water, snack, sunscreen, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. MEET: Contact leader prior to scheduled date for carpooling and meeting place. LEADER JOHN ST. CLAIR, 909-983-8501 <john@stclairs.us> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAR 27 (FRI) 9:00 AM S B MTS GREEN VALLEY LAKE RIDGE HIKE
Join us for a ridge hike around Green Valley Lake with beautiful views of the high desert. Distance: about 5 miles. WEAR: hiking boots, hat, layered clothing. BRING: layered clothing, water, and snack. No need to bring lunch, just a snack and water. MEET: in Green Valley Lake across from the post office (33271 Green Valley Lake Rd, Green Valley Lake, CA 92341) at 9 AM. CALL for weather conditions and to confirm you are coming. LEADER: SANDY ELLIS, 909-867-7115 <fsellis67@gmail.com> SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

MAR 27 (FRI) 8:30 AM SANFORD/MORMON TRAIL HIKE
Join us on this early spring day to hike a part of this historic trail before it's too late! If the Forest Service gets its way, they will permanently deny public access to the trail as part of an OHV project. We'll follow the trail through the beautiful Baldy Mesa area of the southern Mojave Desert, an area overflowing with natural and historic resources, to an overlook offering a spectacular view of the West Cajon Valley. Harold Gabriel of Wagon Train Ranch, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the historic trail, will present a brief but fascinating history. 3-4 miles round trip, less than 500' gain. MEET: 8:30 a.m. at Desert Community Bank, 4895 Phelan Rd, Phelan, CA 92371. BRING/WEAR layered clothing, a hat, hiking boots, lunch/snacks/water, and don't forget your camera! LEADER: LYGEIA GERARD, (760) 868-2179 <Goody2shz@yahoo.com> MOJAVE GROUP/

MAR 27-29 (FRI-SUN) OLD WOMAN MOUNTAINS SERVICE
Join Mojave Group and the CA/NV Wilderness Committee for our annual desert wilderness service project with the Needles office of BLM. This year's is in the Old Woman Mountains. We'll work on restoring a 5-mile stretch of Sunflower Spring Road or on the development of an interpretative trail in the area. BLM is partnering with Native American Lands Conservancy here, and we'll enjoy a joint campfire and stories with their tribal elders Saturday night. Central commissary, RESERVATIONS & INFO: contact LEADER VICKY HOOVER, 415-977-5527 or vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org. CA/NV WILDERNESS COMMITTEE

MAR 28 (SAT) 8:30 AM PINYON TR - LWR PALM CYN DOLOMITE MINES HIKE
Philip Ferranti, hiking adventurer, writer, and author of 140 Great Hikes in and near Palm Springs, has volunteered to guide us to the dolomite mines in lower Palm Canyon. The 4,000-ft. elevation means slightly cooler hiking temperatures. A scenic 5- to 7-mile hike to lower Palm Canyon & a collection of dolomite mines from the 1920s. Great views of the pinyon pine forests on the Santa Rosa Mts. north face and of the entire San Jacinto mountain range. RATED: Moderate. 500 ft. elevation loss/gain. MEET: at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church 47535 Hwy 74, Palm Desert, CA 92260 in the parking lot's north end. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103 <dogs111@msn.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 29 (SUN) PISGAH LAVA TUBES HIKE
Come join me for an underground adventure to the Pisgah Crater lava tubes, 40 miles East of Barstow. Approximate 3-mile moderate, cross country hike with about 100' elevation gain. We will explore at least two of the caves, the longest being 1100' long. Be prepared to get dirty, but have lots of fun! WEAR old clothes, a pair of boots you don't mind getting beat up, long sleeve shirt, baseball hat, gloves. BRING flash light and day pack with lunch and water. Limit 15. No pets. INFO: contact LEADER BILL SPRENG, 760 951 4520 <bsprenge@verizon.net> MOJAVE GROUP

MARCH 30 – APRIL 5

Please read “**LIABILITY WAIVER**” preceding these listings
(Also refer to **Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities**)

APR 1 (WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: GLENDA AKINS, <glenda.onthewater@gmail.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

****APR 3 (FRI) 7:30 AM KELLER PEAK VIA EXPLORATION TRAIL HIKE**
RATED; moderate to strenuous. This 12-mile round trip hike with 1900ft elevation gain will take us to the oldest remaining original fire lookout in the San Bernardino National Forest. BRING: At least two quarts of water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. MEET: Vons parking lot at 42170 Big Bear Blvd, Big Bear Lake, CA at 7:30 AM and at the Children's Forest Visitor Center at 8:00 AM. From there we will car pool to the trail head which has very limited parking. RESERVATIONS: call LEADER ED WALLACE, 909 584 9407 <ednjeanne@charter.net> BIG BEAR GROUP

