



Palm and Pine



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

Volume 40 Number 1

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

JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2010

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Sierra Club's New Vision for National Parks

An expanded role for our national parks.

Since its founding with the creation of Yellowstone National Park in 1872, the National Park System has grown not just in size but also in scope. Initially established to protect areas of unique natural qualities, it has expanded to set aside areas that represent significant historical events, and to provide recreational opportunities for many areas of the country. In the 21st century, national parks need to assume even more important functions.

For all their spectacle and scenic beauty, national parks are also representative of the world around them—and affected by the same influences. Protecting the parks is inextricably bound with protecting the worldwide environment.

By monitoring the natural ecosystems found in national parks we can observe how native species are responding to changes created by climate change and other human impacts. Fortunately, capable government scientists are studying what is happening in national parks and extrapolating their discoveries to broader areas outside their boundaries. National parks are like the proverbial canary in the coal mine, giving us an advance warning of what is to come in the broader world.



Great Smoky Mountains

Photo: Dreamstime.com

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Membership Meetings

Tuesday, January 5 Mt. Hood and More

San Gorgonio Chapter member Keith Watson presents *Portland, Mt. Hood and Mt. St Helens: A 33-minute slide show with music.* Keith created this program from his five-day backpack around Oregon's Mt Hood on the Timberline Trail and from other hikes in the area. The show includes spectacular views of Oregon's highest peak, glaciers, waterfalls and wild flowers, a climb up to the crater of Mount St Helens and two of the many shorter hikes in the Columbia River Gorge. Three San Gorgonio Chapter members who recently moved to the Portland area hosted Keith's trip. (See related photo on Page 10.)

Tuesday, February 2 Great Palm Springs Area Hikes

Author Philip Ferranti will present a slide program from his regional number one best-selling book: *140 Great Hikes in and Near Palm Springs.* The program will cover Joshua Tree National Park, the Mecca Hills, the Orocopia Mountain Wilderness, the Palm Springs Indian Canyons and the Santa Rosa/San Jacinto Mountains National Monument. Phillip has hiked the American and Canadian West for over 35 years. He specializes in the greater Palm Springs area, as well as Southern Utah and Colorado's Front Range. He has written ten books, seven regional best sellers and one nationally acclaimed title. He is a noted hiking guide, public speaker and the founder of Transformation Seminars. See his web site at <www.philipferranti.com>. (See related photo on Page 10.)

**Programs begin at 7:30 p.m.
at the San Bernardino
County Museum in Redlands
(California St. exit off 10 Fwy)**

Bold New Plan to Save Our State Parks

By Kim Floyd, San Gorgonio Chapter Conservation Chair

The Sierra Club has endorsed a proposed statewide ballot measure to save our State Parks and Wildlife Preserves from the terrible neglect they are now suffering. The San Gorgonio Chapter has agreed to help gather signatures to place this measure on the ballot. We urgently need you to volunteer to help gather these signatures between now and April.

For many years our State Parks and Wildlife Preserves systems have suffered continuous budget cuts. Deferred main-tenance has climbed to more than a billion dollars. This year even more drastic cuts have resulted in partial closures of State Parks and many state wildlife habitat preserves.

Problems in our State Parks, due to inadequate funding, are endless. Most serious are partial closures, which exclude the public from their own parks. Next year's additional budget cuts will undoubtedly result in even more partial closures and even permanent closures.

Perhaps worse, in the long term, is inadequate maintenance. This is obvious when run-down restrooms, shabby

campgrounds, overgrown trails, and a lack of ranger activities make a visit to a State Park a less than satisfying experience. Other problems threaten the ecological viability of our Parks even more. Invasion by non-native plants pushes out threatened and endangered plant and animal species, which are found in large numbers in our Parks and Wildlife Preserves. Inadequate patrols result in highly destructive and

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**SAVE
OUR
STATE
PARKS**

www.CalParks.org/fightclosures



CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS FOUNDATION
50 Francisco Street, Ste. 110
San Francisco, CA 94133

Chapter Awards

The San Gorgonio Chapter has four awards that are presented each year to deserving Sierra Club members. The Joe Momeyer Conservation Award is given for outstanding contributions to the conservation effort over a number of years. The Marjorie & Clark Jones Service Award is given for outstanding contributions in any and all other chapter activities over a number of years. The Alice Krueper Service Award is given for long-time service to a non-Sierra Club entity in the name of the Sierra Club. The Ralph Salisbury Outings Award is given to someone who has demonstrated a long-time commitment and made outstanding contributions to the Sierra Club outings by organizing, leading and supporting the outings program.

It is time again to look at those deserving conservationists around us and nominate these people for the upcoming awards. Please help us identify those people who have given generously of their time, talents, energy and resources for the continued work of the Sierra Club and the environment. You can make these nominations to anyone on the Awards Committee: Joan Taylor, Gail Seekins, Ed Wallace, George Hague, Dave Barrie, Dean Shimek, Bekke Estes or Carol Wiley. If you have any questions you can contact Carol Wiley, Chair of the Awards Committee at (760) 245-8734 or desertlily1@verizon.net.



Volunteers who enjoy fundraising activities and working with people, call the chapter at 951-684-6203 or contact Rick Estes at rickestes92595@gmail.com for our 2010 activities.

Palm and Pine Advertising

Display Advertising Rates (Black and White)
Palm and Pine pages are 9-1/2 inches wide by 14-1/2 inches deep. There are four columns per page. Each column is 2-1/4 inches wide. Display Advertising is charged at a rate of \$12.50 per column inch.

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 Classified advertising is accepted to a maximum of 8 lines (about 45 characters to the line).

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

Submission
 E-mail copy directly to ralphsalisbury@att.net
 Send payment to: Sierra Club, San Gorgonio Chapter, 4079 Mission Inn Ave, Riverside, CA 92501. Please note that payment is for Palm and Pine advertising and make Attn: Ladd Seekins. Payment must be received by treasurer prior to deadline. Allow at least two (2) weeks.



Preserve The Future

Not everyone can make a large gift to protect the environment during their lifetime, but you can preserve the environment for generations to come by remembering the Sierra Club in your will.

There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter. For more information and confidential assistance, contact:

John Calaway
 Director, Gift Planning
 85 Second Street, 2nd Floor
 San Francisco, CA 94105
 (800) 932-4270
 planned.giving@sierraclub.org

Western Wilderness Conference 2010

Sierra Club, California Wilderness Coalition, and Northwest Wilderness and Parks Conference are the principal planning organizations, and also represented on the planning committee are The Wilderness Society, Great Old Broads for Wilderness, Desert Survivors, Audubon California, Tuleyome, and Californians for Western Wilderness.

Although the event will take place in California's San Francisco Bay Area, wilderness organizations and advocates from all twelve western states, including Alaska, are involved, and wild lands advocates from all those states are enthusiastically invited to participate in this grand event.

Check the conference website: www.westernwilderness.org

Here are the main goals of Western Wilderness Conference 2010:

- To launch and promote (for those already launched) at least one dozen new wilderness campaigns throughout the West.
- To inspire interested new advocates to help preserve our nation's remaining wild places.
- To re-inspire longtime dedicated wilderness advocates to vigorous new advocacy with renewed motivations, based in part on changing prospects for the Western and even the global environment.
- To offer a forum for discussion and debate about timely wilderness-related topics, particularly as they relate to changes noticed or anticipated due to global warming. For example:
 - How does climate change re-prioritize efforts to set aside undeveloped land from urban/residential/industrial or recreational development?
 - How can a "Resilient Habitats" initiative be used to establish broad connected protected wildlife habitat corridors to facilitate movements of wildlife affected by changing climate?
 - How much human interference is justified within designated wilderness to mitigate impacts on wildlife of changing climates?
- To involve like-minded land management agency personnel and share concerns and solutions about managing wildlands in an age of global warming;
- To explore topics not traditionally included in wilderness discussions.

For example:

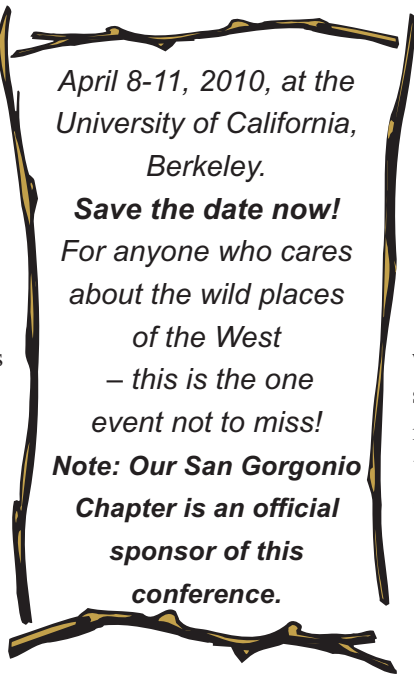
- How to involve new communities, such as westerners of Hispanic or Asian background, in wilderness efforts;
- How to incorporate the traditional landethic and historic cultural values of Native Americans into wilderness discussions and wilderness proposals;
- How to get attention to a new area of wilderness: ocean wilderness – protecting significant marine reserves offshore – because our oceans and their wildlife are gravely threatened;
- To highlight the historical background of land-preservation efforts, to remind a

newer generation of advocates of the important work that came before them and the rich tradition on which they can build the future.

- To work with Quiet Recreation groups to empower them to assert positively the rights of quiet recreationists over motorized users in potential wilderness areas.
- To promote programs to connect children to Nature; to get children *outside* into wild *places!*
- To promote and publicize "green business" efforts.
- To offer training sessions for activists to help them become more effective advocates for land preservation.
- And to have fun! Speakers, plenary sessions, workshops, music, meals, outings! It's all part of the celebration of the West's wild places. Berkeley, California. April 8–11, 2010.

Who's invited: long-time wilderness advocates, both professionals and volunteers, as well as new advocates; Native American leaders, academic and agency personnel, outings leaders, individuals, representatives of organizations working on quiet recreation and on varied types of land-preservation efforts, decision makers at different levels of government. We will conduct special outreach to attract college students and members of minority communities and organizations, such as National Hispanic Environmental Council.

Where will they come from: geographic focus is California, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and Wyoming, with outreach as well to Western Canada and Mexico.



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 There is a membership coupon in this issue. You can also contact the Membership Chair (see Chapter Executive Committee Directory this issue) or the Sierra Club office in San Francisco (415) 977-5663.

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Group News

Los Serranos Group

by Doris Aschke and Marian Nichols

Grady Parks, a long-time member of the Los Serranos Group, died on Friday, November 27, 2009, after a long battle with cancer. He had a wonderful sense of humor; he was always ready with a good comeback or a joke and — oh, how he enjoyed a good debate! He was well read on a myriad of subjects, although his favorite reading subjects were the Civil War, Genealogy, and Biblical History.

A widower, he was a dedicated “papa” to his three sons, six granddaughters and one grandson. He had a towering presence, a dapper mustache, and an enviable head of white hair. He was easily recognized by his wide suspenders. He was always ready to help a friend in need at the drop of the hat. Grady was not only an avid hiker, but also a long time Excom member and as an over ten years’ Treasurer, “a conscientious keeper of LSG finances.” He was such a good person, upbeat and friendly, kind, considerate — a very special man. He was a dear man. I remember Grady as a wonderful, steady person, ExComm member, and an avid hiker. Another attribute was his glorious singing voice to add to LSG musical programs.

Memorial services for this former Marine were held at the Riverside National Cemetery on December 29, 2009. Due to this time of war, the service was short and held in a shelter at the cemetery.

Grady’s friends who contributed their memories to this article were Letty French, Mary Ann Ruiz, Karen Chapman, Doris Aschke and Marian Nichols. He was truly a “treasure” and will be missed by Sierra Club members, Los Serranos Group members, and Audubon Society members.

This article was composed by Doris Aschke [dorisincuca@charter.net], and Marian Nichols [marianinupland@hotmail.com].

The family requests not to make a donation in Grady’s memory to the SC foundation or his home group.



Mountains Group

by Dave Barrie

In August the Group gathered at Shady Cove Group Campground for its annual summer car camp. Members set up camp on Friday and enjoyed a campfire after dark. On Saturday four people hiked a 9-mile round trip on the Exploration Trail from the bottom. Back at camp, after a Group ExCom meeting, more people arrived for our potluck dinner and remained until after dark to attend the campfire. On Sunday those who stayed overnight feasted on pancakes in the morning. After breaking camp, they walked the Children’s Forest Trail nearby.

