



Palm and Pine



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

Volume 45 Number 6

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

November–December 2015

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Membership Meetings

Tuesday, Nov 3rd • 7:30 PM

"Caribou, Birds, and Bears"

Presented by Brian Elliott

(see write up on Page 2)

Tuesday, December 1st • 7:30 PM

"Touring the Civil War States"

Presented by: Ladd & Gail Seekins

(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)**

Political Update

By Jono Hildner, San Gorgonio Chapter Political Chair

The fight for the reduction in petroleum use in SB 350 shows that having a Democrat in office, does not mean that we have an environmentalist in office. It is clear that we cannot rely on the support of Assembly members, Brown in AD47, Rodriguez in AD52 and Medina in AD61. As we start to get into high gear for the 2016 election, we need to find viable candidates who are environment friendly to replace them. The search is on and there are signs of possible success on the horizon.

Perhaps the better news is that we have three extremely viable, environmentally conscious Democrats challenging incumbents in three districts that have never been "green." Abigail



Medina is running in AD40, Greg Rodriguez in AD42, and Sabrina Cervantes in AD60. While we are months away from making endorsements, it's possible that we could move our endorsement process earlier in the year for a number of these races and make a real effort to get volunteers involved in working on

some of these campaigns.

We have an exciting campaign season ahead and I hope we can get more involvement from our members in competitive races. Don't forget, we also need to hold onto Congressional seats that will have strong challenges. Takano, Torres, Aguilar and Ruiz can expect early endorsements, based on their records and we can afford to lose those hard won seats. In 2016, we could truly see the Inland Empire and the San Gorgonio Chapter turn green. Expect some emails and phone calls asking you to get involved. With your help, we can make a difference for the environment.

Palm and Pine Fund Appeal

It's time to consider your contribution to the San Gorgonio Chapter's Fall Fund Appeal. A return envelope has been inserted in this issue of the *Palm and Pine* for your check.

Did you know that the chapter receives only \$1 each year from your Sierra Club membership dues for publication of your Chapter Newsletter?

The Fall Fund Appeal is specifically designated to help make up the difference between our actual costs and the dollars received. Your contribution allows continued publication of the Inland Empire's most comprehensive environmental newspaper. The *Palm and Pine* is the main source of information for those participating in our Outings program. In fact, on the average about 30% of the total newspaper is devoted to Outings.

If your insert is missing, please make your check payable to the Sierra Club and mail it to Mary Ann Ruiz, 4079 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside CA 92501.

Gifts to the Sierra Club support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying programs and therefore are not tax deductible.



New Desert Monuments in Chapter!

By Joan Taylor, Chapter Conservation, Desert Issues Chair

Feinstein Asks for Presidential Designation of Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow and Castle Mountains as National Monuments

As you may have heard, there is something really "monumental" happening in Chapter, and you can help! Diane Feinstein has long championed desert protection, but her recent proposed legislation (California Desert Conservation & Recreation Act) has been wallowing in a regressive Congress. As a result, Senator Feinstein recently asked President Obama to take action to designate three new National Monuments in the California desert, all of them within San Gorgonio Chapter! Starting with Teddy Roosevelt, Presidents on both sides of the aisle have used the Antiquities Act to protect important and imperiled special places, assuring they will be intact and accessible to the public for this and all future generations. The desert areas for which Senator Feinstein has requested monument designation most certainly merit such protection.

Truly Remarkable Desert Lands

"Mojave Trails" National Monument would encompass a million acres of iconic desert

in the central Mojave, forming the vital connective tissue between Joshua Tree National Park and Mojave National Preserve. About half of this land had been given to Santa Fe Railroad in the 1800s, creating a checkerboard of private holdings that was eventually put up for development during the 1990s. So in order to acquire this magnificent landscape, tens of millions of dollars

in private donations were raised and supplemented with federal Land & Water Conservation Funds procured with Senator Feinstein's help. The newly acquired lands were then given to BLM to manage as conservation lands, but subsequently BLM turned around and accepted applications to build mega solar and wind farms on the very land that was acquired expressly for preservation.

If built, these massive man-made installations would have precluded all public use and enjoyment.

Senator Feinstein swiftly stepped in to propose National Monument status for this imperiled area to protect its rich and irreplaceable biological, scenic, cultural and historic resources, including many sacred Native American trails and the most intact stretch of historic Route 66—made famous in Steinbeck's "The Grapes of Wrath." The time has finally come for this iconic land to get the recognition and protection from industrialization that it richly deserves.

"Sand to Snow" is an appropriate moniker for the second National Monument proposal. This new national monument would extend from the hot sands of the San Gorgonio Pass all the way up to the peak of the mountain itself at 11,380 feet, embracing an area of amazing diversity. Within Sand to Snow lie two year-round desert streams, the greatest



Sand to Snow, vista of Whitewater Canyon and Mt. San Gorgonio.

Photo by Jack Thompson, Wildlands Conservancy

Continued on Page 2 >>>

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dogs111@msn.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 earthingwiley2000@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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Member Change of Address

Sierra Club, Change of Address

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(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:

Send address changes to:

Palm and Pine

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Monuments . . . Continued from Page 1

the Santa Ana River and much more. This is truly a biological treasure house, as well as a prime recreational resource for many thousands of residents and visitors to California.

Finally, the Castle Mountains National Monument would, in essence, help make Mojave National Preserve whole again. If you look at a map of the Preserve, you'll see a notch in the boundary of the Preserve near the Nevada border; that is the Castle Mountains exclusion. Protection for the Castle Mountains is overdue.

An Easy Way to Help:

<http://sierra.force.com/actions/National?actionId=AR0023864>



“Paddle Along” With Brian Elliott and Friends as They Canoe Two Rivers in Alaska at Chapter Meeting on Tuesday, November 3rd



Our speaker at the November 3 chapter meeting is Brian Elliot. Brian's presentation is titled Caribou, Birds, and Bears: Canoeing the Utukok and Kokolik Rivers of the western north slope of Alaska. Sierra Club member Brian, along with three friends, canoed these two rivers that flow north on Alaska's North Slope above the Arctic Circle. Brian has given us talks on several of his other Alaskan adventures over the years. The meeting starts at 7:30 PM at the San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. It's just east of the California St. exit from Interstate 10 on the north frontage road.

Brian and his friends canoed for ten days in 2014 on the Kokolik River. They returned this past summer to canoe nine days on the Utukok River, just east of the

Kokolik River. He and his friends were then air shuttled back to the Kokolik where they canoed for 15 days, this time all the way to the Kokolik's River's mouth at the small Inuit village of Pt. Lay, a subsistence village of 190 people at the Chukchi Sea's coast.



Caribou out for a 3:00 am morning stroll.

The rivers flow through some of the most remote wilderness in North America and are renowned for viewing of the western Arctic caribou herd migration. Brian and his friends saw thousands of caribou along with much other wildlife. Each river is primarily located within the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska, an area of national interest by the Sierra Club and other environmental groups who are trying to preserve its great wilderness and wildlife. Brian will share his photos of his trip and advocate for the region's protection.

Calendar of Outings, Meetings, and Other Events

NOVEMBER–DECEMBER 2015

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

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Items for the January/February Calendar are due by December 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 <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 Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1, Jul 6, Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7. 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: ED CALIENDO, dogs111@msn.com 760-442-4103
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 & 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 & August. Programs on nature, conservation & travel topics. The public is welcome & refreshments are served. See Los Serranos webpage for detailed program information: sangorgonio.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. CONTACT: ED CALIENDO, dogs111@msn.com 760-442-4103
BIG BEAR GROUP

(4TH TUE) 7:00 PMSAN 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, ruizmaryann@gmail.com, (909) 815-9379
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 & 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 & 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 & 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 & 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 & 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

OCTOBER 19 – OCTOBER 25

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

OCT 22 (THU) 5:00 PM HIDDEN SPRINGS HIKE
Moderate 4-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 the wooded arroyo. 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: Christina (951) 318-7503 or cmt.teck@gmail.com. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

OCT 23 (FRI) 9:00 AM SB 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. BRING: layered clothing, water, snack. MEET: in Green Valley Lake across from the post office (33271 Green Valley Lake Rd, Green Valley Lake, CA 92341) at 9 AM. WEAR layered clothing, BRING: No need to bring lunch just a snack and water. Leader: SANDY ELLIS, 909-867-7115 or <fsellis67@gmail.com>. CALL for weather conditions and to confirm you are coming. MOUNTAINS GROUP

OCT 24 (SAT) 7:30 AM SEC B: PCT/STRAWBERRY TO SADDLE JUNCTION HIKE
With this hike we conclude our Section B hikes for 2015. Starting at 6400' ft. in Idyllwild, we climb 1700 ft. on the Devil's Slide trail to join the PCT at Saddle Junction, and then hike 4.2 miles on the PCT to Strawberry Junction, where we descend 4.1 miles back to Idyllwild. Total distance is 10.8 miles, with 2600 ft. of climb and 3400 ft. of descent. Since the shuttle is so short (and paved), we will all hike together. RATING: Strenuous MEET: We will meet at the U.S. Forest Service Idyllwild Ranger Station, 54270 Pine Crest Road, Idyllwild, CA 92549 in the parking lot at 7:30 AM. BRING: Ten essentials, layered clothing, 3 liters of water, lunch, snacks, sun protection, sunglasses, camera, and trekking poles. RESERVATIONS: Call Hike Leader, Dave Melton, at (760) 408-2456 or dmelton61@yahoo.com BIG BEAR GROUP

