



Palm and Pine



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

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Serving Riverside and San Bernardino Counties

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

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Membership Meetings

Tuesday, January 3

"Reducing Plastic Pollution With Natural Compostable Alternatives"

Speaker: Rick Klein
(see write up Page 2)

Tuesday, February 7

"Darwin's Enchanted Islands: The Galápagos"

Speaker: Brian Elliott
(see write up Page 8)

Programs begin at 7:30 p.m.
at the San Bernardino
County Museum, 2024 Orange
Tree Lane, Redlands
(California St. exit off 10 Fwy)

Longtime Sierra Club Leader, Elden Hughes, Dies at 80

A lifelong environmental advocate, helped spearhead efforts to protect the California wilderness,
including his beloved Mojave Desert.

by Louis Sahagun, Los Angeles Times, December 5, 2011

Elden Hughes, a crusader for wild places and a leader of the Sierra Club's battles to protect desert wilderness from development and abuse, has died. He was 80.

Hughes, who died of prostate cancer early Sunday at his home in Joshua Tree, Calif., was a visionary and inspirational figure who mentored generations of activists in fights to reduce the environmental damage of developments, including renewable energy projects on pristine landscapes and wildlife.

Hughes was among a dozen environmentalists invited to the White House in 1994 when President Clinton signed the landmark California Desert Protection Act, which created a new national park in the eastern Mojave Desert and elevated Death Valley and Joshua Tree from national monument to national park status. FOR THE RECORD: An earlier version of this online article misstated the size of a land purchase that Elden Hughes helped the Wildlands Conservancy complete in 2003 as more than 62,000 acres. The conservancy purchased more than 620,000 acres.

The Sierra Club stalwart with gray hair and piercing blue eyes was accompanied by a dozen baby



Elden Hughes holds Scottie, a tortoise who accompanied him to Washington as a guest of President Clinton to witness the signing of the California Desert Protection Act in 1994. Hughes lobbied tirelessly for the law, making an impression in congressional offices by using tiny baby desert tortoises as irresistibly cute calling cards. (Alex Koester, For The Times / November 3, 1994)

California desert tortoises he had used as calling cards to lobby hundreds of congressmen and senators.

"Elden and his wife, Patty, would walk into a congressional office and place those little critters down on a table," recalled fellow Sierra Club activist Jim Dodson. "Within seconds, staffers would be oohing and cooing over tortoises big as silver dollars and cute as buttons. Next thing you know, the boss would wander out of a back office wanting to know what the hubbub was about. It was hard to say no to Elden after that."

Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), author of

the final version of the protection act, said, "Hughes dedicated his life to the protection and revival of our great Mojave Desert and its tortoises. I'll never forget when he brought a couple of tortoises to a large constituent breakfast and the amazed and glowing faces of youngsters when he told them they live for decades. Elden led a huge citizen effort in 1993 to support my Desert Protection Act. We will pass the second Desert Protection Act, now pending in committee, in his honor. He will be greatly missed."

In 2003, Hughes helped the Wildlands Conservancy, a private nonprofit environmental group, complete a massive land-buying program. More than 620,000 acres of former railroad parcels from the

Salton Sea to the Colorado River purchased with \$45 million in private donations collected by the conservancy and \$18 million in federal funds were handed over to the public for preservation.

In an interview at the time, Hughes, an honorary vice president of the Sierra Club, stood on a ridgeline high above a patch of former railroad property, breathed reverently and reached out with his hands to embrace the vistas of gleaming ancient lava flows, dry washes pocked with cactus and a lone mountain where a blue bird flitted from smoke tree to creosote bush.

"My god, this landscape is grand," he said.

Continued on Page 10 >>>

Many of us have heard of and followed "Occupy Wall Street" in the news. I have had the opportunity to spend time with the Occupy Coachella Valley folks several times over the past six weeks. I have been very impressed with the passion exhibited by the participants for inclusion, sharing, consensus decision making, along with transparency. Please read the news release below and consider exploring the world of "Occupy" yourself. Our members have many skills and passions, that if shared with "Occupy", would help the effort move our nation toward a better place to live, work, grow and care about each other and the world.

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: December 1, 2011

Contact: Kim Floyd, Conservation Chair, 760-680-9479

Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter Statement in Solidarity with "Occupy Wall Street" Protests in Coachella Valley and the City of Riverside, California



99%OWS

For the past several weeks, protesters have peacefully held vigil in hundreds of American cities including the Coachella Valley and the City of Riverside calling for financial, civic and economic reform under the banner of "Occupy Wall Street." The "Occupy Wall Street" movement includes students, workers, labor union members, concerned citizens, and environmentalists including members and staff of the Sierra Club.

In response, Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter issued the following statement:

The Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter stands in solidarity with the "Occupy Wall Street" movement.

The Occupy Wall Street protests demonstrate that the struggles of working families and environmentalists are one and the same. For too long, corporate polluters like the Koch Brothers have used their massive profits to attack fundamental

worker, health and environmental protections — while suppressing advancements in clean technology which would create millions of new jobs. For too long, Big Oil and other corporate polluters have targeted low income communities and communities of color for dumping their toxic industrial pollution, and shirked their responsibility for clean-up. For too long, Wall Street and Big Banks have financed destructive environmental practices like mountaintop removal coal mining.

Across California, the Sierra Club is working to hold corporate polluters accountable for polluting our air, land and water, hurting our health, subverting our democracy, and strangling our economy.

Investment in clean energy can create millions of good jobs and save working families money on healthcare. We must work together to expand economic opportunity and equality by moving America beyond dirty, dangerous coal and oil.

The Sierra Club also supports peaceful protest and demonstration as among the highest forms of citizen engagement in our democracy — it is our right.

We stand with the Occupy Wall Street movement against corporate greed and for a more equitable, clean and healthy America.

Contact Us . . .

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

San Gorgonio Chapter Excom
Chair *Ralph Salisbury
 951-686-4141
 ralphsalisbury@att.net
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 *Ralph Salisbury
Outings Chair *Ralph Salisbury
 (Contact info above)
SC Council Delegate *Ralph Salisbury

CNRCC Delegates

*George Hague 909-924-0816
 Pam Nelson 951-767-2324
 pamela05n@peoplepc.com
Wilderness Skills/Leadership Training:
 ralphsalisbury@att.net

Group Representatives To Excom

Big Bear Group:
 *Christie Walker 909-866-5006
 ... Christie.mountaincreative@verizon.net
Los Serranos Group:
 *Mary Ann Ruiz 909-815-9379
 ruizmaryann@gmail.com
Mojave Group:
 *Jenny Wilder 760-220-0730
 jensoasis@aol.com

Moreno Valley:

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

San Bernardino Mtns. Group:

..... *Dave Barrie 909-337-0313
 barriemail@mac.com

Tahquitz Group:

..... *Jeff Morgan 760-324-8696

Santa Margarita Group:

..... *Jim Mitchell 951-506-9607
 sierraclubsmg@gmail.com

..... Kim Floyd 760-680-9479
 Kimffloyd@fastmail.fm

Chapter Conservation Issue Chairs

Desert Issues – High Desert

..... Kim Floyd 760-680-9479
 Kimffloyd@fastmail.fm

Desert Issues – Low Desert

..... Joan Taylor
 palmcanyon@mac.com

Desert – Eagle Mountain

..... Donna Charpiet 760-392-4722
 laronna@earthlink.net

Forestry Issues – Mountaintop RD

..... East—Ed Wallace 909-584-9407
 West—Steve Farrell 661-449-2867
 mr_sqf@yahoo.com

Forestry Issues – San Jacinto RD

..... Joyce Burk 760-252-3820

Forestry Issues – Cleveland NF

..... 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 Thursday, 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 Millsbaugh 951-653-2068

Mountains Group:

Chair – Dave Barrie 909-337-0313
 barriemail@mac.com
 Meets 2nd Monday 7:00 p.m.
 Except Aug. & Dec. St Richard’s
 Episcopal Church, 28708 Hwy 18, Sky
 Forest

Santa Margarita Group:

Chair – Jim Mitchell 951-506-9607
 sierraclubsmg@gmail.com
 Meets 3rd Thur., 6:30 p.m. at Rancho
 California Water District Hqtrs.
 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula

Tahquitz Group:

Chair – Jeff Morgan 760-324-8696



Chapter Program January 3, 2012 Reducing Plastic Pollution with Natural Compostable Alternatives

At our chapter meeting January 3 Rick Klein will speak about the health and environmental threats posed by Styrofoam and other plastics. He will give us alternatives that will help us reduce our “plastic footprint.” The meeting starts at 7:30 PM at the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands.

Disposable plastic packaging is a serious problem. Rick says, “We have become a disposable society! Americans throw away 2.5 million plastic bottles every Hour. In the US we use about 710 thousand tons of Styrofoam cups and plates annually. More than 1 trillion plastic bags are used every year worldwide about 1 million plastic bags every minute. A single plastic bag can take up to 1,000 years to degrade. Plastic bags are the second-most common type of ocean refuse, after cigarette butts. Every square mile of ocean has about 46,000 pieces of plastic floating in it.”

Rick represents EarthSmart, a manufacturer of petroleum-free, tree-free degradable, disposable tableware, packaging and soft paper products. Many of their products are made of all-natural sugar cane bagasse, a compostable by-product of sugar productions. Samples of EarthSmart products will be displayed during Rick’s PowerPoint presentation.

Ten years ago Rick was the state’s largest live bait supplier. He estimates that over the course of his business he had supplied about ten million Styrofoam live bait cups. On a fishing trip with friends in the Eastern Sierra, he came upon one of his cups floating in a remote stream. He realized that his use of Styrofoam, which does not noticeably degrade over time, had had a major negative impact on the environment.

Rick is a resident of Lake Arrowhead and a member of the Rotary Club of Lake Arrowhead. He has made his plastics presentation at a number of local Rotary clubs.