APR 4 (SAT) 8:30 AM CACTUS SPRING TRAIL HIKE
This trail brings us into close contact with the Santa Rosa Wilderness and provides scenic vistas of Martinez Mountain and the chaparral covered slopes of the vast watershed known as Horse Thief Creek. A 9.0 mile round-trip hike taking 5 hours. RATING: Moderate. The grade is generally moderate, but a few steep loose sections suggest bringing your best footwear, and trekking poles, if you use them. Elevation gain of 1,200'. MEET: The trailhead is located southeast of Idyllwild off of Hwy 74. From Palm Desert, take Hwy 74 south almost 16 miles until you pass Sugarloaf Café on the left, whereupon you take the first paved road to the left. A sign on Hwy 74 indicates the Cactus Spring Trailhead. Go south 0.25 mile, then turn left into a large parking area. We will meet there. From Hemet, the trailhead is 8.0 miles east of the junction of Hwy 371 and Hwy 74. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch/snack, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat and gloves. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER, DAVE MELTON, (760) 408-2456 <dmelton61@yahoo.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

APR 4 (SAT) 8:30 AM JUNIPER FLATS WILDFLOWERS HIKE
Perhaps there will be an early showing of wildflowers! Come and see for yourself. Bring your cameras and desert wildflower identification books and enjoy the large variety of wildflowers in Juniper Flats. RATED: This will be a leisurely moderate to easy 3 to 4-mile hike with little elevation gain. BRING: water, snacks/lunch, sturdy footwear and of course your camera. MEET: at 8:30 AM at the Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley, CA 92308. LEADER: JENNY WILDER, <JensOasis@aol.com> 760 220 0730. MOJAVE GROUP

APRIL 6 – APRIL 12

Please read “**LIABILITY WAIVER**” preceding these listings
(Also refer to **Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities**)

APR 6 (MON) 6:00 PMSB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on Feb 2, Apr 6, May 4, Oct 5, Nov 2. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

APR 7 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
PROGRAM: See front-page notice. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS <ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com>. (909) 800-3911 CHAPTER

APR 8 (WED) 5:00 PM HIKE TO THE “M” HIKE
Difficult 4-mile roundtrip hike to the “M” on Box Springs Mountains. Trail has some very steep areas. We start promptly at 5:00 pm. BRING: water, flashlight and sturdy shoes, hiking poles if you want. MEET: from 60fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass turn left at the light on Hidden Springs Drive. Driveway into Box Springs Park is on the left off Hidden Springs Drive. Drive up the gravel road and park near the picnic tables. \$5 parking fee. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADER: CHRISTINA TORRES, (951) 318-7503 <cmt.teck@gmail.com> MORENO VALLEY GROUP

APR 8 (WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: SUSAN STUEBER, <susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com> MOJAVE GROUP

APR 9 (THU) 6:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except July and August. The public is welcome. PLACE: Temecula Valley Library, 30600 Pauba Road, Temecula. INFO: PAM NELSON (951) 767-2324 <sierraclubsmg@gmail.com> SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

APR 10-12 (FRI-SUN) 11:00 AM ANZA BORREGO SP, CULP VALLEY CAR CAMP
Culp Valley, in the Upper Sonoran plant zone, is our base for a hike down the old California Riding and Hiking Trail to Borrego Valley 3000 feet below. We'll see a variety of plants on the way. On shorter hikes we'll visit local springs: we'll see effects of water sources on plant life and check recovery from a 2002 fire. Primitive campground. OK for passenger cars. You may arrive on Friday or Saturday. MEET: Contact LEADER, BILL ENGS, 909-338-1910, <billengs@yahoo.com>. CO-LEADER, HEATHER SARGEANT, 909-336-2836. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

APR 10-13 (FRI-MON) MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE SAMPLER CAR CAMP
Meet on Friday April 10 at Amboy Crater at noon and hike up the crater for lunch. Primitive camping Friday night near Granite Pass. Saturday head to Kelso Dunes for a hike up the dunes. Sunday visit the Kelso Depot and then the lava tube with camping at Midhills Campground. Monday we can hike to Cima Dome on the way out. All hikes are moderate to easy depending on your condition. Saturday night we will have an optional potluck. There are no services in the preserve. RESERVATIONS & INFO: Contact LEADER CAROL WILEY, desertlily1@verizon.net or 760-245-8734. MOJAVE GROUP