On the first Saturday of October, Heather Sargeant led 17 people to the summit of Sugarloaf Mountain (elev. 9,952). The trail from the north side passes through green riparian areas before ascending the drier upper slope. We had a rest stop when we reached the ridge where the trail joins with two others leading to the peak. As we started on the trail to the summit, we passed by several magnificent, large, old Western Juniper trees. Then we saw some unusually large Mountain Mahogany trees, some growing out of rock outcropping. The trail seemed to go on forever, dipping down into a saddle before the last climb to the top. To make it more challenging, walking along a large portion of this upper section was like navigating a dried streambed, filled with golf ball sized rocks. All made it to the summit for lunch. The descent on the rough upper portion of the trail was a bit tedious. The weather was clear, cool and windy. It was quite agreeable. When we got to the bottom, we saw large clouds of smoke over Baldwin Lake, smoke that was drifting from a fire at Lytle Creek.

On the following Saturday, Bill Eng led a hike on the Pacific Crest Trail to Holcomb Camp. Bill checked maintenance needs along the four miles to Holcomb Creek. The weather was pleasant. We had lunch along the creek and noticed a generous flow of water. We found yellow Rabbit Brush, red California Fuchsia and purple Mountain Asters still in bloom.

Then on the next Saturday, Billie Wolff led a group along the Pacific Crest Trail in the other direction to Devil’s Hole. Again the weather was pleasant and we enjoyed splendid views of yellow foliage on trees bordering Deep Creek below.

In November Billie led a hike up and down the Exploration Trail on Keller Peak. The trail was constructed by young people of the Children’s Forest and is a favorite hike for the Mountains Group. Seventeen hikers showed up to enjoy a beautiful day. Happy voices

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Mojave Group

by Jenny Wilder

The Mojave Group looks forward to some good winter hiking in the desert, and our Outings Chair continues to include some Youth in the Desert hikes. Please see the calendar section.

Uncontrolled off road riding continues to damage public and private lands throughout the desert. I visited Stoddard Valley OHV open area on the Friday of Thanksgiving weekend. Entering via Stoddard Wells Road from Apple Valley, I found hundreds, if not thousands of people camping and riding every imaginable OHV all around. Trouble is, this staging began miles before the entry to the OPEN Area, on private property and some BLM “limited use” lands. There was one lone BLM “limited use” sign that said “no camping” and “no cross country travel” which was totally ignored. The only evidence of the actual entry to the Open area was a white carsonite marker which proclaimed the “Open Area Boundary.” Stoddard Wells Road, as far as I can tell is a street legal vehicle only county road, but every type of vehicle with drivers of all ages were speeding up and down this road, with a terrific amount of dust obscuring one’s vision. Once in the Open Area boundary, although the traffic on Stoddard Valley Road continued, there was a significant decrease of camping/staging! On Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend, I led a hike into Arrastre Canyon and there noted several groups of motorcycle riders on every open and closed routes, doing illegal hillclimbs, and creating new trails. I just heard that an historical site in Wonder Valley was invaded over the Thanksgiving weekend with OHV trespass and destruction of the recent National Public Lands Day clean up efforts by 100 volunteers. Please continue to write your letters to the OHMVR commission and also to the new National BLM Director, Mr. Bob Abbey, Director, Bureau of Land Management, 1849 C St, NW, Room 5655, Washington, DC 20240 about these and any other OHV problems in your neighborhood.

We are also keeping our eyes on a couple of projects that, if approved, will permanently change the quality of life for many in the Victor Valley. Perhaps not for the better:

Hacienda at Fairview Valley Project:

The draft EIR for this proposal came out in November and comments are due by December 29, 2009. We continue to follow this project which is a zone change from rural living with parcels ranging from 5, 20 and 40 acres to 3,114 residential units on 1,557 acres in the county area outside the Town of Apple Valley. You can view the draft EIR at the San

Bernardino County Land Use Services Dept in Victorville (15456 West Sage St.) or San Bernardino (385 North Arrowhead Ave) or at the County Library in Apple Valley (14901 Dale Evans Parkway). You can also locate it on the county website www.sbcounty.gov/landuseservices. Click “public notices-projects” and scroll down to Hacienda at Fairview Valley “Draft EIR.” If you have specific concerns, please let me know (JensOasis@aol.com or 760 220 0730) and you may contact Doug Feremenga at the County Planning Dept. (909) 387 4147 or dferemenga@lud.sbcounty.gov.

The High Desert Corridor:

The County of San Bernardino, County of Los Angeles, and the Cities of Adelanto, Victorville, Apple Valley, Lancaster, and Palmdale have formed a Joint Power Authority (JPA) to develop a new freeway/expressway from SR14 to I-15. The City of Victorville has received federal funds to develop a portion of this corridor from US395 to I15 and on through to SR18 and preliminary engineering and environmental studies are underway. Visit the City of Victorville website for details. (<http://ci.victorville.ca.us/Site/CityServices.aspx?id=310>). The JPA will combine the many separate efforts currently underway into one combined project. Status of the project can be found on the web at http://www.sbcounty.gov/dpw/transportation/high_desert_corridor.asp and by attending a variety of public and technical advisory meetings and JPA board meetings (to be announced?). The High Desert Corridor/E220 is officially designated in Section 1305 of SAFETEA-LU (money available to provide for truck parking-see below) as a High Priority Corridor on the National Highway System from Los Angeles to Las Vegas via Palmdale and Victorville.

One site I visited suggested that Victorville’s work on the section that would run through Apple Valley might start as soon as 2012. This would make a freeway connecting I-15 to Hwy 18 near Dead Man’s Point. This looks more and more like a freeway to accommodate ever increasing truck traffic through our communities, and less and less like a project that will ease congestion for the commuter and local traffic. I find no evidence to evaluate alternatives for moving goods such as rail, even though there seem to be railway corridors that might be used.

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Group News

Moreno Valley Group

by Ann McKibben

The Riverside County Planning Commission approved the Villages of Lakeview Specific Plan 342 at their December 2 meeting with a vote of 4-1. The only no vote was from Commissioner John Roth who represents District 1, Supervisor Bob Buster's district. Complaining that they had been criticized for holding five public hearings on the project, the four commission members, who voted yes on the project, touted the attention to detail and quality of design of the project by Lewis Operating Corp. The chair of the commission chided the public for complaining that the county planning department had not advocated for the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. After all, housing densities had been reduce by 200 units for the portion of the "planned" community on the southern boundary of the SJWA. Yes, 1,785 units as opposed to 1,985 units is quite a reduction and a sacrifice on the developer's part.

The Villages of Lakeview project proposes to build approximately 10,000 residential units in the communities of Lakeview and Nuevo. Approximately 1,800 units are planned on the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (SJWA), a 19,000 acre Department of Fish

density developments next to the MSHCP reserves is not a problem, is good planning and should be encouraged.

Light pollution, air pollution, damage to wildlife area lands which would harm rare and endangered plant and animal species, building adjacent to the flood plain of the San Jacinto River, collapsible soils, and loss of prime agricultural lands, economic viability of the project are some of the other concerns regarding this project. The alteration of the existing rural communities of Lakeview and Nuevo by dropping 10,000 residential units into this rural area is another major concern.

One of the new issues revealed in the public hearing process was the county planning director's presentation of the Lakeview Nuevo area becoming a 'new' city in the future. The map displayed at one of the public hearings outlined a 'future new city' and it included wildlife area lands. Not answered satisfactory were concerns about lack of local jobs, inadequate roads, air quality, availability water, light pollution, feral animals, and illegal entry by residents (and their motorized toys), destroying the rural atmosphere in the communities of Lakeview and Nuevo. Also missing were transitional, compatible land uses adjacent

Project planner is Matt Straite, Riverside County Planning Department at (951) 955-8631. You can e-mail the Moreno Valley

which we hope will be on the ballot in November. Please call George Hague at (951) 924-0816 for more information. The



San Jacinto Wildlife Area - October 2009

Photo by Ann McKibben

Group at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com or the Friends at: northfriends@northfriends.org if you would like more information.

If you would like to make a donation to help fight this project, make your check payable to the Sierra Club. Your donation will be used only for the expenses related to fighting this project. No amount is too small. Mail your check to the Sierra Club; P.O. Box 1325; Moreno Valley, Ca 92556-1325. **If you wish to have your donation remain anonymous, please indicate that and we will respect your wishes.** Thank you for your help.

The Moreno Valley Group held their executive committee elections last fall and the excom members for 2010 are: Chair, Mike Millspaugh; Conservation Chair, George Hague; Secretary, Ann McKibben; Membership, Theresa Carson; Treasurer, Ellen Absher. There are a number of 'issue' positions open: Fundraising Chair, Program Chair, Volunteer Coordinator, Environmental Justice, Parks/Refuges, Waste, and Wetlands. Anyone interested in volunteering for our group can e-mail us at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com or call George Hague at (951) 924-0816.

Outings Chair Theresa Carson and outings leader Dan Clark have planned some fun hikes and outings for the new year. There is a Mount Russell Hike on January 1, Conditioning Hikes on January 13 and 27, a Full Moon Hike on January 31st. To see the complete schedule, please check the group web site at: <http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org/moreno-valley/index.html> and the January February issue of the *Palm & Pine*. You can also contact Theresa at: (951) 660-7246 or tcarsen22@msn.com and Dan Clark at (951) 924-2454 or dancldr@roadrunner.com

The Moreno Valley Group is looking for a volunteer to organize an effort to collect signatures for the State Parks initiative

Chapter needs a volunteer from the Moreno Valley Group to help chapter chair Rick Estes develop fundraising projects for the Chapter. Call George Hague at (951) 924-0816 if you can help.

Due to state budget cuts, the hours and days of operation for Lake Perris State Recreation Area (LPSRA) have changed. From November 1, 2009, through March 31, 2010, the park will be open Thursday through Monday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. only. It will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday, and no camping Monday through Wednesday. Please call LPSRA at (951) 940-5600 if you have questions. Please call the Ya'i Heki' Regional Indian Museum at LPSRA at (951) 940-5656 for their new hours.

The city of Moreno Valley released the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the West Ridge Commerce Center (formerly the Ridge Property Trust project) on October 1, 2009. A public scoping meeting was held on October 28, 2009. The city has the NOP at their web site:

<http://www.moreno-valley.ca.us/> There is no information on when the draft environmental impact report will be issued. For more information contact Planner Jeff Bradshaw at (951) 413-3224. Also, there is no new information on the ProLogis Project, a 2 million square foot warehouse project proposed between Moreno Beach Drive and the Quincy Channel on the south edge of Highway 60. Planner for the project is Jeff Bradshaw at (951) 413-3224.

The city of Moreno Valley has already approved the 1.8 million square foot Highland Fairview Corporate Center (between Redlands Boulevard and Theodore Street). The Sierra Club has sued the city over the project. Project planner for the Highland Fairview project is Mark

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Hiking the Box Springs in Moreno Valley - Fall 2009

Photo by Theresa Carson

& Game facility. The SJWA is a cornerstone reserve in the Riverside County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan reserve system which is, in theory, supposed to preserve and protect the county's threatened and endangered species in perpetuity.

The major concerns regarding this project have always been its location next to the San Jacinto Wildlife Area, the high density of dwelling units in the area next to the SJWA and the Ramona Expressway, and the need to plan compatible, transitional land uses next to the wildlife area. Riverside County set up the MSHCP to set aside lands to preserve the county's rare and endangered species and still allow development. Apparently, having high

to the homes and ranches of those who have lived in Lakeview and Nuevo for many years.

Community members from Lakeview and Nuevo, George Hague for the Sierra Club, Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley made comments at the public hearings and asked the commission to reject the project. Only one person (a developer) spoke in favor at the December 2nd hearing. A public hearing on the Villages of Lakeview project was scheduled to be held before the Riverside County Board of Supervisors on December 15, 2009.

Agendas for the Riverside County Board of Supervisor meetings can be found at: <http://rivcocob.com/board-agendas/>

Calendar of Outings, Meetings, and Other Events

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2010

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

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Items for the March/April 2010 Calendar are due by February 1, 2010.
 FORMAT items similar to those below. Send items electronically if possible.
 OUTINGS: Send outings write-ups to your group or section Outings Chair.
 MEETINGS and other events: Send to Ladd Seekins at <ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com>

GENERAL INFORMATION, RULES AND 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

Outings occurring in the San Bernardino, Angeles, Cleveland, or Los Padres National Forests require a Forest Service "Adventure Pass" for each vehicle. These Outings will be preceded by ** in the listings that follow. 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 pass or find a ride in a vehicle with a pass, you will not be able to attend the outing. You are expected to share the cost of the daily passes equally with the others in the vehicle. A \$.50 contribution from everyone in the vehicle is reasonable for annual passes (above normal mileage contribution). Golden Eagle Passports & Golden Age Passports may be used in lieu of the Adventure Pass.