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Editor

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

Outings Calendar Submissions

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

Webmaster

Ralph Salisbury
e-mail: ralphsalisbury@att.net
<http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org>

Meetings Calendar Submissions

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

Non-Member Subscriptions (\$12.00)

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

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

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

POSTMASTER:

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Group News

Big Bear Group

by Christie Walker

Big Bear Group's Ed Wallace Honored as Volunteer of the Year

The Big Bear Group of the Sierra Club nominates and votes for a volunteer of the year every November. This year, Ed Wallace was selected for his work as the Big Bear Group Conservation Chair, hike leader, board member and volunteer. The Big Bear Group counts on Ed to attend all the city planning meetings, review EIRs, write letters to developers, the city, and government officials. Ed also coordinates all our Big Bear hike leaders and takes groups on backpacking and hikes in both the local mountains and the High Sierras. Ed was honored at the Big Bear Group's annual ExComm Christmas party in December.

New Board Member

Congratulations to our newest addition to the Big Bear Group Executive Committee, Linda Quiroz. Linda served on the Xeriscape Garden Tour committee last year and is involved in the Big Bear Community Garden Project. With Linda's accounting background and love of the outdoors, Linda will be a welcome addition to our committee.

Programs for 2012

Don't miss two exciting travelogue programs in January and February of 2012. First up, Ed Wallace will take you along through his photographs on his amazing 283 mile hike in the Sierras last summer in our January 19th general meeting at 6:30 at the Discovery Center. Then on February 16th, experience the sights, sounds and scents of Siem Reap, Angkor Wat, and Phnom Penh, Cambodia with photographer Christie Walker. Learn about the international Habitat for Humanity build in Phnom Penh, where 22 houses were built in 5 days by 300 volunteers. A local Big Bear Habitat for Humanity spokesperson will also be on hand to answer questions about local builds and how people can get involved. Great photos, heartwarming stories and a great time on a cold winter night await those who attend.



Los Serranos Group

by Mary Ann Ruiz

Los Serranos group members have been very active in the San Gabriel Mountains National Recreation Area proposal from the National Park Service. Members attended public comment meetings to speak out in favor of Alternative D. At the November LSG meeting, participants filled out comment forms to be sent to the National Park Service. Throughout Los Angeles area 4 public meetings were held by the NPS. At all but one meeting, the crowd majority was supportive of a National Recreation area for the San Gabriels. Public comment will be end of December 16, and can be made on line by visiting the NPS website for this proposal.

It's time again to elect our voting members for LSG ExComm. Two current members are on the ballot to return to their current spots on Excomm. Please indicate your vote on this ballot, cut out and mail so it is received by December 29, 2011.

Mail To: **Joe Whyte** • 1404 Albright Ave. • Upland, CA 91786

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

LOS SERRANOS GROUP BALLOT

Please vote for 2 or fewer

— Sue Brown

— Mary Ann Ruiz

LOS SERRANOS GROUP BALLOT

Please vote for 2 or fewer

— Sue Brown

— Mary Ann Ruiz



Mojave Group

by Jenny Wilder

Land Use in the General Plan for Community Development:

"The Land Use Element is the driving element in the General Plan, to which all the Elements must relate. Because it establishes the type, intensity and pattern of land uses, it inherently shapes housing, transportation, noise, air quality, infrastructure, public services, natural resources, safety, open space and recreation." This quote was taken from the Victorville General Plan 2030 which can be located at <http://ci.victorville.ca.us/generalplan.aspx>. This document comes under the tab "About Victorville" and not under "Departments-Planning" and the proposed non-motorized trail plan comes under "Healthy Victorville" and not under "Departments-Planning". A significant in the Department-Planning page on the Victorville website is the Tamarisk Market Place plan to put Walmart next to the college and outside Spring Valley Lake along Bear Valley Road. The Planning commission will be discussing this on Wednesday Dec 14th and the council is expected to vote on it in January. This requires a change in zoning and is just one example of the problem of trying to keep up to date with what is happening around town. Similar problems are found in all the city and county websites.

On October 5, 2010, the County of San Bernardino adopted the **Sunshine Ordinance** which states: a) "Efficient and effective government occurs when the electorate is adequately equipped to constructively oversee and hold elected officials accountable for their actions. b) That transparency and open government is essential for good governance and serves as the foundation upon which the electorate may equip itself to fulfill these obligations. c) Members of the public must be provided with a meaningful opportunity to participate in the decisions that affect them, and to understand how and why those decisions are made. d) Public access to documents and records of San Bernardino County are an essential component of transparency, and as such, failure to allow public access to these documents compromises the strength and integrity of our government." (continued).

The Mojave Desert is in seemingly constant change of the zoning and when you bought a rural home it is now next to a large housing development, sludge facility or mega solar plant. How does this happen? Why are the county and town planners not following the General Plans? What is the rush to develop every inch of open space and ignore the quality of life for the residents? How can we be more involved when a developer first proposes a project that would affect our quality of life? What about freeway plans that may threaten our quiet lifestyle such as the High Desert Corridor? Should we be more concerned, or do as we have always done, and move on? More importantly, how can we protect our investment for a quality life style and property values in the Mojave Desert?

Those new traffic signals on Deep Creek Road/Bear Valley Road and Main St/Rock Springs Road are not, as one might suppose, because the County decided it is time. Those lights and turn lanes are

the result of a small group of residents along Deep Creek Road who were fighting a project called the Deep Creek Project. This required a zone change from AG-SCp (Agricultural with a primary sign control overlay) to RS-20m (Single Residential with a 20,000-square foot minimum parcel size) and a Tentative Tract 16569 for 202 single-family residential lots and 6 lettered lots to be developed in four phases on approximately 249 acres in an unincorporated area of San Bernardino County. The lot sizes will average approximately 43,051 square feet, with the median lot size being 43,948 square feet. Of the proposed 202 lots, 68 lots located on the upper terrace of the project site will measure less than an acre in size (0.74 acre minimum). The traffic lights and turn lanes are the mitigation for the residents' concerns regarding traffic. But this project does not only impact the local residents along Deep Creek Road. Like so many other projects, it will impact many more residents who use Bear Valley Road, Rock Springs Road and Main Street. However, unless you are a very knowledgeable and savvy resident, you probably have not heard about the Deep Creek project. Yet it also sets a precedence to allow more housing developments along Deep Creek Road in place of agriculture.

The websites for the county and towns/cities attempt to be user friendly, and sometimes you can request to be notified via email of upcoming meetings, agendas, etc. Yet something is lacking. For instance, the High Desert Corridor will affect people in Apple Valley, Lucerne Valley, Victorville and many others, but I didn't find a link on the websites. The Desert Express high speed train may affect many of our residents too, but information is lacking. And what about the mega solar plants being proposed on public lands in our back yard? C) Members of the public must be provided with a meaningful opportunity to participate in the decisions that affect them . . .

Perhaps it is time to exercise our rights (responsibility) and show that we would like more transparency in our governments via website information. In the county website, under Permits and Plan review you can submit a survey about the website: <http://www.sbcounty.gov/ehlus/Default.aspx> Check your city website often regarding planning: **Apple Valley** (<http://www.applevalley.org/Index.aspx?page=155>) items include annexation of a Golden Triangle; **Barstow** includes a tab for meetings and agendas and a link to the DesertXpress high speed rail project. There is information about a meeting for a 25% rate hike in water service; **City of Victorville**: The home page has some news information including the Nisqualli/La Mesa I-15 interchange meeting on Dec 1. Under the tab City Developments you can find "planning" where several projects are listed: <http://ci.victorville.ca.us/planning.aspx>. This includes the new proposed "city" called "Desert Gateway" for the area around the current landfill near Quartzite Mountain; a Sustainability project around the current Civic Center.

Continued on Page 12 > >

Group News

Moreno Valley Group

by Ann Turner McKibben, Secretary

Please donate what you can to help us pay for the Sierra Club lawsuit challenging the approval of the 1,000,000 square foot West Ridge Commerce Center warehouse. The Moreno Valley City Council (on a 3-2 vote) overturned the Planning Commission's denial of the West Ridge Commerce Center warehouse on September 6. Council members Robin Hastings, Richard Stewart and William Batey voted in favor of the one million square foot warehouse which would border Highway 60 west of Redlands Boulevard. As mentioned before, there are major concerns about: significant increase in traffic, air quality issues, lack of a tenant and complaints from homeowners. The city's failure to demand Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for warehousing is also a problem. Please send your much appreciated donations to: Sierra Club, Moreno Valley Group, P.O. Box 1325, Moreno Valley, CA 92556-1325. Thank you very much to those who have already donated and to those who still have plans to help our efforts.

Monthly Bird Walks are held at Lake Perris State Recreation Area (LPSRA): Second Saturday of the Month, 8:00 a.m., Bernasconi Parking Lot; and Fourth Sunday of the Month, 9:00 a.m., Parking Lot 12, west end. The moderately easy walks are free with day use fee or camping fee and last 1-2 hours. Those 62 or older may purchase an annual pass which is good until December 31 for \$10.00. For information call (951) 940-5657 or (951) 940-5600. For the LPSRA Bird List call: (951) 940-5657.

The Moreno Valley Group is selling Sierra Club Wilderness wall and Engagement desk calendars for 2012. Please take time to buy some calendars and support the Sierra Club. Contact Theresa Carson at (951) 242-4752 to buy calendars. They make great gifts as does giving someone a Sierra Club membership.

The release of the draft environmental impact report (DEIR) for the Riverside County General Plan Update (GPU) has been delayed again, but now they will include the very important Climate Action Plan. The public review period will tentatively start in the summer of 2012 with public hearings tentatively occurring in late fall or early winter of 2012. At this point in time there is no scheduled date for General Plan Advisory Committee to meet. George Hague and alternate

Ann McKibben have represented the environmental community on the committee which is dominated by those connected to development interests. The GPU will impact all of us within Riverside County as it will lay out land use designations for years to come and it will also address sprawl, global climate change, noise and open space issues. Land use designations will significantly impact the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and open up valuable agricultural lands for development. County planner for the general plan update is Frank Coyle, Riverside County Planning Department, fcoyle@rctlma.org or (951) 955-2706. Please contact him and let him know that you want a copy of the DEIR and to be notified of all future documents as well as meetings related to the GPU.