APR 11 (SAT) 9:00 AM HELLHOLE CYN TR TO MAIDENHAIR FALLS HIKE
Join me on a 10 mile moderately difficult hike with 900' of elevation gain/loss. From the Borrego Springs desert landscape at the trailhead we will pass sycamores, cottonwoods and palms to Maidenhair Falls, a true oasis in the desert. At the falls there is a shallow pool surrounded by layers of maidenhair fern and mosses. The Falls are seasonal. On my visit it was only dripping, but still worth the effort. We will have to climb over or around some large boulders and avoid the thorns of the many cacti along the trail. No passes or permits are required. BRING 3 liters of water, lunch and snacks. WEAR comfortable hiking shoes with soles that don't slip. Dress in layers, wear a hat, long pants are a good idea and do not forget the sunscreen. DIRECTIONS: From Temecula take

Continued on Page 10 >>>

Santa Margarita Group

By Teri Biancardi

The Santa Margarita Group is happy to announce that Lana Cook, a graphics design major from Cal State San Marcos, has won the Murrieta Creek Trail logo competition. Lana will be awarded the \$500 prize money at the next club meeting on February 12, and her design will be featured on the interim trail signs and maps. She was among more than 20 students who submitted their designs from Mt San Jacinto, Riverside Community College, UC Riverside extension and CSSM. Her design features the iconic mountain range with the sun setting behind it, the river intertwining with the new trail, and the bunch grass native to the area. The committee formed from the four cities wishes to thank all the participants and recognize the artistic talents of the students who submitted.

The 16-mile long interim trail will be opened on June 6th, National Trails Day, in a ribbon cutting event that will occur in four staging areas simultaneously. Our meet-up.com group, Outdoor Families, will be walking a stretch of the Murrieta Creek Trail on Feb 6th and then the Lake Elsinore levee later in the month with a city staff docent. All are welcome. Check out the meetup.com site for details.

Our Christmas Party at Rodrigo's was a success, with a great turnout. Our retiring Chapter Chair Rick Estes was honored with words and gifts from groups grateful for his capable, multi-year stewardship. Profits from the event have been donated to the Santa Rosa Plateau Foundation. Our next social gathering will be our Valentine's Sierra Sunday at the Macaroni Grill on Feb. 15th. Please join us.

Our first speaker of the year was the delightful and inspirational 23-year-old Bethany Ludwig, talking about her passion, astronomy. She made the subject exciting. Her interest was contagious as she spoke of the need for more research in the field. Our next speaker, Jennifer Brandon from Scripps Institute, is also a "youngster" and will be speaking on her PH.D theme of plastics and pollution of our oceans, on February 12th.

Below is the ballot for our upcoming elections for members of our executive committee. These members will set the direction of the group for 2015. The executive committee consists of seven members with three elected one year and four on the following year. If you are a member of the Santa Margarita Group, please vote and become involved.

Santa Margarita Group Elections for 2015

Please vote for no more than three and mail to arrive on or before March 1, 2015.

Mail to: Santa Margarita Group Sierra Club

31915 Rancho California Rd., Ste. 200-133, Temecula, CA 92591

Print your name and address and sign your name on the outside of the envelope along with your signature. In the case of a joint membership, both should print their name and sign. This is required to verify membership.

<p>Santa Margarita Group Ballot (Please vote for 3 or fewer)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jim Mitchell</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Bob Audibert</p> <p><input type="radio"/> George McMackin</p> <p><i>First Ballot</i></p>	<p>Santa Margarita Group Ballot (Please vote for 3 or fewer)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jim Mitchell</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Bob Audibert</p> <p><input type="radio"/> George McMackin</p> <p><i>Second Ballot (Joint Member)</i></p>
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(4) Other Classes Mailed	0	0
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I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

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Circulation and Distribution
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Deadlines
Deadline: 1st of the month preceding the issue date.
(Feb 1, Apr 1, Jun 1, Aug 1, Oct 1, Dec 1)

Submission and Payments
E-mail directly to mywwuni@charter.net
Payments must be received at least two weeks before deadline. Mail all payments to Treasurer Ladd Seekins, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside, Ca 92501; be sure and mark envelope "advertising."

Any Questions?

Call or email us TODAY at (951) 686-4141 or
ralphsalisbury@att.net . . . Ask for Ralph!

All advertising must comply with National Sierra Cub advertising policies.