CARPOOLING 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, and Release of Liability

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

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

- I have read any rules & conditions applicable to the Outing made available to me; I will pay any costs & fees for the Outing; & I acknowledge my participation is at the discretion of the leader.
- The Outing begins & ends at the location where the Outing officially commences with leader & participants in attendance, as designated by the Sierra Club ("Trailhead"). The Outing does not include carpooling, transportation, or transit to & from the Trailhead, & I am personally responsible for all risks associated with this travel. This does not apply to transportation provided by the Sierra Club after the commencement & before the end of the Outing.
- If I decide to leave early & not to complete the Outing as planned, I assume all risks inherent in my decision to leave & waive all liability against the Sierra Club arising from that decision. Likewise, if the leader has concluded the Outing, & I decide to go forward without the leader, I assume all risks inherent in my decision to go forward & waive all liability against the Sierra Club arising from that decision.
- This Agreement is intended to be as broad & inclusive as is permitted by law. If any provision or any part of any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid or legally unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby & shall remain valid & fully enforceable.
- To the fullest extent allowed by law, I agree to **WAIVE, DISCHARGE CLAIMS, & RELEASE FROM LIABILITY, & to INDEMNIFY & HOLD HARMLESS** the Sierra Club, its officers, directors, employees, agents, & leaders from **any & all liability** on account of, or in any way resulting from Injuries & Damages, even if caused by **negligence** of the Sierra Club its officers, directors, employees, agents, & leaders, in any way connected with this Outing. I understand & intend that this assumption of risk & release is binding upon my heirs, executors, administrators & assigns, & includes any minors accompanying me on the Outing.

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

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

RECURRING MONTHLY MEETINGS

Look in Calendar for dates.

(1ST MON) 6:00 PM **SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM** **MEETING**
 Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on Feb 1, Apr 5, Jun 7, Oct 4, Nov 1, 2010. Also at Shady Cove Campground on Aug 7, 3 PM and at Keller Hut Dec 4, 3 PM. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

(1ST TUE) **LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM** **MEETING**
 Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time and place, call MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379, <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

(1ST TUE) 6:30 PM **BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM** **MEETING**
 The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

(1ST TUE) 7:30 PM **SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER** **MEETING**
 PROGRAM: See front-page notice. Afterwards, SAN GORGONIO SIERRA SINGLES will adjourn for food & drink. COST: \$1 donation requested. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS (909) 800-3911 <ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com>. CHAPTER

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

(3RD TUE) 6:00 PM **SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONS COMMITTEE** **MEETING**
 Monthly conservation meeting. The public is welcome. LOCATION: Call or email for location and directions. CONTACT: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER, (951) 767-2203, <sgardens@netzon.net> SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

(3RD TUE) 6:30 PM **BIG BEAR GROUP** **MEETING**
 Monthly meeting. 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: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

(3RD 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. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com>. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

(4TH TUE) 7:00 PM **SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM** **MEETING**
 Chapter governance meeting. (No December meeting.) PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES (951) 314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com> CHAPTER

(4TH THU) 7:00 PM **SANTA MARGARITA GROUP** **MEETING**
 Monthly meeting. The public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula 92589. INFO: JIM MITCHELL (951) 506-9607 <sierraclubsmg@gmail.com> SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

WEEKLY REOCCURRING 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 **APPLE VALLEY CONDITIONING HIKE** **HIKE**
 Please join me for a 6-mile *fast paced* conditioning walk along the Mojave River. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road in Apple Valley. BRING flashlight, jacket and comfortable walking shoes. Rainy/Foul weather cancels, so please call before hike. LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430, <Labelady@msn.com> MOJAVE GROUP

WED 7:00 PM **MOJAVE GROUP CONDITIONING** **WALK**
 MEET: Victor Valley Museum every Wednesday except second Wednesday of each month. Walks are paced for participants. Enjoy the evening air, river breeze, sunsets, stars & moon on a 3-mile walk around Jess Ranch & along the Mojave River. LEADERS: BILL SPRENG <bspreng@gte.net>, (760) 951-4520 and JENNY WILDER (760) 220-0730 <jensoasis@aol.com> MOJAVE GROUP

JANUARY 2 – JANUARY 10

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings.

(Also refer to Weekly Reoccurring Outings & Activities)

JAN 2 (SAT) 9:00 AM **SANTA ROSA ECOLOGICAL RESERVE** **HIKE**
 "New Member" hike (all are welcome though). Enjoy an easy 5 mile round trip hike to the original Adobe Ranch. Listen to a guest speaker & meet local Santa Margarita Group Leaders under the shade of ancient oak trees. Reservations & info: Leader, Bob Audibert bob.takeahike1@gmail.com, 951-302-1059. SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

JAN 5 (TUE) **LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM** **MEETING**
 Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, call MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379, <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 5 (TUE) 6:30 PM **BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM** **MEETING**
 The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 5 (TUE) 7:30 PM **SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER** **MEETING**
 PROGRAM: See front-page notice. Afterwards, SAN GORGONIO SIERRA SINGLES will adjourn for food & drink. COST: \$1 donation requested. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS (909) 800-3911 <ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com>. CHAPTER

JAN 8-10 (FRI-SUN) 11:00 AM **RED ROCK CANYON STATE PARK** **CAR CAMP**
 Join us Friday or Saturday to camp & explore more of this high desert natural & historical area north of Mojave. Hikes to White House Cliffs & the Nightmare Gulch area of the Red Cliffs Preserve are planned. Car pooling is encouraged. INFO & RESERVATIONS: LEADER BILL ENGS (909) 338-1910. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

JAN 9 (SAT) 8:00 AM **CALICO PEAK AREA** **HIKE**
 Come join other hikers for a 10-11 mile high desert hike in the Calico Peak Area (e1.4550). We will access the area via Odessa Canyon. BRING 2 to 3qts of water, sturdy boots & lunch/snacks. MEET at the BLM parking lot at 8:00 am on Barstow Rd. across from Barstow College. INFO: LEADER TERENCE MCCORKLE (760) 252-2194, (760) 412-1683 (cell) <oldhikerdude@verizon.net> MOJAVE GROUP

JAN 9 (SAT) 9:00 AM **SB MTS, PACIFIC CREST TRAIL, SILVERWOOD LAKE** **HIKE**
 As we hike 8 miles on the Pacific Crest Trail, from the park office to Cedar Springs Dam & return, we will have great views of the water & the park. Elevation gain & loss: about 500 feet. WEAR: hiking boots. BRING: water, snack, lunch, layered clothing. MEET & RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER, BILLIE WOLFF (909) 338-2534. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

JAN 10 (SUN) 7:00 AM **MIDDLE FORK LYTLE CREEK TO ICEHOUSE SADDLE** **HIKE**
 Come join us as we hike one of the few islands of sub alpine wilderness left in Southern California. This is a strenuous 12 mile RT hike with a 3600 elevation gain. We will reach the saddle on its western boundary. We will travel through varied terrain; we will start at a semi-arid chaparral then we progress through spruce & Jeffrey pine & end up in the cool high country of white fir. BRING: Hiking boots, at least 2 liters of water, jacket & gloves, lunch/snacks. DRESS in layers as it may be cold at the saddle. Unsafe conditions cancels hike. INFO & CARPOOL LEADER: AIDA TARACENA (909) 225-1505 <hikinggirl12@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JANUARY 11 – JANUARY 17

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings.

(Also refer to Weekly Reoccurring Outings & Activities)

JAN 11 (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

JAN 12 (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, <kimfloyd@fastmail.fm> (760) 249-5385. CHAPTER

JAN 13 (WED) 6:00 PM **HIDDEN SPRINGS CONDITIONING HIKE** **HIKE**
 Approximate 3.5 mile loop hike on the Hidden Springs trail & arroyo. Trail has some ups & downs but basically follows the base of the hills & then returns through the arroyo of the housing tract. BRING: jacket, flashlight, water, sturdy shoes. MEET: From 60 Fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to left at the light on Hidden Springs Drive. Follow Hidden Springs Drive to Hidden Springs School on the left. Park in the school parking lot or on the street. Rain cancels. INFO & LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 <tcarson22@msn.com> MORENO VALLEY GROUP

JAN 13 (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

****JAN 15 (FRI) 9:00 AM** **CACTUS FLATS TO HORSE THIEF FLAT** **HIKE**
 Moderate to strenuous 8-mile hike on old mining roads. Good views of the Bighorn Mountain Wilderness. MEET at the Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9:00 AM & at Cactus Flats at 9:45 AM. Adventure pass required. Snow could cancel. Call LEADER ED WALLACE (909) 584 9407 to confirm. BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 16 (SAT) 9:00 AM **ANNUAL CHAPTER PLANNING RETREAT** **MEETING**
 San Gorgonio Chapter members are welcome to attend this important meeting of chapter & group leaders. Chapter goals will be discussed & some Chapter business will be conducted, including the designation of the new Chapter Chair & other Chapter officers. PLACE: San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. Parking is accessed from the alley behind the office. TIME: 9 AM to 1 PM. Lunch will be provided. INFO & RESERVATIONS: Chapter Chair RICK ESTES (951) 314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>. CHAPTER

JAN 16 (SAT) 9:00 AM **ELDERBERRY SPRING** **HIKE**
 Join us for a 5-6 mile Juniper Flats Area hike to one of the important wildlife watering places in the Juniper Flats Area. There are some outstanding views from this hike as well as some large boulders to explore. We will check for cattle impacts to the riparian areas along the way. Cattle may be present, but are docile when not harassed (they are cows not bulls!). WEAR layered clothing, hat & BRING plenty of water/snacks. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road at 9am. LEADER: JENNY WILDER <JensOasis@aol.com> (760) 220 0730. MOJAVE GROUP

Continued on Page 6 >>>

Continued from Page 5 . . .

JAN 17 (SUN) 1:30 PM SAN GABRIEL MTNS, N. ETIWANDA PRESERVE HIKE
This hike will be part of the San Gabriel Mountains Forever East Campaign to add wilderness acreage to Cucamonga Wilderness. We will write postcards to Congressman David Dreier on a break. Cards & mailing will be provided. This will be an easy hike around the new North Etiwanda Preserve loop. About 3.2 miles round trip with about 624' elev. gain. This environmental gem is host to native wildlife & plants as well as historically significant sites. Plus the panoramic views are really "outsight." MEET: North Etiwanda Preserve Visitor Parking (Exit Interstate 210 West off Interstate 15 to Day Creek – exit right (North) & follow Day Creek to the end, turn left on Etiwanda Avenue & proceed to Visitor Parking just past the pavement) BRING: water & extra snacks; wear sturdy shoes/boots. Rain cancels. INFO: LEADER: DEAN SHIMEK <dtsierra@msn.com> (909) 899-2795 LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JANUARY 18 – JANUARY 24

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

JAN 19 (TUE) 6:00 PM SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONS COMMITTEE MEETING
Monthly conservation meeting. The public is welcome. LOCATION: Call or email for location & directions. CONTACT: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER, (951) 767-2203, <gardens@netzon.net>
SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

JAN 19 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting. 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: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 19 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
PROGRAM: James Pinter-Lucke. *Expedition to the Alaska Range*. Join us for some amazing photos & video hiking & climbing in Little Switzerland in the Alaska Range. "Flying in on May 18th we were greeted by an amazing scene & were happy to be there. The change from Talkeetna to the Pika Glacier was abrupt: spring conditions & dry ground to the middle of a glacier with snow-clad peaks all around. We spent the rest of the day setting up camp." Follow this group on a spectacular spring trip. Jim is a semi-retired professor of mathematics at Claremont Mckenna College who started climbing on Mt Hood in 1961. He has climbed in the American West, Peru, & twice in Alaska. He now prefers to be airlifted into basecamp! The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> (909) 815-9379. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 22-24 (FRI-SUN) DEATH VALLEY NP WILDERNESS RESTORATION SERVICE
Come help protect Death Valley National Park from abuse by illegal off-road traffic. This wilderness restoration project along the park's scenic eastern boundary in the Amargosa Valley involves the installation of signs, raking out of vehicle tracks & moving rocks. Work Saturday & part of the day on Sunday. Camping Friday & Saturday night will be in a Park Service camping area (no water, portable toilets). MEET late Friday afternoon, or early Saturday morning. For location, contact LEADER KATE ALLEN <kj.allen@wildblue.net> (661) 944-4056. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

