



Palm and Pine

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



Volume 39 Number 4

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

JULY—AUGUST 2009

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Membership Meetings

Tuesday, July 7
Egypt & Jordan

Gail & Ladd Seekins—Cairo, Alexandria and Siwa Oasis

Tuesday, August 4

Chino Hills State Park & the Puente-Chino Hills Wildlife Corridor

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

Take the Big Bear Xeriscape Garden Tour July 18

By Christie Walker

Time for the Xeriscape Garden tour in Big Bear. 2008 was a banner year for the Big Bear Group's annual Xeriscape Garden Tour. The tour won the Ida and Denny Wilcher Award honoring Sierra Club groups for excellence



Photo/Christie Walker
Xeriscape tour attendees visit homes in Big Bear Valley

in fundraising; attendance topped 400 people – (427 to be exact); the local Flower Show was held the same weekend providing cross promotion for both events; and the addition of landscaper showcases brought added educational value.

The 2009 Xeriscape Garden Tour brings more exciting collaborations to the event including a: FireWise showcase home; City of Big Bear Lake business component (Still in the works); and the return of the Flower Show and Landscaper Showcases.

This year's tour will be held on **Saturday, July 18th**. You can start the tour any time

between 9 am and noon at Emingers Mountain Nursery on Big Bear Blvd. in Big Bear Lake, across from Denny's.

Participants will have until 4:00 pm to complete the self-guided tour of eight homes.

The purpose of the tour is to educate homeowners and increase awareness of the use of native and drought tolerant plant materials in mountain gardens in a fun and informal setting. For more information on the tour contact Christie Walker at 909-866-5006.



Egypt & Jordan



The 19th Century Mosque of Muhammad Ali Pasha in the Citadel dominates the Cairo skyline.

For the San Gorgonio Chapter General Membership Meeting July 7, Gail and Ladd Seekins will present a stunning slide show of their tour through Egypt and Jordan last February and March.

They will share their pictures and experiences of Cairo, Alexandria and Siwa Oasis. The Seekins traveled independently, not joining a tour. Walking extensively in all three places, they felt welcome and safe, day or night.

Come for a tour of two of the world's great cities and a visit to a unique oasis in the Sahara.

Chino Hills California State Park

In 1978, the California Department of Parks and Recreation began a feasibility study to determine the need for Chino Hill State Park (CHSP). Volunteers from around the hills began an inventory of the Park's natural resources and even helped designed the Park's boundaries to protect the watersheds and viewsheds by protecting the ridgelines. Several years later, Park Bond Acts supplied the first funds to acquire land for inclusion into the State Park. And thus it began, a 25 year effort of land preservation with numerous battles to protect the Park from surrounding developments and threats.

Hills For Everyone (HFE), a local non-profit, was formed to protect this natural landscape and has led the charge to ensure its success. In the early years of the CHSP's formation, HFE volunteers operated the Park when the State couldn't afford to and spent countless hours cleaning up the land from its cattle ranching history. Though land continued to be purchased as a part of the Park, CHSP was not official until 1986 when the California Parks and Recrea-



tion Commission declared its existence.

Unfortunately, major threats to CHSP still exist today a lot of which are focused at the Coal Canyon connection, including, but not limited to: the expansion of the 91 freeway, the addition of riprap along the Santa Ana River, the creation of additional railroad lines and a highway through the State Park and the Mancha parcel connecting the 15 freeway to the 241 toll road. It is only due to the perseverance of the State Park staff, non-profit groups like Hills For Everyone, and multi-county joint powers authorities like the Wildlife Corridor Conservation Authority that the Park is what it is.

2009 San Gorgonio Chapter Executive Committee Elections...An Opportunity for you

The Nominating Committee for this year's Executive Committee election is looking for candidates to fill six available positions. If you would like to be considered for nomination, or know someone that you would want to present for nomination, please contact Rick Estes at 951 314-3328 or rickestes_92595@yahoo.com or Dave Barrie at 909 337-0313 or barriemail@mac.com.

Everything that we do is accomplished through the efforts of volunteers and this is a chance for you to help contribute to the ongoing success of our Chapter.

San Gorgonio Chapter Election Rules

1. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed on, or before, July

28, 2009.

2. Nominees for the election must be San Gorgonio Chapter members who give their consent to be nominated.

3. Requests for nomination must be received by August 14th and a final list of nominees will be available from the Chapter office on August 25th.

4. If the Nominating Committee chooses not to place a willing candidate on the ballot as a nominated candidate, the candidate will be notified and may seek placement on the ballot as a petition candidate. To obtain Petition Candidate information, contact the Chapter office at 951 684-6203 or sangorgonio@charterinternet.com.

(Continued on page 2)

Chapter Elections

(Continued from page 1)

5. The name of any Chapter member may be proposed by written petition (with candidate approval) containing the signatures of at least 15 Chapter members. Petitions with valid signatures are to be sent to Sierra Club, 4079 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, Ca. 92501-3204 and must be received by 6 pm on September 11th.
6. An Election Committee shall be appointed on, or before, September 22nd, 2009.
7. All San Gorgonio Chapter members as of September 1st, 2009 shall be sent ballots.
8. Ballots will be mailed (as part of The Palm and Pine) by October 23rd.
9. Final receipt date for ballots shall be November 23rd, at 12 noon.
10. Ballots will be verified, opened, and counted at 6:30 pm on November 24th at the Chapter Office.
11. The two year term of office for the newly elected Excom members will commence on January 1st, 2010 and will run through December 31st, 2011.

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. Subscriptions rates for non-members is \$9.00 for six issues. Single copies are \$1.50. The newsletter is published and distributed on or before the 1st of the month, six times each year beginning January 1.

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

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

Preserve The Future

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

There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more information and confidential assistance, contact:

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

The Pacific Crest Trail Association Offers Free Vacations...*You do the work/they do the rest*



Trail Projects - What to bring?

For all trail projects, unless otherwise indicated, bring car/tent camping gear, heavy gloves, eye protection, sun protection (hat and sunscreen), brush protection (long sleeves & long pants), sturdy boots, daypack, flashlight, and water bottles. Warm clothes and rain gear are in order especially for spring and fall projects. Please let us know if you are coming so we can arrange food, equipment, and supervision, and to receive any last minute instructions. By all means come out even if you can't stay the entire time, and if you are available at times other than those listed let John know. We have lots of ongoing projects or new ones coming up all the time. **Adventure Pass** – don't forget to bring one if project is in a So. Cal Nat. Forest. If you don't have one, let me know beforehand and leader will arrange for an admin pass.

What is involved?

Moderate to strenuous physical activity cutting brush with saws and loppers, pulling and disposing of cut brush out of sight, grubbing out root balls with a Pulaski, shaping tread with a McLeod, re-building rock walls, or repairing water bars to re-establish drainage control. Certified volunteers will be using chain and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in mountain travel, camping out, safety, working on a crew under direction, and wilderness hygiene. If you have questions about these subjects or if you have health concerns be sure to bring them up with the leader prior to the trip. We ask all volunteers to fill out a form answer-

ing what we call 'Twenty Questions'. This gives us an idea of your experience, special aptitude, physical limitations or concerns, and emergency contact person. *Every volunteer must sign up each day with the Crew Leader to be covered for Workman's Compensation, and to make sure that no one gets left behind at the end of the day.*

What does PCTA provide?

Don't worry if you have not been out with us before. We provide food (unless indicated otherwise), water, tools, hard hats, orientation/instruction, supervision and a GREAT time.

1) June 22-June 29 (Tue.—Tue.)

Section "D". Little Jimmy. Angeles National Forest. The NWSA Americorp crew will be camped at Little Jimmy CG and working trail south on the PCT. They will be repairing the tread and brushing. Meet the crew at the Little Jimmy CG at 6pm for dinner on June 22nd, or come for the weekend. Contact Suzanne Wilson (951-492-9836) or Jennifer Tripp (916-349-2109 x17) for more information.

2) September 18-24 (Fri.-Thur.)

Section "D". North Fork. Angeles National Forest. Join the NWSA Americorp crew at the Northfork Station to build three rock retaining walls which will stabilize the tread, trail south. The crew will also put in several drainage features and do some minor tread repair. More information TBD. Please contact Suzanne Wilson (951-492-9836) or Jennifer Tripp (916-349-2109 x17) for more information

3) September 29—October 7

Section "C". Mission Creek. BLM Palm Springs Field Office. The NWSA Americorp crew will head into Mission Springs from the Stone House with packer support, about 5 miles into the backcountry. The crew will hike about 1 mile to work each day. They will be constructing rock retaining walls and drainages to repair flood damage from Oct 2008. Meeting at the Stone House on 9/18, meeting time TBD. Please contact Suzanne Wilson (951-492-9836) or Jennifer Tripp (916-349-2109 x17) for more information.

Al & Ann Murdy Awarded

By Joan Taylor

The Ralph Salisbury Outings Award was presented in June to Al and Ann Murdy in recognition of their long time contributions to the Sierra Club outings program. They have been the stalwarts of the chapter hiking program for over a decade, leading hikes for the Tahquitz Group as well as the California/Nevada Desert Committee.

More than that, their hikes are "works of art", guiding their lucky participants to special places in Joshua Tree National Park. Ann, especially, is a great student of archeology, but Al isn't any slouch either. As their hiking "regulars" will attest, the Murdys have an uncanny sense of how to navigate in

the wild and discover hidden natural and cultural treasures others might miss, much to the delight of those fortunate enough to join them. More than that, the Muddy are the conservation eyes and ears of the Sierra Club in the High Desert areas of the Morongo Basin. And, more than that, Ann and Al are wonderful, giving people of whom the club can be proud.

For many summers the Murdys have volunteered for the Joshua Tree National Park to caretake the Keys Ranch historic fruit orchard as well as other volunteer activities. We want to thank Ann and Al for their years of service to the San Gorgonio Chapter and wish them well on their future adventures.

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Membership Information

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

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Group and Section News

Moreno Valley Group

By Ann McKibben

Thank you to Theresa Carson, Group Outings Leader, and Janet Deen for leading our first season of hikes for the Moreno Valley Group. Here is a report from Theresa: The group has been leading some hikes in the local hills to Box Springs Mountain Park, Olive Mountain, and also Sycamore Canyon Park. Most of the hikes had a good turn out and all were a lot of fun and good exercise. We saw deer on Olive Mountain, a King Snake on the hike to the "M", and a baby burro on the Hidden Springs hike. Dan Clark led some hikes, too; one of them was to the springs on the Hidden Springs trail. We also saw a lot of beautiful flowers on that hike. Our last hike for the season was in April, but we will resume our scheduled hikes around the end of September and will hopefully avoid snake season and the hot weather. For fall hikes, please check

agenda. The board of supervisors may or may not consider the project before the end of the year. For more information on the project, contact project planner Matt Straite, Riverside County Planning Department at (951) 955-8631. Planning Commission agendas can be found at: http://www.rctlma.org/planning/content/hearings/pc/current_pc.html The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley have information posted at their web site: www.northfriends.org You can e-mail the Moreno Valley Group at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com or the Friends at: northfriends@northfriends.org if you would like more information.