OCT 24 (SAT) 8:00 AM DEEPCREEK CANYON HIKE
This outing takes us into the spectacular Canyon and is a 9-mile round trip with no elevation gain. There will be historical commentary regarding the Hesperia ditch which was constructed in 1886 and supplied water to that area until the 1950's and runs most of the length of the Canyon. BRING: Plenty of water, snacks, strong shoes and a camera. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley, CA 92308 at 8 AM. LEADER: Norman Bossom 760-912-3725, coachnorm@yahoo.com for further details. Prior registration in not required. MOJAVE GROUP

OCT 24 (SAT) 9:00 AM SB MTS, SPLINTERS TO DEVIL'S HOLE HIKE
You will hike a scenic section of the Pacific Crest Trail along the Deep Creek Canyon. Distance: 6 miles RT with 600 foot elevation loss and gain. Enjoy the fall colors. BRING: 10 essentials, 2- quarts of water, and lunch. WEAR: hiking boots. CALL Leader, HEATHER SARGEANT, 909-336-2836 for meeting place. MOUNTAINS GROUP

****OCT 24 (SAT) 9:00 AM BEAR CANYON LOOP TRAIL TO SITTON PEAK HIKE**
Join me on a 10-mile moderate-to-difficult hike with 2150 feet of elevation gain/loss to Sitton Peak, which stands at 3,273 feet tall and is one of the 7 peaks in the Santa Anna Mountain range. We will begin the hike using the Bear Canyon Loop Trail 3.5 miles to a junction known as four corners. Then take the Sitton Peak Trail 1.7 miles to the Peak. The reason I am listing this hike as borderline difficult is the last .4 miles, which is a steep scramble up a overgrown trail to the peak. Although the peak is only 3,273 feet it has a commanding 360 degree view that includes the ocean on clear days and well worth the scramble. Directions: We will meet at the large parking lot across from the famous Ortega Oaks Candy Store, at 34040 Ortega Hwy. Lake Elsinore, CA. 92530. From Lake Elsinore travel southwest on the Ortega Hwy 3.6 miles past the fire station in El Cariso. Bring a minimum of 3 liters of water, a lunch and snacks, sturdy hiking shoes. dress in layers and do not forget the sunscreen. I also suggest hikers wear long pants because of the scramble to the peak. Rain Cancels. Also cars parked at the trailhead must display a Wilderness Pass available at sporting goods stores. For further information and to register please contact Bob Audibert, the leader at bob.takeahike1@gmail.com or call at (951)302-1059 SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

OCT 24-25 (SAT-SUN) SERVICE IN THE CARRIZO PLAINS SERVICE
This is an opportunity to visit and to assist an outstanding and relatively unknown national monument. Saturday we will be assisting others cleaning up debris and trash at the Goodwin Ranch, a historic ranch complex maintained by The Nature Conservancy (TNC). We will be car-camping, and Saturday night is a BBQ given for the volunteers by TNC. On Sunday we will tour one or several of the historic, prehistoric, or geologic sites in the Monument with details to be determined by consensus of the group. Limit 10 people. Contact leader Craig Deutsche, craig.deutsche@gmail.com, (310-477-6670) CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

OCT 25 (SUN) 8:00 AM JOSHUA TREE HIKE
We will meet in Ontario at 8:00 am to carpool to Joshua Tree for our first trip of the season. Easy to moderate hike will be 7-9 miles, some elevation gain but not difficult. We will either do North View, Panorama or Willow Hole, in hopes of nice weather and maybe spotting some bighorn sheep. Wear hiking boots and layered clothing, bring 2 liters min. of water, snacks and lunch. Contact leader for meeting place. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ 909-815-9379 or email ruizmaryann@gmail.com to confirm by Oct. 23, 5:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP

OCT 25 (SUN) 9:00 AM ZANJA PEAK HIKE
5-Mile Loop, moderate to difficult hike with 1100' elevation gain. Good views from the top with a portion of trail through Yucaipa Regional Park. BRING: water, a snack, sunscreen, and wear sturdy shoes. MEET: from Interstate 10 exit north/east on Yucaipa Blvd. Proceed 2.9 miles, and then veer left on Oak Glen Rd in 1.0 mile, turn left into the trailhead parking area opposite Shadow Hills Dr. (by the soccer park). Rain Cancels. INFO and LEADER: Christina Torres (951) 318-7503 or cmt.teck@gmail.com. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

OCTOBER 26 – NOVEMBER 1

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

OCT 27 (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, ruizmaryann@gmail.com, (909) 815-9379 CHAPTER

OCT 31 (SAT) DEEPCREEK, NORTHERN SECTION HIKE
Deep Creek, northern section. This outing is a 5-mile round trip which explores the Hesperia water ditch and the pipeline which was built in 1886. There is historical commentary regarding this amazing feat of engineering. There is only slight elevation gain but those taking part should be prepared to cross the Mojave River. Bring plenty of water, snacks, strong shoes and a camera. LEADER: Norman Bossom 760-912-3725, coachnorm@yahoo.com for further details. MOJAVE GROUP

OCT 31-NOV 1 (SAT-SUN) GHOST TOWN EXTRAVAGANZA CARCAMP
Celebrate Halloween by visiting the ghosts of California's colorful past in the eerie desert landscape near Death Valley. Camp near the historic ghost town of Ballarat. Saturday, a challenging hike to ghost town Lookout City with historian Hal Fowler who will regale us with tales of this wild west town. We'll return to camp for Happy Hour and a potluck feast, followed by a midnight visit to Ballarat's graveyard. On Sunday, we'll make a quick visit to the infamous Riley townsite. Send \$8 per person (check payable to Lygeia Gerard), home and work phones, email address and rideshare preferences to Leader: Lygeia Gerard, P.O. Box 721039, Pinon Hills, CA 92372, 760-868-2179. MOJAVE GROUP/CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 2 – NOVEMBER 8

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

NOV 2 (MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1, Jul 6, Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

NOV 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

NOV 4 (WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ED CALIENDO, dogs111@msn.com 760-442-4103. BIG BEAR GROUP

NOV 3 (TUE) 7:30 AM SUNSET PEAK HIKE
This will be a moderate 7 mile round trip hike on a fire road up to the top of Sunset Peak (elevation 5796 feet) with a 1300 feet gain. Great panoramic views in all directions from the peak! Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, water, snacks, sunscreen, hat, & layer clothing appropriate for the weather. Adventure Pass is required for parking at the trailhead. CONTACT Kathy Viola to confirm and for directions to trailhead OR carpooling from Upland. This is a provisional hike for leader-in-training, Kathy Viola, supervised by John St Clair. Contact Kathy Viola at 909-346-9653 or kviola826@gmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 4

NOV 4 (WED) 4:30 PM HIKE TO THE "M" HIKE
 Difficult 4 mile round trip hike to the "M" on Box Springs. Trail has some very steep areas, approx. 900 ft elevation gain. We start promptly at 5:00. BRING: water, flashlight and sturdy shoes. MEET: from 60fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to 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. Parking fee \$5. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADER: Christina Torres (951) 318-7503 or cmt.teck@gmail.com.
 MORENO VALLEY GROUP

NOV 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

NOV 6 (FRI) 8:00 AM \STODDARD PEAK HIKE
 This will be a moderate/strenuous hike up Barrett Canyon to the top of Stoddard Peak (elevation 4624 ft), 6 miles round trip with 1100 ft. elevation gain. The hike in Barrett Canyon is easy and goes past some charming cabins. The last half mile up Stoddard Peak is a steep scramble. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, water, snack, sunscreen, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. Adventure Pass will be required for parking at the trailhead. Contact John St. Clair to confirm and for directions to trailhead and carpooling meeting place. LEADER: John St. Clair at 909-983-8501 or john@stclairs.us
 LOS SERRANOS GROUP

NOV 7 (SAT) 8 AM ONYX SUMMIT PCT HIKE
 This is an 8 mile in and out hike on the PCT. Starting at an elevation of 8,400 feet we will make a gradual descent from a forest dominated by cedars and junipers to a very different collection of flora and fauna at the Deer Springs camp. Bring your camera as the perspectives from Onyx of the valley are quite different from the other peaks of Big Bear. RATING: Moderate. There is an elevation gain of 1,000 feet. BRING: The ten essentials including layered clothing, a good pair of hiking boots, trekking poles, sunglasses, sunblock, hat, snacks and lunch and two liters of water. MEET: Vons parking lot at 8 AM. We will car pool. Those coming up Hwy 38 can meet us at the trail head at Onyx Summit at 8:30 a.m. RESERVATIONS: Bad Weather Cancels, but contact the Hike Leader to confirm cancellation. Contact Hike Leader Peter Michelsen at petermichelsenor@gmail.com
 BIG BEAR GROUP