JAN 23 (SAT) TENAJA FALLS TO SAN MATEO CREEK HIKE
This is a pleasant hike in the San Mateo Canyon Wilderness north & west of the Santa Rosa Plateau. Easy to moderate, 7 miles or so. BRING comfortable hiking boots, lunch & 2 quarts water. Binoculars always recommended. DRESS in layers for the weather. MEET: email leader for directions to meeting place & check your email the night before for cancellations. Indicate if you want to car-pool. LEADER: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER <rosenrager@gmail.com>
SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

JAN 24 (SUN) STIRRUP TANK, JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK HIKE
This is an interesting area we've never led a group in but have explored on our own. Some of this area is similar to the Wonderland of Rocks but spread out on a thin band running east & west. Stirrup Tank has its own parking lot, that's where we start, cutting south & then west through a maze of small canyons. The length of the hike will be determined by the common speed of the group. There are many exciting spots to exit the formations & touch back into the relatively flatland that borders the north. We'll try to make it a five to six hour hike. There is some altitude gain & some loss as well as some boulder hopping. I'm going to call this a strenuous hike just so you don't ask. Whaddya think? Up for it? Down for it? BRING boots, a lunch & at least two quarts of water as well as a layered clothes. MEET: Contact LEADERS AL & ANN MURDY (760) 366-2932 (sorry, no return calls) <al.murdy@gmail.com>
TAHQUITZ GROUP

JAN 24 (SUN) 8:00 AM PUSHWALLA PASS HIKE
Joshua Tree in winter is special. This hike takes you off the beaten track. Join us for a moderate hike, about 6 miles & 1,000 ft of elevation gain. Hiking up a sandy wash makes this a little more strenuous. This canyon is home to hundreds of quail, along with some old mine shafts & interesting rock formations. Starting at the end of Geology Tour Road, 4WD is recommended so we will carpool. If not enough 4WD vehicles, we will pick an alternate trailhead. WEAR: Sturdy shoes or boots, layered clothing. BRING: lunch & 2 liters water minimum. Rain cancels. MEET: Contact LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com>
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JANUARY 25 – JANUARY 31

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

JAN 26 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES (951) 314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>. CHAPTER

JAN 27 (WED) 6:00 PM HIDDEN LAKES CONDITIONING HIKE
Approximate 3.5 mile loop conditioning hike on the Hidden Springs trail & arroyo. The trail has some ups & downs but basically follows the base of the hills & then returns through the arroyo of the housing tract. BRING: jacket, flashlight, water, sturdy shoes. MEET: from 60 Fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to left at the light on Hidden Springs Drive. Follow Hidden Springs Drive to Hidden Springs School on the left. Park in the school parking lot or on the street. Rain cancels. INFO & LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 <tcarson22@msn.com>
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

JAN 28 (THU) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting. The public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula 92589. INFO: JIM MITCHELL (951) 506-9607 <sierraclubsmg@gmail.com>
SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

JAN 29 (FRI) 6:00 PM MOONLIGHT HIKE HIKE
Come for a 2 to 3 hour evening hike in the foothills to enjoy the "full" moon. (Actual full moon is January 29.) Hikes are moderately paced. Between 4 & 5 miles RT, 400 to 1200 ft elev. Hike locations will vary. MEET: North parking lot of U.S. Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Blvds. BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water. WEAR sturdy shoes/boots. RAIN CANCELS. INFO: LEADERS PATTY & DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 30 (SAT) YOUTH IN THE DESERT AT DEVIL'S PUNCH BOWL HIKE
Come join other youth with their parents/grandparents for an outing to the Devils Punch Bowl in Pear Blossom, CA. BRING 2 qts of water each, sturdy boots, lunch & snacks. MEET: Call for time & meeting place. Rainy/foul weather cancels outing. LEADER MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430 or email <Labelady@msn.com>
MOJAVE GROUP

JAN 30-31 (SAT-SUN) FENCING THE GOLDEN VALLEY WILDERNESS SERVICE
During the past year, a long fence has been constructed along the northern boundary of the Golden Valley Wilderness to prevent illegal motorized vehicle entry. We will assist Marty Dickes of the Ridgecrest BLM office in placing reinforcements. Our reward will be in learning a trade & in knowing that intrusions have become more difficult. For those who wish to stay over on Monday, there will be a hike up one of the nearby peaks. Car camping. Potluck dinner Saturday evening. INFO: LEADER CRAIG DEUTSCHE, (310) 477-6670 <craig.deutsche@gmail.com>
CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

JAN 31 (SUN) 6:00 PM FULL MOON HIKE HIKE
Approximate 2 hour evening hike in Sycamore Canyon to enjoy the full moon. (Actual full moon is January 29.) BRING: jacket, flashlight, water, sturdy shoes. MEET: in the Sycamore Canyon parking area on the south side of Central Ave., Riverside, between Canyon Crest Drive & the 215/60 Freeway. Rain cancels. INFO & LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 <tcarson22@msn.com>
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

FEBRUARY 1 – FEBRUARY 7

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

FEB 1 (MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Alpine Conference Room, 27236 Blue Jay Mall. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 2 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 2 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
PROGRAM: See front-page notice. COST: \$1 donation requested. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS (909) 888-0161 ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com. CHAPTER

FEB 6 (SAT) 9:00 AM SANTA ROSA ECOLOGICAL RESERVE HIKE
"New Member" hike (all are welcome though). Enjoy an easy 5 mile round trip hike to the original Adobe Ranch. Listen to a guest speaker & meet local Santa Margarita Group Leaders under the shade of ancient oak trees. Reservations & info: Leader, Bob Audibert bob.takeahike1@gmail.com, 951-302-1059. SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

FEB 7 (SUN) WILLOW HOLE BY WAY OF WONDERLAND, JTNP HIKE
This is a Joshua Tree hike we've been doing for our own pleasure but had to guess our way through the last part in Wonderland because there is only one way. We think we've got it down now enough to share. Come take your chances with us & we'll hope for a nice day. Wonderland sparkles in the sunlight. I'm going to call it strenuous. It's about a seven-hour hike depending on the group. BRING layered clothing as well as lunch, good sturdy boots & two quarts of water. MEET: Call for time and place. LEADERS ANN & AL MURDY (760) 366-2932 (sorry, no return calls) <al.murdy@gmail.com>TAHQUITZ GROUP

FEB 7 (SUN) 7:00 AM CHANTRY FLAT TO MT. ZION VIA STURTEVANT TRAIL HIKE
What a blessing that this beautiful trail was not affected by the fires! Let's hike to Mt. Zion through one of the best circle trips in the San Gabriels. We will pass across chaparral-coated slopes with beautiful canyon views, through lush conifer forest, along bubbling creeks. This is a 10 mile RT moderate hike with 1,800 elevation gain. Unsafe conditions cancels hike. BRING: Hiking boots, 2 liters of water, lunch/snacks. DRESS in layers. MEET: Call leader for carpool & meeting information. LEADER: AIDA TARACENA (909) 225-1505 <hikingirl12@gmail.com>
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEBRUARY 8 – FEBRUARY 14

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

FEB 8 (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

FEB 9 (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

FEB 10 (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

FEB 13 (SAT) SUNRISE CANYON TO MULE CANYON, CALICO MTNS. HIKE
Come join other hikers for a 10-11 mile high desert hike thru the Calico Mtns. from Sunrise Canyon to Mule Canyon. BRING 2 to 3 qts of water, sturdy boots & lunch/snacks. MEET at the BLM parking lot on Barstow Rd. across from Barstow College. INFO: Contact LEADER TERRENCE MCCORKLE (760) 252-2194, (760) 412-1683 <oldhikerdude@verizon.net>
MOJAVE GROUP

FEB 13 (SAT) 8:00 AM OLIVE MOUNTAIN RAMBLE HIKE
We'll mix on & off-trail hiking to hit ridge tops & side canyons & perhaps go by the spring in the old olive grove. Gaiters or long pants recommended. Expect "off-trail" conditions on steep but not dangerous slopes. Three hours & about 1,000 feet of gain. MEET: From the 60 freeway in Moreno Valley go north on Perris, east on Kalmia, then north on Kitching to the dead end. INFO & LEADER: DAN CLARK (951) 924-2454 <dancrlk@roadrunner.com>
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

FEB 13 (SAT) 9:00 AM COTTONWOOD SPRINGS TO STONE SPRING HIKE
This hike is in the Juniper Flats Area of Critical Environmental Concern, which is protected for its cultural values. Today, the two springs provide important water, food & shelter for wildlife & are joined by a short wash in a sheltered canyon. The hike is a loop of about 4 miles. There are also views of the mountains along the way & a possibility of raptor sightings (don't forget your binoculars!). We will check the springs for water & cattle impacts. Cattle may be present, but are docile when not harassed (they are cows not bulls!) WEAR layered clothing, hat. BRING plenty of water/snacks. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road at 9 am. INFO: LEADER JENNY WILDER <JensOasis@aol.com> (760) 220-0730. MOJAVE GROUP

FEB 14 (SUN) 1:30 PM SAN GABRIEL MTNS NORTH ETIWANDA PRESERVE HIKE
This hike will be part of the San Gabriel Mountains Forever East Campaign to add wilderness acreage to Cucamonga Wilderness. We will write postcards to Congressman David Dreier on a break. Cards & mailing will be provided. This will be an easy hike around the new North Etiwanda Preserve loop. About 3.2 miles Round Trip with about 624' elev. gain. This environmental gem is host to native wildlife & plants as well as historically significant sites. Plus the panoramic views are really outsight. BRING: water & extra snacks; WEAR sturdy shoes/boots. MEET: North Etiwanda Preserve Visitor Parking. (Exit Interstate 210 West off Interstate 15 to Day Creek – exit right (North) & follow Day Creek to the end, turn left on Etiwanda Avenue & proceed to Visitor Parking just past the pavement.) Rain cancels. INFO: LEADER: DEAN SHIMEK <dtsierra@msn.com> (909) 899-2795 LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEBRUARY 15 – FEBRUARY 21

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

FEB 15-17 (MON-WED) GOLD BUTTE INTRODUCTORY TOUR CAR CAMP
Come explore this proposed National Conservation Area in Southeast Nevada. See many beautiful & interesting sights, including petroglyphs & Joshua trees. Climb one of the areas peaks & enjoy the splendid view. Central commissary. INFO & RESERVATIONS: LEADER VICKY HOOVER (415) 977-5527 <vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org>
CNRCC WILDERNESS & DESERT COMMITTEES

FEB 16 (TUE) 6:00 PM SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONS COMMITTEE MEETING
Monthly conservation meeting. The public is welcome. LOCATION: Call or email for location & directions. CONTACT: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER, (951) 767-2203, <gardens@netzon.net>
SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

FEB 16 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting. 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: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 16 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
PROGRAM: Astronomer-photographer-author Tyler Nordgren, professor at University of Redlands, is our speaker tonight. His recently published book *Stars Above, Earth Below* is a stunning collection of photographs guiding us through the night skies in our National Parks. You won't want to miss this meeting, copies of the book will be available for sale. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ ruizmaryann@gmail.com (909) 815-9379. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEB 17 (WED) 6:00 PM HIDDEN SPRINGS CONDITIONING HIKE
Approximate 3.5 mile loop conditioning hike on the Hidden Springs trail & arroyo. Trail has some ups & downs but basically follows the base of the hills & then returns through the arroyo of the housing tract. BRING: jacket, flashlight, water, sturdy shoes. MEET: from 60 Fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to left at the light on Hidden Springs Drive. Follow Hidden Springs Drive to Hidden Springs School on the left. Park in the school parking lot or on the street. Rain cancels. INFO & LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 or <tcarson22@msn.com>. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

FEB 19 (FRI) 7:00 AM JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK HIKE
We will utilize a portion of the Boy Scout Trail on this 17-mile, moderate to strenuous hike which will take us through the Wonderland of Rocks to Willow Hole. MEET at the Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 7:00 AM. Snow could cancel. Please call to confirm hike. LEADER: ED WALLACE (909) 584 9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 20 (SAT) 8:00 AM BIRD WATCHING STROLL, LAKE SKINNER BIRDING
Easy walking in different park areas: along shore, campground & lawns, with lots of stops to find & enjoy the year-round & wintering birds. We often see 20-30 species on this walk, including a burrowing owl. We should be done by 1:00 PM. MEET 8:00 AM at the store inside the park. DRESS for the weather. BRING binoculars, water & a snack. A few pairs of binoculars will be available. RESERVATIONS: email leader to sign up, & check your email the night before for possible cancellation. LEADER: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER <rosenrager@gmail.com>
SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

Continued from Page 6 . . .