The Highland Fairview Corporate Park, a project which hopes to locate a 1.8 million square foot warehouse in eastern Moreno Valley, continues to be the main conservation issue facing the Moreno Valley Group this summer. As



Margie Breitzkreuz/Moreno Valley

Hike to Olive Mountain, Moreno valley recreational Trails Committee, May 23

the group web page at: <http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org/moreno-valley/index.html>

The deadline for comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Villages of Lakeview (VOL) Specific Plan 342 was April 22, 2009. The proposed project hopes to put 10,000 units in the communities of Lakeview and Nuevo some of which are planned on the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The Sierra Club, Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley, Center for Biological Diversity, San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, and United Concerned Citizens of Riverside County were some of the organizations submitting comment letters on the draft environmental impact report. The Riverside County Planning Department is reviewing the comment letters and working on responses. There is no indication as to when the county will hold a planning commission hearing on the project but only nebulous indications that it may or may not be held this summer or it may be a "Discuss and Continue" item on the commission

we reported last time, the Sierra Club sued the city of Moreno Valley over their approval of the Highland Fairview Corporate Park because of the project's health, safety and welfare effects on the city's residents. When the Moreno Valley Group's Conservation Chair, George Hague, attended the court mandated settlement hearing at city hall this spring, he was confronted by a small group of protesters carrying signs and shouting epitaphs such as 'ecoterrorist' at him. Ray Johnson, the attorney handling the lawsuit submitted his brief in June. The court hearing on the lawsuit is scheduled for late August. Project planner for the Highland Fairview project is Mark Gross, Moreno Valley Planning Department, (951) 413-3222. Call George Hague, Group Conservation Chair at (951) 924-0816, or e-mail the Moreno Valley Group at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com for more information. Updated information can be found at the Group's web site: <http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org/moreno-valley/index.html> A huge thank you to all of you who have given donations to

support the lawsuit! They are appreciated.

Related to the approval of the Highlands Fairview project, some residents in District 3 are working to recall their councilmember, Robin Hastings. The group feels that Councilmember Hastings did not respond to the needs of her constituents because she voted in favor of the Highland Fairview Corporate Park project which is slated to be located in her district. In a quote from a May 1, 2009 article appearing in The Press-Enterprise, "Hastings said the group has a 'selfish special interest' in preserving more space for the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and so they can ride

their horses . . ." It is not quite clear what the connection is between recalling Ms. Hastings and the wildlife area and riding horses. Apparently, she did not want to address the issues of increased diesel particulates, increased truck traffic, increased health risks for local residents, and the cumulative impacts of this project along with the many other warehouses planned for Moreno Valley.

The 1.8 million square foot Highland Fairview project is just one of several warehouses planned for eastern Moreno Valley. Also going through the city's planning process is ProLogis (2 million square feet; planner Jeff Brad-

(Continued on page 10)

Big Bear Group...Light Bulb Replacement

A Success: Homeowners Save

By Christie Walker

Homeowners saved over \$50 on their bi-monthly electric bills after the Big Bear Group of the Sierra Club replaced all of their incandescent light bulbs with energy efficient compact fluorescent bulbs. Last September during Family Fun Night, a free drawing was held to select two homeowners to participate in a total light bulb replacement project. The winners were Teresa Hoffman of Big Bear Lake, and Sean Young of Big Bear City. In November, a team of Sierra Club volunteers visited each of the homes and took a complete inventory of every light bulb in and outside the home. From porch lights, to flood lights, from bathroom vanity lights to garage door opener lights, every light bulb was inventoried. Each home required approximately 50 light bulbs for a total cost of \$233 per home, which the Sierra Club paid for as part of the program.

Bulbs were purchased at Home Depot, which carries the best rated compact fluorescent brands, estimated to last from seven to nine years with normal use. The Sierra Club recommends purchasing only top rated compact fluorescent bulbs. Information on bulb ratings by brand name can be found on the Internet. The volunteer team then returned to the two homes and replaced all the light bulbs, taking the old bulbs to the recycling center. After four months, a comparison was made between the amount of energy used during a two-month period compared to the same two-month period from the previous year.

"There's a shift taking place in which more people are becoming aware of what they can do to reduce their energy usage. Reducing waste, recycling, saving energy, conserving water...these are just a few areas where the individual can make a huge impact," said Christie Walker, president Big Bear Group Sierra Club. "The purpose of our light bulb project was to show homeowners how they can reduce their electric bills and save money simply by swapping their light bulbs over from incandescent to compact fluorescent bulbs. Creating an energy efficient home doesn't have to cost a lot of money and will begin saving the homeowner money within a year, according to our test cases here in Big Bear. We hope this project shows people that saving energy is good for the individual and good for the planet."

In 2007, during the two-month pe-

riod of Jan/Feb, the Young family used 1936 kilowatt hours at a cost of \$383.65. In 2008, they used 1825



kilowatt hours at a cost of \$342.54. But after the total light bulb exchange, the usage dropped to 1535 kilowatt hours during the same two-month period costing \$285.09, for a savings of \$57.45. If you assume a similar energy savings for the rest of the year, that would add up to an annual savings of \$344.70. Subtract the initial cost of the investment of \$233 to replace all the bulbs and the Young family will see a net savings of \$111.70 for the first year. Assuming the light bulbs last seven years, the total savings over the life of the bulbs will be \$2,179.90. Should the bulbs last the full nine years, even more money will be saved.

The Hoffman family had even more dramatic results for the two-month period of Feb/March. In 2008, their kilowatt hours were 2287 at a cost of \$461.03. But after the total light bulb exchange, their 2009 Feb/March usage dropped to 825 kilowatt hours at a cost of \$118.97 for a savings of \$342.06. While their usage for this two-month period is traditionally higher than their other two-month periods during the year, their average usage for 2008 was 1036 kilowatt hours per two-month period at an average cost of \$169.03 per month. Since the replacement of all their light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs, their average kilowatt usage for the four months Jan. - April has been 910 kilowatt hours at an average cost of \$138.74, for a projected savings of \$30.29 per two-month period.

The purpose of the project was to show how much energy/money could be saved by changing to compact fluorescent light bulbs. Today's compact fluorescent light bulbs come in a variety of shapes and configurations to fit all lightening needs. They have come down in price and last from seven to nine years, making them an affordable way to save energy. Team up energy efficient light bulbs with energy efficient appliances and practices such as turning lights out when not in a room, and homeowners will see their energy bills drop considerably.

Group and Section News

Mojave Group

By Jenny Wilder

As the weather heats up the Mojave Group slows down for the summer months of July and August. There are no General Meetings in July and August and the Excom meets only if necessary. That means, however, that you can enjoy the Wednesday evening walks every week and keep up on the latest hiking adventures. Although we try to keep as fast a pace as possible on these regular walks, there is still a lot of conversation! For those who want a longer conditioning hike, Melody does a 6 mile hike on most Monday evenings (call first). See the calendar section for details.

Water is an important issue in the desert, and the Mojave Group Excom follows as many water related issues as possible. In May several of our Excom members attended a talk given by the Mojave Water Agency on the drought in California (**Testing the Waters, Drought, Water Conservation and Measurement**). This is series of public information talks called the ABCs of water.

California is in the third year of drought but does anyone know it? Last night I rode my bicycle home from the California Native Plant Society meeting at the Victor Valley College and once again was treated to a totally wet pavement and spray on two sections of road from sprinklers on the Ashwood Golf Course. While riding a bike or walking you notice things with a little more intensity than when you are enclosed in a car. The Mojave Water Agency is in the process of measuring water supply and use. We are told that reserves and reservoirs are at their lowest since 1994 and that water suppliers throughout the state are using all available tools to deal with this drought.

The 20x2020 Water Conservation Plan.

In February 2008 the Governor Schwarzenegger declared that the state should reduce water consumption by 20% by 2020. In March 2008 a State "20x2020 team" was conceived to develop a plan. Three proposed bills are being considered in the State Legislature which may mandate a "per capita" water use and will likely create new reporting and regulatory structures for water providers. Many individuals and water retailers have been conserving water for years and are concerned about this plan. Concerns include how this will work in a growing population and what the baseline will be, and how it will affect agriculture.

At the Mojave Water Agency (a water wholesaler) conservation incentives that have been in place for a year or more include toilet replacement rebates/vouchers (\$165), Washing Machine rebates (\$175) and turf removal and water efficient landscaping (\$.50 sf). Tracking shows that since February 2008, 479 acre-feet of water savings have been processed (enough water for 600 families a year). For the Mojave Water Agency these cash incentives are cheaper than buying more water from the State Water Project (around \$14,000 per acre-foot).

In order to know how much water we save, we need to know how much water we've pumped (statewide). This is where things get complicated and have been inconsistent. Golf Courses, man made lake communities (Silver Lakes, Spring Valley Lake) and agriculture have their own wells, rights and reporting processes. How do you measure water consumption for such areas using a "per

capita" method? When water is too costly for agriculture, will the fallow fields within our state move more rapidly into suburban sprawl surrounding green golf courses? While the Mojave Water Agency is doing its part by paying individuals to take out turf, the general plan in San Bernardino County is being changed and native desert landscapes are disappearing in favor of isolated new golf course communities. While the general plan helps to project how much water is needed, large zone changes can significantly alter that figure.

Inland Counties, including San Bernardino and Riverside, use the most water per-capita. The explanation for this is that the inland counties need more water for turf because of the naturally dry environmental conditions, and we have consistently put in turf. The Victor Valley and Barstow areas use the most water (about 300 gallons per household per day). The Morongo Basin uses half that amount (about 150 gallons per capita per day). Morongo Basin residents deal with the same dry environmental conditions, but have significantly less turf and use a higher percentage of native and drought tolerant landscaping. A comparison of water rates shows that the cost of water makes a significant difference! Orange County and coastal areas use about 180 gallons per capita per day suggesting that turf in those areas is watered more by natural moisture than pumped water.

My bill from Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company comes in units, so I have to use a calculator to find out if I am in the 150 gallon per capita per day range or closer to the 300 gallon per capita per day range. This water company has recently included a Tiering process to help with conservation. Tier 1 is for the first 28 Ccf (1 Ccf =100 cubic feet and 1Ccf =748.019) at a rate of \$2.023; Tier 2 is for 29-58 Ccf at a rate of \$2.136; Tier 3 is for 59 Ccf and over at a rate of \$2.248. I can use a calculator for the conversion process, but what I don't know is if the number in my household has been taken into account. I called the water company and found out that the number in the household isn't taken into account in this tiered system. This system is not perfect, it does not encourage a household of one to conserve, and it discriminates against the household of 6 or more. That segment of our population may be in the most vulnerable of our society – the poor.

One may easily conclude that we cannot possibly be in a serious drought. We are still watering the roadways and the state is selling precious water to bottling companies at an unknown rate to be shipped off to distant states and countries. We are talking about encouraging people to conserve, yet the average consumer has little or no information on how many gallons they use per day per person nor do they know if their individual use pattern represents a low, moderate or high use. I did my personal calculation and came out okay, but I am afraid that okay here represents a very high use to someone in Europe. Such comparisons are important because climate change and fresh water are global issues. If we continue to water alien vegetation and turf in California instead of crops for human consumption, we will have to import not only our food but also our water from other places. We have an alarming problem that will take more than "encouragement" to conserve; we need strong leadership to overcome the issue of fresh water (and food) for all. What are those 3 bills in the state legislature?

Mountains Group

By Bob Sherman

Our April 3 Car Camp at the The Wildlands Conservancy's Whitewater Preserve was thwarted by a locked gate and high winds. Camping was out of the question. The gusts were so strong campers could hardly stand up, and hiking wasn't an option, either. Not a good start for our April and May Outings.