NOV 7 (SAT) 8:30 AM WILDHORSE CREEK TRAIL HIKE
 This trail is 8 miles round trip with a 1400 foot elevation gain up chaparral covered ridges with Jeffrey and Pinyon pine. Along the way, we will view Greyback Ridge and the slopes of Grinnell Mountain with views of the upper Santa Ana river then toward the end of the hike we will descend into the forested canyon of Wildhorse Creek. The creek usually runs all year so we may be able to enjoy lovely spot for lunch. RATING: Moderate. MEET: At the Wildhorse Creek Trail on Hwy 38. The trail marker will be on your left if you are coming up from the Redlands area, on the right if coming from Big Bear. It's near the Heart Bar Campground. Weather Forecast: Average temps in Sept. range from 50 to 75. BRING: Ten essentials, energy snacks and lunch, 2.0-liters of water, sun protection (sunscreen, hat, long-sleeve shirt), and layers for variable temperatures. RESERVATIONS: Email Hike Leader Darlene Taylor dtaylorncrew@verizon.net or leave a msg at (951) 385-5706.
 BIG BEAR GROUP

NOV 7 (SAT) 8:30 AM HIKE TO DEEP CREEK - JUNIPER FLATS AREA HIKE
 Join us on a lovely 6-7 mile round trip hike to Deep Creek from the Juniper Flats Area, just south of Apple Valley. We descend approximately 1,350 feet to the Creek, a little upstream from the Deep Creek Hot Springs. (This is NOT a hike to the Hot Springs). Enjoy the lovely views and a gorgeous location for a picnic beside the gurgling creek. Deep Creek has been suggested for a Wild and Scenic River and is the most bio-diverse watershed in the San Bernardino Mountains. RATED: Moderate. It is a 3 mile climb out from the creek, is in a remote location and it can get hot, so this hike is not recommended for beginners. No pets. BRING: 3 liters of water, lunch/snacks, hiking poles and wear layered clothing, comfortable hiking boot/shoes and hat. Don't forget your camera and binoculars! MEET: at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road at 8:30 a.m. High clearance vehicle recommended. LEADERS: JENNY WILDER, jensoasis@aol.com 760-220-0730 or CAROL STUBBLEFIELD, yorkshirerose1@juno.com 760-964-0039.
 MOJAVE GROUP

NOV 8 (SUN) 8:30 AM SILVER PEAK VIA 3N36 HIKE
 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. It is one of the best winter hikes in the Big Bear area. RATED: moderate to strenuous. MEET: We will meet at the Vons parking lot at 42170 Big Bear Blvd. Big Bear Lake, CA at 8:30 AM. BRING: Ten essentials, 2 liters of water and snacks also dress for the potential cold weather. Snow could cancel. For information and RESERVATIONS call Hike Leader, Ed Wallace (909) 584- 9407 or email him at rushewallace@yahoo.com
 BIG BEAR GROUP

NOVEMBER 9 – NOVEMBER 15

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

NOV 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

NOV 10 (TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEEMEETING
 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

NOV 11 (WED) 9:00 AM SYCAMORE CANYON HIKE
 Hike with a vet on Veterans Day! A moderate-to-strenuous effort will be exerted on this newest of trails in the City of Claremont. It loops into a 3-mile R/T event with a 600' elevation gain. A good hike for this time of year. BRING: water, sturdy boots, hiking sticks and layered clothing. Please call to confirm by 5:00 PM NOV 10. LEADER: JEFF WARHOL (909) 985-7686 or email jmwandjjw@hotmail.com
 LOS SERRANOS GROUP

NOV 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: CAROL WILEY, (760) 245-8734 <desertlily1@verizon.net>
 MOJAVE GROUP

NOV 12 (THU) 4:30 PM HIDDEN SPRINGS HIKE
 Moderate 4-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 the wooded arroyo. We start promptly at 5:30 p.m. Bring flashlight, water and sturdy shoes. MEET: Hidden Springs School, 9801 Hidden Springs Dr., Moreno Valley. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADER: Christina (951) 318-7503 or cmt.teck@gmail.com.
 MORENO VALLEY GROUP

NOV 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

NOV 13 (FRI) 8:00 AM LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN HIKE
 This is a very strenuous 7-mile hike on an unmaintained use trail with 2400 ft. elevation climb in 2 miles. We will do a car shuttle and start at Cow Saddle on Glendora Ridge Road and end at the Mt. Baldy Visitor Center. This mountain has some character owing to its role in the measurement of the speed of light in the 1920s. Great views at the peak. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, water, snack, sunscreen, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. Adventure Pass will be required for parking at the trailhead. Contact John St. Clair to confirm and for directions to trailhead and carpooling meeting place. LEADER: John St. Clair at 909-983-8501 or john@stclairs.us
 LOS SERRANOS GROUP

NOV 14 (SAT) 8:00 AM SUMMIT VALLEY HIKE
 Come and enjoy the magnificent views of the San Bernardino and San Gabriel Mountains with and walk along the ridge overlooking Summit Valley. The area is full of wildlife and coyote trails. This an easy eight mile hike which takes in a visit to the California Aqueduct at its conclusion. BRING: Water, a snack and wear strong shoes/boots as we will be off trail for much of the journey. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley at 8am. LEADER: Norman Bossom 760-912-3725, coachnorm@yahoo.com.
 MOJAVE GROUP

****NOV 14 (SAT) 8:30 AM TENAJA CYN TO FISHERMAN'S CAMP HIKE**
 Join us on a 10-mile hike (5 miles out and 5 miles back) down the Tenaja Canyon Trail to Fisherman's Camp and then on to San Mateo Canyon. The hike is DIFFICULT with about 1600 ft of elevation gain over several hills and Creek crossings. There is about a quarter mile of steep switch backs on the way back to the beginning which makes this hike DIFFICULT. The trail makes crossings over several seasonal creeks. Be prepared for areas with Poison Oak and Chaparral. MEET: First trail head (Tenaja Trail). «Rain Cancels» You will need to bring plenty of water, wear comfortable hiking shoes (sandals may be useful for creek crossings), dress in layers and don't forget the sunscreen. A Wilderness Pass is required for all parked cars, available at sporting goods stores. DIRECTIONS: From I-15 take the Clinton Kieth exit. Go west on Clinton Keith. Past the Santa Rosa Plateau Eco. Reserve turn right onto Tenaja Road at the 3 way stop sign. Stay on Tenaja Rd. past the stop sign and follow down the long downhill and curve to the left. Shortly after the curve turn right on Cleveland Forest Road. You will see the trail head parking lot on the left about a mile in. LEADER AND RESERVATIONS: Gary Marsalone at (858)663-1201 or hikesie@gmail.com
 SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

NOV 14 (SAT) 8:00 AM SB MTS, LAKE GREGORY FALL BIRD WALK
 MEET: NORTH SHORE parking lot, across from Goodwin's (24089 Lake Gregory Drive, Crestline 92325). Pay \$8.00 parking fee or park on street free. See which birds remain for the winter and possible winter arrivals as we walk around the lake (2.5 miles). Optional breakfast after the walk. Leader: BILL ENGS (909-338-1910).
 MOUNTAINS GROUP

NOV 15 (SUN) 8:30 AM EYE OF GOD HIKE
 Beginners welcome! We will hike through dense groves of Pinyon Pines dotted with the occasional Joshua tree. We will hike a section of the infamous Pacific Crest Trail to reach the Eye of God rock which overlooks Baldwin Lake. This large rock formation has significant religious meaning to the Serrano Indians which continue to gather here annually in celebration of their existence. This is a 5.0 mile round-trip hike and is rated Easy in difficulty. BRING: the ten-essentials, 2.0 liters of water, and trail snacks or lunch. RESERVATIONS: Contact Hike Leader, Charlotte Watts at (909) 866-7423 or momswebsite@gmail.com
 BIG BEAR GROUP

NOVEMBER 16 – NOVEMBER 22

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

NOV 16 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
 Monthly meeting except August. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. The September

Continued on Page 8 > >

Palm and Pine Big Bear Group

By Ed Caliendo, Group Chair

New Hike Leaders in 2015

In June 2015, six new Big Bear Group Sierra Club individuals attended the Leadership and Red Cross Certification training in the Butler Mountain Retreat for two days of training and map and compass exercises. Each successfully completed the training and is in the process of completing their in-field certification by each leading two hikes under the supervision of a previously certified hike leader.

Please join these capable individuals in future hikes. Below are photos of five of the six new hike leaders:



Charlotte Watts

Peter Michelsen

Mike Nardozza

Darlene Taylor

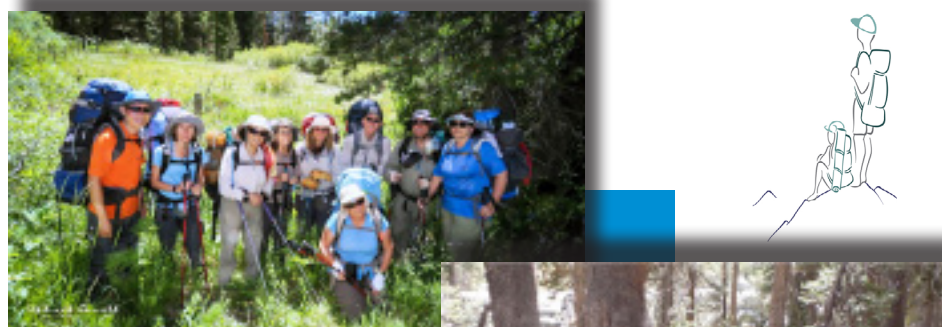
Sharon Nardozza

Photo of Eugene DeMine (not available)

Summer Backpacking Trips to the High Sierras

Two trips were taken to the Mammoth Lakes area backpacking into the Ansel Adams Wilderness. In July, ten backpackers participated. At the end of August, a second group of eleven backpackers participated. Under both backpacking trips we started at Agnew Meadows and visited Olaine Lake, Shadow Lake, Lake Ediza, Garnet Lake and Thousand Island Lake. On the first trip in July, we continued north and hiked over Donohue Pass (11,056') before descending over 2,000' into Tuolumne Meadows 8,700'.