FEB 21 (SUN) 8:00 AM LAKE GREGORY WINTER BIRDS BIRDING
See wintering birds as we walk part way around the lake. Optional breakfast after. MEET: South Shore parking lot, just east of the water slide. LEADER: BILL ENGS (909)-338-1910. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEBRUARY 22 – FEBRUARY 28

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

FEB 23 (7:00 PM) SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. (No December meeting.) PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES (951) 314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>. CHAPTER

FEB 24 (WED) 6:00 PM HIDDEN SPRINGS CONDITIONING HIKE
Approximate 3.5 mile loop conditioning hike on the Hidden Springs trail & arroyo. Trail has some ups & downs but basically follows the base of the hills & then returns through the arroyo of the housing tract. BRING: jacket, flashlight, water, sturdy shoes. MEET: from 60 Fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to left at the light on Hidden Springs Drive. Follow Hidden Springs Drive to Hidden Springs School on the left. Park in the school parking lot or on the street. Rain cancels. INFO & LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 <tcarson22@msn.com> MORENO VALLEY GROUP

FEB 25 (THU) 9:00 AM PACIFIC CREST TRAIL, SILVERWOOD LAKE HIKE
As we hike 8 miles on the Pacific Crest Trail, from the park office to Cedar Springs Dam & return, we will have great views of the water & the park. Elevation gain & loss: about 500 feet. WEAR: hiking boots. BRING: water, snack, lunch, layered clothing. MEET: Call for meeting place & registration. LEADER: BILLIE WOLFF (909) 338-2534. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 25 (THU) 6:30 PM DINNER ON THE TOWN DINNER
Join us for an evening of fun & food. Your Sierra Club friends are planning another “Dinner on the Town” at a surprise location. This event to be announced on the LSG website. INFO: Contact MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEB 25 (THU) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting. The public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula 92589. INFO: JIM MITCHELL (951) 506-9607 <sierraclubsmg@gmail.com> SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

FEB 27 (SAT) YOUTH IN THE DESERT, PACIFIC CREST TRAIL HIKE
Come join other youth & their parents/grandparents for a 7-mile hike (approx) on the Pacific Crest Trail. We will hike 3 miles in one direction, take a lunch break & hike back. The actual location on the trail will be determined as the date gets closer. BRING 2 qts of water, sturdy boots, lunch & snacks. MEET: Please call for details, meeting place & time. Rainy/foul weather cancels hike. LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430 <Labelady@msn.com> MOJAVE GROUP

FEB 27-28 (SAT-SUN) MECCA HILLS CAR CAMP
Join us as we explore the Mecca Hills Wilderness Area east of Indio, CA. We will hike through the gravel washes & rocky hills to several well-known & spectacular sites. Saturday we visit Hidden Springs & the Grottos and Sunday we will explore Painted Canyon. Car camping will include the civilized amenities, potluck supper, & campfire Saturday night. LIMIT: 12 participants. INFO & RESERVATIONS: LEADER CRAIG DEUTSCHE <craig.deutsche@gmail.com> (310) 477-6670. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

FEB 28 (SUN) 6:00 PM FULL MOON HIKE HIKE
Approximate 2 hour evening hike in Sycamore Canyon to enjoy the full moon. BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water, sturdy shoes. MEET: in the Sycamore Canyon parking area on the south side of Central Ave. between Canyon Crest Drive & the 215/60 Freeway. Rain cancels. INFO & LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 <tcarson22@msn.com>. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

FEB 28 (SUN) 6:00 PM MOONLIGHT HIKE HIKE
Come for a 2 to 3 hour evening hike in the foothills to enjoy the “full” moon. (Actual full moon is February 28.) Hikes are moderately paced. Between 4 & 5 miles RT, 400 to 1,200 ft elev. Hike locations will vary. MEET: North parking lot of U.S. Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Blvds. BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water, & wear sturdy shoes/boots. RAIN CANCELS. INFO: LEADERS PATTY & DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MARCH 1 – MARCH 7

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

MAR 2 (TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETINOdd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, call DAVID THORNE, (909) 949-8046. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAR 2 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 2 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
PROGRAM: See front-page notice. Afterwards, SAN GORGONIO SIERRA SINGLES will adjourn for food & drink. COST: \$1 donation requested. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS (909) 800-3911 <ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com>. CHAPTER

MAR 6-7 (SAT-SUN) DEATH VALLEY NP EXPLORATORY TOUR
Come & experience a sample of the many wonders offered in this national park. Beginning in Shoshone on Saturday morning, we will travel north on Hwy 178 with a stop at Badwater, & easy two-mile hikes at Natural Bridge & Golden Canyon. Camp at Texas Springs (\$14/site). If time allows, drive to Zambriskie Point & Dante’s View. Sunday morning, visit the museum & visitor center in Furnace Creek, see the rare pupfish at Salt Creek, & take a two-mile hike to the highest sand dune. Possible hike into Mosaic Canyon. For those who want to stay Sunday night, camp at Stovepipe Wells (\$12/site). There is an option of primitive camping on Friday night. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER CAROL WILEY, <desertlily1@verizon.net> (760) 245-8734. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAR 7 (SUN) 8:30 AM CHINO HILLS STATE PARK HIKE
Chino Hills State Park takes you back to early Southern California. Rolling green hills, oak woodlands, rare black walnut trees & early spring wildflowers are all here to enjoy. Hike will be about 8 miles, 1,200 ft elevation gain. WEAR sturdy shoes or boots. BRING lunch & snacks, 2 liters water. Rain cancels LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FUTURE SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

MAR 13-14 (SAT-SUN) CARRIZO PLAIN FENCE REMOVAL/CARCAMP SERVICE
Come help remove fences on the Cal Dept of Fish & Game Reserve. At this time of year, the Carrizo may be turning green, & if the winter has been wet, there should be wildflowers. Work Saturday. Camp & potluck dinner that evening. Hike Sunday. BRING leather gloves, warm clothes with long sleeves & legs, dish for potluck on Saturday night. Leaders will be at Selby Camp on Friday night for those who want to arrive early. LEADERS: CAL & LETTY FRENCH, (805) 239-7338. Prefer e-mail lettyfrench@gmail.com. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAR 13-14 (SAT-SUN) GHOST TOWN EXTRAVAGANZA CAR CAMP
Come with us to this spectacular landscape near Death Valley to visit the desert leprechauns & explore the ruins of California’s colorful past. Camp at the historic ghost town of Ballarat (flush toilets & hot showers). On Saturday, do a very challenging hike to ghost town Lookout City with expert Hal Fowler who will regale us with tales of this Wild West town. Later we’ll return to camp for Happy Hour, a St. Patty’s Day potluck feast & campfire. On Sunday, a quick visit to the infamous Riley town site before heading home. Group size strictly limited. RESERVATIONS: Send \$8 per person (Sierra Club), 2 SASES, H&W phones, email, rideshare info to LEADER LYGEIA GERARD, P.O. Box 294726, Phelan, CA 92329, (760) 868-2179. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAR 14-20 (SUN-SAT) GLEN CANYON/ESCALANTE RIV BACKPACK SERVICE
Assist the National Park Service in eradicating Russian Olive from the Escalante River. Working under the direction of Park Ranger Bill Wolverton, we will gather up slash from previous service trips & burn it. Since 2000, over half of the river has been cleared. MEET in Escalante, Utah, Sunday morning, March 14, caravan out to the trailhead & hike in. Work four days, day hike one day & hike out Saturday morning March 20. Expect knee to thigh deep river crossings, overnight lows near freezing & mild temperatures during the day. Participants will be responsible for their own leather work gloves (highly recommended), food, & gear on the trail. Contact Leader Paul Plathe: 209-476-1498. Delta-Sierra Group (Mother Lode Chapter) CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAR 20-21 (SAT-SUN) PANAMINT MTNS. BACKPACK
North of Surprise Canyon on the west side of the Panamints, Hall Canyon & Jail Canyon descend into the Panamint Valley from the slopes of Telescope Peak. This will be a loop trip taking in the lower reaches of these canyons. On Saturday, we’ll hike up Hall Canyon & camp. On Sunday we’ll make our way across the dividing ridge between Hall Canyon & Jail Canyon & descend the 4WD route to the road. The canyon mouths are short enough that we won’t need to set up a car shuttle. INFO: LEADER JOHN WILKINSON (408) 876-8295 <johnfw1@mac.com> CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

APR 5-10 (MON-SAT) CARRIZO PLAIN FENCE REMOVAL/WILDFLOWERS SERVICE
This outing will include three & a half days of service to the Carrizo Plain National Monument, removing & modifying fences to allow resident pronghorn to travel more widely. This is the spring wildflower season & our schedule allows at least a day for exploring, either hiking or driving backcountry roads. With longer daylight hours there may also be time to visit sights in the monument after work. LIMIT: Because we are privileged to be staying at one of the old ranch houses, our trip is limited to 14 participants. COST & RESERVATIONS: \$30 covers five dinners. LEADER CRAIG DEUTSCHE, (310) 477-6670, <craig.deutsche@gmail.com> CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

APR 16-18 (FRI-SUN) MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE SERVICE
Come help restore an historic water feature to provide water for wildlife. The work involves protecting several springs by earthwork, stabilization work, putting up a fence & some infrastructure in & around a qanat. Staff from the Mojave National Preserve will direct our effort. A hike is planned Friday for those arriving in the morning. If the rains are good this year, there may be plenty of wildflowers. We will work all day Saturday & until noon on Sunday. There will be a ranger talk about the Preserve on Saturday evening. Camping will be rustic. RESERVATIONS & INFO: Email or call LEADER: RICH JURICICH, <rich.sac@pacbell.net> (916) 492-2181. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

APR 17-18 (SAT-SUN) OWENS VALLEY SERVICE
Project will probably be bashing tamarisk along the Owens River, but could change. Work on Saturday & enjoy the extensive birding opportunities on Sunday. Camp at Diaz Lake just south of Lone Pine. Group potluck on Saturday night. BRING all camping gear or stay in a motel in nearby Lone Pine. INFO: LEADERS CAL & LETTY FRENCH (805) 239-7338. Prefer e-mail <lettyfrench@gmail.com> CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

APR 24-25 (SAT-SUN) EXPLORING MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE CAR CAMP
Saturday morning we will hike to Teutonia Peak & out on Cima Dome. Primitive carcamp at Sunrise Rock. Sunday morning, visit the museum/visitor center at Kelso Depot & then on to hike Kelso Dunes. These dunes have various nicknames including the singing dunes & the moaning dunes due to the sounds that they often make, but whatever you call them, they are impressive. For those who want to spend another night, we can camp at the Granite Mountains. MEET Saturday morning 9:00 AM at the Teutonia Peak trailhead on Cima Road. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER CAROL WILEY <desertlily1@verizon.net> (760) 245-8734. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

APR 24-25 (SAT-SUN) E CALIFORNIA ROCK ART EXPLORATORY CAR CAMP
Comfortable spring weather is an ideal time to go exploring. On Saturday we hike to three rock art sites in the southern Owens Valley area bordering the Coso Mountains. Saturday evening potluck. On Sunday we will be escorted to the astonishing Little Petroglyph Canyon on the China Lake Naval Weapons Station. High clearance 2WD are sufficient. LIMIT: Group limit, 14 participants. EARLY RESERVATION DEADLINE: As government restrictions apply here, all arrangements & confirmations must be completed by April 1 (no joking). LEADER CRAIG DEUTSCHE (310) 477-6670 <craig.deutsche@gmail.com> CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

****JUN 5-6 (SAT-SUN) LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE**
If you have enjoyed the Chapter’s Outings program as a participant, consider now becoming a Chapter Outings Leader. The course involves an overnight stay at Sierra Club-owned Keller Hut near Running Springs & includes classes in Outings Administration, Map & Compass, the Psychology of Leadership, Environmental Considerations & a field exercise. Applicants need to be at least 18 years old & current members of the Chapter. There will be a \$34 fee for training materials, food & the weekend use of the facility. RESERVATIONS: For an application form, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: RALPH SALISBURY, LTC Chair, 2995 Floral Ave, Riverside, CA 92507 or <ralphsalisbury@att.net>

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES RECURRING WEEKLY MONTHLY MEETINGS (Look in Calendar for dates)

(1ST FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
[Note: In January this meeting moves to January 8th because of the New Year’s Day holiday.] Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lseekins@sbcglobal.net>