On April 18 we participated in "Earth Day on the Mountain", the first of what is hoped to be an annual event. A recently formed (and still forming) group, Green Team Arrowhead, promoted the idea, planned the event, and made it happen, all within a three month time frame, starting on January 16. They partnered with Rim of the World High School (where the event was held) and were assisted by a number of community members including Sher Fairbanks, Sue Walker, Bob Sherman, Marta Hethmon, Steve Farrell, Laurie Neill and Dave Barrie all from the Sierra Club. The Mountains Group passed out compact fluorescent lightbulbs (donated by Edison), shared Sierra Club and Mountains Group information, and sold a few Sierra Club day packs, hats, and t-shirts. Attendance was estimated at about 800.

On the first weekend in May, Outings Chair Bill Eng led a bird walk in the Santa Ana River bottom (Riverside) over to Lake Evans in Fairmont Park. By sight and sound, the group identified 36 species, the best list ever.

At our Keller Hut (May 2 and 3) annual spring gathering Group members sat down to a vegetarian pot luck meal. Later they engaged in a used clothing and equipment exchange orchestrated by Margaret Spiess (overseer for the weekend). Some members came home with items they had not known they wanted. Cash donations go to the Group treasury for projects on the mountain.

The following day, Margaret served French toast and fresh bananas and pineapple for those who stayed overnight. Later, hikers proceeded to where the Shooting Stars (these were small compared to the High Sierra version) were in bloom. Participants then hiked on up to the old youth camp site (Little Green Valley). Along the trail, there were a few blooms and Western Wall Flowers (yellow, four petals) were in bloom. Along the way Bill Eng retrieved the carcass of a metallic balloon from a creek. It had a blue ribbon tied on. Bill exclaimed, "Another stupid balloon release!" We heard the melodious song of a

Fox Sparrow. The bird has arrived in the brushy mountain slopes for nesting.

Bill led a group on the Miller Canyon Loop on May 16—a hike connecting Dart Canyon Road, Miller Canyon, Tunnel 2 Road and the Gregory property. It was a fairly strenuous trip. Hikers were rewarded by views partly opened up by the recent fire. They saw a wide assortment of wild flowers in bloom and Bill identified many birds (mostly by sound). The downside was the abundance of annoying eye gnats on much of the route.

On Memorial weekend, Bill led the Lake Gregory bird walk. The birds were not as easily found compared to prior years, but the group identified 24 species, including a Western Grebe. All went to breakfast after.

June 3 was Community Scholarship Night at Rim High School and the Mountains Group was pleased to be able to present a \$2000.00 scholarship to graduating senior Drake Bialecki. Drake is planning to major in environmental studies/biology with an emphasis on alternative and renewable fuels. He has a strong commitment to the environment and in that respect is following in the footsteps (bike trails) of his father Hugh, the President of the Save Our Forest Association (SOFA). SOFA is a frequent partner of the Mountains Group when local environmental issues need to be addressed.

The funding of our annual scholarship is provided by members of our group that volunteer their time at the Mountain Thrift Shoppe.

These volunteers, lead by Heather Sargeant, also enabled us to continue our support of the San Bernardino National Forest Association's Children's Forest. For 2009 we were able to provide \$2000.00 for the "Pathways to Stewardship" program, \$1000.00 for the "Youth Leadership" program and \$500.00 for trail maintenance for the Children's Forest Exploration Trail.

On June 20 we will participate in the Forest Festival in Lake Arrowhead Village and, after a quiet July, we will have our annual Mountains Group weekend at Shady Cove Campground at Keller Peak. We will be there from mid-afternoon on Friday, August 7 until mid-day on Sunday. We will have a potluck dinner on Saturday at 6:00 and there will be hikes/walks at different times, including the Children's Forest Exploration Trail.

(Bill Eng and Dave Barrie contributed to the report)

Santa Margarita Group

By Jim Mitchell

It was a big disappointment for members of the Santa Margarita Group last month when the Riverside County Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) rejected efforts by the City of Temecula to annex about 5,000 acres west of the city in the Temecula Foothills. The city wanted to annex the environmentally sensitive Temecula Foothills area to protect open space which could prevent a massive quarry mine, Liberty Quarry, from being dug there.



Ken Johnson/Santa Margarita Group Temecula area residents showing up for annexation hearing.

(Continued on page 10)

Calendar of Outings, Meetings, and Other Events

JULY—AUGUST 2009

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

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Items for the September/October 2009 Calendar are due by August 1. FORMAT items similar to those below. Send items electronically if possible. SUBMISSIONS: Except for below, send to ralphsalisbury@att.net OUTINGS: Send outings write-ups to your group Outings Chair. MEETINGS and other events: For September/October issue only send to ralphsalisbury@att.net

GENERAL INFORMATION, RULES AND DISCLAIMERS

All Outings Leaders are Chapter Certified Leaders having appropriate Outings Training Courses, First Aid Courses, and 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 and water for emergency use only, 9) extra clothing including rainwear, and 10) sun protection including sunscreen/sunglasses/hat.

ADVENTURE PASS SPECIAL NOTICE

Outings occurring in the San Bernardino, Angeles, Cleveland, or Los Padres National Forests require a Forest Service "Adventure Pass" for each vehicle. These Outings will be preceded by ** in the listings that follow. Be sure to contact the leader regarding permits. The permits cost \$30 per year or \$5 per day, however they may not be obtainable the day of your outing. If you arrive at the meeting place without making arrangements with the leader and you don't have a pass or find a ride in a vehicle with a pass, you will not be able to attend the outing. You are expected to share the cost of the daily passes equally with the others in the vehicle. A \$.50 contribution from everyone in the vehicle is reasonable for annual passes (above normal mileage contribution). America The Beautiful Interagency Passes may be used in lieu of the Adventure Pass.

CARPOOLING POLICY

In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and 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 and 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. Ten cents per mile per person for short trips is suggested while six cents per mile per person over 100 miles is usually reasonable.

LIABILITY WAIVER

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

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

I understand that during my participation in this Sierra Club Outing, I may be exposed to a variety of hazards and risks, foreseen or unforeseen, which are inherent in each Outing and 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, and death ("Injuries and Damages") from exposure to the hazards of travel and the Sierra Club has not tried to contradict or minimize my understanding of these risks. I know that Injuries and Damages can occur by natural causes or activities of other persons, animals, trip members, trip leaders and assistants or third parties, either as a result of negligence or because of other reasons. I understand that risks of such Injuries and Damages are involved in adventure travel such as Sierra Club Outings and I appreciate that I may have to exercise extra care for my own person and 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 and Damages to which I may be exposed.

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

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

I have read this document in its entirety and I freely and voluntarily assume all risks of such Injuries and Damages and notwithstanding such risks, I agree to participate in the Outing. Note: If the participant is a minor, the minor's guardian must sign on the minor's behalf.

RECURRING MONTHLY MEETINGS (LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)

- (1ST MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING**
Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on Feb 2, Apr 6, Jun 1, Oct 5, Nov 2. Also at Shady Cove Campground on Aug 8, 3 PM and at Keller Hut Dec 5, 3 PM. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP
- (1ST TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING**
Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time and place, call MARY ANN RUIZ 909-815-9379, ruizmaryann@gmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP
- (1ST TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING**
The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP
- (1ST TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING**
PROGRAM: See front-page notice. COST: \$1 donation requested. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS 909-888-0161 <lwfladd@eee.org>. CHAPTER
- (2ND MON) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING**
Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GRP

(2ND TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
(In July only the meeting will be the 3rd Tuesday, July 18.) Monthly meeting. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please come: we need your help! PLACE: San Gorgonio CHAPTER Office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. 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 and 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, earthlingwiley@aol.com MOJAVE GROUP

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

(3RD TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

(3RD TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except August. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 628-1285. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

(4TH TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES 951-314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com> CHAPTER

(4TH THU) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting/public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula 92589 SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

WEEKLY REOCCURRING FITNESS ACTIVITIES Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings

- MON 6:00 PM RIVERSIDE MT. RUBIDOUX ONE HOUR FITNESS WALK**
MEET: Ninth Street entrance to Mt. Rubidoux. INFO: JUDY SMITH (951) 369-5117. CHAPTER
- MON 7:00 PM APPLE VALLEY CONDITIONING HIKE HIKE**
Please join me for a 6-mile fast paced conditioning walk along the Mojave River. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road in Apple Valley. BRING flashlight, jacket and comfortable walking shoes. Rainy/Foul weather cancels, so please call before hike. LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430 <Labelady@msn.com> MOJAVE GROUP
- WED 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP, VICTOR VALLEY WALK**
Conditioning walk every Wednesday except Group meeting might on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Walks are paced for participants. Enjoy the evening air, river breeze, sunsets, stars and moon on a three mile walk around Jess Ranch and along the Mojave River. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum in Apple Valley. INFO: BILL SPRENG (760) (951) 4520, bspreng@verizon.net or JENNY WILDER (760) 220-0730, JensOasis@aol.com. MOJAVE GROUP

JUNE 15 – JUNE 21

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

- JUN 16 (TUE) 6:00 PM SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONS COMMITTEE MEETING**
Monthly conservation meeting. The public is welcome. LOCATION: Call or email for location & directions. CONTACT: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER, (951) 767-2203, <gardens@netzon.net> SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
- JUN 16 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING**
Monthly meeting. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP
- JUN 16 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING**
A chance to spend a summer evening at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden is something you don't want to miss! Join us for our third annual picnic in the Garden, beginning at 5:00 pm for Sierra Club members and guests. BRING your picnic dinner and your friends and enjoy dinner under the trees. Afterward, we will have a docent-lead tour of the gardens. PLACE: Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Claremont INFO & DIRECTIONS: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 815-9379. LOS SERRANOS GROUP
- JUN 18 (THU) 9:00 AM CASTLE ROCK AND GUNSIGHT HIKE**
This is a moderate to difficult 6- to 7-mile round-trip hike with a 1200-foot elevation gain. In route we will see Castle Rock, the champion lodgepole pine, Bluff Lake and Siberia Creek. BRING: 2-quarts of water, snacks, clothing appropriate to the weather and sturdy hiking boots. MEET at the east parking lot of the Performing Arts Center in Big Bear Lake at 9:00 AM and carpool to the trailhead. RESERVATIONS & INFO: Call LEADER: DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP
- **JUN 20 (SAT) 7:00 AM MT SAN JACINTO HIKE**
This hike to Mt. San Jacinto will be the longest so far. At 19 miles, it will be more of a gradual climb to the top. but still very strenuous with a 5,184 elevation gain. There is no extra place to get water. BRING: 5 quarts of water, the 10 essentials, snacks, and lunch. National Forest Adventure Pass required. MEET at the Deer Springs trailhead if you would like to try your luck on his one. RESERVATIONS: You must contact LEADER: MITCH ANDERTON (909) 881-7844 <mitchasn@aol.com> CHAPTER
- JUN 20 (SAT) 9:00 AM SB MTS: HERE AND NOW HIKE**
While on this moderate hike, we will focus on what is around us at the moment; sights and sounds of the forest and our reactions to them. While on the trail, by talking about only what we see, hear and experience, we should be able to better appreciate what is out there. We will hike the North Shore Trail to Little Bear Creek. Distance: 5 miles RT. Elevation loss and gain: 600 feet. WEAR: hat and boots. BRING: water, snacks and lunch. MEET: Call for the meeting place.: LEADER: BILL ENGS, (909) 338-1910. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