Calendar . . . Continued from Page 8

79 south (Temecula Pkwy) to Warner Springs. Turn left onto San Filipe Rd/S2. Travel about 4 or 5 miles then turn left on S22 (Montezuma Valley Rd.) heading to Borrego Springs. Continue on S22 for about 17 miles. The trail head is on the left 0.7 miles before the stop sign at the intersection with Palm Canyon Rd. If you go past the turn for the trail head, turn around at the stop sign. The trail head will be on the right 0.7 miles up the hill. RESERVATIONS: To register or if you have questions contact LEADER BOB AUDIBERT, <bob.takeahike1@gmail.com> (951)302-1059. Rain cancels.

SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

APR 11 (SAT) 7:30 AM PCT: HWY 74 TO CEDAR SPRING TRAILHEAD HIKE
This is a continuation of the Section B, Pacific Crest Trail Winter Recognition Program. Those hikers completing all nine segments of Section B will receive a special Recognition Award. After this segment, No.5, we are going to jump ahead to Section D, and then come back to Section B in the fall. Segment 5 is about 15 miles long. We will hike north from Hwy 74 into the San Bernardino National Forest through Penrod Canyon and then towards Lion Peak, and Pyramid Peak before meeting Cedar Spring trail at a saddle, from where we'll descend to the ending trailhead. We will plan to have a key exchange and have a second group hike in the other direction. RATED: Moderate. MEET: We'll meet again at the PCT crossing of Hwy 74, located approximately 1.0 miles east of Hwy 74/Hwy 371 junction. A road sign identifies the PCT crossing. The dirt parking area is located on the north side of Hwy 74. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, sun protection, lunch, and 4 liters of water. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER DAVE MELTON, (760) 408-2456 <dmelton61@yahoo.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

APR 12 (SUN) 7:45 AM MOMYER ALGER CREEK TRAIL HIKE
This is a great hike that takes you from Mill Creek in Forest Falls, up a chaparral covered slope with endless views, through scrub oaks, Jeffrey Pines and tall oaks. It feels a bit like a fairy tale forest in some areas. We will have our lunch at Alger Creek in the coolness of the pines with the creek running by. We will return to our vehicles the same way we came up. RATING: This hike is 6.5 miles round trip, with an elevation gain of 1400 ft. It is rated moderate/strenuous; expect it to take 5 - 6 hours. MEET: Momyer Creek Trailhead. Take Hwy 38 from Redlands to the Forest Falls cutoff. Take Valley of the Falls Road 2.9 miles to the trailhead on the left, (before the Fire Station). BRING: Ten essentials, 2 liters of water, lunch/snacks, layered clothing, hat, sunscreen, and trekking poles. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER JUDY ATKINSON, (909) 289-1932 <djak57@gmail.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

APRIL 13 – APRIL 19

Please read “**LIABILITY WAIVER**” preceding these listings
(Also refer to **Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities**)

APR 13 (MON) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING
Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

APR 14 (TUE) 8:00 AM SANTA ROSA RESERVE, MURRIETA HIKE
The best time to visit is spring when the wild flowers are blooming. Our hike of 10 miles will take us to the vernal pools, the adobes and, by a circuitous route, the visitors' center. BRING lunch, water, sun protection. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER JOE WHYTE 909-949-0899 <whytejoe@msn.com>. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

APR 14 (TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Monthly meeting or conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate: we need your help! INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, <kimffloyd@fastmail.fm> (760) 249-5385. CHAPTER

APR 15 (WED) 5:00 PM SKYLINE LOOP TRAIL BOX SPRINGS HIKE
Moderate 3-mile hike on Skyline Loop 1. BRING: water, flashlight, sturdy shoes. Parking fee, \$5. MEET: 9660 Box Springs Mountain Road, Moreno Valley, 92557. From 60 fwy in Moreno Valley, exit on Pigeon Pass and drive north about 4 miles then road turns into Box Springs Mountain Rd. and soon turns to dirt. In 1.2 miles you reach the upper parking area on the right. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADERS: Eileen O'Brien (951) 616-9739. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

APR 16 (THU) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. INFO: GLENDA AKINS, <glenda.onthewater@gmail.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

APR 17 (FRI) 9:00 AM S B MTS: GREEN VALLEY LAKE RIDGE HIKE
Join us for a ridge hike around Green Valley Lake with beautiful views of the high desert. Distance: about 5 miles. WEAR: hiking boots, hat, layered clothing. BRING: No need to bring lunch just a snack and water. MEET: in Green Valley Lake across from the post office (33271 Green Valley Lake Rd, Green Valley Lake, CA 92341) at 9 AM. RESERVATIONS: Call for weather conditions and to confirm you are coming. LEADER: SANDY ELLIS, 909-867-7115 <fsellis67@gmail.com> SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