(1ST SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
Join us in for an afternoon of contra dance to live music. Dance Instruction at 3:30. Dance from 4:00 to 7:00. Refreshment will be served at the break. Potluck at 7:00, so bring a dish to share. COST: \$9 general admission, \$7.00 students with ID. PLACE: Please call to verify the location. At this writing, the dance is still being held at All Saints Episcopal Church, which may be closed for renovation at any time. We don’t know from month to month when the church hall remodeling will start. All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St., go north to Magnolia & turn left. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your left. ALTERNATE DANCE VENUE: While the church is being remodeled, we will meet at the Ballet Arts Studio in downtown Riverside. CALLER/BAND COORDINATOR: PATTY MCCOLLOM (714) 267-4567 or <mccollom@sbcglobal.net> INFO: SANDY GOSSELIN <GOSSELIN@riversideca.gov> Riverside Contra Dance Website: <http://bees.ucr.edu/riversidedance/cdclink.html>

(3RD TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS OPEN SPACE MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS
Help us preserve Moreno Valley’s northern skyline & secure a natural open-space corridor between the Box Springs Mountains & the Badlands, including the upper basin of Reche Canyon. We meet at the Coffee Grinder, 23580 Sunnymead Blvd., Moreno Valley. INFO: DAN CLARK, (951) 924-2454 <saveoursskyline@roadrunner.com>

(3RD WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Note that the December meeting will be a potluc holiday dinner starting at 6:30 PM. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

(3RD FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
[Note: In January this meeting moves to January 22 because of the New Year’s Day holiday.] Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lseekins@sbcglobal.net>

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

JAN 3 (SUN) 8:00 AM SJWA BEGINNING BIRD WALK BIRDING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
Check <www.sbvass.org> for current information. A slow-paced walk to introduce participants to basic birding techniques & identification skills. COST: Free. BRING: Binoculars, bird book, sturdy shoes, hat, plenty of water, lunch, snacks, non-toxic insect repellent. MEET: San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters, 17050 Davis Road, Lakeview. DIRECTIONS: Do Not Travel on Davis Road if there have been recent rains or it is wet. From Interstate 215, take Ramona Expressway east to Davis Road in Lakeview; north on Davis Road 2.3 miles to headquarters. Davis road is closed from Moreno Valley. Only entrance to wildlife area is from the Ramona Expressway. INFO: DOUG KARALUN (909) 425-5355.

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JAN 3 (SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
 Join us in for an afternoon of contra dance to live music. BAND: *PORQUOIS PAS*. CALLER: FRANNIE MARR. Band Members: Ned Boyer: harmonica, recorder, Marie Bruno: guitar, Richard Scher: keyboard, percussion, Daniel Schlossberg, fiddle. Dance Instruction at 3:30. Dance from 4:00 to 7:00. Refreshment will be served at the break. Potluck at 7:00, so bring a dish to share. COST: \$9 general admission, \$7.00 students with ID. PLACE: Please call to verify the location. At this writing, the dance is still being held at All Saints Episcopal Church, which may be closed for renovation at any time. We don't know from month to month when the church hall remodeling will start. All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St., go north to Magnolia & turn left. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your left. ALTERNATE DANCE VENUE: If the church is being remodeled, we will meet at the Ballet Arts Studio in downtown Riverside. CALLER/BAND COORDINATOR: PATTY MCCOLLOM (714) 267-4567 or <mccollom@sbcglobal.net> INFO: SANDY GOSSELIN <SGOSSELIN@riversideca.gov> Riverside Contra Dance Website: <http://bees.ucr.edu/riversidedance/cdclink.html>

JAN 8 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lseekins@sbcglobal.net>

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NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
 PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Note that the December meeting will be a potluck holiday dinner starting at 6:30 PM. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit 1 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

JAN 22 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lseekins@sbcglobal.net>

JAN 24 (SUN) 9:00 AM SJWA BLUEBIRD BOX NATURE WALK
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT FRIENDS OF THE NORTHERN SAN JACINTO VALLEY
 Join us for a morning of walking & learning. More than 45 bluebird boxes have been placed at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area providing habitat for a wide variety of birds. Dan Lacey has monitored for the past year & will show us where the boxes are located; show how he recorded audio & video field notes. COST: Free. BRING: Binoculars, sturdy walking shoes, lunch or snacks, plenty of water, sunscreen, non-toxic insect repellent & wear appropriate clothing for the weather. MEET: San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters, 17050 Davis Road, Lakeview. DIRECTIONS: Do Not Travel on Davis Road if there have been recent rains or it is wet. From Interstate 215, take Ramona Expressway east to Davis Road in Lakeview; north on Davis Road 2.3 miles to headquarters. Davis Road is closed from Moreno Valley. Only entrance to wildlife area is from the Ramona Expressway. LEADERS: DAN LACEK & SUE NASH. INFO: ANN MCKIBBEN (951) 924-8150 & SUE NASH, (909) 228-6710.

FEB 5 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lseekins@sbcglobal.net>

FEB 7 (SUN) 8:00 AM SJWA BEGINNING BIRD WALK BIRDING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
 Check <www.sbvas.org> for current information. A slow-paced walk to introduce participants to basic birding techniques & identification skills. COST: Free. BRING: Binoculars, bird book, sturdy shoes, hat, plenty of water, lunch, snacks, non-toxic insect repellent. MEET: San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters, 17050 Davis Road, Lakeview. DIRECTIONS: Do Not Travel on Davis Road if there have been recent rains or it is wet. From Interstate 215, take Ramona Expressway east to Davis Road in Lakeview; north on Davis Road 2.3 miles to headquarters. Davis road is closed from Moreno Valley. Only entrance to wildlife area is from the Ramona Expressway. INFO: CATHY TOBIN (951) 684-9613.

FEB 7 (SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
 Join us in for an afternoon of contra dance to live music. BAND: *SWAMP MAMAS*. CALLER: GINGER ALBERTI. Band Members: Patty McCollom: banjo, tin whistle, fiddle, Marie Bruno: guitar, Barbara Whitney: fiddle, Ellen Swope: bass and accordion, Dennis Louie: percussion. Dance Instruction at 3:30. Dance from 4:00 to 7:00. Refreshment will be served at the break. Potluck at 7:00, so bring a dish to share. COST: \$9 general admission, \$7.00 students with ID. PLACE: Please call to

verify the location. At this writing, the dance is still being held at All Saints Episcopal Church, which may be closed for renovation at any time. We don't know from month to month when the church hall remodeling will start. All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St., go north to Magnolia & turn left. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your left. ALTERNATE DANCE VENUE: If the church is being remodeled, we will meet at the Ballet Arts Studio in downtown Riverside. CALLER/BAND COORDINATOR: PATTY MCCOLLOM (714) 267-4567 or <mccollom@sbcglobal.net> INFO: SANDY GOSSELIN <SGOSSELIN@riversideca.gov> Riverside Contra Dance Website: <http://bees.ucr.edu/riversidedance/cdclink.html>

FEB 16 (TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS OPEN SPACE MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS
 Help us preserve Moreno Valley's northern skyline & secure a natural open-space corridor between the Box Springs Mountains & the Badlands, including the upper basin of Reche Canyon. We meet at the Coffee Grinder, 23580 Sunnymead Blvd., Moreno Valley. INFO: DAN CLARK, (951) 924-2454 <saveourskyline@roadrunner.com>

FEB 17 (WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
 PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Note that the December meeting will be a potluck holiday dinner starting at 6:30 PM. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit 1 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

FEB 19 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lseekins@sbcglobal.net>

FEB 27 (SAT) 9:00 AM SJWA ARCHEOLOGY WALK
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT FRIENDS OF THE NORTHERN SAN JACINTO VALLEY
 A stroll back through time to appreciate selected remnants of Native American life—the ways & spiritual connections within the greater San Jacinto Wildlife Area. Participants will be introduced to some of the stories, ceremonies & practices of the early people who called this region home. COST: Free. BRING: Binoculars, sturdy walking shoes, lunch or snacks, plenty of water, sunscreen, non-toxic insect repellent & WEAR appropriate clothing for the weather. MEET: San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters, 17050 Davis Road, Lakeview. DIRECTIONS: Do Not Travel on Davis Road if there have been recent rains or it is wet. From Interstate 215, take Ramona Expressway east to Davis Road in Lakeview; north on Davis Road 2.3 miles to headquarters. Davis road is closed from Moreno Valley. Only entrance to wildlife area is from the Ramona Expressway. LEADER: STEVE FREERS. INFO: ANN MCKIBBEN (951) 924-8150 & SUE NASH (909) 228-6710.

MAR 5 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lseekins@sbcglobal.net>

MAR 7 (SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
 Join us in for an afternoon of contra dance to live music. BAND: *ATLANTIC CROSSING*. CALLER: JOHN ROGERS. Band Members: Georgiana Hennessy: fiddle, Matt Tonge: guitar, Patty McCollom: banjo, whistle and fiddle. Dance Instruction at 3:30. Dance from 4:00 to 7:00. Refreshment will be served at the break. Potluck at 7:00, so bring a dish to share. COST: \$9 general admission, \$7.00 students with ID. PLACE: Please call to verify the location. At this writing, the dance is still being held at All Saints Episcopal Church, which may be closed for renovation at any time. We don't know from month to month when the church hall remodeling will start. All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St., go north to Magnolia & turn left. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your left. ALTERNATE DANCE VENUE: If the church is being remodeled, we will meet at the Ballet Arts Studio in downtown Riverside. CALLER/BAND COORDINATOR: PATTY MCCOLLOM (714) 267-4567 or <mccollom@sbcglobal.net> INFO: SANDY GOSSELIN <SGOSSELIN@riversideca.gov> Riverside Contra Dance Website: <http://bees.ucr.edu/riversidedance/cdclink.html>

MAR 31 (WED) 7:00 PM BANFF MOUNTAIN WORLD TOUR FILM FESTIVAL
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN GORGONIO WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION
 The San Gorgonio Wilderness Association (SGWA) is hosting the Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour. PLACE: Redlands High School Clock Theater. DATE & TIME: Wednesday, March 31, 2010 at 7:00 PM. COST: Tickets are \$12.00 & all proceeds go to serving the public & protecting the wilderness. Tickets are available on-line at <www.sgwa.org> or at the door the night of the performance. The Banff Mountain Film Festival is an annual event that recognizes outstanding independent films dealing with mountain culture & the environment. The festival is held in early November & then a variety of these films are offered on a World Tour. This is the third annual tour visit to the Inland Empire. Last Year's event was a huge success with over 700 wildly enthusiastic participants. This year's program will have more than two hours of high energy entertainment. There will be drawings for door prizes so save your ticket stub & prepare for a night of adventure in the mountains of the world. The SGWA is incorporated in California as a nonprofit association dedicated to preserving the San Gorgonio Wilderness & serving the public visiting the wilderness. The SGWA is hosting the World Tour in an effort to raise awareness of the recreational opportunities in the local mountains & the SGWA efforts to preserve the Wilderness for future generations. INFO: <www.sgwa.org>

Chapter Executive Committee

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

San Gorgonio Chapter Excom

Chair *Rick Estes 951-314-3328
 rickestes_92595@yahoo.com

Vice-Chair Open

Secretary Kim Floyd
 760-680-9479

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

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

Litigation Chair *Joan Taylor

Membership Chair *Bill Cunningham

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

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Wilderness Skills/Leadership Training
 ralphsalisbury@att.net

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Tahquitz Group
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 *Jim Mitchell 951-506-9607
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Desert Issues – High Desert
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 Kimffloyd@fastmail.fm

Desert Issues – Low Desert
 Joan Taylor
 palmcanyon@mac.com

Desert – Eagle Mountain
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 East—Ed Wallace 909-584-9407
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 mr_sqf@yahoo.com

Forestry Issues – San Jacinto RD
 Holly Owen 951-303-7922
 Joyce Burk 760-252-3820

Forestry Issues – Cleveland NF
 Gene Frick 951-689-2283
 gfrick@cosmoaccess.net

Water Issues
 Steve Farrell 661-449-2867

California Wild Heritage Campaign
 Joyce Burk 760-252-3820

Group Directory

Big Bear Group
 Chair – Christie Walker 909-866-5006
 Meets 3rd Tuesday, Discovery Center
 North Shore, 6:30 p.m.
www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org

Los Serranos Group
 Chair – Mary Ann Ruiz 909-815-9379
 ruizmaryann@gmail.com
 Meets 3rd Tuesday Upland Presbyterian
 Church, Ed Building 7 p.m.

Mojave Group
 Chair – Jenny Wilder 760-220-0730
 jensoasis@aol.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 earthlingwiley@aol.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

Tahquitz Group
 Chair – Jeff Morgan 760-324-8696

Santa Margarita Group
 Chair – Jim Mitchell 951-506-9607
 sierraclubsmg@gmail.com
 Meets 4th Thur., 7 p.m. at
 Rancho California Water District
 Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Rd.,
 Temecula

Mountains Group . . . Continued from Page 3

rang out through the forest as the group hiked up the trail. At the top near the Children’s Forest, the group broke for lunch before starting back down to the starting point.