JUNE 22 – JUNE 28

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

- JUN 23 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING**
Chapter governance meeting. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES (951) 314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>. CHAPTER
- JUN 25 (THU) 9:00 AM HWY 38/SANTA ANA RIVER TO BIG MEADOWS HIKE**
An easy 9-mile round trip hike above the Santa Ana River with an 800 ft. elevation gain. Great views of Sugarloaf as the trail winds through Jeffrey and ponderosa pine forests. MEET at Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9:00 am. INFO: Call LEADER ED WALLACE (909) 584-9407. BIG BEAR GROUP
- JUN 25 (THU) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING**
Monthly meeting/public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula 92589 SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

JUN 28 (SUN) 8:00 AM CEDAR GLEN HIKE
This hike will be part of the San Gabriel Mountains Forever East Campaign to add wilderness acreage to Cucamonga Wilderness. We will write postcards to Congressman David Dreier on a break. Cards and mailing will be provided. This will be an uphill hike on Chapman Trail up Cedar Canyon through oak, spectacular stands of incense cedar, yucca, chaparral, sugar pine, and ponderosa pine to Cedar Glen, which is just inside the Cucamonga Wilderness. Not for beginners, but not all that hard. 4.4 miles Round Trip, 1460 ft elev. gain. MEET: North parking lot of PFF Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Blvds. We will carpool to Ice House Canyon Trail trailhead. BRING: water and snacks; wear sturdy shoes/boots. INFO: Call LEADER: DEAN SHIMEK <dtsierra@msn.com> (909) 899-2795. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JUNE 29 – JULY 5

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

JUN 30 (TUE) 9:00 AM BERTHA PEAK VIA COUGAR CREST TRAIL HIKE
This is a moderate to difficult 6- to 7-mile round-trip hike with a 1400-foot elevation gain. BRING at least 2 quarts of water, appropriate clothing, snacks and sturdy hiking boots. MEET: Cougar Crest Trailhead (1/2 mile west of the Discovery center) on highway 38 at 9:00 AM. RESERVATIONS & INFO: Call LEADER: DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

****JUN 30 (TUE) 5:00 PM COUGAR CREST TRIAL TOWARD PCT HIKE**
A moderate 2-4 mile round trip hike with a 1300' elevation gain. We will hike 1 hour up and one hour back. This is a well-maintained trail, which passes through a wide variety of Big Bear's natural environments. BRING: Water and appropriate clothing. A National Forest Adventure Pass is needed to park at the trail-head OR you can park at the Discovery Center for free and hike the 0.6 miles west to the trailhead. LEADER: CHRIS COOK (909) 878-4524. BIG BEAR GROUP

****JUL 1 (WED) 7:00 AM SAN GORGONIO VIA VIVIAN CREEK TRAIL HIKE**
This strenuous 16-mile round trip hike is the shortest and oldest route to San Gorgonio Peak. The elevation gain from the trailhead in Forest Falls is staggering 5300 feet, which will provide a good shakeout for those planning excursions in to the Sierra's this summer. MEET at 7:00 AM in Von's parking lot and carpool to the trailhead. RESERVATIONS: A permit is required for this hike so space is limited. Make your reservation early. INFO: LEADER ED WALLACE (909) 584 9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

JUL 5 (SUN) 6:00 PM MOONLIGHT HIKE
Come for a 2 to 3 hour evening hike in the foothills to enjoy the "full" moon. (Actual full moon is July 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 PFF Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Blvds. BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water, and wear sturdy shoes/boots. INFO: Call LEADERS PATTY & DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JULY 6 – JULY 12

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

****JUL 6 (MON) 8:30 AM SIBERIA CREEK TO GUNSIGHT HIKE**
This easy 4-mile round trip trail starts at 7600' and descends to 7050' where there are two giant boulders on each side of the trail that look like a gunsight. Enjoy the view of the San Bernardino, Riverside and Orange County mountain ranges. We will also stop at the Champion Lodgepole Pine. BRING water, snacks and sunscreen. MEET: Park in the same area on Forest Road 2N11 for visiting the Champion Lodgepole Pine or call for directions. Adventure Pass required. LEADER: CHRIS COOK (909) 878-4524. BIG BEAR GROUP

****JUL 7 (TUE) 8:30 AM GOLD MTN & BERTHA PEAK HIKE**
Hike one way to both Gold Mountain and Bertha Peak via the Pacific Crest Trail from Holcomb Valley (dump) Road to the Cougar Crest trailhead. This is a mostly moderate 10- to 12-mile hike interspersed with difficult to strenuous ascents to these two peaks with a total elevation gain of about 3000 feet. This double bagger is a *Peaks of Big Bear* hike. Hikes to the five major peaks overlooking the Big Bear Valley will be made at least twice during the 2009 hiking season. Those reaching all five peaks will be given a patch commemorating the effort. BRING plenty of water, weather appropriate clothing, lunch, sturdy boots and sun protection. MEET: Cougar Crest trailhead parking lot on North Shore Drive (about 1/2 mile west of the Discovery Center) at 8:30 AM and carpool to our starting point on "dump" road. Adventure passes are required at both locations. Call REGISTRATION & INFO: LEADER DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

JUL 7 (TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, call DAVID THORNE, (909) 949-8046. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

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

JUL 7 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
PROGRAM: See front-page notice. Afterwards, some 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) 888-0161 <iwfladd@eee.org>. CHAPTER

JUL 10-12 (FRI - SUN) E NEVADA WILDERNESS RESTORATION SERVICE
3-day car camp service trip. Eastern Nevada's White Pine County has MANY new wilderness areas. We'll help the BLM Ely office enhance wild values as we put up vehicle barriers, rehab old routes, or remove old guzzlers. The specific area to be known later. Cost: \$15 for central commissary. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER VICKY HOOVER <vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org> (415) 977-5527. CNRCC WILDERNESS COMMITTEE

****JUL 11 (SAT) 8:00AM BADEN POWELL HIKE HIKE**
Come join other hikers for an ascent up Mt. Baden Powell from Vincent Gap in the San Gabriel Mountains. This is a beautiful 8- to 10-mile hike through a shady forest on the Pacific Crest Trail on the north side of the mountains. BRING 3 to 4 quarts of water, sturdy boots and lunch/snacks. MEET: Parking lot on the south side of McDonalds off the I-15 Freeway at the 138 exit in Cajon Pass. INFO: LEADER TERRANCE MCCORKLE (760) 252-2194 (760) 412-1683 <oldhikerdude@verizon.net> MOJAVE GROUP

JUL 11-12 (SAT-SUN) WHITE MTNS CANYON EXPLORATION CARCAMP
We'll camp in the Hamill Valley east of Bishop and explore Pellissier and Birch Canyons in two day hikes. I have not found any information on Pellissier Canyon and don't know whether we can get past the formidable looking narrows shown on the topo map, but we should definitely take a look. I know the Birch Canyon narrows can be surmounted, but there may be some route finding involved. We won't attempt any real rock-climbing. Group size limit 12. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER: JOHN WILKINSON, <johnfw1@mac.com> (408) 876-8295. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

JUL 12 (SUN) 9:00 AM SAN ANTONIO CANYON CLEANUP SERVICE
Los Serranos Group members have organized several trash cleanups in the canyon, with Ranger Sarah telling us it is making a difference! This time we are partnering with the San Gabriel Mountains Forever Campaign to pull in a full crew to help with this work. Come and help and learn how you can also help with adding wilderness protection to more of the San Gabriel Mountains. MEET at 9:00 am at the lower fire station where Mt Baldy road crosses the bridge heading to Claremont or Upland. BRING: Sturdy shoes or hiking boots, sunscreen, hat, gloves, water, snacks. Bags and pickers will be provided. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JULY 13 – JULY 19

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

JUL 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

JUL 13-17 (MON-FRI) NORTH FORK BIG PINE CREEK BACKPACK
After spending the first night at the trailhead, this three-night backpack into the John Muir Wilderness will give us views of the longest spine of 13,000 to 14,000 peaks (the legendary Palisades) in the lower 48. The trail runs along the roaring North Fork of Big Pine Creek and passes nine spectacular alpine lakes while gaining approximately 3600 feet in elevation. We will establish a base camp after the first day of hiking and day hike to a 12,500 overlook of the Palisade Glacier the next day. Our third night on the trail will be spent at Black lake as we loop our way back to the trailhead. Space is limited. RESERVATIONS & INFO: LEADERS ED WALLACE (909) 584 9407, BILLIE WOLFF (909) 338 2534. BIG BEAR GROUP

JUL 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@verizon.net> (760) 249-5385. CHAPTER

JUL 18 (SAT) 7:00 AM ANDERSON PEAK HIKE
**This hike is a beautiful hike, but a bit strenuous. It's 15.7 miles round trip with 4,064' of elevation gain. MEET: Forsee trailhead. BRING layered clothing, the 10 essentials, and 4 quarts of water, and snacks. Adventure pass required. Size is limited. RESERVATIONS & INFO: LEADER MITCH ANDERTON (909) 881-7844 <mitchasn@aol.com> SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER

JUL 19 (SUN) 9:00 AM SNOW FOREST SKI AREA HIKE
This roughly 4 plus-hour hike is moderate to difficult, traveling about 5 to 6 miles round trip, and will climb roughly 1,000 feet in elevation. From The Big Bear Village we will walk up Pine Knot Avenue and into the forest while enjoying an uphill climb with great views of the lake. Then to the Deer Group Campground. Snack, drink, and then meander our way back down into the village. BRING your camera and/or binoculars, plenty of water, sunscreen, snacks and light lunch, and layered clothing for the cool to warm mountain weather. Wear good hiking boots. MEET at 9:00 am in the Bartlett parking lot on Bartlett Road, by the Chamber of Commerce building in the Village, Big Bear Lake. INFO: LEADER ROBBIE BOS (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

JULY 20 – JULY 26

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

****JUL 20 (MON) 8:30 AM PACIFIC CREST TRAIL, HOLCOMB RD TO HWY 18 HIKE**
A moderate 4-mile hike starting from Holcolm Valley Road (by the landfill) to Hwy 18. There are long level stretches, making this a good beginner hike. Views of Baldwin Lake and Lucerne Valley. BRING water. Adventure Pass required. LEADER: CHRIS COOK (909) 878-4524. BIG BEAR GROUP

JUL 21 (TUE) 8:30 AM GRANDVIEW POINT LOOP HIKE
This is an easy to moderate 7-mile hike with 500 feet of elevation gain. We will access Grandview Point via a loop route that includes Pine Knot Trail, FSR 2N10, Dick's Trail, and FSR 2N08. This is the time of year when we should see lots of wildflowers, including corn and lemon lilies, along a wetland portion of the trail. BRING plenty of water, weather-appropriate clothing, sun protection and sturdy hiking boots. MEET: East parking lot of the Performing Arts Center at 8:30 AM and Carpool to the trailhead. REGISTRATION & INFO: LEADER DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

JUL 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

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

JUL 21 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Program to be announced. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. USUAL PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JULY 27 – AUGUST 2

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

JUL 28 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. (No December meeting.) PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES (951) 314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>. CHAPTER

JUL 30 (THU) 6:30 PM LOS SERRANOS DINNER ON THE TOWN EVENT
Meet for dinner with Sierra Club friends at Giuseppe's Pizza on Euclid in Upland. This popular local restaurant is at 2433 N Euclid Ave. We will meet at 6:30 and enjoy a social evening. RESERVATIONS: Call Mary Ann by Tues 7/27. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

****AUG 1 (SAT) 7:00 AM SAN GORGONIO PEAK HIKE**
Come join me on our annual San G hike. We are going to try it from the South fork trailhead. It's not as steep and a bit more enjoyable. This is a strenuous hike, but only because of the miles: 21.8 mile round-trip hike with 4,619' of elevation gain. I think you'll all have fun. BRING layered clothing, the 10 essentials, snacks, and 5 quarts of water. Adventure Pass required. MEET: For meeting place contact LEADER MITCH ANDERTON (909) 881-7844 <mitchasn@aol.com> CHAPTER