The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley and the Sierra Club filed a lawsuit in April 2010 to challenge the approval of the Villages of Lakeview (Specific Plan 342) development on the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. According to George Hague, group conservation chair, the court hearing on the lawsuit (which is open to the public) has been postponed until late January or early February 2012. Please contact George Hague at movalleygroup@yahoo.com for information regarding the court hearing and the Sierra Club's role in the lawsuit.

The Moreno Valley Group is looking for someone who would be willing to edit and produce our once a year fall newsletter. The editor needs to have access to a computer, edit and layout the information, and once they are comfortable perhaps write a few very short articles. Most of the information (outings, calendar sales, news) would be provided. Other group members would help fold, label & stamp the newsletter. Contact us at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com or (951) 924-8150.

To visit the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (SJWA), located north of the Ramona Expressway in

Lakeview, take I-215 to the Ramona Expressway; drive east to Davis Road (there is a traffic signal at the corner) then 2.2 miles north on Davis to the area headquarters. According to the California Department of Fish and Game web page, a DFG Lands Pass is required while visiting the SJWA: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/landpass/>. Annual passes can be purchased at any time but are good only until December 31. Day passes are

the SJWA, check out www.svas.org. Contact Sue Nash at (909) 228-6710 or snash22@earthlink.net for information about nature walks at the SJWA.

The city of Moreno Valley Recreational Trails Board will sponsor a "Hike to Terri Peak" on January 28, 2012. Meet at 7:30 a.m. the Landmark Middle School parking lot, 15261 Legendary Drive, Moreno Valley. The hike is classified as difficult and approximately 7.8 miles round trip.

Because of state budget cuts, Lake Perris State Recreation Area (LPSRA) will be closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from October 2 to April 30. Please call (951) 940-5600 to confirm their hours of operation. For information on Lake Perris State Recreation Area, please check their web site at: <http://www.water.ca.gov/lakeperris/> for



Above: Lake Perris State Recreational Area offers many scenic views, camping and walking.

Right: Walkways at Lake Perris offer opportunities to relax and enjoy a day away. Photos by George Hague



also available. Please check the land pass web page and call the wildlife area office (number is listed below) to verify information about the day use fee. The wildlife area is open from dawn to dusk seven days a week, but please verify fall and winter hunting days (some areas are closed to the public because of hunting) before visiting the SJWA. Call their office at (951) 928-0580 to verify all information. Seasonal hunting occurs at the SJWA and other state wildlife areas. Hunting fees help support the acquisition of wildlife habitat throughout the state of California. For more information:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/lands/wa/region6/sanjacinto/> Please do not drive on Davis Road if it has rained or the road is muddy. For San Bernardino Valley Audubon birding field trips at

their hours of operation and events. Information on Limited Use Golden Bear passes can be found at: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=23800. Those who are age 62 and older are eligible for this \$10.00 annual pass which allows access to all state parks. This annual pass may be purchased anytime during the year but is good only until December 31st. See the link for application and more information. Lake Perris is a very peaceful location to take daily walks along their paths and walkways. If you are up to it, there is a ten mile walking and biking path around the lake.

For more information about our group 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: movalleygroup@yahoo.com



Mountains Group

by Dave Barrie, Chair

The Mountains Group wrapped up 2011 (as far as we know) with our annual Holiday Party and getaway weekend at Keller Hut.

We enjoyed turkey and the works, along with lots of tasty potluck dishes on Saturday the third of December and a pancake breakfast the next morning for those that spent the night. Thank you Sandy Ellis for cooking the turkey and thank you Bill Engs for flipping the flapjacks.

Dinner Saturday was followed by a white elephant gift exchange, including some interesting strategies (generally unsuccessful), some unselfish teamwork (can you say—"sneaky"), and some post-event trading talks that were curious to witness.

Sandy Ellis scored the evening's favorite prize, a cookie jar in the shape of an old-time policeman who orders you to "step away from the cookie jar" whenever the lid is raised.

It was 22 degrees inside Keller Hut on Saturday morning

when we opened up but the cast iron stove and the dining room fireplace soon had it cozy and warm.

The Holiday Party gave us a chance to look back as the year wraps up and to look forward to the coming year as well.

Looking back means first, and foremost, lots

as always, our environmental expert on any project or subject that arises! And thanks for the saunters and meanders.

Thank you Bill Engs for keeping our finances straight and for overseeing our Outings throughout the year. Hope you get better Birdwalk weather next year!

Thank you Sherry Noone for keeping us up to the minute with minutes, even while moving to a new home!

Thank you Don Fischer for getting our Conservation Committee up and running so well and for adding your energy and enthusiasm to our Outings team.

Thank you Jo Ann Fischer (*Palm and Pine* Editor) for bringing back our newsletter, *SquirrelTracks*, and for trying to help us to learn what words not to end a sentence with.

Thank you Bob Sherman (as you leave the



Photos by Mary Barrie

of thanks to those that made a wonderful year possible. Your contributions, in many diverse ways, are truly invaluable.

Thank you Steve Farrell for being,

Excom) for your pursuit of truth in a County that is often ignorant of its existence... this may be the only place that's as bad as you think.

Thank you Marta Hethmon for keeping our website relevant and up-to-date. Great birds!

Thank you Heather Sargeant (and your fundraising crew) for keeping us "in the money" for environmental battles, for support of the Children's Forest, and for our scholarship at the high school. And thanks Heather for all of the outings that you lead.

Thank you Bob Kinzel for your work on the Church of the Woods project and for agreeing to serve on the Excom. Have we got some surprises for you!

Thank you Sue (Tsunami) Walker for your organization of Town Hall meetings to help keep our community informed about the Church of the Woods project and for the seemingly boundless energy that you bring to our efforts!

Thank you Dave Ficke (environmental education), Trudie and Carl Blank (hospitality), Carol Kinzel (Earthday) and Jan Smith and Ray Manzano (Church of the Woods petition efforts).

The coming year holds challenges (like the Church of the Woods project) and the promise of fun (41 Outings and Events) for the Mountains Group and we hope that we are able to prove that many hands make light work and the more the merrier!



Calendar of Outings, Meetings, and Other Events

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2012

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

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Items for the March/April 2012 Calendar are due by February 1, 2012.

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

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

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

GENERAL INFORMATION, RULES & DISCLAIMERS

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

WHAT TO BRING

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

ADVENTURE PASS SPECIAL NOTICE

Most outings occurring in the San Bernardino, Angeles, Cleveland, or Los Padres National Forests require a Forest Service permit for each vehicle (Adventure Pass). 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 permit or find a ride in a vehicle with a permit, you will not be able to attend the outing. You are expected to share the cost of the daily permits equally among everyone in the vehicle or a suggested \$.50 contribution from everyone for annual permits (above normal mileage contribution). America The Beautiful Interagency Passes may be used in lieu of Adventure Pass.

CARPPOOLING POLICY

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

LIABILITY WAIVER

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RECURRING MONTHLY MEETINGS

(LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)

(1ST MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING

Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on Feb. 7, Apr. 4, May 2, Oct. 3, Nov. 7. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS 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

(1ST THU) 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

(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 & directions. CONTACT: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER, (951) 767-2203, <gardens@netzon.net> SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

(3RD TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING

Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

(3RD TUE) 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

(3RD 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

(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: RALPH SALISBURY (951) 686-4141 <ralfsalisbury@att.net>. CHAPTER

WEEKLY RECURRING OUTINGS & FITNESS ACTIVITIES

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings

MON 6:00 PM RIVERSIDE MT. RUBIDOUX ONE HOUR FITNESS WALK

MEET: Ninth Street entrance to Mt. Rubidoux. INFO: JUDY SMITH, (951) 369-5117. CHAPTER

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 & JENNY WILDER (760) 220-0730 <jensoasis@aol.com>. MOJAVE GROUP

FRI 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP CONDITIONING HIKE

Please join me for a 3-6 mile conditioning walk around Jess Ranch. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road in Apple Valley. BRING flashlight, jacket & comfortable walking shoes. Wear layered clothing. Rainy/Foul weather cancels, so please call before hike. LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430 <Labelady@msn.com> MOJAVE GROUP

DECEMBER 26 – January 1

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

DEC 29 - JAN 2 (THU-MON) HOLIDAY IN CARRIZO PLAIN SERVICE

Once again we return to the Carrizo Plain to celebrate the end of the year and to offer service to the pronghorn antelope in this National Monument. Lying between Bakersfield and San Luis Obispo, this vast grassland is home to pronghorn antelope, tule elk, kit fox, and a wide variety of birds. A welcome hike Dec. 29, two and a half days of service modifying barbed wire fencing, and a full day for hiking and exploring are planned. Use of accommodations at Goodwin Ranch is included. LIMITED to 14 participants, \$30 covers four dinners and breakfast on New Year's morning. For more INFORMATION, contact LEADER: CRAIG DEUTSCHE <craig.deutsche@gmail.com> (310) 477-6670. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

DEC 31-JAN 1 (SAT-SUN) NEW YEAR'S IN GERLACH WALK

A totally informal New Year's in Gerlach involving walking between the three bars. Unless you are really hardy, stay at Bruno's Motel, check in and reservations at the bar, 775-557-2220. We may have other activities, hot springs (if the playa permits), the local art gallery, scenic drive, etc. Dogs limited, prepare to clean up after your dog. SIGN-UP 12/15-12/28. LEADER: DAVID BOOK, 775-843-6443. GREAT BASIN GROUP/TOIYABE CHAPTER

JANUARY 2 – JANUARY 8

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

JAN 3 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING

The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 3 (TUE) 8:00 AM LOWER MARSHALL CANYONS HIKE