On November 21st Bill led the Fall Lake Gregory bird walk. Seven of twelve people came up from the valley below. We identified 25 species—excellent for this time of year. Unexpected were sightings of a Red-breasted Sapsucker and a Bald Eagle.

On October 24th we participated in the 350.org International Day of Action. Also participating were three other local environmental groups. Our Energy Chair, Sue Walker, organized the 350 Climate Rally and Walk (around Lake Gregory in Crestline) [see photo below], connecting with 350.org and inviting State and local officials to join us. Those officials were noticeable by their absence. We did have a letter from Jerry Lewis to share. Sue did a great job organizing the event (one of more than 5200 worldwide) and Bob Sherman and Steve Farrell provided information about climate change and how it could affect our local environment.



Photo by Bob Sherman

And while I’m naming names, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Mountains Group Excom for another year of outstanding service. Well done! Bill Eng, Steve Farrell, Marta Hethmon, Sherry Noone, Bob Sherman, and Sue Walker!

Also needing special mention are the tireless efforts of Heather Sargeant, making sure that the Mountains Group has the funding it needs to fight the good fight here in our mountains. She sells calendars (lots of calendars) and oversees the Mountains Group crew at The Thrift Shoppe in Blue Jay, slowing down only to lead outings.

Heather was ably assisted at the Thrift Shoppe in 2009 by Maria Campos, Marta Hethmon, Marti Mawhinney, Jack Witt, Crystal Riseley, Nancy Taylor, Frank Ellis, Paula Day, Francis Zetemeier and Billie Wolff. Thanks to you all!

2010 looks to be a challenging year for our Group and we are looking forward to it! Bill Eng provided Outings information for this report.



Tahquitz Group

by Joan Taylor and
Buford Crites, Vice Chair, Friends of the Desert Mtns.

Sand to Snow National Monument: *Where Southern California and Northern California Meet*

It’s been a long trek up from Baja along the spine of the Peninsular Ranges with the desert always far below to the east. Finally, in the last 24 hours I’ve dropped a mind-numbing eight thousand feet in elevation off the icy flanks of Mount San Jacinto down to hot sands and biting winds in San Gorgonio Pass. Getting a quick drink at Snow Creek then crossing under Interstate 10, in a few more miles I’ll finally make it back to blissful running water and shade at Whitewater River.

Who am I, and where am I bound?

I could be one of hundreds of Pacific Crest Trail “thru hikers” on their way from Mexico to Canada every spring, trying to navigate this daunting stretch of the great trail in the narrow window of opportunity when the winter snow along mountain ridges has melted enough to be passable, but before the desert stretches become unbearably hot. Or I could just as likely be a mountain lion, a bear, a pocket mouse, or one of many wild creatures that for millennia have moved back and forth between the Peninsular Ranges, which start in Baja California, and the Transverse Ranges which create the great Mojave Desert of upper California. Many diverse species depend for their long-term health on the transmission of genetic material in this way from one population to the next, and San Gorgonio Pass is a critical link in this vast chain of mountain ranges and their flora and fauna. That’s why renowned conservation biologist Michael Soulet called this area “the place where Southern California and Northern California meet.”

In order to preserve this vital connection, Senator Feinstein, at the urging of conservationists from Coachella Valley and elsewhere, is considering legislation to create the “Sand to Snow” National Monument. Sand to Snow would be a land bridge, preserving



*One Environment . . .
One Simple Way to Care for it.*

Join us in protecting the future by doing your share today.

How can you choose between the eagle and the buffalo? Between the elephants and the whales?

Between drinking clean water and breathing clean air? Between parks and beaches? How can you choose? Would there be a right choice?

Now there’s a way to help not just one, but all these things. It’s called Earth Share of California – the world’s leading environmental and conservation charities working together.

Through Earth Share of California you can make a one-time gift, or a payroll deduction donation that helps every day to preserve and protect the environment – locally, regionally, nationally, and globally.

Earth Share is not part of your employer’s workplace giving campaign? We’d like to do something about that. Call Ladd Seekins at 909-888-0161 weekdays or 909-825-4427 evenings and weekends. Address e-mail to iwfladd@eee.org.

this critical wildlife linkage. This is also the interface between the San Gorgonio Wilderness and the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto National Monument to the south and west, the Transverse Ranges to the north, and Joshua Tree National Park to the east. What a great place for man or beast to roam!

The Sand to Snow National Monument is a place of great diversity. Traversed by two major branches of the San Andreas earthquake fault, this region has dramatic topography and resources. At 11,280 feet above sea level, Mt San Gorgonio stands as the highest peak in Southern California, and it feeds the perennial streams of Whitewater River, Mission Creek, and Big Morongo and Little Morongo Creeks.



Photo by Joan Taylor

Rugged and trackless, the upper reaches of north fork Whitewater River have hundred foot high waterfalls, with dramatic terrain and vegetation reminiscent of Nepal for the intrepid few who venture there. On the southern slopes of the San Gorgonio Wilderness you’ll find some of the finest big game habitat in the state.

Through the center of the proposed national monument runs the ecotone between the Sonoran and Mojave deserts, namely, the Big Morongo Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).

Big Morongo

ACEC is not only one of the best birding areas in California, it constitutes the critical wildlife link to Joshua Tree National Park. Thus, the Sand to Snow ties the Peninsular Range ecosystem to not only the Transverse Ranges but also to the great Mojave Desert. Encompassing approximately 162,000 acres with over 90% conservation ownership, creation of the Sand to Snow Monument will bring permanent protection and visibility to an evolutionary hotspot and an area of remarkable biological diversity and scenic beauty.



National Parks . . . from Page 1

Not even half the major natural areas of the United States are currently represented in the National Park System. Further, most of our national parks are located in the West, not easily available to much of our population. The Sierra Club proposes establishing national parks to represent each of the rest of the nation's ecoregions. That way people will not have to travel long distances to experience and enjoy national parks. By expanding our system of national parks we can save fossil fuels and reduce our carbon footprint.

For example, how about establishing a tallgrass-prairie national park? In addition to preserving a sample of a vanishing and neglected—and historically important—ecosystem, and creating park access in a region now without national parks, it would provide a unique research location for the ecology of this ecoregion and the ecological threats to it.

National parks should also be models of energy efficiency, of places we can live in harmony with our natural world. Facilities in national parks should be net-zero consumers of electricity, using solar and (when properly designed and located) wind to produce the energy the parks need. People should be able to experience the wonders of national parks that do not generate climate-changing gases.

National parks are also excellent places to learn about the natural world. In Great Smoky Mountains National Park, for example, about 12,000 species are known, and an all-taxa inventory is expected to bring this number up to around 100,000, many not previously known. Such studies should be expanded to all parks, including parks that need to be added to the system, so that we learn about all the places we live. National parks should reach out to our schools and colleges to demonstrate how the natural world affects our lives. The Internet and robo-cams can allow us to visit our national parks 24/7/365.

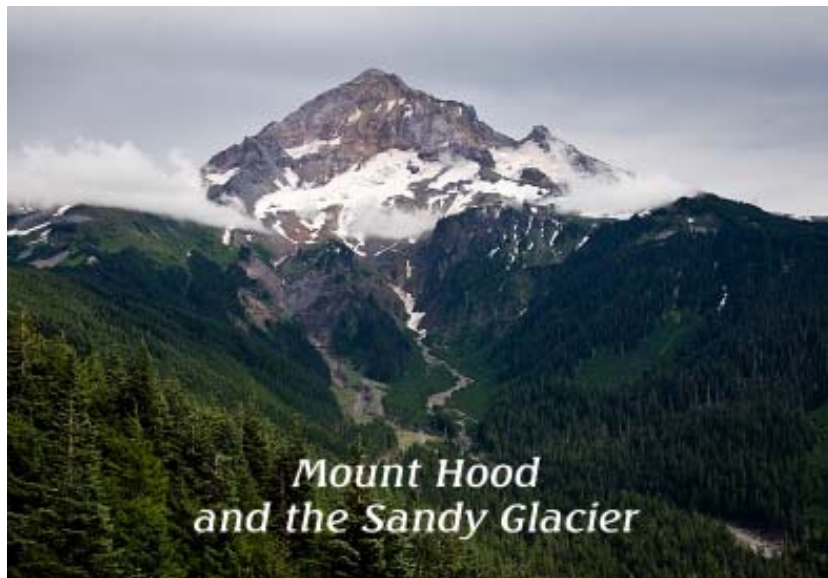
The role of our national parks has changed as we have learned greater appreciation of our natural world and its importance to our survival. The role of the National Park System must be expanded to help us better enlighten ourselves on living in harmony with our natural world.

The newly revised Sierra Club Conservation Policies on National Parks can be viewed at:
www.sierraclub.org/policy/conservation/natparks.aspx

— John Byrne, chair, Sierra Club National Parks and Monuments Team



Chapter Programs . . . from Page 1



January Program: Mt. Hood and More

Photo by Keith Watson

State Parks . . . from Page 1

dangerous marijuana growing. Trails erode, damaging water quality. The list of concerns goes on and on.

Inadequate funding of our State Park and wildlife refuge systems goes back to the aftermath of the passage of Proposition 13 in 1978. Unless a permanent funding source is established, our State Parks and Wildlife Preserves will be permanently degraded and less attractive to wildlife and the public.

The Sierra Club has joined a coalition with Nature Conservancy, Audubon, California State Parks Foundation, Save the Redwoods League and many other conservation groups to place a statewide initiative on the November 2010 ballot. It is very short and simple. It would raise vehicle registration fees by \$18 a year, and for the first time in many years provide adequate funding for our State Park and Wildlife Preserve Systems.

Moreno Valley Group . . . from Page 4

Gross, Moreno Valley Planning Department, (951) 413-3222. There is a January Court date and both sides have discussed settlement.

According to information from the California Air Resources Board, the Inland Empire has the worst air pollution in California. The largest source of diesel emissions in the South Coast Air Basin, which includes Riverside and San Bernardino counties, is the goods-movement industry and its associated warehouse distribution centers. Riverside County is the first in the nation for asthma, heart disease and respiratory ailments.

The city of Moreno Valley Recreational Trails Board is sponsoring a "Hike to Terri Peak" on Saturday, January 23, 2010. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Landmark Middle School, 15261 Legendary Drive, Moreno Valley. Please call (951) 413-3702 confirm all information on the walk. The Recreational Trails Board sponsors approximately five hikes throughout the year in Moreno Valley.

As the new year starts, there are many wonderful opportunities to see migrating and overwintering birds of prey, waterfowl and shorebirds at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. So pull out your binocs and hiking boots and take time to come visit the wildlife. The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley nature walks at the SJWA can be found at their web site at www.northfriends.org In the meantime, if you



In exchange for this small fee increase, California vehicles would be allowed free Day Use entry to our State Parks and Wildlife Preserves. Since entry often costs \$10 or more, and since many Californians visit a State Park or Beach more than once a year, this is a very fair exchange.

This measure will only appear on the ballot if hundreds of volunteers around the state gather signatures between now and April. The San Geronio Chapter has set a goal of 2000 signatures and we need your help to achieve our goal.

Please email Kim Floyd San Geronio, Chapter Conservation Chair, at kimfloyd@fastmail.fm today, and sign up as a volunteer to gather signatures. Please send your contact information and city of residence. With your participation, California voters will restore our State Park System as the Nation's best. Thanks for your help.

plan to visit the wildlife area this winter, please remember that there is waterfowl hunting at the wildlife area through February 6th. Wetland areas are closed on those days. Hunting is allowed at all state-run wildlife areas and hunting fees help support the acquisition of wildlife habitat throughout the state of California. Please call the wildlife area office during normal business hours (6:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) at (951) 928-0580 for more information. Due to State Furlough Days at the SJWA, their office is closed the first, second, and third Friday of the month and the schedule is subject to change. Please allow ample time for staff to return your calls. The wildlife area is north of the Ramona Expressway in Lakeview. Take Davis Road 2.2 miles to the area headquarters. The wildlife area is open from dawn to dusk seven days a week. Please Do Not Drive on Davis Road if it is muddy or wet.

The Moreno Valley Group has many issues to follow, and we are looking for more volunteers. Any amount of time you could contribute would be appreciated. For more information on group meetings and volunteering with the Moreno Valley Group, contact Ann McKibben at (951) 924-8150, Theresa Carson, (951) 242-4752 or George Hague at (951) 924-0816 or e-mail us at mvalleygroup@yahoo.com.