APR 18 (SAT) 8:00 AM PCT: CAJON PASS TO SWARTHOUT CYN RD HIKE
This hike kicks off this year's Pacific Crest 110-mile D section for spring and summer 2015 with an easy 5.5-mile hike from Cajon Pass along Interstate 15 westward to Swarthout Canyon Road. The trail goes under I-15 in a large tunnel, crosses a railroad track, and climbs less than 600' to the top of a ridge, from which Cajon Pass and large blocks of sandstone (part of the Mormon Rocks formation) can be seen. RATED: Easy, with both ascending and descending. MEET: Meet at the McDonald's Restaurant just

east of Cajon Pass. Take the Highway 138 exit and park along the street - please don't use the restaurant parking lot. This is a shuttle hike so we will need time to park vehicles at both trailheads, so please be on time. BRING: Ten essentials, water for a 3-4 hour hike, snacks, and sun protection (hat, sunscreen, sunglasses) - and a camera, as usual. Rain cancels. RESERVATIONS: Email LEADER LJ FOSTER, <eljaye@verizon.net> or leave a message at 951-845-9440. BIG BEAR GROUP

****APR 19 (SUN) 8:00 AM BUTLER PEAK HIKE**
RATED: Moderate to strenuous 12-mile round trip hike to the 8579 ft. peak with grand views of the Bear Creek drainage and beyond. MEET: Vons parking lot at 42170 Big Bear Blvd. Big Bear Lake, CA at 8:00 AM and at Grays Peak trailhead at 8:30 AM. Adventure pass required. BRING: at least two quarts of water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER ED WALLACE, (909) 584-9407 <ednjane@charter.net> BIG BEAR GROUP

APRIL 20 – APRIL 26

Please read “**LIABILITY WAIVER**” preceding these listings
(Also refer to **Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities**)

****APR 21 (TUE) 9:00 AM HEART ROCK ON JOHN MUIR'S BD SAUNTER**
On John Muir's Birthday, we'll again honor his exasperated opinion of hiking, “I don't like either the word or the thing. People ought to saunter in the mountains - not hike!” Join us for an easy walk and appreciation of our forest. We will follow the Seeley Creek trail to an overlook of Heart Rock Falls, discovering and appreciating who-knows-what along the way. Distance: 2 miles round trip. BRING: water, a snack, good shoes, and your curiosity. MEET: Contact LEADER STEVE FARRELL, 661-449-2867 <mr_sqf@yahoo.com>. Adventure Pass required. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

APR 21 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Monthly except July and August. Programs on nature, conservation and travel topics. The public is welcome and refreshments are served. See Los Serranos webpage for detailed program information: <asangonio2.sierraclub.org/groups/los_serranos> PLACE: First Presbyterian Church, 869 N. Euclid Ave, Upland CA (educational building, entrance in rear). INFO: BRIAN ELLIOTT, <brianelli@aol.com>. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

****APR 22 (WED) 8:00 AM PCT: VAN DUSEN CYN RD TO COUGAR CREST TR HIKE**
This is a short section of the famous Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) from the Van Dusen Canyon Road PCT access road west to the Cougar Crest Trail and then south to Hwy 38. RATING: This section is rated moderate in difficulty and estimated at 5.0 miles. It is a through-hike requiring shuttling of hikers. MEET: At the Cougar Crest Trail head parking area. Discovery Pass is required. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, sun protection, 1.0 liters of water, lunch, energy snacks, sunglasses, hat and good hiking shoes. RESERVATIONS: Contact APPRENTICE LEADER PETER MICHELSEN, (909) 333-3103 <petermichelsenor@gmail.com> or LEADER ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103 <dogs111@msn.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

APR 22 (WED) 9:00 AM UPPER MARSHALL CANYON HIKE
This moderate rated hike goes through a convoluted 4.5 mile round trip trail with a 750' elevation gain at the loop's top. There's plenty of foliage and views on this one, thanks to the City of La Verne for making this a Regional Park for all to enjoy. BRING: water, sturdy boots and layered clothing. CONFIRM: by 5:00 PM April 21. LEADER: JEFF WARHOL (909)-985-7686 <jmwandjww@hotmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

APR 22 (WED) 8:30 AM EARTH DAY – BALDY MESA HIKE
Join us for a 3-4 mile roundtrip hike through the Baldy Mesa area south of Phelan to celebrate Earth Day. This is a beautiful natural area full of birds, plant life, and other desert flora and fauna. Winter rains promise a great flower display. Socially paced, 2-3 hours, mostly level ground. MEET 8:30 a.m. at the southwest corner of Phelan Rd. & Wilson Ranch Rd. in Phelan. BRING/WEAR layered clothing, a hat, hiking boots, snacks, water, a pad to sit on. Don't forget your camera! Friendly dogs welcome. LEADER: LYGEIA GERARD, (760) 868-2179, Goody2shz@yahoo.com> MOJAVE GROUP