AUG 2 (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 August 6.) Hikes are moderately paced. Hike locations will vary. Between 4 and 5 miles round trip, 400 to 1200 ft elevation gain. BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water, and wear sturdy shoes/boots. MEET: North parking lot of U.S. Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Blvds. INFO: LEADERS PATTY & DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

AUGUST 3 – AUGUST 9

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

AUG 3 (MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Even numbered months plus November (Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., Oct., Nov. & Dec.). LOCATION (Unless otherwise noted): Lake Ridge Escrow Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

****AUG 4 (TUE) 8:30 AM DELAMAR MOUNTAIN HIKE**
This is a mostly moderate 6- to 7-mile round trip hike on the Pacific Crest Trail from Polique Canyon Road to a short but steep road that has about 1000 feet of elevation gain up to Delamar Peak. This is a *Peaks of Big Bear hike*. Hikes to the five major peaks overlooking the Big Bear Valley will be made at least twice during the 2008-hiking season. Those reaching all five peaks will be given a patch commemorating the effort. BRING plenty of water, snacks, weather appropriate clothing and sturdy boots. MEET at 8:30 AM in Von's parking lot and carpool to the trailhead. Adventure passes are required for carpool drivers. RESERVATIONS & INFO: LEADER DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

AUG 4 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

AUG 4 (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) 888-0161 <iwfladd@eee.org>. CHAPTER

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(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

****AUG 7-9 (FRI-SUN) 2:00 PM S B MTS, ANNUAL CHILDRENS' FOREST CAR CAMP**
 We'll camp at Shady Cove group campground. TIME: arrive any time after 2:00 PM on Friday. Join us for a barbecue at 6 PM on Saturday. BRING drinks, fire wood, a dish to feed six, your choice to cook on the barbie and folding chair to sit around the fire. Camp overnight. Day hikes and other optional activities. Adventure Pass required. Reservations are necessary. RESERVATIONS & INFO: LEADER HEATHER SARGEANT (909) 336-2836. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

****AUG 9 (SUN) 4:30 PM HOLCOMB VALLEY WALKABOUT HIKE**
 This walk through the Holcomb Valley will be an easy adventure. A 3- to 4-mile round trip, climbing not even 100 feet in elevation. Geared toward a casual and easy walk in this fabulous valley, so bring your mom. Afterwards we will have dinner and drinks at B's Backyard B-B-Que. BRING camera, good hiking boots, plenty of water, snacks, and layered clothing for warm to cool temperatures. MEET at 4:30 pm in the Von's Parking Lot in Big Bear Lake for carpooling. Drivers will need a Forest Adventure Pass. INFO: LEADER ROBBIE BOS (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

AUGUST 10 – AUGUST 16

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

AUG 11 (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@verizon.net> (760) 249-5385. CHAPTER

AUG 11-16 (TUE-SUN) SOUTHERN SIERRA: OLANCHA PEAK BACKPACK
 The backpack begins at Kennedy Meadows above Owens Valley (not to be confused with Kennedy Meadow near Sonora). We will hike 2 miles from the trailhead to a camp by the Kern River, then continue up the Kern for the next two days to our highest camp at 9300 ft. Day 4 is the hike with daypacks through the wildflowers and an optional hike to the top of Olancha Peak at 12,123 ft., then back the 4 miles to the previous night's camp. Next day we will hike 8 miles to the first night's camp, then 2 miles out the last day. Much of the trip is on the Pacific Crest Trail. LEADER: DAVID HARDY (702) 875-4549, <hardyhikers@embarqmail.com> email preferred. SOUTHERN NEVADA GROUP

AUGUST 17 – AUGUST 23

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

AUG 18 (TUE) 8:30 AM SANTA ANA RIVER TRAIL LOOP HIKE
 This is a moderate 10-mile loop hike on the Santa Ana River Trail heading west from the parking lot on the north side of Highway 38 where the Santa Ana and North Fork Rivers meet. It is a gradual trail and the return is by road with only 500 feet or so of elevation gain. Features lush forest with many sightings of the Santa Ana River. BRING plenty of water, lunch, weather appropriate clothing, sun protection and sturdy boots. MEET: Hikers from the Big Bear area will meet at Von's parking lot at 8:30 AM for a carpool to the trailhead. Those from the Redlands area should meet us at the trailhead between 9:00 and 9:15 AM. RESERVATIONS & INFO: LEADER DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

AUG 18 (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

AUG 18 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
 Monthly meeting. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

AUG 22-23 (SAT-SUN) ANCIENT BRISTLECONE PINE FOREST CARCAMP
 Come with us to the beautiful White Mountains to camp, hike and just relax. On Saturday, we'll hike the ancient bristlecone pine forest on a moderate 5 mile interpretive loop trail, followed by a picnic lunch and a short optional hike to a nearby old mining cabin. Back at camp we'll enjoy Happy Hour, a potluck feast and a campfire. Sunday pack up and head home. Group size strictly limited. RESERVATIONS: Send \$8 per person, 2 large SASE, home and work phones, email, rideshare info to LEADER LYGEIA GERARD, P.O. Box 294726, Phelan, CA 92329, (760) 868-2179. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

****AUG 23 (SUN) 9:30 AM "BRING THE KIDS" WOODLAND ADVENTURE TRL HIKE**
 This family trail is perfect for children and has information markers to learn about the botany, wildlife, and geology of this area. This is an easy 1-1/2 mile round trip, climbing roughly 200 feet in elevation. This hike will be geared toward the kids and family. After the hike we can have lunch at McDonalds for a hearty fast food meal. BRING camera, good hiking boots for all, plenty of water, snacks, and layered clothing for cool to very warm temperatures. MEET at 9:30 am in the Von's Parking Lot in Big Bear Lake for possible carpooling. Drivers will need a Forest Adventure Pass. INFO: LEADER ROBBIE BOS (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

AUGUST 24 – AUGUST 30

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

****AUG 24 (MON) 8:30 AM PCT, HOLCOLM RD TOWARD VAN DUSEN HIKE**
 An easy/moderate 4-mile hike with a 200' gain. The view is fabulous this time of the morning. Holcomb Valley lies below as we hike this ridge route. We will also have a beautiful view of Big Bear and Baldwin Lakes surrounded by the San Bernardino Mountains. Adventure Pass required. LEADER: CHRIS COOK (909) 878-4524. BIG BEAR GROUP

AUG 25 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
 Chapter governance meeting. (No December meeting.) PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES (951) 314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>. CHAPTER

****AUG 29 (SAT) 7:30 AM JENKS LAKE RD. TO DRY LAKE HIKE**
 Come join other hikers for a 10- to 12-mile hike from Jenks Lake Rd. to Dry Lake in the beautiful San Gorgonio Wilderness Area. BRING 3 to 4 quarts of water, sturdy boots, and lunch/snacks. MEET: Von's Supermarket in Big Bear at 7:30 Am or at the trailhead on Jenks Lake Rd at 8-8:15 AM. INFO: LEADER: TERRANCE MCCORKLE (760) 252-2194, (760) 412-1683 <oldhikerdude@verizon.net> MOJAVE GROUP

AUG 29 (SAT) 4:00 PM LOS SERRANOS END OF SUMMER POOL PARTY
 Cool off on a hot summer evening with a dip in the pool, and fill up on BBQ, featuring Chino corn and whatever you want to bring. Let's celebrate surviving another summer and plan our Los Serranos Group focus for the fall. Come and tell us of your summer adventures. BRING your pictures, BYOB, BYOBQBQ. 4:00 pm till ? LOCATION: Contact LEADER/HOST - : MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

AUGUST 31 – SEPTEMBER 6

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings

Thank you for Remembering
 Your financial contribution means a lot to us. By supporting this chapter, you support the Sierra Club's work in your back yard. This makes you an important part of our work to protect wilderness and wildlife, to improve the quality of life in our cities, and to promote the enjoyment of nature.

SEP 1 (TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
 Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, call DAVID THORNE, (909) 949-8046. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

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

SEP 1 (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) 888-0161 <lwladd@eee.org>. CHAPTER

FUTURE OUTINGS & EVENTS

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

SEP 25-27 (FRI-SUN) CARRIZO PLAIN SERVICE & HIKE
 Visit, enjoy and assist an outstanding and relatively unknown national monument. There will be an optional scenic hike high in the Caliente Mountains on Friday. Other volunteers may join us for National Public Lands Day on Saturday when we will work on improvements for the Soda Lake Overlook. On Sunday we will tour a number of the historic, prehistoric, and geologic sites in the monument. MEET: For time and place, contact LEADER CRAIG DEUTSCHE <craig.deutsche@gmail.com> (310) 477-6670. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

NON-SIERRA CLUB RECURRING WEEKLY & MONTHLY MEETINGS

(LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)

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

(1ST SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
 (Note: There is no September meeting because of the Labor Day holiday.) Join us in for an afternoon of contra dance to live music. Dance Instruction at 3:30. Dance from 4:00 to 7:00. Refreshment will be served at the break. Potluck at 7:00, so bring a dish to share. COST: \$9 general admission, \$7.00 students with ID. PLACE: Please call to verify the location. At this writing, the dance is still being held at All Saints Episcopal Church, which may be closed for renovation at any time. We don't know from month to month when the church hall remodeling will start. All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St., go north to Magnolia & turn left. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your left. ALTERNATE DANCE VENUE: While the church is being remodeled, we will meet at the Ballet Arts Studio in downtown Riverside. CALLER/BAND COORDINATOR: PATTY MCCOLLOM (714) 267-4567 or <mccollom@sbcglobal.net> INFO: SANDY GOSSELIN <SGOSSELIN@riversideca.gov> Riverside Contra Dance Website: <http://bees.ucr.edu/riversidedance/cdlink.html>

(3RD TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS OPEN SPACE MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS
 Help us preserve Moreno Valley's northern skyline & secure a natural open-space corridor between the Box Springs Mountains & the Badlands, including the upper basin of Reche Canyon. We meet at the Coffee Grinder, 23580 Sunnymead Blvd., Moreno Valley. INFO: DAN CLARK, (951) 924-2454 <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. Note that the December meeting will be a potluc holiday dinner starting at 6:30 PM. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

(3RD FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 (No dance on July 17. See the write below up for an alternate activity.) 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>

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

JUN 22-29 (MON-MON) LITTLE JIMMY ANGELES NF WORK PARTY
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT PACIFIC CREST TRAIL ASSOCIATION
 The NWSA Americorp crew will be camped at Little Jimmy CG and working trail south on the Pacific Crest Trail. They will be repairing the tread and clearing brush. There is moderate to strenuous physical activity cutting brush with saws and loppers, pulling and disposing of cut brush out of sight, grubbing out root balls with a Pulaski, shaping tread with a McLeod, re-building rock walls, ore repairing water bars. The Pacific Crest Trail Association will provide full orientation, instruction, supervision and, water, tools, hard hats, and food. BRING car/tent camping gear, heavy gloves, eye protection, sun protection (hats and sunscreen), brush protection (long sleeves and long pants), sturdy boots, warm clothes, rain gear, daypack, flashlight and water bottles. INFO: SUZANNE WILSON (951) 492-9836 or JENNIFER TRIPP (916) 349-2109 x17.