February Program: Great Palm Springs Hikes
 Photo by New Orleans Studio, Longmont, CO, of Phillip Ferranti and Dakota

Tahquitz Group . . . from Page 9

Tahquitz Group Ballot

Please indicate your vote on this ballot, cut out and mail so it is postmarked by January 21, 2010. Mail to:

Sierra Club – Tahquitz Group
 PO Box 4944
 Palm Springs, CA 92263

Remember to print your name and address and sign your name on the outside of the envelope so the ballot can be verified.

If two ballots from a joint membership are enclosed, be sure to print name and address and sign for each ballot.

TAHQUITZ GROUP BALLOT
 Please vote for 3 or fewer.

- Kathryn Kelley
- Al Murdy
- Jono Hildner



*Climb the mountains
 and get their good
 tidings. Nature's
 peace will flow into
 you as sunshine flows
 into trees. The winds
 will blow their own
 freshness into you, and
 the storms their energy,
 while cares will drop
 off like autumn
 leaves.*

– John Muir, 1901

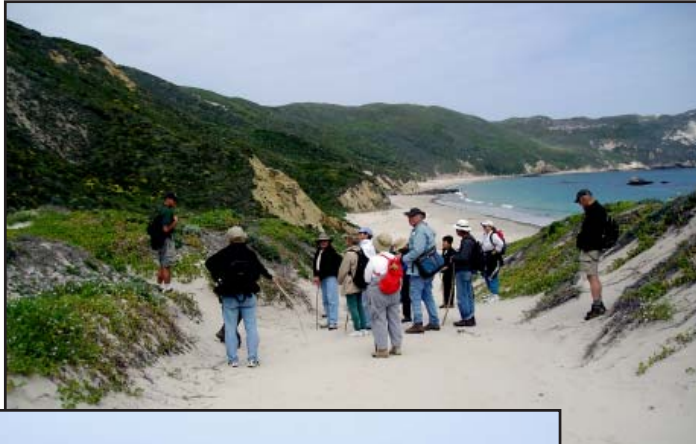


Island Hopping in Channel Islands National Park

ANGELES CHAPTER TRIPS IN 2010

CA's Channel Islands are Galapagos USA! Marvel at the sight of whales, seals, sea lions, rare birds & blazing wildflowers. Hike the wild, windswept trails. Kayak the rugged coastline. Snorkel in pristine waters. Discover remnants of the Chumash people who lived on these islands for thousands of years. Or just relax at sea. These 3 & 4-day "live aboard" fundraiser cruises are sponsored by Angeles Chapter Political Committee & depart from Santa Barbara aboard the 68-foot *Truth*. The fee (\$590 for May and Sep; \$785 for Jul & Aug) includes an assigned bunk, all meals, snacks & beverages, plus the services of a ranger/naturalist who will travel with us to lead hikes on each island and point out interesting features. To make a reservation mail a \$100 check payable to Sierra Club to leaders: Joan Jones Holtz & Don Holtz, 11826 The Wye St, El Monte, CA 91732. Contact leaders for more information (626-443-0706; jholtzhln@aol.com) or www.truthaquatics.com

May 7-9; Jul 16-19; Aug 6-9; Sep 10-12



Photos: Joan Holtz



Mojave Group . . . Continued from Page 3

Mojave Group and PCTA

The Mojave Group outings leaders continue to offer some lovely hikes along the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. If you like longer hikes, you have probably enjoyed some with Terrence McCorkle. Those of you who prefer shorter, flatter hikes would like those offered by Melody Nichols. However, we don't just hike the PCT. Thanks to our Outings Chair Melody Nichols, the Mojave Group is once again partnering with the Pacific Crest Trail Association. Melody has organized outings which encourage us to participate with trail work (see photo below) along Section C. This year we have helped with trail work (mostly tread) in the section between Little Horsethief Canyon north towards I-15. Many of us love to hike the trail and we are especially lucky in the Victor Valley to have so many trailheads within an hours drive. We can be in the trees near Baldwin Lake or in the rocky Deep Creek Canyon, or hiking above Summit Valley through chaparral near Lake Silverwood or in the trees and mountains near Wrightwood. We are also working on a project to treat the extensive graffiti along the path in Deep Creek Canyon. Instead of using paint, which requires some expert mixing to get just the right color for each rock, and which provides a nice new canvas for more graffiti, we are developing a system



using local mud. This seems to be having some success in our dry climate, with some rocks still having an almost imperceptible mud coat 2 years later. While this is not a solution for all rocks along the PCT, we think it may just work in our section, and we will be continuing this experiment throughout the winter months into the spring. For details contact Jenny at JensOasis@aol.com or 760 220 0730. Other "trail angels" who are authorized to do tread work along the trail, sometimes work individually, like Frank Trujillo from Wrightwood and our friends with the Llamas, Marion and Ray Davison. Countless others pick up trash along the way and remove fallen debris. Even just hiking along the trail with your family and friends helps to keep the PCT in good shape! See you on the trail!

Friends of Juniper Flats

In 2003 a group formed of concerned residents, land owners and people who like to visit the public lands known as the Juniper Flats Area (many of whom are Mojave Group members). The reason for the group is to help recognize and care for the numerous resources that are found in the area. The Willow Fire burned intensely through the area in 1999 devastating landscape. Resources include numerous seeps and springs that are essential for wildlife, the wildlife itself, the fabulous views, as well as cultural resources. The area is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and is sandwiched between Apple Valley and the San Bernardino National Forest. Today, we have a number of volunteers who work with the BLM, Barstow Office. We monitor the condition of the resources and give regular reports to the BLM. Numerous recreational and business pursuits threaten the integrity of resources in the area. These activities include mining, cattle grazing, transmission lines, communication towers, wind energy projects, target shooting, and off-road vehicle play. During the years that we have been monitoring the area, at least 4 OHV play tracks have been illegally created, and miles and miles of illegal trails are now evident, many of which impact the seeps and springs. In addition to reporting these illegal trails, Friends of Juniper Flats volunteers clean up trash & shooting areas, rake fresh off the route vehicle tracks, fix cut fences and provide photos for the BLM. We gather information about the flora and fauna we find in the area, publish brochures about popular hikes, and a quarterly newsletter. As Site Stewards we monitor and report on the condition of cultural sites in the Juniper Flats Area of Critical Environmental Concern.

Currently, there are no designated hiking trails in the area, but it is never the less a beautiful place to hike, picnic and

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Membership

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Questions?

E-mail sierra.student@sierraclub.org

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watch wildlife. There are numerous hills to climb and clusters of large boulders to explore. Check out some of our photos on the Yahoo flickr site: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/25273386@N08/collections/72157617760663191/>



Round Mountain Spring, Juniper Flats Area

The area provides an expanse of open space for varied interests including horseback riding, rock climbing, mountain biking, hunting, trail running, photography and 4x4 touring. It also serves as an entry gate to the world known Deep Creek Hot Springs. It also boasts some of the best wildflower displays near the Victor Valley. The area includes Round Mountain, which is listed on the Hundred Peaks Section of the Sierra Club. It is also the gateway for Luna Mountain and Rattlesnake Mountain just over the boundary in the San Bernardino National Forest. The roads are rough dirt and because of the maze of illegal routes, driving for the first time can be confusing. Once a month the Friends of Juniper Flats offer a hike, usually on a Saturday. We also do exploration hikes and monitoring hikes mostly during the week. We welcome you to join us. Contact Jenny Wilder, JensOasis@aol.com or call 760 220 0730. Even if you cannot come out with us to enjoy the area, please consider supporting us by becoming a paid member (only \$5). Send contributions to Friends of Juniper Flats, P.O.Box 83, Apple Valley, CA 92307. We are a non profit 501(c) 3 organization with an emphasis on education, and all donations are tax deductible.



Motorsports Racetrack Near the Poppy Reserve?

by Katherine Allen, Antelope Valley Group

The staff of the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission has recommended approval of a plan to build a motorsports racetrack next to Fairmont Butte, a mile and a half north of the California State Poppy Reserve in the Antelope Valley. There will be at least one more Commission hearing on the subject, and if approved, it will go to the LA County Board of Supervisors for approval of the required zoning change.

The racetrack could host high performance race vehicles 365 days a year. The noise will affect visitors to the Poppy Reserve, who come there to experience nature. A survey taken during the height of the poppy season indicated that many people would not return to the Reserve if there were a motor vehicle racetrack nearby, even more said that their visits would significantly decrease. Fewer visitors mean decreased revenue for the reserve, funds that are crucial during this time of budget cuts in California.



There are other problems with this project. It requires a zone change from residential/agricultural to industrial/commercial, which would open the door to more development that is incompatible with the rural nature of the area. It will have a negative impact on the property values of nearby residents, and would draw additional illegal off-road activity to the area. Both this activity and the racetrack itself would destroy prime areas for wildflowers, negatively impact important prehistoric sites on Fairmont Butte, and disrupt a sensitive ecological area for birds of prey.

The next hearing is scheduled for February 6, 2010, 11 am -5 pm at the Regional Public Library, 601 W. Lancaster Blvd., Lancaster, CA. For more information and to find out where to write to support a "no" vote on this project, visit the Save the Poppy Reserve website at www.sio2.com/savethepoppyreserve.

Bear Flat Trail

by Aida Taracena

To become an Outings Leader, the Sierra Club has certain requirements that must be met. One of them is to lead two hikes under the supervision of an experienced Outings Leader. I would like to express my gratitude to Joe Whyte and Dean Shimek for mentoring me and for kindly giving their time to evaluate me as an outings leader. After recruiting my friends, without whom this hike would not have been possible, a BIG THANKS to all of you who came out to support me! I chose as my second supervised hike the trail to Bear Flat, an easy trail with a 1,200 foot elevation gain. Starting from Mt. Baldy Village and hiking up a rather steep road is the trailhead to Bear Flat. The trail follows a lovely stream that can be heard from the trail all the way to Bear Flat.

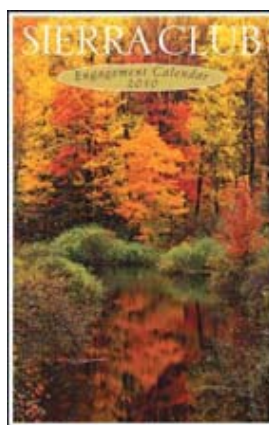
Sunday, November 8th, was a beautiful day and what better way to spend it than hiking? After passing the last cabins along the road, I saw Thad, a dog standing there in his front yard watching the hikers in our group pass him on the road. He suddenly start walking toward the trailhead. When we all gathered at the end of the trail, the dog, who by all accounts looked like he belonged to someone in our group, was receiving much love, attention and of course food from his fellow hikers. As I stood on the sideline watching this well behaved dog solicit food, using his innate ability to be adorably cute, it dawned on me that this was a routine that this extremely intelligent dog practiced frequently. I am convinced that he knew that his fellow hikers would snack at some point and that he would be able to leach food from them. As the hike leader, I thought that it would be appropriate for the dog to sign in, (I was, after all, being evaluated on my skills and everyone must sign in) so I walked over to the dog, grabbed his right leg, rubbed his paw in the dirt and put his paw print on the sign in sheet, which he did quite willingly. When our group descended from the trail, he parted with us and went back home.



Thad and his new friends. Photo by Aida Taracena

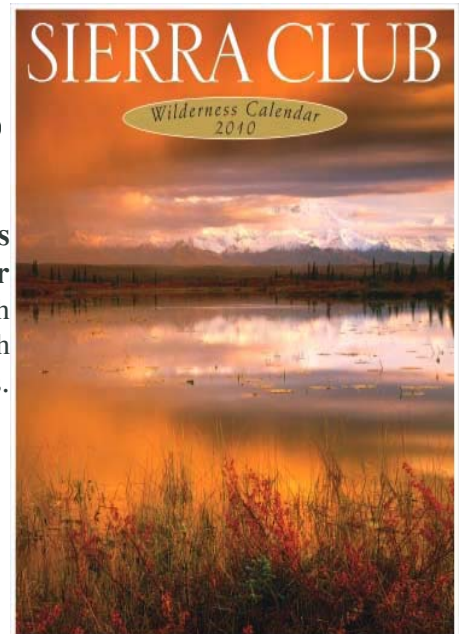
I will always have fond memories of this day and I will be eternally grateful to my friends who came out to hike with me. We exercised, had fun, shared food, friendship and laughter in a beautiful forest. Who can ask for more? Keep hiking....life is full of surprises!

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