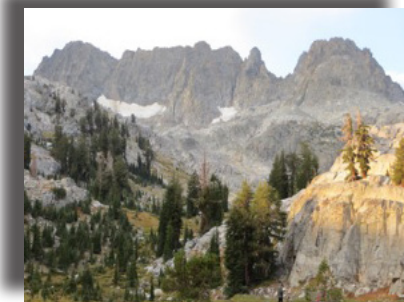
Below are group photos of the two groups, plus breathtaking photos of the Minaret's, Mount Ritter (13,143') and Banner Peak (12,936') and two of the Lakes that we visited:



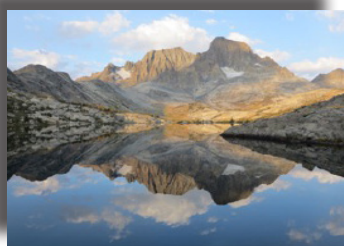
Our July trip. From left to right: Eric Chu, Shelby Reeder, Catherine Shih, Ann Sexton, Paula Day, Dave Melton Hike Leader, Ed Caliendo Co-Hike Leader, L.J. Foster, and Roberta Darrow, and Richard Arnold (taking the photo).



And our trip in August. From left to right the participants were: Ed Caliendo Hike Leader, Robert Escamilla, Kerri King, Janet Jackson, Allen Dardenelle, Bob Young, Charlotte Watts Co-Hike Leader, Chris Kemp, Bob Mourino, and Bill Geisler (taking the photo).



Ahhh... The Minarets!



Ritter and Banner Peaks at Garnet Lake.

VOTE for New Board Members

Each year at this time, we ask members of the Sierra Club Big Bear Group to vote on those incubate and new board members for the 2016 year. This year we have three incubate board members and two new applying board members.

Please vote for one or all of the proposed board members:

Individual	Vote Yes	Vote No
Ed Caliendo, Incumbent Board Chairman	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ellen Kesler, Incumbent Board Secretary	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marvin Cira, Incumbent Treasurer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Terrence McCorkle, Incumbent Member at Large	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sherry Noone, New applicant	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Joe Holmes, New applicant	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

A second ballot is provided for those families that have two Sierra Club members in the same household. Each member is to vote separately.

Individual	Vote Yes	Vote No
Ed Caliendo, Incumbent Board Chair	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ellen Kesler, Incumbent Board Secretary	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marvin Cira, Incumbent Treasurer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Terrence McCorkle, Incumbent Member at Large	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sherry Noone, New applicant	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Joe Holmes, New applicant	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Completed Ballots are to be returned to:

The Sierra Club Big Bear Group, P.O. Box 3048, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315
The open board position is for the years 2016 – 2017. If elected, the above individuals will serve for two consecutive years. The board position and responsibilities as an active board member will be determined at our first meeting in January 2016.

2015 CONSERVATION IN REVIEW By: Ed Wallace, Conservation Chair

Lots of good things happened in the Big Bear conservation arena in 2015. The Big Bear Group participated in the development of a master plan for the Rathbun Creek Corridor project.

This project when completed will culminate in a multi-use trail from the National Forest in Sand Canyon to the Lake. It will also result in improved riparian habitats along the creek.

The Group was active in the continued development of the Pebble Plains Wildlands Park which is situated between Moonridge and Sugarloaf. When completed, this park will help conserve one of the last pristine pebble plains in the Big Bear Valley. One of the important uses of the park will be to function as an outdoor science lab for the students in the Big Bear School System. As Group Conservation Chair, I have conducted presentations on the formation of the pebble plains and their unique plant life for the sixth grade sciences classes at Baldwin Lane Elementary School and the biology class at Big Bear High School. In addition to the presentations, the students have taken field trips to the Sawmill Pebble Plain where they participated in an outdoor curriculum developed by the Big Bear Valley Education Trust.

The wet lands along route 18 where the old outdoor movie theater and real estate office are located, along with the land on the lake side of route 18, has been purchased by the San Bernardino Land Trust with funds from both the federal and state Departments of Fish and Wildlife. This purchase will protect for all times the wetland habitat contained on these properties and the endangered and rare plant species that they call home. The old real estate building will be turned into an outdoor nature center for the students in the Big Bear Valley school system. This will take considerable effort and money which will be the future challenge to those groups that become involved.

Mojave Group

By Susan Stueber, Group Chair

The Mojave Group is gearing up for their Fall, Winter, and Spring hiking opportunities in the Juniper Flats area. Juniper Flats is a popular place for our Hike Leaders to take people. As you may recall the BLM in Barstow has an OHMV Restoration Grant for Juniper Flats. Zack Pratt the Recreation Planner has been working at organizing volunteers to work in three main categories: Education, Restoration and Volunteers/Events. If you are interested in getting involved please contact Susan Stueber at Phone: 760-900-5330 or Email: susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com

I would also like to give a huge thank you to Norman Bossom for leading hikes for the Mojave Group through the months of July and August.

It is time to cast your vote for the two positions vacant on the Mojave Groups Executive Committee. Please fill out and cut out the ballot below and mail it to: Susan Stueber, 17100 Bear Valley Road Ste. B #237 Victorville, CA 92395-5852 Ballots must be received by November 23. You can also vote at the Mojave Group November 11th meeting.

You may vote for two:

Bill Spreng (Member at Large).....	<input type="radio"/>
Carol Wiley (Vice Chair).....	<input type="radio"/>
Other:	
Write in	<input type="radio"/>

Note: Write ins must be members of the Sierra Club Mojave Group.

Mountains Group

By Dave Barrie, Group Chair



Not sure if you are a Mountains Group member? Except for a few special cases, you are a Mountains Group member if you are in the following ZIP code areas: 92317, 92321, 92322, 92325, 92326, 92341, 92352, 92378, 92382, 92385, and 92391.

VOTER INSTRUCTIONS

Please indicate your vote on this ballot, cut out and mail so it is received by

November 23, 2015, at 12 noon.

Mail to: Sierra Club

PO Box 651, Blue Jay, CA 92317-0708

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

be sure to print name and address and sign for both.

Mountains Group Ballot

(Please vote for 3 or fewer)

- Dave Barrie
 Chris Del Ross-Risher
 Debby McAllister

First Ballot

Mountains Group Ballot

(Please vote for 3 or fewer)

- Dave Barrie
 Chris Del Ross-Risher
 Debby McAllister

Second Ballot (Joint Member)

Los Serranos Group

By Brian Elliott, Group Chair

Brian Elliott: I am a long time Sierra Club member and outings leader. I am a retired high school science teacher and taught Advanced Placement Environmental Science. I strongly support Sierra Club activism and the Los Serranos Group's programs and outings. I currently am on the board as chair and I wish to continue planning and promoting Los Serranos activities as a member of the Los Serranos Excom.

Sue Brown: I, Sue Brown, am a lifetime Sierra Club member and have been active in the Los Serranos group for over 5 years. I have served as Outing chair person and Programs chair. I wish to continue to serve the group on the executive committee. Your vote will be appreciated. Thank you.

Jeff Warhol: After retiring and wanting to be more active in the community, I joined the Sierra Club in 2007. I was no stranger to the Club's ideals or activities and had many friends who thought I would make a good outings leader. I took their suggestion and completed my training in June of 2012. I look forward to sharing my enthusiasm I have for the Sierra Club by supporting its goals as a new member of the Los Serranos executive committee.

Moreno Valley Group

By Ann McKibben, Secretary

The Moreno Valley Group will have a "Hike to the M Hike" on Wednesday, November 4, 4:30 p.m. Find complete information at: <http://sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org/node/3> Rain cancels. For more information call Christina Torres at (951) 318-7503 or e-mail her at cmt.teck@gmail.com

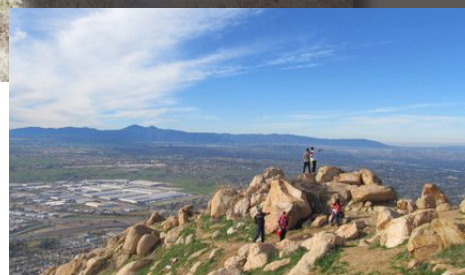
Moreno Valley Group ExCom Ballot: The Moreno Valley Group fall newsletter will have a ballot for our group excom elections. Please take time to vote and make a donation to support the Moreno Valley Group's work. Thank you!

2016 Sierra Club Calendars: If you're looking for a holiday gift for family and friends, the calendars make wonderful gifts. Please e-mail us at movalleygroup@yahoo.com if you would like to buy some calendars.

Since the 3-2 council vote for the 40 million sq ft World Logistics Center (WLC) warehouse project, the city of Moreno Valley has been sued by the South Coast Air



Photos of Moreno Valley by Christina Torres



Quality Management District, County of Riverside, and Riverside County Transportation Commission. On September 22 the Sierra Club joined a coalition environmental/community groups (Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice, Center for Biological Diversity, Sierra Club, San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society and Coalition for Clean

Air) sued the city over the WLC project. Four other groups are also litigating. Please encourage your family/friends to not sign the WLC initiative promising 20,000 jobs. The 14,000 daily truck trips will further degrade our already clogged roads

and poor air quality. The WLC also shares a two mile border with the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and will impact its threatened/ endangered species & 20 species of raptors.