Join us for this easy 4 mile RT outing, to start off 2012 in this beautiful riparian setting as you weave your way about stream and golf course vistas. Elevation gain is a mere 300'. BRING; water, good hiking shoes and layered clothing. MEET at W corner of Esperanza Dr/Canyon Crest Dr under electric towers, city of La Verne. Rain cancels. LEADERS: JEFF WARHOL (909) 985-7686 jmwandjjw@hotmail.com and JOE WHYTE. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 5

JAN 3 (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 5 (THU) 8:00 AM POTATO MOUNTAIN - HAPPY NEW YEAR HIKE
This moderate 5 mile RT hike is a 1,200' elevation gainer that answers "New Year's Resolution Challenges" as you peel your way through Evey Canyon up to Potato's summit. MEET at NW corner of 16th and Mountain, Upland Stater Bros parking lot to carpool. BRING: water, good hiking shoes and layered clothing. Rain cancels. LEADERS JEFF WARHOL (909) 985-7686 <jmwandjjw@hotmail.com> and JOE WHYTE. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 5 (THU) 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 7 (SAT) 8:00 AM SUNSET PEAK HIKE
This will be a moderate 7-mile round trip hike on a fire road up to the top of Sunset Peak (elevation 5796 ft) with 1300 ft. elevation gain. Great panoramic views in all directions from the peak. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, water, snack, sunscreen, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. MEET: Contact prior to scheduled date for carpooling and meeting place. LEADER: JOHN ST. CLAIR <john@stclairs.us> or 909-983-8501. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 7 (SAT) 8:15 AM JOHNNY LANG CANYON & MINE HIKE
Johnny Lang was an early prospector who began the Lost Horse Mine operation. After Johnny sold his shares, he moved into a small cabin in this canyon. Today, scant remains of his cabin can be found near the mouth of the canyon. The mine shafts remain as Johnny left them. So, join me as we visit the past missed fortunes. This is a 10.0 mile round-trip mile hike taking 6 to 7 hours to complete. RATING: moderate. MEET: Park Blvd Joshua Tree National Park Visitor Center, just south of Hwy 62 and Park Blvd intersection. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch/snack, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER ED CALIENDO (760) 328-1090 <dogs111@msn.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 8 (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 January 9.) Hikes are moderately paced. Between 4 and 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, and wear sturdy shoes/boots. Rain cancels. INFO: LEADERS PATTY and DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JANUARY 9 – JANUARY 15

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

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

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

JAN 11 (WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: CAROL WILEY, (760) 245-8734, <desertlily1@verizon.net> MOJAVE GROUP

JANUARY 16 – JANUARY 22

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

JAN 14 (SAT) 9:00AM PAM'S HIKE - JUNIPER FLATS AREA HIKE
This is a moderate-strenuous 10 mile hike through the Juniper Flats Area. After starting with a warming 4 mile climb of about 1,200 feet the terrain opens up with only a couple more short inclines. The views are fantastic throughout the hike, starting with the Mojave River and San Gabriel mountains behind you. Then the San Bernardino Mountains to the south and finally the Victor Valley and beyond as you start the descent near Bonita Vista. We will be arranging a short shuttle for the hike. High clearance is *not* required. WEAR layered clothing, hat and bring plenty of water/lunch/snacks and 10 essentials. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum. Visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/25273386@N08/sets/72157625675624030/> for spring photos of this hike. LEADER JENNY WILDER <JensOasis@aol.com> 760 220 0730. MOJAVE GROUP

JAN 14 (SAT) 8:30 AM MURRAY HILL "PEAK" HIKE
This is a challenging trail with a 2,100' elevation gain located adjacent to Palm Springs and Cathedral City adjacent to Hwy 111. From the top of Murray Hill you will have magnificent view of Palm Springs, Cathedral City and Palm Canyon as well as views of Mt. San Jacinto. This is a 9.0 mile round-trip hike taking 5 hours to complete. RATING: Strenuous. MEET: Behind Rim Rock Shopping Center on the east side located at 5400 E. Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch/snack, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat and gloves. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER ED CALIENDO (760) 328-1090 <dogs111@msn.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 17 (TUE) 9:00 AM CACTUS FLATS TO SILVER PEAK HIKE
A strenuous 4 to 6 mile hike some of which will be cross country. Good views of the Mojave Desert. BRING water, layered clothing and hiking boots. MEET: Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9:00 AM. Please call to confirm snow could cancel. LEADER: ED WALLACE 909 584 9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 17 (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 17 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site <www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org>. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 17 (TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Speaker: David Woodruff from the Eastern Sierra Land Trust, a non-profit land trust that works with willing private land owners (usually farmers and ranchers) that wish to preserve their large areas of open space land in the Eastern Sierra from Olancha to Walker. David will explain how they use conservation easements to preserve open space, and have saved over 6400 acres from development. Come join us to hear about this interesting work in a beautiful area. 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

JAN 18 (WED) 9:00 AM S B MTS, GREEN VALLEY LAKE SNOWSHOE
Green Valley Lake has some of the best snow in our local mountains, so come and join me for a day of fun. No prior snowshoe experience is necessary—it is not difficult to learn—just another form of hiking. You need to provide your own equipment. MEET: main parking area in G V Lake at 9 AM. WEAR layered clothing, BRING: No need to bring lunch just a snack and water. Please CALL to check on weather conditions. If no snow, we will hike. LEADER: SANDY ELLIS. 909-867-7115, <fsellis67@gmail.com> SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

JAN 19 (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 20-22 (FRI-SUN) DEATH VALLEY NP WILDERNESS RESTORATION SERVICE
Come help restore wilderness in this beautiful and remote desert area. We will work with Death Valley Wilderness Coordinator Charlie Callagan. Past projects have included re-landscaping former OHV routes that are now in wilderness, trail repair and cleaning up around historic cabins. MEET early Friday afternoon to work. Happy hour potluck Saturday night. Friday and Saturday night camping may be primitive or may be in one of the parks campgrounds. LEADER: KATE ALLEN <kj.allen96@gmail.com> 661-944-4056. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

JAN 21 (SAT) PCT- CEDAR SPRINGS DAM TO HWY 173 HIKE
Please join me and others for a 9 mile moderate hike on the Pacific Crest Trail along the foothills of Summit Valley. This hike is rated moderate do to the length, but has little to no elevation gain. Beautiful views of Summit Valley, with a possibility of stream crossings. Wear layered clothing, hat and bring lunch/snacks & 10 essentials as well as good hiking shoes. We will be meeting at the Victor Valley Museum in Apple Valley. CALL for meeting time. Rain Cancels. LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430 <Labelady@msn.com> MOJAVE GROUP

JAN 21 (SAT) 8:15 AM STUBBY SPRING LOOP HIKE
This hike is within the Joshua Tree National Park and offers a quite wilderness experience in the desert. The trail travels through a variety of terrains, vegetation and grand views. It leads over mountains and ridge tops and through valleys, canyons, washes, and a dramatic precipice. This is a 12.0 mile loop hike taking 6 to 8 hours to complete. RATING: moderate/strenuous due to the distance. The elevation gain is 630'. MEET: Park Blvd Joshua Tree National Park Visitor Center, just south of Hwy 62 and Park Blvd intersection. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat and gloves. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER ED CALIENDO (760) 328-1090 <dogs111@msn.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

JANUARY 23 – JANUARY 29

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

JAN 24 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RALPH SALISBURY (951) 686-4141 <ralphsalisbury@att.net>. CHAPTER

JAN 28 (SAT) 8:30 AM PACIFIC CREST TRAIL SOUTH FROM I-10 HIKE
The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) comes down the north face of San Jacinto Mountain, spilling over into the San Gorgonio Pass, across I-10, and northward up the slopes of the San Bernardo Mountains. We will hike south from the San Bernardino Hwy (Interstate10) to Snow Creek Canyon. (Later in the spring of 2012, we will hike PCT down the San Jacinto Mountain from Fuller Ridge 16.3 miles connecting with Snow Creek Road.) This is a 10.0 mile through-trip hike taking 5 hours to complete. RATING: Strenuous, with an elevation gain of 2,000'. MEET: On I-10 and Haugen-Lehmann Way off-ramp on the north side of I-10. We will shuttle return cars to Snow Creek Road. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch/snack, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat and gloves. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER ED CALIENDO (760) 328-1090 <dogs111@msn.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 28 (SAT) 9:00 AM SANTA ROSA PLATEAU HIKE
Join us on an easy 4.5-5 mile hike to the historic adobes. If you are looking for an easy hike in a beautiful area you may enjoy this one. The hike should take between 2 and 3 hours depending on our pace. BRING plenty of water, wear comfortable shoes, dress in layers and don't forget the sunscreen. Bring a snack for when we take a break at the Adobes. MEET at the Hidden Valley trail head. DIRECTIONS: From interstate 15 in Murrieta, exit southwest on Clinton Kieth Rd. Drive 5.8 miles to the Hidden Valley Trail head on the left side of the road. The trail head is located shortly beyond where the road makes a sharp left turn and changes name to Tenaja. There is a \$2 day use fee for using the reserve. No wilderness pass is needed. Rain Cancels. RESERVATIONS: contact LEADER BOB AUDIBERT <bob.takeahike1@gmail.com> (951)302-1059. SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

JAN 28-29 (SAT-SUN) WINTER ESCAPE IN THE CARRIZO PLAIN SERVICE
This outing combines a day of assistance to the Carrizo National Monument with a day of sightseeing and/or hiking. Weather can be cold, gray, and rainy, or it can be warm and bright - we take our chances. The service will be in removing or modifying fences to give pronghorn greater mobility on the plain, and the recreation will be determined by the wishes of the group. This is an opportunity to combine carcamping, day-hiking, exploring, and service in a relatively unknown wilderness. LEADER: CRAIG DEUTSCHE, <craig.deutsche@gmail.com> 310-477-6670. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