APR 25 (SAT) 8:00 AM PCT: SWARTHOUT CYN TO SHEEP CREEK HIKE
This is the second segment of the 110-mile Pacific Crest Trail Section D for spring and summer 2015. The hike starts at Swarthout Canyon Road and goes northwest 8.6 miles and up 2740 feet in elevation to Sheep Creek Truck Road. This is a shuttle hike (4WD high clearance vehicles are welcome). RATED: Moderate to difficult due to the elevation change. MEET: at the junction of Swarthout Canyon Road and Lone Pine Canyon Road. BRING: Ten essentials, 2-3 liters of water, snacks, and sun protection (hat, sunscreen, sunglasses) - and a camera, as usual. Rain cancels. RESERVATIONS: Email LEADER LJ FOSTER, <eljaye@verizon.net> or leave a message at 951-845-9440. BIG BEAR GROUP

APR 25 (SAT) 8:30 AM JUNIPER FLATS WILDFLOWERS HIKE
Come and bring your cameras and desert wildflower identification books and enjoy the large variety of wildflowers in Juniper Flats. RATED: This will be a leisurely moderate to easy 3 to 4 mile hike with little elevation gain. BRING: water, snacks/lunch, sturdy footwear and of course your camera. MEET: at 8:30 AM at the Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley. LEADER: SUSAN STUEBER, 760-900-5330 <susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com> MOJAVE GROUP

APR 25 (SAT) 8:00 AM SANTA ANA RIVER BOTTOM BIRD WALK
MEET: Sierra Club office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. Bill will guide you to the birds. Breakfast at local restaurant after walk (optional). LEADER: BILL ENGS 909-338-1910 SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

Continued on Page 11 >>>

Calendar . . . from Page 10

APR 25-26 (SAT-SUN) CARRIZO PLAINS NATIONAL MONUMENT SERVICE

This trip is scheduled late in the wildflower season, and we pray that rains have produced a wonderful and long-lasting display. Saturday we will remove or modify sections of fence to facilitate the mobility of pronghorn antelope. Sunday will be, at the choice of the group, either a hike in the Caliente Range or a tour of popular viewing areas in the plains. This is an opportunity to combine car camping, day-hiking, exploring, and service in a relatively unknown wilderness. INFO: Contact LEADER CRAIG DEUTSCHE, craig.deutsche@gmail.com or 310-477-6670. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

****APR 26 (SUN) 9:00 AM S B MTS, THE PINNACLES HIKE**

Join us on a moderate 6 miles round trip, 1,000 ft. elevation gain hike northwest of Lake Arrowhead. This hike includes some rock scrambling to reach the summit, which is an imposing stack of large granite boulders. Your efforts will be rewarded with mountain and desert views. BRING: lunch, water, good boots and layered clothing. MEET: Call for meeting place to carpool. LEADER: HEATHER SARGEANT 909-336-2836. Adventure Pass required. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

APR 26 (SUN) 8:30 AM SAN TIMOTELO HIKE

Moderate 6-mile loop hike starting with a few steep areas then hiking along the ridge and crossing over an Edison dirt road to a peak with a 320 degree view of the San Bernardino and San Gabriel mountains and overlooking the badlands area. Rain cancels. BRING: water, sturdy shoes, hiking poles and snack if you want. MEET: Highway 60, exit at Moreno Beach Drive, go north and park on the right side of the road just below Locust Street. INFO and LEADER: CHRISTINA TORRES (951) 318-7503 <cmt.teck@gmail.com> MORENO VALLEY GROUP

APRIL 27 – MAY 3

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities)

APR 28 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING

Chapter governance meeting. Monthly except for December. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> CHAPTER

APR 29 (WED) 5:00 PM TWO TREES TRAIL HIKE

Moderate 3.5 mile hike up Two Trees Trail from Riverside with 1,000 ft. elevation gain. BRING: water, flashlight, sturdy shoes, hiking poles if preferred. MEET: Interstate 215 in Riverside exit Blaine St. and drive east about 2 miles to Belvedere, then 2nd right onto Two Trees Rd. Sign and parking area for Box Springs Mountain Park located where the road turns to dirt. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADER: EILEEN O'BRIEN, (951) 616-9739. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