We have posted links to newspaper articles on our Moreno Valley Group Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MorenoValleySierraClub> on the WLC and other issues.

Donations are still needed to help us with litigation costs. 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!

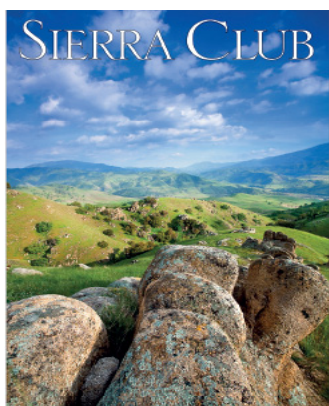
Riverside County General Plan Update (GPU): A County Board of Supervisors' public hearing on the GPU is scheduled for November 3, 2015, though the date may be subject to change. The following link should give you the Riverside County General Plan Update (GPU) Final EIR with their responses to letters. It also has the

errata (corrected errors) to the Climate Action Plan and GPU. <http://planning.rctlma.org/ZoningInformation/GeneralPlan/GeneralPlanAmendmentNo960EIRNo521CAPFebruary2015.aspx> Please contact Kristi Lovelady, KLOVELAD@rctlma.org, tel: (951) 955-0781 to verify the date of the hearing(s).

The Villages of Lakeview—Revised: Still no date on when the Riverside County will release the reworked, revised, recirculated Environmental Impact Report. Contact Riverside County Planner Matt Straite at MSTRAITE@rctlma.org or (951) 955-8631 for more information.

Moreno Valley Recreational Trails Board: Next hike is on Saturday, October 24, 7:30 a.m. Hike to Box Springs M Trail, (DIFFICULT, 4.8 mi round trip); meet in the parking lot on the west side of the Canyon Springs High School campus, 23100 Cougar Canyon Drive, Moreno Valley. Verify all information at (951) 413-3703 and http://www.moval.org/resident_services/park_rec/trails/hikes-2015.pdf to see the complete list of hikes.

SIERRA CLUB 2016 CALENDARS

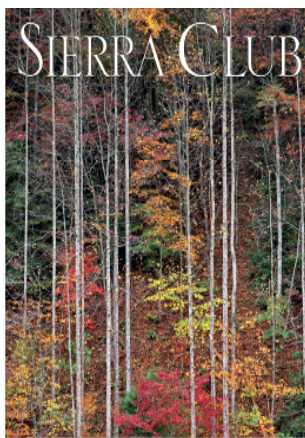


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Tahquitz Group's Excom Election

By Joan Taylor

Please vote for no more than four candidates, and mail in by December 31, 2015, to POB 4944, Palm Springs, CA 92263. Please also sign your name on the outside of the envelope.

Thanks!

- ___ Eric Baecht
- ___ Kim Floyd
- ___ Jono Hildner
- ___ Al Murdy



Please turn to Page 10 for the Santa Margarita Group Info >>>

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 5

meeting will be held at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens in Claremont and not at the church.
INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <RUIZMARYANN@GMAIL.COM>
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

NOV 17 (TUE) 9:15 AM HOPALONG CASSIDY TRAIL HIKE
If you remember or have seen some of the old Western movies, you may remember Hopalong Cassidy and Gabby Hayes. We will hike on these two trails on the way to the cross for a total of 6.8 miles r/t with 1344 ft. gain. Meet at 1404 Albright, Upland, at 8:00 AM or at the trailhead 9:15 AM. Call leader for carpooling information. Joe Whyte 909-949-00899.
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

NOV 19 (THU) 4:30 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. BRING: water, flashlight and sturdy shoes. MEET: from 60fwy in Moreno Valley exit Perris, 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: Christina Torres (951) 318-7503 or cmt.teck@gmail.com.
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

NOV 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. CONTACT: ED CALIENDO, dogs111@msn.com 760-442-4103
BIG BEAR GROUP

NOV 19-21 (THU-SAT) DEATH VALLEY WILDERNESS SERVICE TRIP
Come help restore wilderness values in this stunning desert national park. The work project has not been determined yet. It might be another marijuana grow site or help with the clean-up of a cabin in the Panamints. (Or something else entirely.) We will meet Thursday afternoon, place TBD and work Thursday afternoon and Friday. Pot luck either Thursday or Friday night. Leader: Kate Allen, kj.allen96@gmail.com, 661-944-4056.
CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

NOV 20 (FRI) 9:00 AM S B MTS, LITTLE GREEN VALLEY HIKE
We will hike up to Little Green Valley and explore the area which once had a post office and was the home of a Y camp. We will hike from the campground and make a loop back down again. Distance 4 to 5 miles--easy to moderate. MEET: across from the post office and general store in Green Valley Lake at 9 AM. BRING water and a snack. If interested, we will have lunch at one of our local spots. Please CALL Leader, SANDY ELLIS, 909-867-7115 to check on weather or with your questions.
MOUNTAINS GROUP

NOV 21 (SAT) 8:00 AM SPLIT ROCK LOOP & EAGLE CLIFF MINE HIKE
BEGINNERS WELCOME! This day of hiking is a great introduction to the Joshua Tree National Park. See unique Park rock formations: The Tooth, Tulip Rock and Face Rock all in a tight trail loop of (2.4 miles) in the morning. Following a lunch break, we will climb 340' to visit an old miner's hideaway isolated in a rocky fortress of massive boulders with high views of the surrounding desert. We will visit two abandoned mines in the process. This is a 2.5 mile round-trip hike. It should be a fun day and be sure to bring your camera! The total hiking mileage for the day is estimated at 5.0 miles. RATED: Easy/Moderate MEET: At the Joshua Tree Park Blvd Visitor Center at 8:00 a.m. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, and sun protection, 2-liters of water, lunch, and \$5 for possible entrance fee. CALL: For reservations, Ed Caliendo, Hiking Leader at (760) 328-1090 or dogs111@msn.com
BIG BEAR GROUP

NOV 21 (SAT) 8:30 AM PCT: CAJON SUMMIT TO I-15 HIKE
Come hike the PCT in Cajon Pass and learn about the John Brown Toll Road. This will be a shuttle hike from the road at the top of Cajon Pass down the PCT to the I-15. RATING: This is an easy 3 mile downhill hike. MEET: Hikers meet at the McDonald's near the 138 off of the 15 freeway at 8:30 AM. From there we will carpool to the top and then hike down. BRING: 2 liters plus of water, sun protection, and snack/lunch. WEAR: layered clothing and comfortable hiking shoes/boots. For more information or questions, contact: HIKE LEADER, QUINTIN LAKE Phone: (951) 315-7691 or Email: qlake15@gmail.com
MOJAVE GROUP

NOV 22 (SUN) 8:00 AM SUGARLOAF MOUNTIAN HIKE
This is one of the five peaks of Big Bear hike. Those achieving all five will be awarded a commemorative patch. Compared to most other Big Bear trails, this one starts in a relatively moist dense and lush green forest. As we steadily move up toward the peak where there is a noticeable change in greenery and terrain. RATING: Strenuous with a 2,200 feet elevation gain. It is a ten-mile in and out hike. BRING: The ten essentials including layered clothing, a good pair of hiking boots, trekking poles, snack and lunch, sunglasses, sun block and three liters of water. MEET: Vons parking lot at 8:00 AM. RESERVATIONS: Bad Weather Cancels, but contact the Hike Leader to confirm cancellation. Contact Hike Leader Peter Michelsen at petermichelsenor@gmail.com
BIG BEAR GROUP

NOV 22 (SUN) 8:30 AM HORSETHIEF FLATS AND ROUND MOUNTAIN HIKE
If you are looking for an interesting hike that you haven't done before, this moderate to strenuous 8-mile hike is for you. Good views of the Bighorn Mountain Wilderness. We will meet at the Vons parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 8:30 AM and at Cactus Flats at 9:00 AM. BRING: Ten essentials, 2 liters of water and snacks Snow could cancel. For information and RESERVATIONS please call hike leader Ed Wallace (909 584 9407) to confirm or e mail him at rushewallace@yahoo.com.
BIG BEAR GROUP

NOVEMBER 23 – NOVEMBER 29
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

NOV 24 (TUE) 7:00 PMSAN 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, ruizmaryann@gmail.com, (909) 815-9379
CHAPTER

NOV 26-29 (THU-SUN) BASIN & RANGE THANKSGIVING TOUR
Tour our newest national monument in southern Nevada. Comprising 700,000 acres, Basin and Range National Monument highlights the basin and range topography with Great Basin dry dusty valleys and rocky, wooded ridges. Archaeological sites and the modern City landscape-scale construction by artist Mike Heizer are preserved here for posterity. We'll tour the area mostly by vehicle, with some hiking. Expect primitive camping sites with no amenities. Contact David von Seggern, Chair, Toiyabe Chapter, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net, 775-303-8461.
TOIYABE CHAPTER

NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 6
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

DEC 1 (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

DEC 2 (WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ED CALIENDO, dogs111@msn.com 760-442-4103
BIG BEAR GROUP

****DEC 3 (THU) 9:00 AM CHANTRY FLAT HIKE**
This will be a moderately strenuous 10-mile loop hike from Chantry Flat, through Sturtevant Falls, Spruce Grove & Hoegees Campgrounds, returning via Upper Winter Creek Trail. This is a very scenic trail following creeks, mostly forested, with an elevation gain of 1800 feet. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, water, lunch & snacks, sunscreen, hat, and layer clothing appropriate for the weather. Adventure Pass is required for parking at trailhead. CONTACT Kathy Viola to confirm and for directions to trailhead OR carpooling from Upland at 909-346-9653 or kviola826@gmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