JAN 29 (SUN) 8:00 AM LADDER CANYON HIKE
This is very different from our usual local hikes – a real adventure. We will drive about 2 hrs to get out to Mecca Hills, so plan to carpool. The hike itself is about 5 miles with less than 500 ft. of elevation. You will need to be able to climb up and down ladders, and we will walk through the narrow slot canyon. It's lots of fun with many interesting geologic features. Check Los Serranos website for some pictures. Plan on most of the day due to the distance. WEAR layers, hiking boots, bring plenty of water, snacks and lunch. Rain cancels. MEET: Contact leader for meeting place. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ 909-815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

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JANUARY 30 – FEBRUARY 5

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

JAN 31 (TUE) 9:00 AM SAND/BOW CANYON LOOP SNOWSHOE/HIKE
A moderate 6 mile cross country hike/snow shoe below the southern ridge line of the Big Bear Valley. This will be a snowshoe if conditions permit and a hike if they don't. Contact the leader prior to the hike for conditions. MEET at the Vons parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9:00 AM to car pool to the trailhead which has limited parking. LEADER: ED WALLACE (909) 584-9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 4 (SAT) 8:15 AM BULLSEYE ROCK HIKE
This is the final 7.3 mile section of the California Riding & Hiking Trail traveling along the base of the Belle Mountain in the Joshua Tree National Park. Look for an interesting rock formation appropriately named Bullseye Rock. The rock looks like a giant calf's head where the hiker becomes the pupil of the eye. A great photo opportunity! This is a 7.3 mile through-hike taking 3 to 4 hours to complete. RATING: moderate. MEET: Joshua Tree National Park Oasis Visitor Center located in Twenty-nine Palms at the intersection of Hwy 62 and Utah Trail. We will need volunteers to help shuttle hikers from the trails end to the North Entrance to retrieve vehicles. The road is paved. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch/snack, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat and gloves. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER ED CALIENDO (760) 328-1090 <dogs111@msn.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 5 (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 7.) Hikes are moderately paced. Between 4 and 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, and wear sturdy shoes/boots. Rain cancels. LEADERS PATTY and DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEBRUARY 6 – FEBRUARY 12

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

FEB 6 (MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUPEXCOM MEETING
Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on Feb. 7, Apr. 4, May 2, Oct. 3, Nov. 7. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 7 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 7 (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

FEB 8 (WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: CAROL WILEY, (760) 245-8734, <desertlily1@verizon.net> MOJAVE GROUP

FEB 11 (SAT) 8:00 AM CALICO PEAK- ODESSA CANYON HIKE
Come join my annual moderate/strenuous 14-mile hike to Calico Peak by way of Odessa Canyon in the beautiful Calico Mts north of Barstow. BRING layered clothes, sturdy boots and 3-4 quarts of water. MEET at the BLM parking lot on South Barstow Rd across from Barstow College at 8:00am or contact LEADER TERRENCE MCCORKLE 760-252-2194, 760-412-1683 (cell) <oldhikerdude@verizon.net> MOJAVE GROUP

FEB 11 (SAT) 8:30 AM PIPES CANYON/INDIAN LOOP HIKE
The Pipes Canyon-Indian Loop can be found within the Pioneertown Mountains Preserve managed by The Wildlands Conservancy. The woodlands in the canyon are nourished by a flowing stream from the surrounding mountain snowmelt runoff. Pinion pine, Joshua trees, goldenbush, Mojave yucca, and a generous offering of other plant species are to be seen along with Bighorn sheep, mule deer, rabbits, coyote, and other animals. This is a 7.0 mile loop-hike taking 4 hours to complete. RATING: Moderate, with an elevation gain of 900'. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch/snack, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat and gloves. MEET: Take I-10 to Hwy 62 turn north towards Joshua Tree National Park. After 19 miles, in the town of Yucca Valley, turn left at Pioneertown Road. After 5-6 miles at the Pipes Canyon Road intersection (marked by a Pioneertown Mountains Preserve sign), drive west for 0.6 miles veer right at the next sign for Pioneertown Mountains Preserve, continue driving 0.4 miles to the entrance gate and parking area. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER ED CALIENDO (760) 328-1090 <dogs111@msn.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 11 (SAT) 9:00 AM VATICAN TO ROUND MOUNTAIN SPRINGS HIKE
This hike is a 6 mile moderate round trip hike. We follow a footpath beside a wash and over a hill between two springs in the Juniper Flats Area. Hike includes lovely views of the mountains and Juniper Flats ACEC (Area of Critical Environmental Concern). We will check for water in the springs and the cumulative impacts of cattle. Don't forget to bring binoculars and camera! BRING plenty of water/lunch/snacks & 10 essentials. WEAR layered clothing, hat. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road at 9am. High clearance vehicle is recommended. LEADER JENNY WILDER <JensOasis@aol.com> 760 220 0730. MOJAVE GROUP

FEBRUARY 13 – FEBRUARY 19

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

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

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

FEB 15 (WED) 9:00 AM S B MTS, GREEN VALLEY LAKE SNOWSHOE
Join me for a day of fun. No prior snowshoe experience is necessary—it is not difficult to learn—just another form of hiking. You need to provide your own equipment. Please CALL to check on weather

conditions. If no snow, we will hike. MEET: main parking area in G V Lake at 9 AM. WEAR: layered clothing. BRING: No need to bring lunch just a snack and water. LEADER: SANDY ELLIS, 909-867-7115, <fsellis67@gmail.com> SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 16 (THU) 9:00 AM BIG BEAR WALKABOUT SNOWSHOE/HIKE
A moderate to strenuous 6 to 8 mile cross country hike/snow shoe below the southern ridge line of the Big Bear Valley between Bear Mountain and Snow Summit ski resorts. This will be a snowshoe if conditions permit and a hike if they don't. Contact the leader prior to the hike for conditions. MEET at the Vons parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9:00AM to car pool to the trailhead which has limited parking. LEADER: ED WALLACE (909) 584-9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 16 (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 18 (SAT) 8:00 AM SPITLER PEAK TRAIL HIKE**
The views at the top show the panorama of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto mountains with glimpses of the Palomar Range. The first 3-4 miles of this 10.5 mile hike and 2000' elevation gain are especially scenic and offering great views of Lake Hemet. RATING: Strenuous. MEET: Turn north on Apple Canyon Road off of Hwy 74 and drive north approximately 3 miles and you will see a sign for the Spitler Peak Trail, park there. A National Forest Adventure Pass is required to park at the trail head. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER ED CALIENDO (760) 328-1090 <dogs111@msn.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 18 (SAT) 8:00 AM S B MTS, LAKE GREGORY WINTER BIRD WALK
See wintering birds as we walk around the lake (2.5 miles). Optional breakfast after. MEET: South Shore parking lot, just east of the water slide. LEADER: BILL ENGS, <engs@juno.com>, 909-338-1910. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 18-20 (SAT-MON) GRASS VALLEY WILDERNESS EXPLORATION SERVICE
Located slightly east and south of Ridgecrest, CA, the Grass Valley Wilderness was created in 1994. It features rolling hills and a few higher rock outcroppings. As it is no longer available for grazing we will join a group of college age SCA interns in removing old fence poles and disguising an illegal road. Saturday and Sunday are for work, and Monday, President's Day, will be reserved to hike and explore the Wilderness. This is an opportunity to combine car-camping, day-hiking, exploring, and service in a relatively unknown wilderness. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER: CRAIG DEUTSCHE, 310-477-6670, <craig.deutsche@gmail.com> CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

FEB 19 (SUN) 8:00 AM PUSHWALLA PLATEAU HIKE
This moderate hike up to Pushwalla Plateau and pass area affords great views of Pleasant Valley area of Joshua Tree and, in the opposite direction, Mt San Jacinto, the Santa Rose Mountains and Palm Springs Valley. About 6.5 miles round trip, we gain 1000 feet up to the pass. Trailhead is at the end of Geology Tour Road, a dirt road that can be impassable after rain. We will do an alternate Joshua Tree NP hike if road is not passable. WEAR layers, hiking boots, BRING plenty of water, snacks and lunch. Carpooling recommended, \$15 park entrance fee or National Parks pass required. MEET: Contact leader for meeting place and time. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ 909-815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEBRUARY 20 – FEBRUARY 26

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

FEB 21 (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 21 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 21 (TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Speaker: TBA. 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

FEB 25 (SAT) 8:30 AM CACTUS SPRING TRAIL HIKE
This trail brings us into close contact with the Santa Rosa Wilderness. The trail provides some scenic vistas of Martinez Mountain and chaparral covered slopes of the vast watershed known as Horsethief Creek. This is a 9.0 mile round-trip hike taking 5 hours to complete. RATING: Moderate, with an elevation gain of 1,200'. MEET: The trailhead is located southeast of Idyllwild. From Palm Desert, take Hwy 74 south almost 16 miles until you pass Sugarloaf Café, where you take the first paved road to the left. A sign on Hwy 74 indicates the Cactus Spring Trailhead. Go 0.25 mile, then turn left into a large parking area. We will meet there. From Hemet, the trailhead is 8.0 miles east of the junction of Hwy 371 and Hwy 74. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch/snack, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat and gloves. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER ED CALIENDO (760) 328-1090 <dogs111@msn.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 25 (SAT) 9:00 AM AGUA CALIENTE CREEK TRAIL HIKE
Join me on an easy 4 mile out and back hike of the Agua Caliente Creek Trail in Warner Springs. This trail is a part of the Pacific Crest Trail. This hike is not designed to be strenuous with only about 400ft of elevation gain. From the parking area (a large turnout on highway 79) the trail goes east along a cottonwood shaded creek. In this first mile, the trail goes through Warner Ranch resort property on an easement. Near the Cleveland National Forest boundary the canyon narrows, and water trickles or gushes depending on rainfall. The hike should take between two and two and a half hours. BRING plenty of water, a lunch, comfortable hiking shoes, dress in layers and don't forget the sunscreen. Rain cancels. DIRECTIONS: From 79 south (Temecula Parkway) and Margarita Rd in Temecula drive east about 33 miles. When you pass the glider port on the right travel another half mile and look for a large turnout on the right. That is the parking lot. No Wilderness permit is needed on this hike. LEADER: BOB AUDIBERT. <bob.takeahike1@gmail.com> (951) 302-1059. SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