JUL 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

Other Outings & Outdoor Classes
 In addition to the Natural History Classes and Outdoor Field Study Classes listed elsewhere in the Palm and Pine under The Desert Institute, UCR Extension and Rancho Santa Ana, you can find additional outings and classes at www.desertreport.org

(Continued from page 7)

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>

JUL 5 (SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
 Caller: Chris Page from San Diego. Band: *Dogwood* (Michele Nosco, Marie Bruno, Emil Olguin, Ned Boyer). Join us in for an afternoon of contra dance to live music. Dance Instruction at 3:30. Dance from 4:00 to 7:00. Refreshment will be served at the break. Potluck at 7:00, so bring a dish to share. COST: \$9 general admission, \$7.00 students with ID. PLACE: Please call to verify the location. At this writing, the dance is still being held at All Saints Episcopal Church, which may be closed for renovation at any time. We don't know from month to month when the church hall remodeling will start. All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St., go north to Magnolia & turn left. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your left. ALTERNATE DANCE VENUE: While the church is being remodeled, we will meet at the Ballet Arts Studio in downtown Riverside. CALLER/BAND COORDINATOR: PATTY MCCOLLOM (714) 267-4567 or <mccollom@sbcglobal.net> INFO: SANDY GOSSELIN <SGOSSELIN@riversideca.gov> Riverside Contra Dance Website: <http://bees.ucr.edu/riversidedance/cdclink.html>

JUL 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. Note that the December meeting will be a potluc holiday dinner starting at 6:30 PM. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

JUL 17 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 No dance this Friday. We will all be at the Redlands Bowl watching the Brazilian folk dancers. Please join us there. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lgseekins@sbcglobal.net>

JUL 21 (TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS OPEN SPACE MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS
 Help us preserve Moreno Valley's northern skyline & secure a natural open-space corridor between the Box Springs Mountains & the Badlands, including the upper basin of Reche Canyon. We meet at the Coffee Grinder, 23580 Sunnymead Blvd., Moreno Valley. INFO: DAN CLARK, (951) 924-2454 <saveourskyline@roadrunner.com>

AUG 1 (SAT) 6:00 PM EVENING IN THE JUNIPER FLATS AREA WALK
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT FRIENDS OF JUNIPER FLATS
 Come and join us for an exciting 3-mile walk to the Boulder Garden. This walk is along quiet dirt trails with only a slight elevation gain. There are exceptional views along the way and the hike will end in a beautiful Boulder Garden in the Juniper Flats Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). Learn more about why this area is so special. The moon rises at about 5 pm (85% visible) and the sun sets at about 8 pm. We will be hiking back by moonlight. The trailhead is about 5 miles along a county maintained dirt road (Bowen Ranch Road). BRING: Summer brings the snakes out in the desert so please wear long pants and bring a hiking stick as well as layered clothing, water and snacks. MEET: Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road at 6pm. INFO: ANN (760) 713-1298 or JENNY <JensOasis@aol.com> (760) 220-0730.

AUG 2 (SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
 Caller: Barbara Stewart. Band: *Moonlighters* (Barbara Whitney, Evan Anderson, Marie Bruno). Join us in for an afternoon of contra dance to live music. Dance Instruction at 3:30. Dance from 4:00 to 7:00. Refreshment will be served at the break. Potluck at 7:00, so bring a dish to share. COST: \$9 general admission, \$7.00 students with ID. PLACE: Please call to verify the location. At this writing, the dance is still being held at All Saints Episcopal Church, which may be closed for renovation at any time. We don't know from month to month when the church hall remodeling will start. All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St., go north to Magnolia & turn left. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your left. ALTERNATE DANCE VENUE: While the church is being remodeled, we will meet at the Ballet Arts Studio in downtown Riverside. CALLER/BAND COORDINATOR: PATTY MCCOLLOM (714) 267-4567 or <mccollom@sbcglobal.net> INFO: SANDY GOSSELIN <SGOSSELIN@riversideca.gov> Riverside Contra Dance Website: <http://bees.ucr.edu/riversidedance/cdclink.html>

AUG 7 (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>

AUG 18 (TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS OPEN SPACE MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS
 Help us preserve Moreno Valley's northern skyline & secure a natural open-space corridor between the Box Springs Mountains & the Badlands, including the upper basin of Reche Canyon. We meet at the Coffee Grinder, 23580 Sunnymead Blvd., Moreno Valley. INFO: DAN CLARK, (951) 924-2454 <saveourskyline@roadrunner.com>

AUG 19 (WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
 PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Note that the December meeting will be a potluc holiday dinner starting at 6:30 PM. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

AUG 21 (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>

SEP 4 (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>

SEP 5 (SAT) 6:00 PM EVENING IN THE JUNIPER FLATS AREA WALK
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT FRIENDS OF JUNIPER FLATS
 Come and join us for an exciting 3-mile walk to the Boulder Garden. This walk is along quiet dirt trails with only a slight elevation gain. There are exceptional views along the way and the hike will end in a beautiful Boulder Garden in the Juniper Flats Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). Learn more about why this area is so special. The sun sets at about 7 pm and the moon rises at about 7:30 pm (99% visible). We will be hiking back by moonlight. The trailhead is about 5 miles along a county maintained dirt road (Bowen Ranch Road). BRING: Summer brings the snakes out in the desert so please wear long pants and bring a hiking stick as well as layered clothing, water and snacks. MEET: Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road at 6pm. INFO: ANN (760) 713-1298 or JENNY <JensOasis@aol.com> (760) 220-0730.

SEP 6 (SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
 No September meeting because of Labor Day holiday INFO: SANDY GOSSELIN <SGOSSELIN@riversideca.gov> Riverside Contra Dance Website: <http://bees.ucr.edu/riversidedance/cdclink.html>

SEP 18-24 (FRI-THU) NORTH FORK, ANGELES NF SERVICE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT PACIFIC CREST TRAIL ASSOCIATION
 Join the NWSA Americorp crew at the Northfork Station to build three rock retaining walls, which will stabilize the tread, trail south. The crew will also put in several drainage features and do some minor tread repair. The NWSA Americorp crew will be camped at Little Jimmy CG and working trail south on the Pacific Crest Trail. They will be repairing the tread and brushing. There is moderate to strenuous physical activity cutting brush with saws and loppers, pulling and disposing of cut brush out of sight, grubbing out root balls with a Pulaski, shaping tread with a McLeod, re-building rock walls, ore repairing water bars. The Pacific Crest Trail Association will provide full orientation, instruction, supervision, water, tools, hard hats, and food. BRING car/tent camping gear, heavy gloves, eye protection, sun protection (hats and sunscreen), brush protection (long sleeves and long pants), sturdy boots, warm clothes, rain gear, daypack, flashlight and water bottles. INFO: SUZANNE WILSON (951) 492-9836 or JENNIFER TRIPP (916) 349-2109 x17.

SEP 29-OCT 7 (TUE-WED) MISSION CREEK SERVICE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT PACIFIC CREST TRAIL ASSOCIATION
 The NWSA Americorp crew will head into Mission Springs from the Stone House with packer support, about 5 miles into the backcountry. The crew will hike about 1 mile to work each day. They will be constructing rock retaining walls and drainages to repair flood damage from Oct 2008. There is moderate to strenuous physical activity cutting brush with saws and loppers, pulling and disposing of cut brush out of sight, grubbing out root balls with a Pulaski, shaping tread with a McLeod, re-building rock walls, and repairing water bars. The Pacific Crest Trail Association will provide full orientation, instruction, supervision and, water, tools, hard hats, and food. BRING car/tent camping gear, heavy gloves, eye protection, sun protection (hats and sunscreen), brush protection (long sleeves and long pants), sturdy boots, warm clothes, rain gear, daypack, flashlight and water bottles. INFO: SUZANNE WILSON (951) 492-9836 or JENNIFER TRIPP (916) 349-2109 x17.

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Our National Parks

.....*Vision for the Second Century*

By John Byrne and Vicky Hoover

In 2016, America's National Park Service will celebrate its 100th birthday.

The Sierra Club's National Parks and Monuments Team wants to share with you our exciting vision for the second century of the National Park Service. National parks are America's uniquely marvelous contribution to the world.

Our vision focuses on three major concerns that people didn't have 100 years ago -- but that today are prevalent in our society: natural areas disappearing, people separated from nature, and the onset of global climate change.

First, the disappearance of our natural areas

It used to be that development occurred as islands in a sea of nature, but today national parks are the natural islands in a sea of development. We see that national parks are needed to preserve important representative places of our natural environment. We envision a significant expansion of our National Park system -- so that every major natural ecoregion in our country will be represented by at least one national park or equivalent reserve.

All major ecological regions in the United States should have a national park or similar protected area to represent it. Large areas of the country are presently left out. Let's fill these gaps. A preliminary gap analysis shows that we must create 38 new National Parks or similar areas, and expand or change designation in 28 others. This will protect habitat for the biodiversity of our flora and fauna that make up our natural world, as ecosystems evolve and adapt to global climate change.

By filling the gaps, by having protected natural areas represent all parts of our natural world, we can not only better enjoy nature; we can learn what we must do to protect the world in which we and our fellow species live.

An expanded network of parks is also needed to provide nearby places to visit for more people --both to lessen generation of greenhouse gases from flying and driving to parks and to provide convenient close to home places for people to appreciate their natural and cultural heritage.

After reaching its peak 20 years ago per capita visitation to our national parks is down about 20 percent Varying gasoline costs, economic constraints, and public awareness that traveling long distances to visit national parks generates greenhouse gases will aggravate this phenomenon. Well, *if people won't come to National Parks - bring National Parks to the people:* establish new ones, closer-to-home. Dorothy should not have to put on those glittery shoes and get on a tornado to Oz to experience nature

Second, connecting people with national parks

Our heavily urbanized society is losing its connections to nature. A generation of children is growing up mostly indoors and often glued to the Internet, with a great problem of obese youth. Experience of nature becomes more virtual, less direct. We see national parks able to coax people, especially young people, out into nature, and we envision parks becoming more inviting and attractive to them.

We need to expand education programs in national parks to help all visitors learn about our natural world. The educa-

tion programs should relate to all courses of study, academic and non-academic, and should be connected to the Internet so national parks can be learned about and appreciated by everybody, all the time. Programs for on-site visits should attract teachers and students. Classrooms should be linked to parks though the internet throughout the academic year--as an inducement to visit national parks.

We should consider reducing park entrance fees, not raising them. Entrance fees discourage use, aggravating an already significant decline in visitation, and they disproportionately affect people with lower income. Entrance fees contribute but a nickel to the National Park Service budget dollar. We can easily afford to expand our National Park system, make it more available to people, and reap the benefits,

Third, fighting global climate change

Not only was this not around 100 years ago-- even ten years ago, it wasn't a big concern for many people. We envision parks addressing global warming in at least three ways

- 1) By educating visitors on the problems and how they, as individuals can help out in their daily lives,
- 2) By using national parks to do scientific research on changes that are happening so that we can see what nature is doing -- and learn what we must not do -- to mitigate the effects of climate change; and by assuring the wild areas in parks will stay wild -- such as through wilderness designation -- so that national parks can form the core of broad protected areas to make wildlife habitat more resilient. Ability to move as climate changes will allow wildlife adaptations essential for species survival.
- 3) By making the parks themselves a model of zero emissions in their energy systems and particularly in transportation, which uses a lot of carbon-dioxide emitting energy. We see all our national parks vigorously promoting public transportation, so that people will be able to go to national parks on trains or other public transit and, once there, will be able to appreciate our natural world without a car.