DEC 5 (SAT) 7:30 AM LOST PALMS OASIS TRAIL, JTNPARK HIKE
The largest grove of California fan palms in all of Joshua Tree National Park lies at the end of this very nice, but dry, 4-mile trail – each way, making 8 miles total – past exposed rocks, across washes, and through chuckwalla habitat. Once arriving at the trail's end, a steep descent takes you down to the shade under the palms at the bottom of a ravine. The area is designated for day use only to protect the resident desert bighorn sheep. Elevation changes constantly as you hike up and down several ridges, over hills, and across rocky slopes, all with interesting geology. Total elevation gain/loss is approximately 600-700 feet; the trail has mostly good tread with a few steep, rocky stretches, and the views are excellent, allowing a few glimpses of the Salton Sea. The trail is located near a popular campground and sign-ups will be limited to a maximum of ten hikers in order to avoid crowding. We'll have lunch at the palm oasis. RATED: Moderately strenuous, due to the nature of this very exposed, shadeless trail, and the length (8 miles). MEET: Take I-10 to Spotlight 29 Casino, Dillon Road off-ramp, and look for the TA Travel Center gas station sign. Meet in the parking lot under the TA Travel sign. We will carpool to the Cottonwood entrance of the Park since the parking area is not very large. There's an entrance fee (\$15) unless you have a Park pass. The road is paved the whole way. BRING: Plenty of water for 4-5 hours hiking in the sun, sun protection (umbrella, sun hat, sunscreen, protective clothing), lunch, snacks, possibly a warm layer, personal first aid supplies, trekking poles, and camera. WEATHER: December in the low desert can be warm or cold, so please check the forecast prior to the date. RAIN OR SNOW CANCELS. RESERVATIONS: Email Hike Leader, LJ Foster at eljyeff@verizon.net (best) or leave a message (name, contact number) at (951) 845-9440. Since the number of hikers will be limited, be sure to cancel if you cannot make it so someone else can take your place.
BIG BEAR GROUP

DEC 5 (SAT) 8:00 AM BIG BEAR PCT HIKE
This hike begins at the same Onyx summit trail head as the November 7th hike. We will head south instead of north to, of all things in the forest, a movie set animals compound. We may get lucky and see a number of animals including lions, tigers and bears not currently on stage. RATING: Moderate with a 800 feet elevation gain. It is a seven mile in and out hike. BRING: The ten essentials including a good pair of hiking boots, trekking poles, snack/lunch, layered clothing, sunglasses, sun block, hat and two liters of water. MEET: Vons parking lot at 8 AM. We will car pool to Onyx summit. Those coming up 38 through Redlands may meet us at the trail head at 8:30. LEADER: Contact Peter Michelsen at petermichelsenor@gmail.com to reserve.
BIG BEAR GROUP

DEC 5 (SAT) 8:00 AM ROUND MOUNTAIN HIKE
This moderate five mile round trip, includes a walk through the lovely Juniper Flats area of the San Bernardino Mountains. There will be a walk up Round Mountain, which is short but has a 300' elevation gain. The views from the top are quite spectacular. BRING: Water, a snack and wear strong shoes/boots. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley at 8am. LEADER: Norman Bossom 760-912-3725, coachnorm@yahoo.com.
MOJAVE GROUP

DEC 5-6 (SAT-SUN) 1:00 PM S B MTS KELLER HUT GATHERING
You are invited to join us for our annual holiday celebration at Keller Hut. You may arrive any time after 1 PM on Saturday. We provide turkey and dressing for dinner, plus tea and coffee. Please BRING a suitable potluck dish to serve six, and cold beverages, plus a “white elephant” gift to exchange. You are welcome to stay overnight, and join us for a communal breakfast, followed by a hike on Sunday AM. Overseer: DAVE BARRIE, 909-337-0313. CALL for information, and to notify him if you plan to attend.
MOUNTAINS GROUP

Continued on Page 9 >>>

****DEC 6 (SUN) 8:30 AM WOODLAND TRAIL HIKE**
Come and gain an introduction to Hiking. This is for the young, families, and seniors wishing to experience an introduction to hiking and the trees that grow in the San Bernardino Forest. The trail was constructed by volunteers in 1986, and features 20 numbered posts around the loop. A brochure at the trailhead provides historic, botanical, and geological information keyed to the sign posts. RATING: Easy, a 1.7 mile hike, with a 300' elevation change. MEET: We will meet at the Trailhead parking lot location just west the road junction of Hwy 38 and Stanfield Cutoff on the north shore of Big Bear Lake. BRING: 1 liter of water, snack, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. RESERVATIONS: To register please call Hiking Leader, Charlotte Watts at (909) 866-7423 or momsampsite@gmail.com. BIG BEAR GROUP

DECEMBER 7 – DECEMBER 13

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

DEC 8 (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

DEC 8 (TUE) 7:30 AM THE GROTTOS HIKE
The Grottos are two slot canyons nestled in the colorful Mecca Hills. They were filled with giant boulders to form a remarkable cave system. It is a good idea to bring a headlamp. The distance of the hike is a 7-mile semi-loop and 1500 ft. gain. Call leader for additional information and carpooling. Joe Whyte 909-949-0899. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

DEC 9 (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: CAROL WILEY, (760) 245-8734 <desertlily1@verizon.net> MOJAVE GROUP

DEC 9 (WED) 9:00 AM UPPER MARSHALL CANYON HIKE
This moderate rated hike goes through a convoluted 4.5 mile R/T trail with a 750' elevation gain at the loops 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, hiking sticks and layered clothing. Please call to confirm by 5:00 PM Dec. 8. LEADER: JEFF WARHOL (909) 985-7686 or e-mail jmwandjjw@hotmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

DEC 10 (THU) 4:30 PM HIDDEN SPRINGS HIKE
Moderate 4-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 the wooded arroyo. We start promptly at 5:30 p.m. Bring flashlight, water and sturdy shoes. MEET: Hidden Springs School, 9801 Hidden Springs Dr., Moreno Valley. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADER: Christina (951) 318-7503 or cmt.teck@gmail.com. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

DEC 10 (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

DEC 11-12 (FRI-SAT) 9:00 AM EAST MOJAVE CAR CAMP/HIKE
This two day car camping and hiking trip will explore the geology and ecology of a few of the special highlights of the East Mojave Preserve. We will hike along a lava flow and up to the summit of a cinder cone, explore a lava tube, hike in the Granite Mtns and to the top of the Kelso Dunes. We will dry camp in the open desert. Rain MAY cancel. Email trip leader for more detailed trip information including recommended camping supplies. MEET: 9:00 AM Friday, Dec 11 RESERVATIONS and INFORMATION: contact Brian Elliott, trip leader, for additional trip information, to confirm your participation and for directions to the Friday morning meeting place. Carpooling is suggested. CONTACT Brian Elliott at 909-241-8036 or b10elliott@gmail.com or brianelli@aol.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

DEC 12 (SAT) 8:00 AM SANTA ANA RIVER BOTTOM BIRD WALK
MEET: at Sierra Club Office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside 92501. Leader: BILL ENGS (909-338-1910). Bill will guide you to the birds. Distance: 3 mi. RT. Breakfast at local restaurant after walk (optional). MOUNTAINS GROUP/NAT SCI

DEC 12 (SAT) 8:30 AM PAINTED CANYON/LADDER CANYON LOOP HIKE
This is a MUST hike! The Painted Canyon and Ladder Canyon Loop are located in the northeast corner of the Coachella Valley within the Mecca Hills. This hike cuts through twisted and exotic Painted Canyon and the hiker uses a series of ladders to climb the Painted Canyon area. This is a 5.0 mile hike taking 4 to 5 hours to complete the loop. RATING: Easy/moderate. MEET: Take I-10 to Spot Light 29 Casino, Dillon Road off-ramp and look for TA Travel Center gas station signage. Meet in parking lot under the TA Travel sign. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, 2-liters of water, lunch/snack, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. Hikers should wear long pants or 2-in1 pants. RESERVATIONS: Call Hike Leader, Ed Caliendo (442) 242-4103 or dogs111@msn.com. BIG BEAR GROUP

DEC 12 (SAT) 8:30 AM AROUND HISTORIC BOWEN RANCH HIKE
Join us for an interesting hike exploring parts the Juniper Flats Area near Bowen Ranch. This is a hidden, local area treasure, enjoy the magnificent views of San Bernardino Mountains above Deep Creek. We will be using some quiet dirt roads, single track trails and a little cross country hiking with small climbs. Trailhead is off Juniper Flats Road near Bowen Ranch. Bowen Ranch Road is county maintained, but the short section on Juniper Flats Road is not maintained and can be rough, but not steep. High clearance vehicle is recommended. RATED: Moderate 6-7 mile round trip hike. BRING: layered clothing, 3 liters of water, snacks, camera and hiking poles, wear sturdy hiking shoes. Don't forget your camera and binoculars! MEET: 8:30 am Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley, CA 92308. LEADER: CAROL STUFFLEFIELD, yorkshirerose1@juno.com 760-964-0039 or JENNY WILDER, Jensoasis@aol.com 760-220-0730. MOJAVE GROUP