FEBRUARY 27 – MARCH 4

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

Continued on Page 8 > > >

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 7

FEB 28 (TUE) 8:00 AM SANTA ANA RIVER - CRAM PEAK/MORTON PEAK HIKE
 This 12-mile round trip hike has a 2800 ft elevation gain. Great views of the Santa Ana River drainage. A portion of the hike will be on unmaintained trail. BRING water layered clothing and hiking boots. MEET: Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 8:00 AM and Mill Creek Ranger Station at 9:00. Please call to confirm snow could cancel. LEADER: ED WALLACE 909 584 9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 28 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
 Chapter governance meeting. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RALPH SALISBURY (951) 686-4141 <ralphsalisbury@att.net>. CHAPTER

MAR 1 (THU) 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

FUTURE SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

MAR 3-4 (SAT-SUN) 8:00AM DEATH VALLEY AREA TOUR CAR CAMP
 This trip will begin on Saturday morning at 8:00 in Shoshone, a small town about 50 miles north of Baker, at the picnic area next to the store. From there we will start our Death Valley tour, stopping at Badwater, Natural Bridge, Golden Canyon and Artists Palette. There will be short hikes and lunch along the way. We will camp Saturday night at Texas Springs Campground (\$14.00 per night, ___ price with Golden Age Pass). We can do two vehicles per campsite. After breakfast Sunday morning we will make a stop at scenic Zambriskie Point. Then a drive through 20 Mule Team Canyon (2.7 miles on decent dirt road). From there we will continue on Hwy. 190 to Death Valley Junction and then north on 127 to Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge. If time allows we will continue south to Amargosa Canyon and China Ranch, which has great hiking opportunities and great date shakes. For those wanting to stay over Sunday night there will be primitive camping in the area and we could do more hiking in Amargosa Canyon. For those wanting to arrive in Shoshone on Friday night there will be primitive camping near Shoshone. Let me know if you are arriving on Friday and I will send directions to the campsite. Be sure to have a full tank of gas and plenty of food and water. There is a \$20.00 fee for DVNP, but free with Golden Age Pass. RESERVATIONS: contact LEADER CAROL WILEY <Desertlily1@verizon.net> (760) 245-8734. MOJAVE GROUP

APR 7-8 (SAT-SUN) MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE HIKE & CAR CAMP
 Saturday morning we will MEET at Teutonia Peak trailhead on Cima Road for a hike to Teutonia Peak and out onto Cima Dome and then camp at Sunrise Rocks, which is primitive camping. Sunday we will hike from Midhills to Hole-in-the-Wall. This is an 8 mile, downhill hike and if the timing is right could have wonderful windflowers. For those wanting to arrive on Friday we can go out to the Rock Springs Loop Trail. For those wanting to stay overnight on Sunday we can have a primitive camp near the Kelso Dunes and hike the dunes on Monday morning. RESERVATIONS: contact LEADER CAROL WILEY <desertlily1@verizon.net> (760) 245-8734. MOJAVE GROUP

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

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

(1ST FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 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 <lgseekins@sbcglobal.net> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

(3RD TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS OPEN SPACE MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT
 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>

(3RD WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
 PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit 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
 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 <lgseekins@sbcglobal.net> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

JAN 6 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$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 <lgseekins@sbcglobal.net> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

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Join Us On A "Trip" to the Galapagos on February 7th

Darwin's Enchanted Islands: The Galapagos

Los Serranos Group member, Brian Elliott, will present our February chapter program. His topic will be his recent trip this past summer to the Galapagos Islands. Brian will give the program during the monthly chapter meeting at 7:30 PM, Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands.

The Galapagos Islands were made famous when young Charles Darwin, naturalist on the *H.M.S Beagle*, visited them for five weeks in 1835. Here Darwin saw numerous species of birds, lizards, and plants that though they seemed familiar, were also quite unique. There were mockingbirds and finches that looked slightly different on each island, giant tortoises, and those "imps of darkness," the black marine iguanas that ate algae, underwater, from the intertidal rocks!

Brian visited nine of the islands while living aboard a 16 passenger boat named Daphne. His group walked through the dramatic volcanic landscapes and beautiful beaches. While on land they were able to witness, learn about, and photograph the unique and fascinating flora and fauna. The cruises between islands offered Brian the opportunity to observe pelagic bird species and marine life.

Each day included two land excursions and one snorkeling trip. Zodiacs were the vessels used to land and to go snorkeling from while on the trip. The underwater life was every very bit as varied and interesting at the life above the water. Swimming with curious sea lions, great sea turtles, and dolphins was a remarkable experience.

Nesting colonies of three species of booby and two species of frigate birds occur on the islands. Visitors sometimes get within inches of the birds. They seem to have no fear and will even nest in the trails themselves. The land and marine iguanas are also seemingly fearless and visitors have to carefully watch where they step as they walk as to avoid the great lizards. Sea lions by the hundreds crowd some of the beaches while the Waved Albatross colony on the island San Cristobal do their intricate mating ritual a few feet away from humans. It is all a remarkable wildlife experience!

These remote islands, over 600 miles out in the Pacific from the coast of Ecuador, were called *Las Encantadas* – the Enchanted Islands – by early mariners and Yankee whalers. Darwin visited the islands in 1832 and the world was changed because of his discoveries and conclusions regarding evolutionary biology.



Modern-day travelers and naturalists continue to fall under the spell of this wondrous place. The islands offer a spectacular wildlife experience. Most animals are easily approached for close viewing. Fur seals, sea lions, penguins, flightless cormorants, iguanas, giant tortoises, and the variety of native land bird species, many of them endemic, provide amazing of photographic and observation opportunities. These isolated oceanic islands are also rich in unique plant and marine life. Because of their location on an active tectonic area, it is possible to study geology in a way that no textbook could match!

Our speaker, Brian Elliott, is a former geologist who is now in his 26th of teaching at San Dimas High School. He currently teaches Advanced Placement Environmental Science and Advanced Placement Physics classes and regularly takes his students on camping and hiking trips and coaches the school's Science Olympiad, Science Bowl, and Solar Boat teams.

Outside of school he has organized and led many backpacking trips including several in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge of Alaska and on Baffin Island in Canada. He has rock climbed extensively across North America, Europe, and Australia including big wall ascents of El Capitan and Half Dome in Yosemite. Brian was a member of a Himalayan climbing expedition in the mid-90s with a group of his friends in the Karakorum Mountains in Pakistan.

His wife, Janice, always wants to remind people that Brian completed the Angeles Crest 100 Mile Run the summer that they met. He and Janice are avid birders and spend a good deal of their travel time these days to bird local and not so local birding areas. The past two years have found them visiting Panama and Australia pursuing this interest.



Sierra Student Coalition

Students: Check out
<http://www.ssc.org>

Get Involved – Whether you're brand-new to activism or you've been organizing for years, the Sierra Student Coalition offers many ways to plug into the youth clean energy movement.

Stay Connected – Sign up for the SSC Update, our monthly newsletter, to stay up to date on the SSC's campaigns and highlights. Join the SSC Energy Forum to receive e-mails about energy campaigns and new opportunities and events.

Get Trained – Learn more about the SSC's phone trainings or summer trainings, where you can get the skills you need to win victories for clean and just energy solutions.

Questions?
 E-mail
sierra.student@sierraclub.org



*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.

Santa Margarita Group

by Jim Mitchell, Chair

The Santa Margarita Group has launched an outdoor pilot program that has become very popular in the Temecula-Murrieta area. The program was designed by Pam Nelson, our Conservation Chair, and Teri Biancardi, our Educational Outreach Chair. Still in its early development stage, the program focuses on the local home-school networking. The idea is to give families that home-school their children a chance to experience and learn more about the outdoor resources local to the Southwest Riverside area. Parents accompany their children on the outings that often take place at campgrounds and preserves with docents and experts guiding the group. But here is Teri Biancardi to tell you more about it.

Teri Biancardi, Educational Outreach Committee Chair

Our Outdoor Families program has had 3 successful outings with participation of enthusiastic families and other members. One of our recent trips we went to the confluence of the Santa Margarita River where we visited the River's origin. Pablo Bryant, a staff member at the Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve (SMER) explained this eastern edge of their boundary. With water quality kits, the families took samples of the Temecula, Murrieta and Santa Margarita Rivers, which they had identified earlier on maps of the watershed. On our following visit we sampled the Santa Margarita River farther into the gorge when we visited the SMER field station. On this visit, we learned about some of the ongoing research at the Reserve.



At the edge of the Santa Margarita River home-school students and their parents learn about water sampling.
 Photo by Teri Biancardi

On January 13th we will visit the Dripping Springs campground, east of Temecula. This is in the Cleveland National Forest

in the Agua Tibia/ Palomar Mountain range. It is adjacent to the Agua Tibia Wilderness and has a protected habitat for the arroyo toad on the creek that runs through the campground. Ranger Ken Colburn will describe the habitat and protection efforts.

On February 10th we will visit Johnson Ranch Preserve where a Center for Natural Land Management Ranger will discuss the history and conservation efforts of this special wildlife area adjacent to Temecula. Burrowing owls use the site, as well as other endangered animals.

If you are interested in additional information about our Outdoor Families Program contact Pam Nelson, pamela05n@yahoo.com, 951 767-2324.

Pam Nelson, Conservation Committee Chair

The Beauty Mountain/Agua Tibia proposed Wilderness Bill is still getting much attention in Congress. I think it will be considered in January. The proposed Beauty Mountain/Aqua Tibia Wilderness Bill consists of approximately 14,000 acres and if approved will be of great benefit to the Temecula Valley watershed. Water, habitat and air quality will be protected by this Wilderness. Hiking, equestrian use and other low impact recreation will remain available to Southwest Riverside county residents, in perpetuity. The entire wilderness will be doubled because of this San Diego portion add-on.