MAY 1-3 (FRI-SUN) MANZANAR AND LONE PINE LAKE TRIP

Join us at our beautiful creekside camp in the high desert near Lone Pine. On Saturday, we'll hike a moderate 6 miles roundtrip with 1600' gain, from Whitney Portal to beautiful Lone Pine Lake, followed by Happy Hour, a potluck feast and campfire. On Sunday, we'll caravan to Manzanar, the WWII Japanese internment camp in the desert north of Lone Pine, to visit the museum with its moving tribute to the internees held there during the war. Group size strictly limited. RESERVATIONS: Send \$8 per person (check payable to Lygeia Gerard), a letter-sized self-addressed stamped envelope, phone number, email address, and rideshare preferences to LEADER: LYGEIA GERARD, P.O. Box 721039, Pinon Hills, CA 92372, (760) 868-2179, <Goody2shz@yahoo.com> MOJAVE GROUP

COMING UP

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities)

MAY 9 (SAT) 8:30 AM ROUND MOUNTAIN SUMMIT HIKE

Enjoy fantastic 100' views when we summit Round Mountain, 5,272 elevation in the Juniper Flats Area. This peak is one of the Hundred Peaks of San Bernardino. RATED: moderate to strenuous with some cross country travel, 4-5 miles round trip and approx 900' scramble up to the summit. Yet the reward is worth it. MEET: 8.30 am Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley. Drive up Coxey Truck Trail (dirt road) about 10 miles from the museum and hike from The Vatican trailhead. BRING: 3 liters of water, hiking poles, snacks, layered clothing, comfortable hiking shoes and enthusiasm. LEADERS CAROL STUBBLEFIELD <yorkshirerose1@juno.com> and JENNY WILDER <JensOasis@aol.com> 760-220 0730 MOJAVE GROUP

JUN 19-24 (FRI-WED) COYOTE GULCH BACKPACK

Backpack 30 miles through some of the best of Utah's red rock, with sheer high-walled canyons and cathedral-like campsites. Trip starts with obtaining permits at the Escalante visitor center. There will be 4-5 miles of travel each day. Most of the hiking is moderate, but requires wading back and forth across the creek. One steep trail will bypass waterfalls. There are side trips so bring a small day pack. This is the warm season, but usually quite pleasant. Limit 12. RESERVATIONS & INFO: Trip details and agenda available on sign-up. LEADER: DAVID HARDY, 702-875-4826 but email preferred, hardyhikers@embarqmail.com CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

The following activities, meeting & events are neither sponsored nor administered by the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club has no information about the planning of these activities & makes no representations or warranties about the quality, safety, supervision or management of such activities. They are published only as a reader service because they may be of interest to the readers of this publication.

**NON-SIERRA CLUB
RECURRING WEEKLY & MONTHLY MEETINGS
(LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)**

**(1ST FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB**

Note: there will be no meeting July 4. Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

**(3RD WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY**

PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

**(3RD FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB**

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lgseekins@sbcglobal.net> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

**MAR 6 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB**

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lgseekins@sbcglobal.net> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

**MAR 18 (WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY**

PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

**MAR 20 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB**

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lgseekins@sbcglobal.net> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

**APR 3 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB**

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

**APR 15 (WED) 6:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY**

PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

**APR 17 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB**

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309



Island Hopping in Channel Islands National Park ~ 2015 Schedule ~

**March 28-30 • April 5-7 • May 3-5 • June 14-16 – A Bird Lovers Special!
• July 19-21 • August 23-25 • September 27-29 • October 25-27**

Join us for a 3-day, 3-island, live-aboard tour of the enchanting Channel Islands! Hike wild, windswept trails bordered with blazing wildflowers. Kayak rugged coastlines. Marvel at pristine waters teeming with frolicking seals and sea lions. Train your binoculars on unusual sea and land birds--and an occasional whale. Watch for the highly endangered island fox. Look for reminders of the Chumash people who lived on these islands for thousands of years. Or, just relax at sea. All cruises depart from Santa Barbara, California. The cost, \$615, includes an assigned bunk, all meals, snacks, and beverages plus the services of a ranger/naturalist who will travel with us to help lead hikes, point out items of interest and give evening programs.

To reserve space, send a \$100 check, written to Sierra Club, to leader Joan Jones Holtz, 11826 The Wye St., El Monte, CA 91732. For more information contact leader: 626-443-0706; jholtzhln@aol.com



**You are invited to
the 8th Annual Walk
on Blue Mountain
March 8th**

By Ralph Salisbury

For the 8th year, Friends of Blue Mountain (FOBM) invites you to their annual walk Sunday, March 8 at 8:00 a.m. (Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour). Additional sponsors include The Foundation of Grand Terrace, Sierra Club and Azure Hills Church. This popular event has drawn up to 1,000 participants and is a once-a-year opportunity to explore this local treasure. Best of all it's free! The entryway is located at the corner of Honey Hill Drive and Palm Ave.