DECEMBER 14 – DECEMBER 20

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

DEC 15 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except August. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. The September meeting will be held at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens in Claremont and not at the church. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <RUIZMARYANN@GMAIL.COM> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

DEC 16 (WED) 4:30 PM TERRI PEAK HIKE
Difficult 4-mile round trip 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: Christina Torres (951) 318-7503 or cmt.teck@gmail.com. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

DEC 18 (FRI) 9:00 AM SB MTS, GREEN VALLEY LAKE SNOWSHOE OR HIKE
We will snowshoe or hike depending on the weather. Green Valley Lake has some of the best snow in our local mountains, so come and join me for a day of fun. No prior snowshoe experience is necessary--it is not difficult to learn--just another form of hiking. You need to provide your own equipment. MEET: across from the post office and general store in Green Valley Lake at 9 AM. WEAR layered clothing, BRING: No need to bring lunch just a snack and water. Leader: SANDY ELLIS. 909-867-7115, <fsellis67@gmail.com>. Please CALL to check on weather conditions. If no snow, we will hike. MOUNTAINS GROUP

DEC 19 (SAT) 7:30 AM LOST HORSE MINE LOOP TRAIL JTNP HIKE
This hike takes you past the abandoned stamp mill of the Lost Horse Mine about 2 miles from the parking area, then climbs a small ridge for some really great views of Joshua Tree National Park, including Pleasant Valley and volcanic Malapai Hill. From there, we'll descend past a few smaller claims, up another ridge, and across pinyon/juniper habitat which leads to a fairly flat wash lined with joshua trees and nolina. This is an 8.4 mile loop hike so we'll end where we park without backtracking. RATING: Moderate due to relatively rough trail segments. MEET: We will meet at the Joshua Tree Visitor Center, 6554 Park Blvd, Joshua Tree, CA 92252 in the parking lot at 7:30 AM. BRING: Ten essentials, layered clothing, 3 liters of water, lunch, snacks, sun protection, sunglasses, and trekking poles. Rain or snow cancels. RESERVATIONS: Email Hike Leader, L.J. Foster eljayeff@verizon.net or call and leave a message at (951) 845-9440. BIG BEAR GROUP

DEC 19 (SAT) 8:00 AM WEST FORK OF THE MOJAVE RIVER HIKE
This easy six mile round trip takes us along the historic west fork of the Mojave River. This

Continued on Page 10 >>>



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Rates are based on an average circulation of 5,500 per issue. The Chapter member subscription is included in membership dues. Subscriptions rates for non-members is \$9.00 for six issues. Single copies are \$1.50. The newsletter is published and distributed on or before the 1st of the month, six times each year beginning January 1st.

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 9

area has an abundance of large trees and a variety of shrubs and wildlife. There will be a short commentary relating to the history of the area. The natural beauty of this area is not to be missed. BRING: Water, a snack and wear strong shoes/boots. MEET: Victor Valley Museum at 8:00 am. LEADER: Norman Bossom 760-912-3725, coachnorm@yahoo.com

MOJAVE GROUP

DEC 20 (SUN) 8:00 AM GOLD MOUNTAIN HIKE

This is a peaks of Big Bear hike. Those achieving all five peaks will be awarded a commemorative patch. This hike starts at the intersection of the PCT and Holcomb Valley Rd. Warm up on the gentle and gradual ascent on the PCT and then be prepared for the relatively strenuous access road route that completes the hike to the peak. See abandoned mining operations and hear some history of gold prospecting here. Take in views of the valley, lake, Sugarloaf and the high desert. RATING: Moderate with 1,300 feet elevation gain. This is a seven mile in and out hike. BRING: The ten essentials including layered clothing, a good pair of hiking boots, trekking poles, sunglasses, sun block, snack/lunch, hat and two liters of water. MEET: Vons parking lot at 8 AM. We will car pool to the trail head. Those coming up the back way on 18 can meet us at the trail head at 8:30 on Holcomb Valley rd. LEADER: Contact hike leader Peter Michelsen at petermichelsenor@gmail.com to reserve.

BIG BEAR GROUP

DECEMBER 21 – DECEMBER 31

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

DEC 22 (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, ruizmaryann@gmail.com, (909) 815-9379

CHAPTER

JANUARY 1 – JANUARY 10

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

JAN 5 (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

JAN 6 (WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING

The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ED CALIENDO, dogs111@msn.com 760-442-4103

BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 7 (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



Lawsuit Targets Sprawling Southern California Mega-warehouse Project

40 Million Square-foot Logistics Center Will Add 14,000 Truck Trips Per Day, Worsen Pollution, Harm Wildlife

MORENO VALLEY, Calif.— Environmental justice and conservation groups sued the Southern California city of Moreno Valley today over its approval of the World Logistics Center, a sprawling 40-million-square-foot warehouse project that would add 14,000 truck trips to town every day, worsen already poor air quality and harm birds and other wildlife in the nearby San Jacinto Wildlife Area.

The lawsuit follows the South Coast Air Quality Management District, Riverside County Transportation Commission and Riverside County's decision to file lawsuits challenging the warehouse project because of the severe air pollution and traffic problems it will bring to the region.

"To bring this much additional traffic without any mitigation to an area with some of the worst air pollution is criminal," said Penny Newman, executive director of the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice. "Thousands of studies have demonstrated that air pollution harms people, especially children. Strokes, heart disease, asthma and other respiratory diseases, including lung cancer and even low birth weight and birth defects are linked to air pollution, yet this plan has no mitigation measures in place to address these preventable impacts."

The warehouse project was approved by the city in August 2015. Today's lawsuit

in Riverside County Superior Court challenges Moreno Valley's failure to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act when reviewing the proposed project and its substantial impacts on nearby communities and wildlife. Despite recognizing that the project's significant contributions to worsening air quality, increased traffic congestion and climate change, the city required only meager steps to reduce those harms.

About the size of 700 football fields, the World Logistics Center is expected to generate 400,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually and have more than 14,000 truck trips to the site every day. Those trucks would be transporting goods more than 80 miles from the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach to Moreno Valley, often on two-lane roads that are already congested.

"SR-60, its overpasses, Gilman Springs Road as well as roads within Moreno Valley will become even more clogged and dangerous by the World Logistic Center's more than 14,000 daily toxic diesel truck trips and 50,000 cars," said George Hague, conservation chair of Sierra Club's Moreno Valley Group. "They are not even willing to agree in writing that they will pay their fair share of improvements to these roads as requested several times by

Continued on Page 11 >>>

Santa Margarita Group

By Teri Biancardi

Voter Instructions

Please indicate your vote on this ballot, cut out and mail so it is received by November 24, 2015, at noon.

Mail to: Sierra Club, Santa Margarita Group
31915 Rancho California Road, Ste. 200-133
Temecula, CA 92591

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

Santa Margarita Group, Executive Committee

(Please vote for 4 or fewer):

Teri Biancardi-Wagner

Elena Garcia

Pam Nelson

Laurie Webster

For biographical information on these candidates, please visit our web site: www.sierraclubsmg.org and/or www.facebook.com/SierraClubSantaMargaritaGroup

The Santa Margarita Group kicked off its new lecture season with a focus on wolves. The California Wolf Center, just up the road in Julian, is dedicated to the recovery of these animals in their natural wildlands and in September they came to tell us all about their work. They described the amazing transformation of Yellowstone National Park after the reintroduction



at the Julian Music Festival on September 19th. And we partnered with the San Diego Chapter which offered an unusual chance for camaraderie between chapters.

Our group is busy planning several events on the new Murrieta Creek Trail, one of which will be an Evening Earth Day walk. Following our award for our work on this new 16 mile stretch from the California Trails and Greenways conference last year, our President Pam Nelson is now working to help set up this year's event in Riverside on April 6-8, 2016.

Our environmental science teacher workshop met for a great day at Vail Lake, in which participants had an



of wolves from an eroded landscape and a low diversity of wildlife. A few weeks later we visited the center, and our group had a chance to observe both Rocky Mountain and Mexican wolf packs. Our guide emphasized how critically important these animals are to a healthy and sustainable ecosystem. The wolves are absolutely magnificent animals and we spent a wonderful hour or so just watching and learning about these special creatures.

We've got a great roster of speakers already lined up for the upcoming year. October will feature the one and only barefoot, mandolin-playing Joel Robinson, an environmental educator and tireless activist for the preservation of the Santa Ana mountains ecosystem.

We continue to build our relationships with local environmental groups. Also in October we will host a fundraiser for our partner, Friends of Palomar State Park and our Christmas party will raise money for the projects at the Santa Rosa Plateau. We supported the CA Wolf Center by tabling

opportunity to explore the riparian area and share curriculum ideas, while hearing about local mountain biking projects and from Temecula's Councillor Matt Rahn about the City's ongoing efforts to become a more walkable and ride-able city.

Vail Lake is of real interest to our group. Having recently been acquired by the Rancho California Water District, we are following carefully their plans for a new resort at the site.

Now that it's finally beginning to cool, our hiking leaders are planning some great walks, so we're looking forward to getting on our boots and getting out of doors.

Our Santa Margarita Group General Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of every month, except in July and August, at the Temecula Valley Library, 30600 Pauba Road, Temecula starting at 6:00 PM.