The Temecula Wine Country residents are getting more concerned as the Expansion Plan is suggesting an exemption to the county light ordinance. There are multiple impacts that are already affecting their quality of life. The EIR has now been released and will be studied thoroughly by the various grass-roots groups that have been formed to watchdog the process.

Bob Audibert, Group Outings Committee Chair with hike leader, Gary Marsalone

On Saturday, February 25th we are headed for the Agua Caliente Creek Trail. We will start at 9 AM on an easy 4 mile out and back hike of the Agua Caliente Creek Trail in Warner Springs. This trail is a part of the Pacific Crest Trail. This hike is not designed to be strenuous with only about 400ft of elevation gain. From the parking area (a large turnout on highway 79) the trail goes east along a cottonwood shaded creek. In this first mile, the trail goes through Warner Ranch resort property on an easement. Near the Cleveland National Forest boundary the canyon narrows, and water trickles or gushes depending on rainfall. The hike should take between two and two and a half hours. As always

bring plenty of water, a lunch and comfortable hiking shoes. And please dress in layers and don't forget the sunscreen. RAIN CANCELS. Here are the directions: from 79 south (Temecula Parkway) and Margarita Road in Temecula drive east about 33 miles. When you pass the glider port on the right travel another half mile and look for a large turnout on the right. That is the parking lot for the Agua Caliente Creek Trail. Leader: Bob Audibert. For more information email me at bob.takeahike@gmail.com or call me at (951)302-1059. No Wilderness permit is needed for this hike.

Laurie Webster, Group Activities Committee, Chair

On a sunny Sunday in November more than 20 of us gathered in historic Pasadena for a docent-led walking tour of the Arroyo Neighborhood. This is a beautiful area of Pasadena full of historically significant Craftsman style homes. While the wealthy lived in their mansions on Orange Grove and the surrounding streets, artists congregated on the banks of the arroyo, forming what became known as the "Arroyo Culture."



Sierra Club Santa Margarita Group
 Pasadena Heritage Tour, Nov. 2011

Plein-air painters such as Benjamin Brown, Elmer Wachtel and Marian Kavanagh Wachtel and Franz Bischoff frequently found inspiration in this untamed natural environment. Our docent shared with us some of the philosophy behind this cultural movement and how it was incorporated into both architecture and lifestyle. Then, after lunch we all headed to the Norton Simon Museum. This small museum is truly world-class and one of my personal favorites. It was a perfect way to spend the afternoon. Then in

the late afternoon we all met at an excellent local Italian restaurant. We had reserved a long table for all of us and sat together and talked about the wonderful things we had seen and enjoyed. It was a perfect way to end an absolutely spectacular day.

We are going to have more local trips just like this one in the months ahead. We will keep you informed so you can join us. Your ideas are also welcome. Please contact me at (Laurie.laurie_r_w@yahoo.com.)

Fred Bartz, Environmental Action Committee Chair

One of our focuses is the proposed Liberty Quarry in the Temecula Foothills. While the Riverside County Planning Commission voted 4 to 1 to DENY the proposed Liberty Quarry project, this subject is not yet over. The Applicant (Granite Construction) has the right to appeal this decision, and had vowed to do so, to the County Board of Supervisors. No other known gravel quarry pit has been proposed to be located on the boarder of a world renowned Ecological Reserve. Now more than ever, it is important to let your County Supervisor know that the proposed Liberty Quarry project is simply the Wrong Project in the Wrong Location. I urge you to: write, e-mail, or call your County Supervisor and ask that they OPPOSE the proposed Liberty Quarry Project. For more information, please go to: www.nogravelquarry.com or contact Fred at (951) 294-0057 on how you can get involved.

OUR SANTA MARGARITA GROUP GENERAL MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE 3rd THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT THE RANCHO CALIFORNIA WATER DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS, 42135 WINCHESTER ROAD, TEMECULA 92589 STARTING AT 6:30PM.

Also, visit our web site: www.sierraclubsmg.org

Eldon Hughes . . . from Page 1

"I'm going to encourage folks to go out and see it, walk it, drive it and photograph it."

Hughes backed Feinstein's ongoing efforts to establish two national monuments on roughly 1 million acres of Mojave Desert that is home for bighorn sheep and desert tortoises, extinct volcanoes and sand dunes.

A year ago, Hughes was among activists who persuaded the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to drop its plans to build an 85-mile-long "green" power transmission line across desert wilderness preserve and scenic mountains.

Born in 1931, Hughes was raised on a ranch in Whittier when much of the area was wild, and his enduring love affair with wide open spaces began early on. His first memories included trips to Death Valley with his parents. At 13, he had made enough money selling hogs to buy a used car and start exploring California's backcountry.

In 1953, he graduated from Whittier College, where he majored in archaeology, geology and economics.

Hughes later spent nearly a decade working with his father in a wholesale plumbing supply business. After that business was sold, he went on to become a computer executive at Warner Information Systems in Los Angeles.

By the mid-1970s he was a divorced father of three sons and a new member of the Sierra Club and of the Pacific Coast Archaeological Society, leading tours of rivers, caves and remote escarpments decorated with petroglyphs.

Hughes met his second wife, Patty, in 1978 at a Sierra Club meeting. He was elected to the executive committee of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter in 1985, and was chapter chairman through 1988. Under his leadership the Sierra Club helped win federal scenic designations for the Tuolumne, Merced and Kings rivers.

"In 1982, our family floated down the Grand Canyon in our own inflatable rafts," recalled Hughes' eldest son, Mark. "In one stretch of rapids, Dad was so determined keep his raft from tipping over that he bent his oar from pulling so hard on it. That was his approach to the things that really mattered."

At the center of his work was the Mojave Desert.

Hughes gave speeches at fundraisers in support of the Bureau of Land Management's ultimately successful effort to save the remote Union Pacific Railroad depot in Kelso, Calif., from demolition.

In the mid-1980s he joined forces with Sierra Club activists Dodson and Judy Sanderson in the fight for the desert protection act. Each brought a special skill to the cause: Dodson dealt with legislation and legal matters; Anderson researched historical documents, maps and property records and Hughes handled the press and public relations.

"Elden was a master at generating a great sound bite on cue: a terse phrase or metaphor that summed up a complex issue in a way anyone could understand," Dodson recalled. "He also knew the desert very well because he'd driven an old blue Ford station wagon of his all over most of it, and walked the rest."

A week ago Hughes received a lifetime achievement award from the Wildlands Conservancy.

"He asked me to scatter his ashes," said David Myers, executive director of the conservancy. "I said, 'Where do you want them scattered, Elden?' He said, 'On the top of Navajo Mountain in Utah.' I said, 'How do you get there?' He smiled and said, 'Rent a boat and go up about 15 miles to Rainbow Bridge. It's about a 10-mile hike in from there.'"

Hughes is survived by his wife, Patty; sons Mark, Paul and Charles, and three grandchildren.



Calendar . . . Continued from Page 8

JAN 17 (TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT **OPEN SPACE MEETING**

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>

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

PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

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

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$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> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

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

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$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> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

FEB 15 (WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT **SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY**

PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

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FEB 21 (TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT **OPEN SPACE MEETING**

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>

MAR 2 (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> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309.

Help Needed on Riverside County's GPU

by George Hague, Moreno Valley Group

Have you ever been outraged by development built near one of your special places within our Chapter or by the increase in traffic caused by a development? Most of the time these harmful developments are sanctioned by a General Plan. Riverside County is now in the process of revising its General Plan. The public review period for Riverside County's General Plan Update (GPU) Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) will tentatively start in the summer of 2012 with public hearings probably occurring in late fall or early winter of 2012. The DEIR will help us see what impacts could occur on special places in our County and also on some adjacent lands in San Bernardino County.

Sierra Club members George Hague and alternate Ann McKibben have represented the environmental community on the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC), which is dominated by those connected to development interests. While the GPAC used to meet on a regular basis, it has not met for two years, and there is no meeting scheduled.

The GPU will impact all of us within Riverside County as well as many in neighboring San Bernardino County as it will lay out land use designations for years to come. It will also address sprawl, global climate change, noise and open-space issues. Land use designations in this GPU could significantly impact such places as Joshua Tree National Park, Santa Rosa Plateau, the San Jacinto Wildlife Area, Coachella Valley National Wildlife Refuge and Preserve as well as open up valuable agricultural lands for development. Parts of the San Bernardino and Cleveland National Forests as well as the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument could all easily be directly impacted by Riverside County's GPU.

Please become involved in this process to help protect these special places and others that you know need our attention. County planner for the General Plan Update is Frank Coyle, Riverside County Planning Department, fcoyle@rctlma.org or (951) 955-2706. Please contact him and let him know that you want a copy of the DEIR and wish to be notified of all future documents as well as meetings related to Riverside County's GPU. Your donation during our Chapter's March Fund Appeal also helps us follow this important GPU and protect these special lands.

I hope the below information on General Plans from the Governor's office of Planning and Research proves useful to you.

THE GENERAL PLAN The Blueprint

The local general plan can be described as the city's or county's "blueprint" for future development. It represents the community's view of its future; a constitution made up of the goals and policies upon which supervisors, or planning commission will base their land use decisions. To illustrate its importance, all subdivisions, public works projects, and zoning decisions (except in charter cities other than Los Angeles) must be consistent with the general plan. If inconsistent, they must not be approved.

Long-Range Emphasis

The general plan is not the same as zoning. Although both designate how land may be developed, they do so in different ways. The general plan and its diagrams have a long-term outlook, identifying the types of development that will be allowed, the spatial relationships among land uses, and the general pattern of future development.