Participants are reminded to bring water, and sturdy footwear is an absolute must. Layered clothing, a hat and sunscreen are recommended. And don't forget your camera. Yes, there are snakes on Blue Mountain including rattlesnakes. Staying on the road will minimize any encounters. Friendly dogs are allowed but must remain on a leash.

Friends of Blue Mountain, headed by local avocado grower Denis Kidd, is a tax-exempt organization dedicated to the long-term protection of Blue Mountain's natural habitats and open spaces. The group's vision is to eventually create a 500-acre wilderness park connecting Blue Mountain with neighboring Box Springs Mountain Reserve and eventually connect the trails on Blue Mountain to the Santa Ana River Trail.

In the shorter term FOBM plan on opening an 80-acre park which will still allow year-round free access to the 2,428 foot peak. That goal is nearing

and your help will make this a reality. Please stop by the donation jar and drop some bills or change to help with land acquisition. And try to allow time to visit the FOBM booth for more information or to become a member.

It's a moderate hike to the top as you make your way about 1.6 miles to the summit. March provides many exceptionally clear days allowing unobstructed views of all our local land features and mountains. Signature peaks include Mt. Baldy and Cucamonga Peak and more to the east, set back along the 10,000 foot ridge of the San Bernardino Mountains, is Southern California's highest peak Mt. San Geronio. Across the pass lies San Jacinto Peak above Palm Springs and looking toward the ocean, the twin peaks of Santiago and Modjeska in the Cleveland National Forest are prominent. Our recent rains have left the mountain



Blue Mountain is dog friendly!

a stunning green and expect wildflowers of many types. And look for those flowers that make this mountain "Blue." Opinions differ whether they are the native blue lupine or California bluebell.

As always, Friends of Blue Mountain will be selling commemorative T-shirts of all sizes. Look for the very popular original orange crate label shirts. Just be sure to mark your calendar now for this one special day when the gates are unlocked.

For those unfamiliar with the location, take the 215 to Grand Terrace and exit East on Barton Road; proceed uphill until Barton begins to veer left. Continue straight on Palm Ave. to the top where Palm meets Homey Hill Drive – you have arrived.

For more information contact Denis Kidd at 909-783-1664 or e-mail ralphsalisbury@att.net.

JOIN NOW

Membership

YES, I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage. My check is enclosed.

Name _____

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City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

E-mail _____

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club

MasterCard Visa Exp Date ____/____/____

Cardholder Name _____

Card # _____

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
Introductory	\$15	
Regular	\$39	\$47
Supporting	\$75	\$100
Contributing	\$150	\$175
Life	\$1,000	\$1,250
Senior	\$24	\$32
Student	\$24	\$32

F94 W-1200

Sierra Club
P. O. Box 421041
Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

Eco Travel and Birding in Panama Featured at the April 7th Chapter Meeting

Birding and eco travel in Panama will be the topic of Brian Elliott's illustrated program at the San Geronio Chapter's April 7th meeting. The meeting is free and open to the public and starts at 7:30 PM at the San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands.

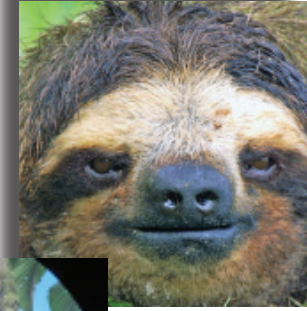
Brian and his wife Janice, both Sierra Club members, spent two weeks visiting the Panama Canal Zone staying at lodges that cater to birders. Panama is a top birding destination in Central America because of spectacular numbers and variety of birds.

The country is also well known for two species of sloths, many species of monkey, beautiful tropical plants, and of course an amazing array of insects. Brian will show some of his photos from his trip and discuss his experience in Panama with us. It should be a very interesting evening.

Brian is the new chair of the chapter's Los Serranos Group. He is a former geologist who is now in his 30th year of teaching at San Dimas High School. He has organized and led many backpacking trips including several in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge of Alaska and on Baffin Island in Canada.

He has rock climbed extensively across North America, Europe, and Australia including big wall ascents of El Capitan and Half Dome in Yosemite. Brian was a member of a Himalayan climbing expedition in the mid-1990s with a group of his friends in the Karakorum Mountains.

In the past few years, Brian has presented programs at our chapter meetings dealing with several of his Alaska backpacking trips and his and Janice's Botswana safari. Brian and Janice live in Upland.



Three-toed Sloth