Dirty Air And The Petro-Legislators

By Jono Hildner, San Gorgonio Chapter Political Chair

Even before the California legislators returned to Sacramento from their summer recess on August 17, the Sierra Club and other environmental groups were concerned about a small number of Democrats in the San Gorgonio Chapter area who might not be as environmentally friendly as they could be.

Senate Bill 350 had easily passed the Senate by a vote of 24 to 14 on June 3 and moved to the Assembly. This bill, SB 350, was probably the most important piece of environmental legislation to ever be considered by the California Legislature. In essence, it would have done three things: 1) Require that the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) be increased from 33% in 2020 to 50% in 2030; and 2) Increase the energy efficiency in buildings by 50% by 2030; and 3) Reduce the amount of petroleum used in the state by 50% by 2030.

During the recess, we became concerned that four of our Assembly Members might balk at the 50% reduction in petroleum use and our organizers paid visits to those members' offices to nail down commitments to vote for SB 350. Asm. Eduardo Garcia, who represents the eastern Coachella Valley and all of Imperial County, was equivocal at first, but after a concerted effort by our organizer, Mina Barragan to get lots of calls, tweets and emails into his office, Garcia saw the light and agreed to support the Bill. Members Freddie Rodriguez, Jose Medina, and Cheryl Brown were a whole different matter. They were calling themselves "moderate Democrats," but a look at their campaign finance reports showed a whole lot of petro-dollars from a wide variety of sources. They would not commit to support and expressed the same line given to them by Big Oil, that the 50% reduction in petroleum use might help the air, but would place a huge burden on lower income people in their districts and would lead to a huge loss of jobs. They

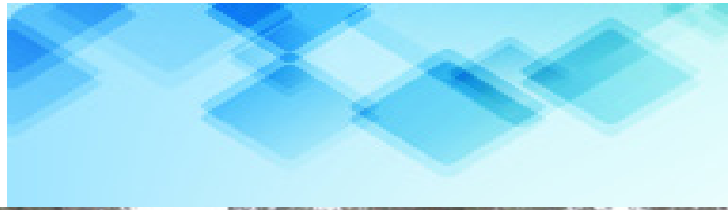
also claimed that they were getting huge numbers of constituents calling in asking them to oppose, based on the scare tactic TV ads paid for by Big Oil.

That's when Sierra Club of California found some Political Action Committee money to fund Allen Hernandez and his

own neighborhoods. Getting nowhere, they cranked it up several notches.

For example, with 16 activists, in one day, in Cheryl Brown's district, they knocked on 227 doors, gathered 117 petition signatures, put out over 75 lawn signs that included lining the route

Brune sent an email to Kathryn Phillips and our Chapter organizers, thanking them for all their work and suggesting that they had created a model that could be used by other Chapters across the country. While these efforts were not enough to overcome



Allen Hernandez, Marina Barragan and Jason Martinez deserve huge praise for their efforts.

team of organizers; Mina Barragan in the east Coachella Valley and Jason Martinez in the Metro area. These folks recruited volunteers and jumped on the issue with both feet. They mounted a special effort in each of the districts. They recruited constituents to meet with the member or staff and explain exactly why this legislation was needed. They answered every one of the scary myths promoted by Big Oil and constantly talked about what some of the nation's dirtiest air was doing to the health of the young and the old in their

Cheryl Brown drives from her home to her office. All this in 104 degree weather. They took similar actions in Medina and Rodriguez' districts and before they were done by early September, 85 activists had been involved collecting more than 1000 petition signatures, putting up 250 lawn signs, making 9 office visits and over 250 emails and tweets. All this effort resulted in 21 recorded media hits regarding these efforts.

On September 4, before heading out for a long Labor Day weekend, Michael

the amount of money contributed to those members by Big Oil and the 50% petroleum reduction had to be stripped from the bill, our efforts were recognized by many, both within and outside of the Sierra Club. Enough that the Sierra Club paid for a half page ad that ran in the San Bernardino Sun, calling out Brown, Rodriguez and Medina for putting the interests of the petroleum industry ahead of the health of their own constituents.



560 Miles of Trails!

By Ed Caliendo, Big Bear Group Chair

One of the best places to lace up a pair of hiking boots and strap on a day-pack is the San Bernardino National Forest. This is one of the oldest national forests in the United States, having been given special designation more than 100 years ago. It became the San Bernardino National Forest in 1907.

Today, the San Bernardino National Forest is a year-round recreation destination covering 679,380 acres. Two Wilderness areas within the forest include 11,800 acres at Bighorn Mountain and 56,722 acres that encompass the San Gorgonio Wilderness.

The San Bernardino National Forest has 414 miles of nonmotorized trails within its boundaries, plus 160 miles of the famous Pacific Crest Trail.



Fall is the perfect time to get back to nature in Big Bear. The leaves are turning to fall colors. With fewer people on the trails, the wildlife seems more evident. Hikers

may catch a glimpse of white pelicans, great blue herons, bald eagles, egrets, raccoons, quail, deer, and possibly a black bear.

For the more adventurous, hike the Cougar Crest Trail, Gold Mountain near Baldwin Lake, Sugarloaf Mountain, Castle Rock near the Big Bear Lake Dam, and Delamar Peak and Grays Peak in Fawnskin. On the south shore of the Lake, hike Big Bear's newest trail, the Skyline Trail, offering scenic views of the San Gorgonio Wilderness.

Look in the Calendar of this issue of the *Palm and Pine* for all the hikes offered by the Big Bear Group.

And don't miss the remaining hiking season for 2015!

Mega-warehouse . . . Continued from Page 10

Caltrans, Riverside County Transportation Commission and the residents of Moreno Valley."

The World Logistics Center is also adjacent to the San Jacinto Wildlife Area, which is home to many threatened and endangered wildlife and plants, including the Los Angeles pocket mouse, California golden eagle, numerous hawk, raptor and other bird species including the burrowing owl, tricolored blackbird and endangered San Jacinto crownscale. The project area itself is one of the best raptor habitats in the state.

"Birds have already been negatively affected by the glare from the existing warehouses in Moreno Valley. The WLC will increase that impact to another order of magnitude," said Drew Feldmann, conservation chair of the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society.

"We don't need yet another sprawling mega-project that makes our air dirtier, our climate hotter and our roads more

congested," said Aruna Prabhala, staff attorney at the Center for Biological Diversity. "It's disappointing to see the city of Moreno Valley ignore the impacts this project will have on the climate, wildlife and local residents. They deserve better."

"What is especially disturbing about this project is how its environmental and public health impacts cut across so many areas, and affect so many communities, from air pollution to regional traffic issues, to threatening the habitat of sensitive species," said Yana Garcia, associate attorney for Earthjustice. "We find ourselves with no other choice but to go to court and seek a more thorough environmental review."

Today's lawsuit was filed by Earthjustice on behalf of the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice, Center for Biological Diversity, Sierra Club, San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society and Coalition for Clean Air.

– Submitted by George Hague

San Gorgonio Chapter Ballot

Voter Instructions



Please indicate your vote on this ballot, cut out and mail so it is received by **November 24, 2015, at 12 noon.**
 Mail to: Sierra Club
 PO Box 708, Blue Jay, CA 92317-0708

Remember to print your name and address and sign your name on the outside of the envelope so ballots 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>San Gorgonio Chapter Ballot (Please vote for 4 or fewer)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Ladd Seekins <input type="radio"/> Kim Floyd <input type="radio"/> Joan Taylor <input type="radio"/> Mike Millspaugh</p>	<p>San Gorgonio Chapter Ballot (Please vote for 4 or fewer)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Ladd Seekins <input type="radio"/> Kim Floyd <input type="radio"/> Joan Taylor <input type="radio"/> Mike Millspaugh</p>
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First Ballot

Second Ballot (Joint Member)

• Sustainable Interior Design – Sustainability Consulting •
• Real Estate Sales Specializing in Green Homes •

Kirk Galt, MBA, LEED AP Homes
 Realtor, Sustainability Consultant

(909) 452-6333
 BRE# 01812267

Jodi Galt, LEED Green Assoc.
 Sustainable Interior Designer

(909) 279-8183

GaltGreenDesign.com

greenlivingsocal.org



Membership

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

Name _____

Address _____

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

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

Join us on December 1st Chapter Meeting as we Tour the Civil War States . . . and Beyond.

Join us on December 1st as Ladd and Gail Seekins share their photos and story of touring the Civil War states ... and beyond.

The meeting starts at 7:30 PM at the San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. It's just east of the California St. exit from Interstate 10 on the north frontage road.



Cumberland Gap within the Appalachian Mountains, near the junction of Kentucky, Virginia, and Tennessee.



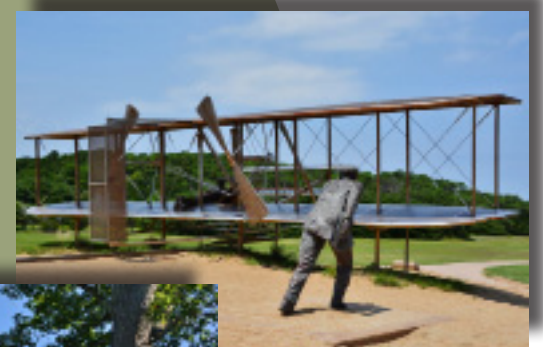
Washington-Longfellow House, Cambridge, Mass



Harpers Ferry, West Virginia



Richmond Battlefield commemorates more than 30 American Civil War sites around Richmond, Virginia



Wright Brothers: Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, and Ohio