The United States played the pioneering role in inventing the National Park idea and using parks to bring nature closer to life's critical needs. But today we lag behind other countries in using national parks to learn about, protect and perpetuate our natural world. National parks are ideal places to learn how our natural world reacts and adapts to change. As the potential consequences and the need to react to global climate change become more and more apparent, these natural areas will take center stage and assume a critical role.

Expanding our system of National Parks should be the prime goal of our Second Century of our National Park System. Please help us fulfill this goal so that national parks can play an instrumental role in making a better world for us, for our children and for our grandchildren.

To learn more about the National Parks and Monuments Team, join our efforts, propose new parks near you, or to share concerns for our national parks, contact chair John Byrne (jbyrne_97@yahoo.com) or liaison Vicky Hoover (Vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org).

Annual Lobby Day Sunday & Monday August 23-24

Come join us in Sacramento for our annual Lobby Day on Sunday and Monday August 23rd and 24th. You will be part of a team that will help Sierra Club California pass our priority bills during the most exciting and challenging time of the year at the State Capitol. You will have opportunities for interaction with other activists and our professional lobbying staff, as well as with legislators and their staff.

This is a two-day event. On Sunday

afternoon our advocacy team will train you on how to lobby and brief you on our priority bills so that you can effectively advocate for them. On Monday, you will work the halls of the Capitol as teams, with meetings scheduled from morning through the afternoon.

For more information, please contact Annie Pham, Legislative Aide at lobbyday@sierraclubcalifornia.org or (916) 557-1100 ext. 107

Island Hopping in Channel Islands National Parks 2009 Fundraising Cruises: Jul 17-20; Aug 7-10; Sep 11-14

Come and explore the wild, wind-swept islands of Channel Island National Park. In spring, the islands are ablaze with wildflowers. The pristine waters of the Marine Sanctuary will entice both snorkelers and kayakers in all seasons. Watch for the highly endangered Island Fox. Marvel at the

guel for white sandy beaches and a huge congregation of elephant seals; Santa Rosa for a rare stand of Torrey Pines; Santa Cruz for high mountains, deep valleys and the famous Painted Cave, Anacapa for the brown pelican rookery, a picturesque lighthouse, excellent snorkeling waters and a colony of friendly sea lions who will swim with snorkelers and follow kayaks.

Cruises depart from Santa Barbara aboard the 68' twin diesel *Truth*. The fee, \$950, includes an assigned bunk, all meals, snacks, beverages, plus the services of a ranger/naturalist who will travel with us to lead hikes on each island and present evening programs. The proceeds from these fundraising cruises will benefit Sierra Club's political programs in California To make a reservation mail a \$100 check, payable to Sierra Club to leader: Joan Jones Holtz, 11826 The Wye St., El Monte, CA 91732. Contact leader for more information (626-443-0706; jholtzhl@aol.com)



San Miguel Island Hike

Joan Jones Holtz

sight of whales, dolphins, sea and land birds, endemic plants, and reminders of the Chumash people who lived on these islands for thousands of years. All islands are ringed with rugged shorelines and dotted with sea caves. Each island offers special charm: **San Mi-**

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Natural History Classes & Field Trips

The Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont has an extensive list of classes and field trips including Horticulture and Botany classes, Natural History classes and field trips and Art classes. For a complete description and fees go to www.rsabg.org and click on "View Full Calendar" or contact Cotton Coslett at ccoslett@rsabg.org or 909-625-8767, ext. 224.



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OF CALIFORNIA

*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?

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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.

MORENO VALLEY

(Continued from page 3)

shaw, (951) 413-3224) and Ridge Property Trust (almost 1 million square feet; planner Kathleen Dale at (951) 413-3228) along the southern edge of Highway 60 in eastern Moreno Valley. Although the city has numerous warehouses in various stages of planning (most are located adjacent to March Air Reserve Base and southern Moreno Valley), it is possible that the old Moreno Highlands Specific Plan, which is north of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area, might be slated for development as warehouses if the city puts in place a logistics modified general plan for the specific plan area. More information on the industrial development in the city can be found at: http://www.moreno-valley.ca.us/do_biz/index.shtml

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

The proposed Mid County Parkway, a Riverside County Transporta-

tion Commission project, may be cut in half with only the San Jacinto to Interstate 215 segment being built. Road improvements would be made to the I-215 to Corona segment, but it would not be a freeway. Apparently, community concerns, environmental concerns and expense of the project caused the RCTC to rethink the proposed project. The question remains why the RCTC would choose to spend .8 billion dollars to build a 16 mile segment of freeway from San Jacinto to I-215 (the Ramona Expressway). They could easily widen and improve the Ramona Expressway and make safety improvements without the construction of a full fledged freeway though this rural area of the county. Some have suggested that the money would be better spent by making modest improvements to the Ramona Expressway, Winchester Road, Highway 74 and Gilman Springs Road instead building a freeway. Another question that needs to be answered is whether the RCTC will re-circulate the environmental documents because the project has been significantly changed.

The city of Moreno Valley Recreation Trails Board is sponsoring a "Hike to Hidden Springs" on Saturday, July 25, 2009. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Hidden Springs Elementary School, 9801 Hid-

den Springs Drive, Moreno Valley. Call (951) 413-3702 for more information and to confirm the walk. The Recreational Trails Board sponsors approximately five hikes throughout the year in Moreno Valley.

For information on activities occurring at Lake Perris State Recreation Area, you can call (951) 940-5600 or 940-5602.

Save Our Skyline: Box Springs thru the Badlands is a local group based in Moreno Valley which is committed to preserving the city's northern skyline. Meetings are the third Tuesday of every month at the Coffee Grinder, 23580 Sunnymead Blvd. For more information and to confirm meeting dates, call Dan Clark at (951) 924-2545 or e-mail saveourskyline@roadrunner.com

Another season of nature walks at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area will start

this fall. Good times to visit the wildlife area during the summer months are either early morning or late afternoon remembering to take along your binocs, water, and snacks. The wildlife area is off the Ramona Expressway in Lakeview. Take Davis Road 2.2 miles to the area headquarters. The wildlife area is open from dawn to dusk seven days a week. Please check www.northfriends.org this fall for nature walks at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area.

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

SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

(Continued from page 4)

More than 500 Temecula area residents, many of the Sierra Club members, turned out for the LAFCO public hearing to testify and show their support for annexation.

But with the city's annexation efforts defeated, the Liberty Quarry battle is not over. "This is just round one," disappointed Temecula Mayor Marianne Edwards said after the hearing where the annexation proposal had gone down to defeat. With city annexation no longer a possibility, the Liberty Quarry question goes to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors that now will have the final decision whether or not quarry mining will be permitted in the Temecula Foothills.

On another topic, the Santa Margarita Group Outings program is in full swing and growing. During the last couple of months, Shauli Rosen-Rager has led hikes to Beauty Mountain, Cahuilla Mountain and the South Fork of the San Jacinto River. He plans to take time off during the rest of the summer but will return in the Fall with a new full schedule of hikes.

ter Chair, continues to lead the monthly Santa Rose Plateau hikes for the Santa Margarita Group new Adobe Ranch House on the Ecological Preserve that sometimes includes a visit to the Vernal Pools if they have water.

We have had some changes in our Group leadership. Michele Bain, our Treasurer for well over a year, has turned over the responsibility to our very capable member, Paul Chuberka. Michele was just elected to the Fallbrook City Planning Commission and the work load has become greater than she anticipated. Paul comes to our ExCom will a lot of enthusiasm and valuable financial experience.

Also, our very hard working and capable Group Conservation Chair, Tom Bond, has decided to move to Northern California. Our Conservation Chair will be filled by very well known local environmental activist Pam Nelson.

Our Activities Chair, Laurie Webster, has been keeping us busy with interesting day trips such as a walking tour of the historical Old Town Temecula and many others.

Lynn Davis, our Group Program Committee Chair, has been keeping our monthly meetings lively with excellent and well received programs. These have included Tree of Life Nursery owner Mike Evans' excellent program on authentic landscaping with native plants, and a very visually informative program about local birding by incoming Palomar

Audubon Chapter president Doug Nail. Lynn has many more interesting programs planned for the months ahead starting in September. No general meetings are planned for July and August.

And Rick Estes, San Gorgonio Chap-



Huts and Lodges

Want to escape to the mountains? Try visiting one of the Sierra Club Huts or Lodges. Stay overnight at the best rates in town.

Keller Ski Hut, built in 1938 is at an elevation of 6800 feet on Highway 18 between Running Springs and Big Bear in the San Bernardino Mountains, across from Snow Valley Ski Area. An adventure pass is required. There are two rustic living/dining rooms; fully equipped kitchen with cookware, dishes, utensils, stove, refrigerator; two dormitory sleeping lofts with 30 sleeping pads on floors; and bathroom. On open weekends or work parties/overseer training, call Jacqueline Meese (714-427-0457). Keller rates (SC): \$3.00 Day; \$8.00 overnight.

Harwood Lodge, built in 1930 to honor Aurelia Harwood, the first woman president of the Sierra Club is located in the San Gabriel Mountains on Mt. Baldy at 6000 feet elevation. It is about 2 miles after Icehouse Canyon and across from Snow Crest Park on the way up Mt. Baldy Road. The driveway on the right is shared with the Zen Center. There is a fully equipped kitchen, dormitory sleeping facilities and restrooms with showers. On Open Weekends, no reservation is required. Check in with the Overseer between 10:00 a.m. Saturday until 3:00 p.m. Sunday. SC Rates: \$5.00 Day; \$12.00 overnight.

San Antonio Ski Hut, built by the Ski Mountaineers in 1937. At 8200 feet, it is reached by a steep 3 mile hike with 2200 feet of gain. Rates: \$1.00 Day; \$10.00 overnight.

Open weekends/Work Parties/Overseer Training for these huts and lodges can be found by visiting the Angeles Chapter Website (access through sierraclub.org) or in the Angeles Schedule of Activities.



Kerry King/Santa Margarita Shauli Rowen-Rager leads a hike in beauty Mountain.

Carbon Markets.....Buying and selling the right pollute

By Robert Freehling

Carbon pollution markets, where governments give companies the right to pollute and allow them to buy and sell such rights (a "cap and trade" system), are being widely adopted as one of the largest—and most controversial—tools for limiting global climate change.

In the basic "cap-and-trade" system, the government annually grants to each business a certain number of pollution allowances, each worth one metric ton of carbon dioxide. The allowances are handed out free of charge. The number of allowances is capped for the entire trading system, and decreases each year. If a business pollutes less than its allotment, it can sell extra credits to other companies. If a business pollutes more than its number of allowances, then it must buy extra allowances from other companies that reduced their pollution. Companies that don't comply face steep fines.

Businesses are supposed to respond to market pressure by finding cost-effective ways to lower emissions. A business that requires expensive retrofits or replacement of factories will find it cheaper to buy allowances, paying another business that can reduce its emissions at less cost. A pollution market is supposed to be more efficient than government mandates that might not be sensitive to costs and benefits. Theoretical analysis of supply and demand curves predicts that carbon markets will lead to a least-cost reduction in carbon pollution. Since market participants don't always make ethical or even rational choices, though, it's an open question whether they will obey mathematical equations.

Cap-and-trade systems do have potential problems. They give little incentive to reduce carbon faster than the declining caps, since that leads to a surplus of allowances and falling carbon prices. Participants may also face unpredictable prices, which will depend on decisions by government regulators, economic cycles, and even the weather. Prices can also be influenced by speculation; under the European Climate Exchange, a secondary market has developed in derivatives, such as carbon futures and carbon options. Buying a carbon option would give someone a right to buy or sell a pollution allowance at a future date at a preset price. In theory that is supposed to be a way to control price risk, but in practice it can lead to higher risk.