Contents

State law requires that each city and each county adopt a general plan containing the following seven components or "elements": land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open-space, noise, and safety (Government Code Sections 65300 et seq.). At the same time, each jurisdiction is free to adopt a wide variety of additional elements covering subjects of particular interest to that jurisdiction such as recreation, urban design, or public facilities.

Planning Issues

Although state law establishes a set of basic issues for consideration in local general plans, each city and county determines the relative importance of each issue to local planning and decides how they are to be addressed in the general plan. As a result, no two cities or counties have plans which are exactly alike in form or content. Here is a summary of the basic issues, by element:

- The land use element designates the general location and intensity of housing, business, industry, open space, education, public buildings and grounds, waste disposal facilities, and other land uses.
- The circulation element identifies the general location and extent of existing and proposed major roads, transportation routes, terminals, and public utilities and facilities. It must be correlated with the land use element.
- The housing element is a comprehensive assessment of current and projected housing needs for all economic segments of the community and region. It sets forth local housing policies and programs to implement those policies.
- The conservation element addresses the conservation, development, and use of natural resources including water, forests, soils, rivers, and mineral deposits.
- The open-space element details plans and measures for preserving open-space for natural resources, the managed production of resources, outdoor recreation, public health and safety, and the identification of agricultural land.
- The noise element identifies and appraises noise problems within the community and forms the basis for distributing new noise-sensitive land uses.
- The safety element establishes policies and programs to protect the community from risks associated with seismic, geologic, flood, and wildfire hazards.

Experience Nature in Yucca Valley With the Desert Institute at Joshua Tree National Park

Black Rock Lecture Series

Yucca Valley, CA,

November 23, 2011 – The Desert Institute announces the 2012 Black Rock Lecture Series. Featured are experts on natural science and cultural history topics pertaining to Joshua Tree National Park and surrounding desert lands. Lectures will be held at the Black Rock Canyon Campground Visitor Center, 9800 Black Rock Canyon, Yucca Valley, and begin at 7 p.m. Lectures are free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Desert Institute at 760-367-5535 or desertinstitute@zipnet.net.

January 20

Indicators of Spring: Plants and Climate Change
Susan Mazer, Ph.D., Plant Evolution, Professor, UC Santa Barbara and
Liz Matthews, Ph.D., Plant Ecology, Postdoctoral Scholar, UC Santa Barbara

February 16

Native American Coyote Stories
Catherine Svehla, Ph.D., Mythology, Facilitator of the High Desert Mythological
Roundtable in conjunction with the Joseph Campbell Foundation

March 16

The Mojave Desert: Miles of Wonder
David Jesse McChesney, Photographer, Author of
The Mojave Desert: Miles of Wonder

April 20

Stone Tools: Origins of Technology
Dave LeCocq, Primitive Skills Teacher

—###—

For further press information, please call
Charlotte Boney, Program Coordinator, Desert Institute (760) 367-5535.

Center Biologist Wins Conservation Award

I got a chance to present the Krueper award to Ileene Anderson at a recent Desert Committee meeting.

Carol Wiley
Awards Committee Chair
San Gorgonio Chapter

For years, Center for Biological Diversity Public Lands Desert Director Ileene Anderson (pictured below) has been working hard both in the field and the office to save Southern California's most endangered plants and animals, from the San Diego ambrosia to the San Bernardino kangaroo rat.

This month Anderson's successes won her the Alice Krueper Service Award from the San Gorgonio chapter of the Sierra Club. The award recognizes her work on renewable-energy projects — striking a delicate balance between preserving natural habitat and allowing those energy projects to move forward. For example, solar energy is a key part of curbing climate change; but does an industrial-scale solar project really need to be placed in the heart of desert tortoise habitat?

Anderson knows it takes a lot of thoughtful planning and in-depth knowledge to make sure good energy projects and endangered species can coexist. "To be honored by the San Gorgonio chapter of the Sierra Club means a lot to me," she said.



CENTER for BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Because life is good.

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.

Classified Advertising Rates

Personal: \$0.25 per word. \$5.00 minimum.

Commercial: \$0.50 per word. \$10.00 minimum.

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

Circulation and Distribution

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

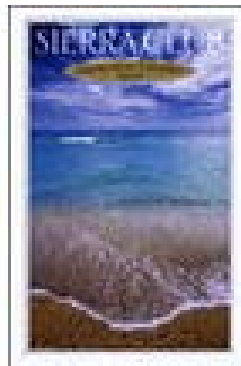
Deadlines

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 Mywwuni@charter.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.

SIERRA CLUB 2012 CALENDARS

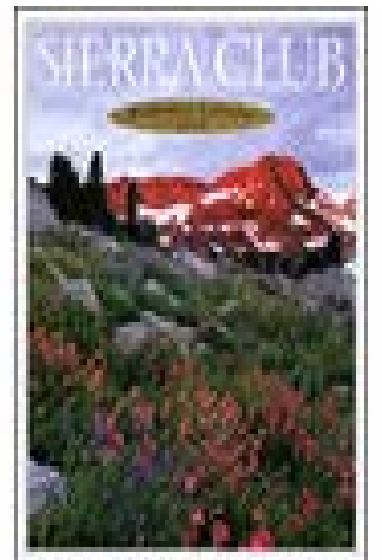


Sierra Club 2012 Wilderness Wall Calendar

Spiral bound, month-by-month format, featuring 12 majestic North American landscapes.

Sierra Club 2012 Engagement Calendar

Week-by-week format, featuring 57 spectacular photographs and "wire-o" binding.



Order Form

Save up to 30% off the list price. Support local conservation efforts.

Titles may be combined for quantity pricing.

| Title | 1-4 price | 5-9 price | 10+ price | Quantity | Price | Total |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-------|
| Wilderness Wall Calendar | \$12.50 | \$11.50 | \$10.50 | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Engagement Calendar | \$13.50 | \$12.50 | \$11.50 | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| | | | | | Subtotal | _____ |

Shipping to one address: \$5.50 for the first calendar and 50 cents for each additional calendar. Shipping _____

Make checks payable to **Sierra Club** and mail this coupon to:

Sierra Club Calendars, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside, CA 92501

(Cost includes all applicable sales taxes computed to the nearest mil)

Total _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip code _____

National Club Election Coming This Spring

The annual election for the Club's Board of Directors is now underway. Those eligible to vote in the national Sierra Club election will receive in the mail (or by Internet if you chose the electronic delivery option) your national Sierra Club ballot. This will include information on the candidates and where you can find additional information on the Club's website.

The Sierra Club is a democratically structured organization at all levels. The Club requires the regular flow of views on policy and priorities from its grassroots membership in order to function well. Yearly participation in elections at all Club levels is a major membership obligation. Your Board of Directors is required to stand for election by the membership. This Board sets Club policy and budgets at the national level and works closely with the Executive Director and staff to operate the Club. Voting for candidates who express your views on how the Club should grow and change is both a privilege and responsibility of membership.

Members frequently state that they don't know the candidates and find it difficult to vote without learning more. You can learn more by asking questions of your group and chapter leadership and other experienced members you know. Visit the Club's election website: <http://www.sierraclub.org/bod/2012election/default.aspx>

This site provides links to additional information about candidates, and their views on a variety of issues facing the Club and the environment.

You should use your own judgment by taking several minutes to read the ballot statement of each candidate. Then make your choice and cast your vote. Even if you receive your election materials in the mail, please go to the user-friendly Internet voting site to save time and postage. If necessary, you will find the ballot is quite straightforward and easy to mark and mail.



by Joan Jones Holtz, Angeles Chapter

Save the Date!

On March 15 and 16, the western edition of the 2012 Good Jobs, Green Jobs Conference will be held at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles. For the past five years, the Good Jobs, Green Jobs Conferences have brought together a diverse group of attendees from labor, environmental, and industry to discuss solutions for a green economy that will create good green jobs. It's important that we, the environmental community, be well-represented to give environmental perspectives on global problems.

The Good Jobs, Green Jobs conferences, usually held in Washington, DC, are sponsored by the BlueGreen Alliance Foundation. This year, to attract wider audiences, the conferences will be offered in four separate locations: Atlanta, Los Angeles, Philadelphia and Detroit.

The BlueGreen Alliance was launched in 2006 by the United Steelworkers and the Sierra Club. Today, the BlueGreen Alliance has increased its membership uniting nearly 15 million people from organized labor, environmental, faith and human rights groups—all who understand the necessity for good jobs, a clean environment and a green economy.

The BlueGreen Alliance is focusing on the passage of comprehensive clean energy and climate change legislation, restoring the rights of workers in the United States to organize and bargain collectively, and toward establishing new trade policies that promote growth and prosperity across all sectors of global societies while protecting public health and safety.

Those wanting to attend the Los Angeles conference are encouraged to apply for scholarships to cover transportation, hotel, and registration fees. Volunteers from Angeles Chapter are planning to offer historic walking tours of downtown Los Angeles and Hollywood for out-of-town participants.

Look for more information; contact Joan Jones Holtz (626-443-0706; jjholtz@sierraclub.org) or visit the website: www.greenjobsconference.org

Mojave Group . . . from Page 3

No one person or even a group of 7 Executive Committee Members (ExCom) can keep track of all the activities that relate to our quality of life in the Mojave Desert. It takes everyone to pay attention and to do something. That something may be to let a neighbor or council member know or to attend a meeting, or to write a letter once in a while, or it may be to let our Mojave Group ExCom know what it is that may cause you to lose faith in the area and move on. "The success of a society lies in the willingness of its citizens to give of themselves, to perform or give a service of their own free will. The only gift is a portion of thyself." Ralph Waldo Emerson, poet and philosopher 1803-1882.



Lake Silverwood from the Pacific Crest Trail
Photo by Jenny Wilder

Meanwhile, we still have a wonderful place to live, work and play with a mighty Mojave River running through it, and grand mountains looming around calling us to enjoy their majesty and "find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts" Rachel Carson.



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



Membership

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

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

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

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

F94 W-1200

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Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