- The basic "cap and trade" approach is subject to several major criticisms:
- It allows many businesses to buy their way out of reducing emissions;
- It provides an incentive to limit total pollution to the cap, but not to do better than that;
- It provides no revenue for government programs that reduce carbon emissions;
- It violates the ethical principle that the "polluter pays".

Another complication in a carbon market is the "offset", where businesses can pay for carbon reductions outside the trading system (see article, page xxx). Many critics consider offsets to be "leaks" that remove the market pressure of the gradually tightening caps and that thus can undermine the market system.

In response to such problems, policymakers are moving toward an auction system, where polluters have to bid for all allowances. To make sure that revenues are generated beyond the cost of holding the auction, government may set a minimum bid price. President Obama has recently stated that he favors an auction to create an effective program for reducing carbon emissions, and to limit gaming of the system.

Others, however, believe it may be more efficient to impose a carbon fee or tax, as was recently recommended by Rex Tillerson, the CEO of ExxonMobil, a company that for years denied that climate change exists. A tax eliminates the price uncertainty of a pollution market, and lowers transaction costs. While cap-and-trade is usually limited to large industrial polluters, a tax can be distributed across the whole economy. A given amount of revenue is generated at a lower cost per ton of carbon, which reduces the burden on businesses.

There has been speculation about how high a carbon cost (whether through cap-and-trade, auction, or a tax) would motivate businesses or consumers to change their habits. There may, however, be significantly less expensive ways to transform our energy system. A \$25 per ton tax on the nation's six billion tons of carbon dioxide would generate \$150 billion of revenue per year. That could pay for efficiency programs, subsidies

for renewable energy, conversion to cleaner transportation, and redesigning our infrastructure. It is unlikely that the equivalent tax of 28 cents per gallon of gas could achieve a similar transformation through a penalty effect.

Real Carbon Markets

The European Union created the first major carbon market, the European Climate Exchange, in 2005. At first, the EU issued too many allowances. Most companies could easily meet the cap, and the price of carbon plummeted. This resulted in little incentive to cut emissions. In spite of challenges, the market has grown dramatically. In 2005, 94 million tons of carbon permits traded hands; in 2008 the trading volume was 20 times larger, equivalent to about half of all the carbon emissions in the EU. Prices have ranged from 10 to 30 euros per metric ton (about \$15 to \$45 per English ton), with 2007 sales of \$64 billion and the value more than doubling every year.

Despite years of stonewalling by the U.S. government and the oil industry, discussion and action on climate protection are rapidly moving ahead in this country. The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) is a group of 10 states that created a "northeastern climate confederacy" with Kyoto-style regulations. Nearly all carbon allowances under the system are auctioned, and offsets are minimized; currently only power plants are covered.

The three auctions held since the market began in September 2008 have raised a hefty \$260 million—to be spent by states for efficiency, renewables, and other climate-protection programs. The caps are designed to reduce regional emissions 10% by 2018.

The next region to bolt from under the Bush regime of climate inaction was the West. In 2007 five states (California, Oregon, New Mexico, Arizona, and Washington) formed the Western Climate Initiative (WCI). Two more states and four Canadian provinces have since joined, and a few Mexican states sit in as observers. While still in the planning stage, WCI will cover nearly all sectors including transportation, residential, commercial, and industrial carbon pollution. It aims for a 15% reduction in carbon emissions by 2020.

California has developed its own climate agenda through AB 32 (Nuñez and Pavley), the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. California has focused strongly on programs, planning, and regulations to achieve greenhouse-gas reductions. These include requirements to increase renewable energy to 33% of the state's electricity supply (see article, page xxx), to reduce the carbon content of transportation fuel, to reduce methane emissions from waste, and to improve local planning and land use. A pollution market will account for 21% of the reductions. The trading scheme will probably involve auctions, after a phase-in when initial allowances may be handed out for free. This is a contentious issue, with environmentalists wanting to minimize, or ideally to eliminate, free allowances.

It is too early to judge the effectiveness of carbon pollution markets. The market systems that have achieved significant reductions in other pollutants, such as sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides, have been mixed with regulatory structure, and have operated largely through retrofitting existing facilities. In contrast, controlling carbon emissions will require replacement of entire power plants, factories, transportation systems, and other infrastructure. Clearly, the economic incentive required to rebuild infrastructure will need to be much higher than for adding equipment to existing facilities.

It is almost certain that pollution markets will not be able to achieve all the necessary reductions in greenhouse gases. Much of our infrastructure—such as roads, planned urban environments*, transit systems, passenger rail, airports, electric utilities, and vast portions of the nation's real estate—is immune to market incentives because it is owned or heavily regulated by government. Government plays a key role in research and development of new technologies and controls about 40% of the U.S. economy through the power of taxation. Governments also set laws and regulations, and can design climate policies, programs, and plans. These are things that few people expect or want the "free market" to do. Government and markets both have critical roles to play in protecting the world's climate; the challenge will be to integrate them into effective and timely solutions to the major crisis of our age.

Membership

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

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E-mail _____

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club
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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.

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Sierra Club

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Sierra Student Coalition

We Can Do It!



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

Say NO To Bottled Water!

By Vicki Lee

The bottled water industry—led by Nestlé, Coke, and Pepsi—aggressively promotes bottled water through sexy marketing campaigns that undermine people’s trust in public water systems. Their campaigns rival the Joe Camel ads that hooked kids on cigarettes and the Happy Cows ads that belie the California dairy industry’s animal factories that dominate subsidized agriculture here. This trendy “healthy” drink can cost 500 to 4,000 times more than tap water.

In the U.S. more than 30 billion plastic water bottles are discarded each year. Only 15% are recycled; the rest end up in landfills, or as litter—66 million every day. They can take 1,000 years to decompose and meanwhile they contribute to the vortex of plastic waste in the Pacific Garbage Patch, which may be twice the size of Texas.



Smaller bottles are made from polyethylene terephthalate (PET), the manufacture of which generates 100 times more toxic emissions than glass. Researchers found that eight out of 10 PET bottles leave residues of the endocrine disrupter bisphenol A in the water. Exposure to extremely low doses of bisphenol A is strongly linked to breast cancer, prostate cancer, and diabetes.

If you are concerned about the quality or taste of your tap water, it is much cheaper and safer to install a water filter on your tap to remove the pollutants than to depend on bottled water.

No problems have been associated with refillable stainless steel or aluminum/baked-enamel-lined containers.

Reducing our carbon footprint

The Pacific Institute estimates that production of bottled water for U.S. consumption in 2006 required the equivalent of more than 17 million barrels of oil, not including the energy used for transportation. This released over 2.5 million tons of carbon dioxide, a major global warming gas. It took three liters of water to produce one liter of bottled water.

The total amount of energy embedded in the use of bottled water is the equivalent of filling a plastic bottle one quarter full of oil, according to the Pacific Institute.

What you can do

Avoid using bottled water unless absolutely necessary. Drink from reusable metal or glass containers filled with tap water when traveling. At public events and at home, offer pitchers of water. Patronize restaurants that refuse to serve bottled water.

Drew Feldman Receives Service Award

By Carol Wiley

The Alice Krueper Service Award is given to a Sierra Club member who does significant work with other organizations. This year this award was presented to Drew Feldman, President of the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, by George Hague and Terry Wold. “Drew would definitely be on my ‘Dream Team of Environmentalists’. I can think of no one I’d rather have by my side or guarding my back. And Drew, and the San Bernardino Audubon Society have done just that with the San Gorgonio Chapter of the Sierra Club.” says Terry.

Drew has promoted strong ties between our local environmental groups, especially with the Mojave, Moreno Valley and Mountains Groups of the Sierra Club, the Center for Biological Diversity, Save Our Forest Association, San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust, Friends of Fawnskin, Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley, Inland Empire Waterkeepers and many more. Sierra Club and SBVAS have worked together on many issues of common concern including Church of the Woods, Hawarden, Royal Rangers, University Hills, Moreno Valley Highlands, Villages at Lakeview, Mid-County Park, the LEAPS project, Liberty Quarry, the



Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and much more. “He keeps us all organized”, says Terry.

Drew first joined the Audubon Society after a trip to Hawaii in 1983, and he’s been a member of the Hawaii Audubon Society off and on, even though he lived in Philadelphia. He move to San Bernardino in 1991 and joined the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society in 1997. He was membership chair for 7 ½ years (1998-2005), was on the Board of

Directors since 1999 and president since 2006.

Drew claims his first beginning bird walk wasn’t until 1999 and his life list stands at a paltry 321. He has made at least 6 lobbying trips to Washington DC, at least one of them as a Sierra Club member. Drew was a co-founder of Inland Planet, the population advocacy group in 2001 and was always tabling with Ladd, educating all who would listen on population issues and their consequences. Drew is a Renaissance Man—erudite and well-spoken on many, many subjects. No one can write a “Letter to the Editor” or Op Ed piece better. The San Gorgonio Chapter appreciates all that he has done. With the San Gorgonio Chapter and the San Bernardino Valley Audubon working together, we know that the future will be “greener”.

Green Home...It begins where you live

Thinking about installing a solar electric system for your home? Want to know how to keep your lawn healthy without all of the chemicals? Are you curious about how to reduce your home’s carbon foot print? For most people, the journey towards a more sustainable lifestyle begins at home.

That’s why, as part of our mission to help people explore, enjoy, and protect the planet, we’re pleased to announce the launch of our partner website, [Sierra Club Green Home](http://www.sierraclubgreenhome.com) (SCGH), which was created to help individuals, like you, take simple steps to green their homes. By helping people make their homes more energy-efficient, ecologically sustainably, and healthy, Sierra Club Green Home advances our efforts to better the environment.

For the past year, we’ve worked closely with the SCGH team to create a website that makes green living more practical for ordinary consumers. The website provides a wealth of information regarding environmentally friendly products and practices relating to every aspect of home life. Sierra Club Green Home is an information-rich resource and can be added to your local Chapter website with a logo and link to help you answer sustainability inquiries from concerned members and citizens. You can find the logo on the Contact Us page of Sierra Club Green Home: <http://www.sierraclubgreenhome.com/contact-sierra-club-green-home/>

When you visit Sierra Club Green Home, you will find educationally rich, quality content on more than 100 subjects related to sustainability for the home. Additionally, you’ll have access to exclusive articles from prominent green journalists, including Joan Hamilton, Jennifer Roberts, and the Club’s own “Mr. Green,” Bob Schildgen.

Sierra Club Green Home also offers consumers access to thousands of providers of green products and services vetted for authenticity through the SCGH GreenCheck process—a set of carefully designed criteria whereby each applicant is evaluated. Visitors can scan the database of SCGH GreenCheck-authorized providers by region, enabling them to quickly and easily get started on greening their homes on any budget.

Lastly, Sierra Club Green Home features the following exclusive features that provide insight into incorporating green practices into daily life:

- SCGH Home Carbon Calculator to help determine a home’s carbon footprints and suggest ways to lower it.
- SCGH Home Health Quiz to help people evaluate the healthiness of their homes and to tap into educational facts on bettering indoor air quality
- SCGH Net Solar Costs Calculator to determine the exact costs and benefits of adding solar technology to a home.



The Big Bear Group gathers on the Forsee Creek Trail on the way to Angelus Oaks.

Ed Wallace/Big Bear

